

IFT 2016-17 Grants

Grant summaries have been provided by individual grant recipients.

Students Leading Students: Creating Change in Anaheim | ANAHEIM SECONDARY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

The young men and women at *Anaheim High School*, specifically the young men in BROS, will be trained on civic engagement, conflict mediation, and the skills needed to talk about issues pertaining to the community. These students will then train students at three other schools on the east side of Anaheim and together, students from these schools will work together to create change in the city of Anaheim by mentoring students at the elementary and junior high schools, engaging in community service projects, and hosting conferences relevant to the world in which they live.

Civic Literacy with Agricultural Science | ASSOCIATED CHINO TEACHERS

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

Our objective is to produce a school garden at Townsend Jr. High that benefits all students in the school. We can accomplish this by integrating the garden into the curriculum of our Civic Literacy elective class. This class will be the focus group of students who manage the daily maintenance of the garden. Their capstone project will be to produce a meal utilizing the vegetables grown from the garden. All science classes will have access to the garden as it relates to the Life and Physical science curriculum. Life and Physical science concepts will be integrated into the school garden project. The garden will become a live outdoor science lab. Students will have guest speakers from High School culinary arts classes, as well as community chefs. Students will receive a junior master gardener certificate at the end of the course. Student groups will enter into a Townsend Student "Top Chef" competition utilizing produce from the garden, while at the same time educating students and their families to the benefits of healthy eating practices.

CES Discovery Club | ASSOCIATION OF COLFAX EDUCATORS

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

This grant supports expansion of *Colfax Elementary School's*After-School Program, beyond Bulldog Athletics and Homework
Club, to include DISCOVERY Clubs, the enrichment
component long sought by our small rural community.
Two years after implementation, positive feedback and high
participation continues. DISCOVERY provides a diverse selection
of fun and interesting opportunities for students to explore, create,
express, collaborate, and learn with others across grade levels.
DISCOVERY partners teachers with parents and community
members, empowering them to share their expertise,
passions, and stories with our children. Throughout the
year, Kinder-8th students from will choose from a dynamic
variety of offerings in arts and crafts, music, cooperative,
science and critical-thinking games, technology and design,
and theater.

Good Heart Chicana/o and Native Science Project | CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION - CSU NORTHRIDGE

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Good Heart Chicana/o and Native Science project engages students and their families in Environmental-Science, Technology,

Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (E-STEAM) interdisciplinary activities that stimulate their interest in environmental issues in their communities. During the project, students from *O'Melveny*, *San Fernando & Dyer Elementary Schools* will observe their local environment, consider past environmental practices, question current events, and develop meaningful projects to address their questions. The families' cultures, strengths, and traditions are used to connect the children to the content in meaningful ways. At each step, students will be able to communicate with people knowledgeable in the field, visit meaningful educational sites, and perform hands-on activities to spur their involvement.

Alternative Athletic League | CENTER UNIFIED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Like a lot of kids, the students at *McClellan High School* just wanted to play ball. When they wondered why students at continuation schools were not allowed to play sports, they discovered there was nothing prohibiting it at all. This realization led to contacting other local continuation schools (*Pacific High*, *Chana High & Phoenix High*) and spawned a fledgling basketball league called the Alternative Athletic League (AAL). A successful nine-week season was scheduled and played which created many unanticipated positive outcomes. This is the guiding force of this application. The students want to expand the AAL to four sports in order to increase the opportunities they have to experience the success of athletic competition, while at the same time building their skills, increasing attendance and academic achievement, and fostering positive relationships in the community.

Teacher Leader Program | CENTRAL TEACHERS ORGANIZATION

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

The Teacher-Leader Program is a collaborative effort that engages math students at *Musser Middle School* with each other and the students of *Doña Merced Elementary School*. It combines teaching, learning and video production into one program. It will provide the framework for students to design, implement and reflect upon math lessons for their peers. The culminating project will be a lesson delivered to students at Doña Merced Elementary by our middle school students.

ARTreprenuers | CHICO UNIFIED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

In ARTreprenuers, art student participants at *Pleasant Valley High School* will form teams with classmates to design and pitch workable, salable, and scalable business ideas. Students will get a figurative peek inside the brains of real entrepreneurs. Students will present their ideas to an Entre-board (an advisory board of local entrepreneurs) and then make and sell the selected products at a variety of venues. The focus will be on creativity, teamwork, problem solving, marketing, and community connections. The Art Teacher and Teacher-Librarian will support students to become responsible and reliable individuals that use their strengths as a bridge to their future and a possible career.

Outdoor Classroom to Inspire Deeper Project-Based Learning | COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER SCHOOLS (NEA CLC)

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Nea Community Learning is excited about the opportunity to transform an outdoor space into a fully functional classroom space. The space will be utilized by kindergarten through 5th graders in a variety of subject areas including art, science, motor fitness and by our after school program. As a school that has fully adopted a project-based learning model, a flexible, covered outdoor space will expand the breadth of our projects. We will be able to increase the number of hands-on activities that we can provide to the learners.

Manzanita Rocks! | COVINA UNIFIED EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Educator Grant - \$3,570.00

A healthy lifestyle has been embraced by the staff and students at *Manzanita Elementary School*. At Manzanita there is school-wide participation in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program, as well as The 100 Mile Club. The purpose of this proposal is to continue our goal of healthy students and families by incorporating music into physical fitness. Providing the necessary equipment to each grade level will create a multitude of benefits to the Manzanita community, such as strengthening students' cognitive skills; the opportunity for staff to provide energetic and positive experiences for all students; and in creating a happier and more unified learning environment. Adding music to our lifestyle is a simple yet impactful way to mold successful, healthy Mustangs.

Full STEAM Ahead! | DESERT SANDS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Impact Grant - \$9,250.00

The primary goal of this proposal is to offer new experiences through STEAM activities, as well as promote and incorporate the 4Cs~ Creativity, Creative Thinking, Communication, and Collaboration through various activities and opportunities. Activities and materials will be available to all TK-5 teachers at **Hoover Elementary School** to incorporate into classroom lessons during the school day, after school, and our Saturday Academy. This grant will provide varying levels of projects to promote success for all participants. Full STEAM Ahead will allow students to access all five components of STEAM, and it will support the entire student population, in addition to reaching out to include local community members and offer them the chance to experience STEAM. This project will allow individual and group interaction with materials in addition to having opportunities to share their experiences and the learning process, with others during scheduled "Show and Tell" and showcase and school events.

Growing MORE Healthy Students | DESERT SANDS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Impact Grant - \$18,700.00

The goal of this proposal is to strengthen the *Hoover Elementary School* community by continuing to promote physical fitness and academic scholars. The second goal of this proposal is to partner with two additional schools in Indio, *Dr. Carreon Academy* and *Van Buren Elementary*, to work together and combine our strengths and knowledge to help build and strengthen the running clubs on all three campuses. Hoover has logged over 44,000 miles since its inception in March, and we are committed to growing our own program as well as show other schools how to create the same excitement about health and wellness. By working together,

we will strive to create stronger relations at all three schools and the local communities. M ore than ever, it is important to help nurture and grow students who believe in being healthy, fit, and educated. Being healthy, body and mind, helps promote healthy scholars ~ today, tomorrow, and for life. As Hoover bursts with excitement about its success, it is our hope to help share and build the same excitement on other campuses. Here's to expanding our saying," Cheers to your health~ One mile at a time!" to "Cheers to OUR health~ One school at a time!"

Kaweah High School Ag | EXETER TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

This project provides *Kaweah High School* students the opportunity to gain basic knowledge of Ornamental Horticulture and to gain hands-on experience in the nursery and floral industries. They are sustaining a greenhouse, garden, nursery and a floral design program that continues to become more productive with age. Students will have more opportunities to become involved in school activities, learn valuable life skills and to develop their own personal strengths through unique service projects (SAE), field experiences, and career exploration. Through the continued support from this grant we will continue to develop and expand our College and Career Pathway in agriculture and create a sustainable garden that will support the students and community.

The PAWS PRESS/Journalism Club | FULLERTON ELEMENTARY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

This grant will continue and expand the initial year of our Journalism Club/School Newspaper at Woodcrest Elementary **School**. Our goals are to expand the newspaper in four areas: technology, parent/family involvement, skills development, and an increase in Journalism Club membership. This work will continue to meet the objective of providing our ELL students with 21st century Writing, Communication, and Technology skills. This past year we were able to produce and publish 4 school newspapers throughout the year, conduct numerous interviews with school staff and students, go on two field trips to the Los Angeles Times and OC Register, and purchase a camera. Students learned interview techniques and professionalism; produced columns suited to their interests and that were newsworthy; created comics and cartoons; designed specialized features; designed and conducted school-wide surveys that led to news stories; and brainstormed strategies for making the newspaper more interesting and appealing to its readers.

Morningside Meadows: Outdoor Classroom, Garden, and Weather Station | GARDEN GROVE EA

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Our vision is to build an outdoor classroom, garden, and weather station on the *Morningside Elementary School* campus to provide hands-on learning opportunities for teaching all content areas. In the garden, we envision raised garden beds for each grade level, special education, Boys and Girls Club, and a community plot for parents. We hope to grow fruits, vegetables, and drought tolerant plants. In addition, we envision an outdoor sink area, a scale, tables, outdoor board/easel, and a shed to store all the gardening supplies. In the weather station area, we envision a sun-dial, tools for measuring the weather, outdoor board/easel, and tables.

Prepare/Care/Share: Think like an Engineer! GARDEN GROVE EA

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

This project will build on last year's grant project at *Murdy* Elementary School. That Prepare/Care/Share project brought engineering into the classroom and extended opportunities to Boys & Girls Club members., However the interest and need has increased. And the project's aim is to expand in three areas: 1. Support for Kindergarten: They are going to whole-day instruction and need hands on science/engineering curriculum. 2. Students/Parents: Interest is strong! Extend the curriculum to include after-school classes and a series of parent workshops focusing on STEM. Students will be able to explore different career options using EIE activities. 3. Interested teachers will have the opportunity to receive training (at our GGEA office) and check out engineering units to try in their classroom. This will allow the opportunity to expand the strengths of engineering into other schools. We have a wonderful opportunity to expand this to include students at the neighboring Bolsa Grande High School as well. Because high school students need volunteer hours, they will connect with the Boys and Girls Club to help facilitate the engineering classes. This creates a stronger pipeline where everybody is working towards a future in STEM!

Ruus Shakespeareans | HAYWARD EA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

The grant will support the work of the Ruus Elementary School Shakespeareans, an after-school program for 5th and 6th graders. Annually, these students put together a full production of one of Shakespeare's plays. Along with the play, they have a full set list of rock songs which they perform with their rock and roll band which accompanies the play and helps to tell the story. The band has guitarists, keyboards, drummers, singers, etc., and all songs are performed live. The students learn about language, teamwork, focus, discipline, patience, and practice. They perform their production multiple times at the end of the school year.

Coast High School STEAM Program | HUNTINGTON **BEACH UHSD EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION**

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

We plan to improve our Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (STEAM) program at *Coast High School*. Last year we started a STEAM program and competed in the 13th Annual Solar Cup Competition sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. STEAM offers non-dominant student groups experience in: using power tools, operational mechanics, engineering and design, electrical circuitry, technical writing, collaboration and communication. All concepts are applied through participating in the yearlong Solar Cup competition and building a 15-foot solar powered boat from scratch to compete against other high schools around Southern California.

LUSD Environmental Citizen Science Project **LAKESIDE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Impact Grant - \$19,920.00

The goals of our LUSD Environmental Citizen Science Project are to provide student scientists at Lakeside Middle School and Tierra del Sol Middle School the opportunity to learn in a real world setting, increase their environmental literacy and encourage them to become stewards of our natural resources. This will be accomplished by creating a sustainable student-driven venture in

conjunction with the Lakeside River Park. The curriculum will incorporate Next Generation Science Standards and develop 21st Century Skills in a rich science curriculum by creating lessons designed around our local ecology, providing student's exposure to the realities of working as scientists, and requiring them to develop consequential community service projects.

Me and the World: Empowering the Cultural Voice of Newcomer Students through Literacy | LENNOX **TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

The Lennox School District is home to two thriving dual language programs at Moffett Elementary School (K-5) and Lennox Middle School (6-8). At the elementary level, students have benefitted from a previous IFT grant by being supported in their pursuit of "intercultural competence" and it is our desire to continue this support at the elementary level and extend this kind of experience to our newcomer and dual language students at the middle school for the upcoming year. We would like to accomplish this with guided efforts towards developing their literacy and writing skills in the four language domains, giving them an outlet to express their very unique experiences.

Innovating Their Future | MONTEREY BAY TA

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

This grant will provide *Monterey High School* students the opportunity to design, prototype, build and test innovative robotic inventions. Students can participate on a local, regional and national scale. As a result, this puts students in the position in which they have the opportunity to innovate, collaborate, solve problems and contribute as colleagues in an engineering environment to solve a design challenge, not unlike NASA scientists and engineers. An additional goal of the team is to establish an outreach to a younger group, persuading them to consider a variety of career opportunities, revolving around the engineering and technological fields.

Students Educate Expo (SEE) | MORONGO TA

Educator Grant - \$2,000.00

At Twentynine Palms Junior High, our mission is to organize, present, and educate the community on issues and/or events that are relevant to our community, culture, health, fitness, and education. Students will work in groups of 3-4 to research and educate our community on a topic of their choice that is aligned to the mission statement. The Students Educate Expo's culminating activity is presented in the spring at a highly visited local park in our community. Under the supervision of volunteer teachers from the Morongo Teachers Association, students will present and share their knowledge with citizens in the community. Each station at this event will include visuals, handouts, and well-trained student presenters that will surely impress the public with their knowledge, matters, and appearance.

NGSS Scientists Start in Kindergarten | REDDING TA

Impact Grant - \$10,140.00

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are based on the principle that children are born investigators who explore and interact with their world and that scientific concepts are naturally engaging to even our youngest students. Full implementation of the NGSS is to occur within 2 years. Educators at Manzanita

Elementary School want the focus of this grant to help realign resources in our kindergarten classes with the new NGSS standards, as well as engage and explore our environment.

Delta Blooms ~ Cultivating Creativity | RIVER DELTA UNIFIED TA

Impact Grant - \$19,970.35

This grant will be an expansion of the multidepartment relationship established by our previous award. The project continues to be centered on student achievement and success in career growth, while highlighting student strengths, creativity and individuality. *Delta High School* students will be creating online portfolios and taking pictures with the chrome books to build online Pinterest boards. New to this year's project is the development of art student designs and merchandizing and expanding what is being done in Delta Blooms. The art department will also be selling art memberships for custom student work. There is still little job opportunity in area and the floral shop has served as an integral place buy to fresh floral designs and provide an income for students. The goal is to now add more career aspects to the art program in conjunction to their support of the floral department.

Measure Up! | ROCKLIN TEACHERS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Measure Up! is designed to help Rocklin High School students in the Manufacturing and Digital Art programs connect with a variety of industry partners and peers and participate in senior design projects. Students will gain experience in taking a project through its life cycle. They will start with design (CAD). Once the design is ready for iteration, they will use our 3D printers (and/or the desktop CNC mills we plan to purchase) to rapidly develop prototypes. Once the design is solidified, they will program the object to be run on one of our Haas CNC Mills or Lathe in our machine shop. This experience, combined with mentoring and industry support helps students understand the realities of work, and the challenges of developing a new product. Our goal is to provide career exploration experiences, virtual field trips and professional engineering mentoring. Our students will engage in a variety of hands-on experiences and industry skill development that will culminate in sharing those experiences and knowledge with parents, peers and industry professionals, through a senior project.

Engineers and Scientists of the Future | SACRAMENTO CITY TA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

This project provides students the opportunity to learn about Math, Engineering, Science, and Technology through hands-on experiences and activities in an after-school program. *Leataata Floyd Elementary School* is a low performing school with an economically disadvantaged, culturally diverse student population in the Sacramento City Unified School District. To mitigate these challenges, students will be able to collaborate with nearby schools, attend multiple-district Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) competitions and meet other like-minded young scientists and engineers. Ultimately, our goal is to increase interest in science, math, engineering and technology in elementary school students and create a pipeline towards the middle and high school MESA program.

After-School MESA | SACRAMENTO CITY TA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

This project will provide students the opportunity to have an after-school program that will spark their interest in STEM. MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement) is a state-wide program that helps thousands of traditionally disadvantaged students get interested and enter these STEM fields. Because this state-wide program only services middle school and high school students, creative ways were found to have a MESA program to catch the students' interests at the elementary level. Through a wide variety of activities that encourage teamwork and creativity, students at *Matsuyama Elementary School* will gain knowledge and experience through building and creating bridges made with tongue depressors, cars made with pasta, kites made with straws, string, and tissue paper, and a variety of other hands-on activities.

Wagons Ho - Pioneer Days and the West We Go! | SALIDA TA

Educator Grant - \$3,685.00

"Study the past if you would define the future." — Confucius Imagine living in the past. Students are in clothing that resembles the 1850's. Lights are off to simulate life without electricity. Pencil, paper, and computers are replaced with slates and chalk. That is what happens in the third grade classrooms at Dena Boer Elementary School as we wrap up the school year. We interact and recreate a one room schoolhouse, Apple Valley School, where the teachers integrate hands-on projects using cooperative groups. The schoolroom is modeled after a room from long ago. Work is done on the slates and children share their "readers". Students become a child from the past, taking on a new persona with a new name, new age, and other "family" members sharing the same classroom with them. The family members are the cooperative group that works together on tasks throughout the reenactment. The older the age, the more extra responsibilities are given to the child. The projects include: dance, cooking, weaving, baking, and sewing. Reading is through the lens of pioneer life and pioneer stories. Math is solved on the slate. Spelling words are practiced orally and with other family members. Our social skills are refined as the class works as a team. Each child becomes an actor in the room using a new "pioneer" name. Pioneer Days has been a tradition; something every third grader looks forward to at the end of their year of learning. We enhance this experience by going on a field trip to the San Joaquin County Historical Museum where the students learn more about pioneers and do hands-on projects throughout the day.

San Bernardino Restorative Youth Court (SBRYC) | SAN BERNARDINO TA

Impact Grant - \$17,745.00

The San Bernardino Restorative Youth Court is the first program of its kind in the city of San Bernardino and the only school district-based court in the State. A community response to student misconduct, its primary aim is to hold the offender accountable for his/her actions within a positive social network of support. The youth court format we have adopted is the adult judge/peer jury model. The court is facilitated by an adult judge community volunteer and driven by student jurors, clerks and bailiffs. Positive peer pressure is leveraged to increase the offender's awareness of the impact his/her actions have had on the community. The heart and soul of SBYRC is about kids helping kids and fostering positive youth identity.

Babies and Beads | SAN DIEGO EA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

Babies and Beads is a non-profit organization that provides job training, mentoring, advocacy education classes, career planning and program services to *TRACE* students who are at-risk, ages 18 to 22 years old. The goal is to teach these students to be self-sufficient by training them to make and sell jewelry and greeting cards. Profits generated from sales will be used to purchase baby necessities for students who participate in the SANDAPP program in San Diego County and for students who are currently parenting or pregnant. Students will learn job skills and complete their education while participating in a philanthropic project that gives back to young parents. We serve students' who attend San Diego Unified School District, have a disability, live in San Diego, and have not completed a high school diploma.

Montgomery Middle Comprehensive Health and Wellness Project | SAN DIEGO EA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

Montgomery Middle School launched a successful Comprehensive Health and Wellness Program in 2015. Our proposal aims to strengthen this successful program in three ways: (1) Install aquaponics in the school's garden—enabling students to actively learn how to raise edible fish along with fruits and vegetables in an integrated system; (2) Provide nutrition and cooking classes—engage students in healthy learning and living strategies, for themselves and families, while simultaneously building mutually supportive peer-to-peer relationships and a positive work ethic; and (3) Strengthen school-wide and school community relations—use the garden and education about food, nutrition and cooking as means to foster a positive, forward-looking culture of healthy living on and off campus.

Out of the Box ...Into the Water | SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY EA

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

"Out of the Box... Into the Water" is the continuation of a project at *Redwood School* assisting 30 Special Education students, grades 4-12, in restoring a sustainable riparian habitat at the 290-acre Historic Durham Ferry School of Agriculture and Outdoor Education Center, located along the San Joaquin River in California's Central Valley. In phase two, students will restore riparian plant species to the pond area where they have installed Wood Duck boxes. They will also discover new species of animals located on the property through the use of wildlife cameras, owl boxes, and an outdoor classroom designed to meet their learning needs.

School Engagement: INSTRUMENTAL to Success | SANTA MARIA ELEMENTARY EA

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

The Arts are a powerful tool for engagement. At *Tommie Kunst Junior High*, we see genuine engagement from our band students and parents. Our successful band program has grown from 35-50 over the past year. Many more students hope to join us as we welcome a new feeder school next fall. Students need instruments to access this program. Once families are involved, we see them joining School Site Council, leading PTA, and speaking to the school board on behalf of their children. Band is instrumental when building positive relationships between school and community!

I Am My Ancestors Prayers | SHASTA SECONDARY EA

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Our vision is to create a presentation with resources that teaches the Shasta County Native History, as well as a timeline of legislation that directly affects Native Americans. These resources will meet the common core standards and be teacher-ready for the classroom. This year-long research project will also support the academic skills of 10-20 at risk Native American students by using a cultural context in an afterschool program. Students will strengthen their computer skills through researching the local native history, California Unratified Treaties, as well as culturally significant anthropological sites. The students, from *Enterprise*, *Shasta*, *Foothill*, *Pioneer Continuation and Northstate Independent High Schools* will interview elders, meet with native writers, and attend classes in native arts.

Restorative Justice Peer Program | SIMI EA

Impact Grant - \$15,000.00

The funds from this grant would allow us to train, create, and promote Valley View Middle School's Peer mediation, Peer Mentorship, Peer Circles, and Peer Panel programs more effectively on our campus. The goal is to promote respect and responsible problem-solving among the student body. Peer Programs offer students restorative options to interpersonal conflicts, bullying, and suspension. We employ empathy and build responsibility in order to right wrongs, repair broken relationships, and, where punishment must be levied, re-integrate students back into the school community. The opportunity to resolve a conflict and fix the damage that has been done builds trust and strengthens relationships. The Peer Program Team is a group of students who are trained to provide opportunities for their peers to engage in conflict resolution and to support them to choose responsible and peaceful ways of interacting in the school community. The students who participate in this program have volunteered their time to make VVMS a place where the school environment is conducive to academic achievement, and every student feels supported to be their best.

Lakewood Lion's Roar Newspaper | SUNNYVALE EA

Educator Grant - \$2,895.00

This past year, our new and improved *Lakewood Elementary* newspaper promoted enthusiasm for literacy at every grade level throughout the school. In 2016-2017, we hope to build on last year's successes. In order to accommodate the lower grade students who want to participate, will to devote extra issues to publishing the work of writers who are not on the regular staff. Regular staffers will have greater control over editorial content and more responsibility for graphics, shepherding their projects through the writing process without direct supervision. Most importantly, we will be adding a new technological piece, a series of video news features called "*Lion's Roar TV!*" Students will continue to practice their writing and reporting skills, while adding live interviewing, video editing, and production into the mix!

Mentoring Middle School Students in Robotics (M2S2iR) | TA OF LONG BEACH

Impact Grant - \$16,130.00

Collaboration between the *California Academy of Mathematics* and *Science (CAMS)* and the *Colin Powell Academy* develops critical thinking and problem-solving skills by using robotics and the engineering design process.

Middle school students are transported to CAMS, where the high school students mentor their younger peers in a series of robotics workshops. These workshops focus on mechanical and electrical systems and computer programming. The pilot year successfully accomplished the goals we set forth in the 2015 grant. To enhance our program, we will include three more middle schools in order to increase the number of middle school students who will benefit from this opportunity.

Achievement through the Arts | TEMECULA VALLEY EA Impact Grant - \$18,000.00

This grant will use the Arts to motivate and "hook" our at-risk students into school. One of the common traits that we have noticed with our students at Sparkman Alternative Education Center, is their creativity and love of music and the arts. With this grant, we will give our students the opportunity to build their own guitar, decorate it with their own computer design and learn to play it. We will also teach them how to design/program a guitar pick on a 3D printer and then print it. Our students will take a field trip to the Fender Guitar Co. in Corona and tour their museum and factory as well as a trip to the Maker Faire, for the latest technology in 3D printing and robots. We will also bring to our school, community members that will, each month, introduce our students to a variety of new and different forms of music and art. The students will participate by practicing this new art form. We are planning on doing this once a month, for a total of 10 different projects for the school year. The finale of the program will be an end of the year Art and Music Expo. It will feature all of the student's art projects from throughout the year as well as a music competition.

Engineering/ STEM for all MMS students | TEMECULA VALLEY EA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

Students learn through experience. However, experience with STEM concepts, particularly engineering, is not something that is readily available to many students. The study of engineering as an inquiry-based subject will promote learning across content areas. This grant will provide curriculum and materials for an Introduction to the "Principles of Engineering" course at Margarita Middle School. This class will give students an opportunity to experience the applications of science, mathematics, technology, and engineering in ways that match their natural curiosity and view of the world. Lessons and activities will be designed to engage students in a hands-on, cooperative learning format, where they will use the design process to explore solutions for real world problems. Our hope is that underrepresented students will develop an interest in STEM which will stay with them going forward. For all students, strengths will be developed which will carry over into other aspects of their lives, providing them lifelong skills required for 21st century careers.

Empowering Online Blended Learners | TEMECULA VALLEY EA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

Online blended learners at the *Temecula Advantage Virtual School* are often challenged with the transition from a traditional classroom environment that relies heavily on face-to-face teacher support, to one that relies primarily on the student's ability to learn content independently. This can result in online learners becoming isolated and disconnected from the skills and supports needed to succeed. This program seeks to minimize this challenge and

increase student success by providing collaborative opportunities for students, both on-site and online, to support one another in their learning. This is accomplished by empowering students through the implementation of Student Academic Coaches, Student Orientation and Mentoring, and Collaborative Sessions.

GLAD for the Arts II | TWIN RIVERS UNITED EDUCATORS

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

Through our previous IFT grant, educators at F.C. Joyce Elementary School know student learning is enhanced with the school-wide implementation of Guided Language Acquisition and Design (GLAD) strategies and visual and performing arts integration. GLAD strategies and VAPA integration engage and motivate students leading to deeper learning and understanding of concepts, as well as an increase in broadly applicable skills and mastery of grade level standards. GLAD strategies, with their embedded practices for building teamwork and deeper understanding of concepts, greater sense of classroom community and equity, along with arts integration, increase access to learning and make school more meaningful and enjoyable for all Joyce students in transitional kindergarten to 8th grade.

San Fernando Elementary School E-STEAM Team | UNITED TEACHERS LOS ANGELES

Impact Grant - \$20,000.00

San Fernando Elementary School E-STEAM Team's goal is to encourage and promote low-income Latina/o and Native American 3rd-grade elementary students towards Environmental-Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (E-STEAM) disciplines and careers. This project will develop a replicable model for connecting diverse students' and families' strengths, cultures, and traditions to challenging E-STEAM content in order to address climate change and environmental issues. 3rd-graders will engage in project-based learning in their school community including observations, hands-on experiments, identification of environmental issues, and the development of a local and impactful project to be shared with the school community.

Droid Divas Robotics Club | VAL VERDE TA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

There is a significant drop-off of interest in science and engineering during the middle school years for girls. The Droid Divas will be working to create a full size, fully functioning R2 unit like the ones in the Star Wars movies. Students at *Lakeside Middle School* will be working with blueprints made from the original movie droids, learning to construct the interior framework, designing their own take on the exterior color and design, learning the proper ratio for weight to power in order to have the R2 move by remote and install and wire all of the inner electrical circuitry. The ultimate goal is to have the students take their droid to the Star Wars celebration in Anaheim and display it alongside many others. They will have the opportunity to showcase their design for convention members.

STEM at Elkhorn | WASHINGTON TA

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

This project provides students at *Elkhorn Village Elementary School* the opportunity to be engaged in a hands-on after school science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) program. Students will design, test, and refine projects using science, technology, and engineering. Opportunities will also be

available to participate in school wide math competitions. The STEM program provides socioeconomically disadvantaged students and their families' skills and resources to achieve success in school, career, life, and STEM-related disciplines. Ultimately, we want our students to excel in STEM pathways, starting in elementary to graduate school, and into careers where they accelerate in building California's leadership in research, industry, and service.

SEE Project | WASHINGTON TA

Educator Grant - \$4,961.03

The STEM Elementary Enrichment (SEE) project would bring engaging activities for K-5 students that may have minimal exposure to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) field, but have the motivation to try. Students at *Bridgeway Island Elementary School* would be provided materials and guidance to create a project based on the foundations of STEM. From their personal or group ingenuity, students would modify the base design to better suit the needs in their own life and that of others. From the SEE project, students would develop critical thinking, design, inquiry, and collaborative skills that would encourage lifelong success in and out of the STEM disciplines.

River Jim's Adventure Education | WILLOWS UNIFIED TA

Impact Grant - \$16,360.00

This proposal is for a second year of funding for Willows Intermediate School's River Jim's Adventure Education program. Going into the 2016-17 school year the River Jim program has enjoyed growth in numerous ways. First, the number of canoe campouts we are able to provide to students this year has increased from 3 to 5, allowing more students to participate in the experience. Second, the River Jim program is moving up into Willows High School as one of their science teachers joins us, allowing more past participants to attend and stay connected. Third, teachers from other schools and districts who we met at NGSS trainings are joining us, providing professional development for them and idea sharing that will benefit all of us. Finally, our district has witnessed the enthusiasm for the River Jim program from students and parents, allowing the program to be written into the district's LCAP documentation with a small amount of funding provided. The teacher-student relationships that resulted in improved educational trajectories continues to be our number one priority going forward.

T-K Hands-On Learning Centers | WISEBURN FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

We know that our transitional kindergarten students do their best learning when they do things like touch real-world materials at a science center, pretend to cook dinner in a housekeeping center, create a neighborhood of doll houses, pretend to be farmers taking care of animals at a sand table, and share design ideas when building with blocks. Grant funds will enable us to purchase materials not provided for in the school budget that will enrich the educational experience of our students at *Juan Cabrillo Elementary School*.

Collaborative Curriculum | YUBA COUNTY'S CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION

Educator Grant - \$5,000.00

This grant will provide the Preschool Special Education Teachers at the *Yuba County Office of Education* with a platform to develop and implement a "Collaborative Curriculum". It will include community experiences, special guests, and parent workshops. The process will focus on collaboration with service providers and families, and will incorporate measures from the Preschool State Assessment (DRDP) into lessons. Our students are visual and kinesthetic learners, so planning will focus on experiential learning. Community excursions and special classroom guests will provide hands-on experiences promoting independence, creativity, and meaningful learning. Parent Workshops will focus on facilitating positive supports for children in the home setting in order to share successes with families.