



News & Updates

2019-2020 SYBAC Students Announced

Congratulations to the following students selected to ICN's Statewide Youth Broadband Advisory Council (SYBAC) for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Alex Baker, Clarinda High School, Clarinda
- Austin Grant, Boyer Valley High School, Dunlap
- Simeon Bulk, Unity Christian High School, Orange City
- Benjamin Danielson, Colo-Nesco High School, Colo
- Gavin Hyde, Wapsie Valley High School, Fairbank
- Sanora Nelson, Colo-Nesco High School, Colo
- Emmy Richardson, Valley High School, West Des Moines
- Caden Schweitzer, Liberty High School, North Liberty
- Blake Van Der Kamp, Prairie City Monroe High School, Monroe

Last year's students discussed a range of topics including broadband in schools, cybersecurity, coding, and wireless technology.

Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Applications Now Being Accepted

The Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program has officially opened, making \$5 million dollars in grant funds available for communication service providers who expand high-speed Internet service into unserved areas in Iowa. The application window will be open from Sept. 20, 2019 through Oct. 18, 2019.

[Read Broadband Grant Blog](#)

Common Cybersecurity Misconceptions

Employees empowered with the resources and knowledge to protect your organization from cyber threats is one of the best lines of defense you can have. We have listed often-quoted cybersecurity misconceptions along with important actions to take from *CyberSecure My Business*.

- Misconception: My data (or the data I have access to) isn't valuable.
 - **Take Action:** Do an assessment of the data you create, collect, store, access, transmit and then classify all the data by level of sensitivity so you can take steps to protect it appropriately.
- Misconception: Cybersecurity is a technology issue.

Broadband Matters News

[Jefferson initiative to bring high-tech jobs to rural Iowa could be model for nation](#)

[The Gap Between Strong Cybersecurity And Demands For Connectivity Is Getting Massive](#)

[Broadband expansion is crucial to health care access](#)

[Why survey estimates of the number of Americans online don't always agree](#)

[Microsoft to push Iowa's rural broadband through partnership with Texas internet company](#)

[Using AI to recognize dangerous hailstorms](#)

[Is your community eligible for broadband funding? A look at NTIA's Federal Funding Guide](#)

[When Apps Get Your Medical Data, Your Privacy May Go With It](#)

[Iowa companies to get \\$460 million for expanded broadband service](#)

[Educators ask FCC to subsidize cybersecurity costs](#)

[Safe Online Surfing Challenge Launches](#)

[Why the United States needs more cybersecurity experts — badly](#)

[The digital divide leaves rural students behind, innovation can change that](#)

- o **Take Action:** Cybersecurity is best approached with a mix of employee training; clear, accepted policies and procedures and implementation of current technologies.

Read the [complete list of misconception and actions to take](#).

Attend a Cybersecurity Session

There is still time to sign-up for an upcoming cybersecurity session.

Ottumwa

Oct 3, 1 - 4 PM

Pocahontas

Oct 10, 1 - 4 PM

Des Moines

Oct 22, 1 - 4 PM

Council Bluffs

Oct 29, 1 - 4 PM

Learn more about the [cybersecurity roadshows](#).

Business Communicator Software Upgrade Available

Notice to Managed Voice Service Customers: Centurylink released a new version of Business Communicator, which is available to be downloaded.

Desktop users: To install or update the Business Communicator application, browse to <https://voip.centurylink.com> and login using the same credentials as Business Communicator.

Learn more about the [business communicator upgrade](#).

[Every Computer Science Degree Should Require a Course in Cybersecurity](#)

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