

INL News Release
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Ammon, Genesee schools awarded \$10,000 makeover grants; 35 mini grants also awarded

IDAHO FALLS – Sandcreek Middle School in Ammon, and Genesee School both get a classroom makeover thanks to Idaho National Laboratory. The two schools were selected to receive \$10,000 Extreme Classroom Makeover Grants from INL.

The mini grant and Extreme Classroom Makeover grant are part of INL's effort to boost STEM education in Idaho. Funding comes from Battelle Energy Alliance, a nonprofit organization that operates the lab for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Sandcreek Middle School plans to use the money to support the development of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) classroom. The grant will also be used to purchase equipment and materials including iPads and a document camera.

Genesee students are launching a service-learning project that will span grades K-12. Students plan to build a water-conservation station so they can rinse and recycle plastic milk bottles from their lunch program. They also will monitor and track sustainability measures.

“Getting students excited about STEM is critical to the future of INL, Idaho and the nation as a whole,” said Anne Seifert, INL’s director of K-12 education. “Today’s students are tomorrow’s scientists, engineers and technicians. Grants like these provide our teachers with the tools they need to educate, prepare and engage students and give them hands-on experience in STEM subjects.”

INL also awarded several mini grants to teachers to bolster STEM education in private and public schools throughout the state. These grants, worth up to \$1,000, can be used to purchase equipment and materials for classrooms.

This year’s mini grant recipients are:

Idaho Falls/eastern Idaho

Daniel Abraham of Teton High School in Driggs received \$985 to buy probes and sensors for use in biology, physics and other science courses.

Sarah Cherry of Westside Elementary School in Idaho Falls received \$715 to buy a math module to help students understand multiplication.

Susan Drouin of Cloverdale Elementary School in Idaho Falls received \$972 to buy activity cards and other supplies for hands-on mathematics lessons.

Debbie Funke of Fairview Elementary School in Idaho Falls received \$387 to purchase a document camera to display textbooks, pictures and 3-D objects.

Megan Gaz of Victor Elementary School received \$876 to purchase a document camera and two flip cameras for students to collect data and observations.

Tiffnee Hurst of Riverview Elementary School in Shelley received \$1,000 to purchase three iPads and accessories to aid with math lessons.

Virginia Jones of Bonneville High School in Idaho Falls received \$979 to purchase telescopes and other equipment to support an astronomy outreach project.

Matt Lyon of Ashton Elementary School received \$996 to purchase microscopes and a groundwater kit to build a watershed model.

Rebecca Mangum of Mountain View Middle School in Blackfoot received \$968 to upgrade the software in a computer lab.

Donna McCurdy of Arco Elementary School received \$925 to buy supplies for students to design, build and test toothpick bridges and egg-drop vehicles.

Ben Stevens of Leadore School received \$999 to purchase graphing calculators for math students.

Connie Surerus of Roberts Elementary School received \$1,000 to buy kits and equipment to support a monthly science day at the school.

Dale Walker of Bonneville High School in Idaho Falls received \$1,000 to buy an EKG sensor, heart rate monitor, blood pressure cuff and other equipment for a unit on the circulatory system.

David Wambier of Hope Lutheran School in Idaho Falls received \$999 to purchase a Legos simple machine and robotic kits.

Bonnie Wehausen of Idaho Falls High School received \$949 to buy a vacuum pump, tubing and other equipment for a unit on pressure.

Maggie Wood of White Pine Charter School in Idaho Falls received \$571 to buy kits and tools for a project on bridge design and engineering.

Pocatello/southeast Idaho

Joseph Martin of Franklin Middle School in Pocatello received \$989 to purchase graphing calculators for use in algebra courses.

Brent Patch of Century High School in Pocatello received \$995 to purchase supplies and materials for an introductory engineering course.

Eric Rude of Pocatello High School received \$999 to purchase a variety of skull and bone kits and equipment for a forensic science class.

Boise/Treasure Valley

Deborah Hammel of Spalding Elementary School in Boise received \$1,000 to purchase Legos kits for kindergarteners to learn about simple machines.

Gina Kwid of Galileo K-12 STEM School in Eagle received \$699 to buy an irrigation drip system and seed-drying equipment to support a schoolwide gardening project.

Kimberly Smith of Fairmont Junior High School in Boise received \$548 so her class can visit the Idaho Aquarium, then research and write about an exhibit and develop QR codes for the facility.

Caya Sneath of Eagle Middle School received \$995 to buy a turbine and other equipment for a wind energy project.

Rebecca Torek of Meridian Technical Charter High School received \$1,000 to purchase motor and motor control systems for an electronics course.

Coeur d'Alene/north Idaho

Krysten Harrison of Forrest Bird Charter School in Sandpoint received \$893 to purchase calculators, protractors and other equipment for a project on building a 3-D model.

Michelle Rightler of Idaho Distance Education Academy in Post Falls received \$907 to purchase a microscope for biology, chemistry and other science classes.

Betty Woodard of Kootenai Technical Education Campus in Rathdrum received \$994 to purchase anatomy kits and modeling clay for a health class.

Lewiston/Moscow

Lisa Dreadfulwater of Nezperce Elementary School received \$992 to buy iPads and an Apple TV to aid students with math and other lessons.

Shawn Tiegs of NezPerce Junior/Senior High School received \$872 to buy wind experiment kits for students to design, implement and test their own turbines.

Sarah Walters of Salmon River High School in Riggins received \$975 to buy a variety of sensors that can be used to collect scientific data.

Twin Falls/Magic Valley

T.J. Adams of Vera O'Leary Middle School in Twin Falls received \$834 to purchase a sensor to support a unit on force and motion and demonstrate kinetic vs. potential energy.

Michelle Butler of Murtaugh Elementary School received \$998 to purchase two iPads that students can use to learn math.

Jaysa Filmore of Burley High School received \$904 to purchase equipment for an agricultural biology course.

Angela Heiner of Burley High School received \$998 to purchase supplies for biology, astronomy and physical science classes.

Kenneth Nordquist of Jerome High School received \$996 to buy a netbook computer and interface to support electronic chemistry and physics lab data collection.

Since 2006, Battelle has committed more than \$3.2 million to support K-12 STEM education in Idaho.

INL is one of the DOE's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE: energy, national security, science and environment. INL is the nation's leading center for nuclear energy research and development. Day-to-day management and operation of the laboratory is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

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