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## OSIT TO JOIN LANDMARK GATHERING OF STATE & FEDERAL STEM EDUCATION LEADERS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

### WHITE HOUSE SUMMIT WILL HELP INFORM NEXT 5-YEAR STEM EDUCATION STRATEGY

**CARSON CITY, NV** – Brian Mitchell, Director of the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT), will represent Nevada at the first-of-its-kind State-Federal Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education Summit hosted by The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on June 25-26, 2018, in Washington, D.C. Nevada STEM Advisory Council Co-Chairs Mark Newburn and Kelly Barber will also attend.

"I am honored to add Nevada's voice to this important gathering of state and federal STEM leaders," **said Director Brian Mitchell**. "Nevada has been a national leader in STEM but I am also eager to learn from the other attending states. Increasing equity, interest, and achievement in STEM are top priorities in Nevada. I look forward to developing partnerships with the federal government and other states that will increase the number of Nevadans, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds, that attain the STEM knowledge and skills needed for careers in the New Nevada.

According to the OSTP, the State-Federal STEM Education Summit will convene a diverse group of State STEM leaders from all 50 states, including officials from governors' offices, K-20 educators, workforce and industry representatives, State policy experts, and non-government organization executives. These attendees will participate in the development of a new Federal 5-Year STEM Education Strategic Plan in compliance with America COMPETES Act of 2010.

"This event is the first time an administration has asked for this level of State input when developing a Federal STEM education strategy," **said Jeff Weld, senior policy advisor and assistant director for STEM education at OSTP**. "Top-down approaches to STEM education can often yield wonderful ideas, but it's at the State and community level where the momentum happens. State leaders know best what kinds of programs will work in their communities, and where they need the power of the federal government to help drive success in this field. STEM education is critical to preparing our students for the jobs of the future. We must do everything we can to ensure that federal, state, local, and tribal governments, communities, educators, and private industry partners are united for the long-term success of our nation."

Alongside OSTP in planning and carrying out this Summit are the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Smithsonian Institution. STEM leaders from all 50 states, as well as U.S. territories and tribes, will attend the Summit to illuminate and advance State-Federal STEM alignment.

**About OSIT-** The mission of OSIT is to coordinate, support, and align efforts by K-12 and higher education, workforce development and employers to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and STEM workforce development so that Nevada's workforce can meet the demands of its growing economy. Additionally, OSIT seeks to coordinate and align state efforts to facilitate and promote broadband services, and expand IT infrastructure to Nevada's schools, healthcare institutions, and departments of public safety. OSIT also leads the Nevada STEM Advisory Council, applies for federal funding, and administers State STEM and broadband grants.

**About OSTP-** In 1976, Congress established OSTP to provide the President and others within the Executive Office of the President with advice on the scientific, engineering, and technological aspects of the economy, national security, homeland security, health, foreign relations, the environment, and the technological recovery and use of resources, among other topics. OSTP also leads interagency science and technology policy coordination efforts, assists the Office of Management and Budget with an annual review and analysis of Federal research and development in budgets, and serves as a source of scientific and technological analysis and judgment for the President with respect to major policies, plans, and programs of the Federal Government.

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