TO: All Interested San Mateo County 4th, 5th and 6th Grade Teachers

FROM: Carole Groom, San Mateo County Supervisor, Second District
       Warren Slocum, San Mateo County Supervisor, Fourth District

DATE: October 13, 2017

SUBJECT: San Mateo County Math & Science Teacher Innovation Grant

Deadline for the Math & Science Teacher Innovation Grant is: Monday, November 27, 2017

Tentative Announcement of Award Recipients: Monday, December 4, 2017

Background: In 2005, the Board of Supervisors established the Math and Science Work Group to develop a strategic approach to promote and improve student achievement and teacher excellence in math and science by employing new strategies that engage and inspire students. The Work Group conducted pilot projects in 2005, including the establishment of the San Mateo County Innovation Fund. Grants were given to teachers with proposals that offered innovative and exciting ways to improve math and science instruction through student directed discovery. The Innovation Fund proved to be a universal success and we have continued to fund projects to enhance fourth, fifth and sixth grade math and science education.

In the 2016-2017 academic year, 8 awards were granted to 14 teachers for three individual and five collaborative Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) projects. An example of an awarded collaborative project is the Watershed project in the Cabrillo Unified School District. Three teachers from Farallone View, Hatch and El Granada Elementary, led a project that allowed all 5th grade students to track pollutants, microorganisms and measured water quality in creeks and streams close to their schools throughout the academic year. Students collected water samples and tested various characteristics of the water using SparkVue sensors. They then analyzed data utilizing sensor software and came up with results and conclusions. This project connected students to their environment creating a stronger sense of environmental stewardship and engaged them in science inquiry through active participation.

Experiential activities supports hands-on and minds-on student driven learning that often results in a deeper understanding of math and science. In recognition of the time constraints that may exist in implementation of projects that require more time than a single period during the school day, this opportunity has been extended to teachers for afterschool (STEM) programs.

All 4th through 6th grade public school teachers are encouraged to apply for this award. A primary objective of this award is to support teacher innovation throughout the County of San Mateo. Thank you for your interest and we look forward to your proposals!
Who is eligible?
San Mateo County 4th-6th grade public school teachers. Grant submissions must be made by teachers. Previous award recipients or past applicants may apply again.

Summary of the requirements for a complete application:
A complete Math & Science Teacher Innovation Award application consists of the following:

- Cover sheet;
- Letter of support from your Principal;
- Answer questions 1-8 (Max. of 4 pages);
- Budget summary (1 page) with a breakdown of estimated costs.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for this grant.

Grant Deadline: **November 27, 2017 at 4:00 PM PST**

Grant Submission:

By e-mail: [STEM@smcgov.org](mailto:STEM@smcgov.org)

By US Mail: County of San Mateo Human Services Agency STEM Program 1 Davis Drive Belmont, CA 94002 (650) 508-6784

Additional information about this funding opportunity is available on: [http://hsa.smcgov.org/school-stem-programs](http://hsa.smcgov.org/school-stem-programs)

Awardees will be notified by December 4, 2017

Grant Reporting Requirements:

- Pre/post student survey results measuring student interest and engagement in math or science;
- Attend a teacher innovation reception in February or March to acknowledge receipt of award;
- Complete an end of the year teacher narrative regarding their program award funding;
- Complete a presentation to math and/or science teachers in your school district;
- Award grant funds must only be used towards the approved proposed project.
Required Cover Sheet Template

Please include a cover sheet with your application with the following information in the below order.

1) Contact person’s name, title, phone number, fax number and email;
2) School address, phone number, general fax number and website;
3) School District address, phone number and website;
4) School District Fiscal contact, address, phone number;
5) Funding amount requested;
6) Date submitted.

Required Proposal Questions

Please answer questions 1-8 for a maximum of four pages.

1. Briefly describe an overview of your project, including why you want this award and what you hope to achieve through this funding.

2. Please list student and/or teacher outcomes with each proposed activity/project. (Bullet Format)

3. How will the proposed activities/projects promote increased student interest, engagement and creative thinking in math and/or science?

4. How will the outcomes for your program be demonstrated/measured (project, portfolio, formative assessments)?

5. How will the activities/projects complement the grade level math and/or science content being taught in your school?

6. How will this award amend your teaching this year and next?

7. Academic year 2017-18 project implementation and assessment timeline.

8. Question only for teacher development or field trips proposals: How will this training benefit your students and be integrated into the overall program design?
## Required Budget Template

Teacher _______________________

School _______________________

### 2017-18 Expenditures Summary Form

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<td>Field Trip Costs</td>
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