

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Matanuska-Susitna Borough****Federal Tax ID: 92-6000034****Project Title:****Project Type: Other**

Matanuska-Susitna Borough - School District STEM Initiative

State Funding Requested: \$750,000**House District: Mat-Su Areawide (7-11)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Funding this project will be used to extend the current Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) program in MSBSD and align with the National Math and Science Initiative.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$1,225,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$475,000)
FY2014 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$750,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:**Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District General Fund: \$637,443.67***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Currently, MSBSD has implemented STEM Pathway at Mat-Su Career & Technical High School, Teeland Middle School, Palmer Middle School, Colony Middle School, Wasilla Middle School, Machetanz Elementary, and Cottonwood Elementary School. The district has also implemented a Health Science STEM Pathway at Houston High and Middle schools and Big Lake Elementary School. The success of these programs warrants continued development and growth, so more students may participate and so students can intensify their concentration in this Pathway. Alignment with the National Math and Science Initiative and training all secondary language arts, math and science teachers using a National Math and Science Initiative partnership will allow MSBSD to prepare middle school and high school students to succeed in Pre-AP and AP courses in the critical fields of math and science and language arts and align seamlessly with post-secondary studies in STEM.

Additionally, the funds will help support the ANSEP program. This program targets creating math and science career paths for Alaska Native students as well as other underrepresented ethnic groups in the field of math and science.

Students need an education with a solid foundation in STEM constructs, so they are prepared to work and live in the 21st Century. STEM programs integrate math and science throughout the curriculum, providing rigor and relevance to students. In addition, the U.S. Department of Labor reports that the demand for skills has changed significantly since 1960; the demand for routing manual task skills has decreased, while the demand for non-routine interactive task skills has increased significantly. Students who have opportunity to participate in a project-based, developmental, and sequential STEM program will develop these task skills. Students will benefit from a project-based, relevant, and integrated STEM curriculum.

Colleges and other post-secondary training facilities, as well as future employers, will benefit from students who can apply math and science to real-life situations. One of the greatest benefits is the overwhelming support of parents and community members for robust science, technology, engineering, and math opportunities for their students.

Funding includes employee compensation.

Project Timeline:

Project will commence immediately upon receipt of funds.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No