



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Innovating Education and Meeting Workforce Needs through Cultivate21

In the midst of a workforce crisis in the region, job-seekers need to leave high school and post-secondary experiences possessing the right skills that will propel them to success. The changing workforce landscape is shifting focus for educators to prepare students differently. To meet these needs and grow 21st century workers who are productive in the region's workforce, Molly J. Bestge has launched Cultivate21.

Cultivate21 is the only 21st century learning and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)/STEAM focused education and corporate training company in North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota. A Minnesota based company and rooted in 21st century education best practice and backed by over 16 years of elementary and secondary education classroom experience and delivery of professional development to the region's teachers, Cultivate21 aims to disrupt and transform traditional education by providing innovative professional learning experiences that make an impact.

Cultivate21 was created out of a need for high-quality professional development in STEM/STEAM and 21st century learning and skills. Cultivate21's mission is to provide exceptional support for educators to learn, grow, and innovate education for the future. By providing high-quality professional development in STEM/STEAM, standards-based Project-Based Learning (PBL), 21st century skills like the 4Cs (critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity), 21st century literacy, as well as coaching and facilitation, Cultivate21 creates opportunities for educators to grow skills that will help them create the 21st century learning opportunities that today's students need.

Molly J. Bestge is a recognized regional and national leader in 21st century education, having worked on several projects at the national level with key 21st century education innovators. During her many years in the West Fargo Public Schools, she helped vision North Dakota's first STEM school and was a key teacher leader at the STEM Center Middle School, as well as curated the collaboration of the Metro schools around 21st century skill development and assessment.

A national board certified teacher (NBCT) and passionate educator, Bestge feels that it is an educator's obligation to create engaging experiences that allow students to be strong process thinkers and possess the key 21st century skills of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. "My passion for STEM and 21st century learning is what drives my work. My collaboration with business/industry over the last five years has helped me to realize and see that we need to prepare our students differently for their future. I believe that it is our duty as educators to ensure that all students are ready to enter the workforce with critical 21st century skills for success," Bestge said.

Committed to bridging the gap between education and business/industry, Bestge has announced EdCorporate, a division of Cultivate21 that will connect business/industry and education--creating opportunities for collaboration to increase awareness, authenticity, and application of the real-world into the classroom. Corporate training offerings for 21st century skill development are also available.

For more information or to schedule an interview with Molly J. Bestge, please call 701-388-3973 or email molly@cultivate21.com

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