

News from the Savannah River Site

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Principal Media Contact: DT Townsend
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC
803.952.7566
dt-lawrence.townsend@srs.gov

DOE Media Contact: Bill Taylor
803.952.8564
bill.taylor@srs.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOE-SR Contractor, SRNS, Presents \$75,000 in SRNS Mini Grants to CSRA Teachers

Over \$350,000 donated since 2009 to enhance area educational programs

AIKEN, S.C. (April 22, 2014) – U.S. Department of Energy contractor Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) is pleased to announce that multiple grants, totaling \$75,000, were recently presented to over 100 Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) educators as part of this year's SRNS "Innovative Teaching Mini Grants Program."

All applicants were honored at a reception held in Newberry Hall, Aiken, S.C., where the monetary awards were officially presented (see list of names and schools at the end of this story).

Nearly 300 grant proposals were submitted by teachers from schools located in five CSRA counties.

According to SRNS President & CEO Dwayne Wilson, the impact to area students over the years from this program has been impressive. "The creativity and ingenuity found within the grant proposals is remarkable," said Wilson. "We are pleased to help these teachers by providing the funding needed to purchase new and innovative teaching tools."

The Innovative Teaching Mini Grants Program recognizes and supports projects that enhance elementary and middle school science, mathematics and technology programs.



Teacher Tonya Gordon, Byrd Elementary, Graniteville, S.C., is the lucky winner of a special door prize provided during this year's 2014 SRNS Innovative Mini Grants competition. Gordon also received a \$250 grant for a project entitled "Passport to the World's Ecosystems." Over \$350,000 has been donated by SRNS since 2009 to enhance area educational programs through this program.

“We’re a small community. So, we’re extremely grateful to SRNS to provide this opportunity,” said \$1,000 Mini Grant winner Allison Millard, Williston-Elko Middle School. “Our project, ‘Tech-Connect,’ provides software resources and other tools that will permit our students to better use the Internet to optimally conduct research and then, present what they find to their classmates. And, in the process, improving their ability to create and provide effective presentations.”

Fifth Grade Science teacher Kristina Etheridge, Barnwell Elementary, received a grant called “Math Curriculum Intervention Kits.” Using a small group environment, each kit features a specific discipline in math, such as multiplication tables, that students use to improve skills and gain knowledge in that targeted area. “I’m so excited that thanks to SRNS each child will receive individualized attention and instruction to meet their specific need,” said Etheridge.

Educators from all CSRA elementary and middle schools (public and private) are eligible to apply for a Mini Grant in one of three monetary-based categories: \$500, \$750 or \$1,000.

The grants are provided through corporate funding made available by the parent companies of SRNS, LLC (Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell).

“During the award ceremony hopes are high as names are announced and grants are presented,” said Candice Dermody, SRNS Manager, Education Outreach and Talent Management. “The excitement in the air is tangible. And, it’s such a thrill to see the reaction of each teacher when she accepts her grant.”

The primary goal of the extensive SRNS education outreach program is to enhance interest in science, mathematics, engineering and technology and to support improvements in education throughout the CSRA by using the unique resources available at the site. The SRNS management team believes business, industry, government and the education community must work together as partners to improve the educational opportunities for all students in our region

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

Visit us on the web at www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com

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2014 List of Winners on following pages

SRNS Innovative Teaching Mini Grants 2014

CATEGORY A - \$500 Grants

1. Uno, Dos, Tres, Investigar! – Carla Tudor Kerrigan – Aiken Elementary
2. Math is “Naturally Good”! – Margaret Brown – Aiken Middle
3. Intervention Curriculum Kits – Kristina Etheredge – Barnwell Elementary
4. Planting the Seeds for STEM! – Jane Ayers – Belvedere Elementary
5. Passport to the World’s Ecosystems – Tonya Sawyer Gordon – Byrd Elementary
6. Learning Science Through ELA - Pamela Sweeney – Byrd Elementary
7. Oh, Snap! A Unit of Electricity – Jennifer Coffey – Chukker Creek Elementary
8. Under the Sea – Jane DiTullio – Chukker Creek Elementary
9. MAGNIFYING the IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE – Christina Schutte – Chukker Creek Elementary
10. It’s a Snap! – Janette Godwin – Chukker Creek Elementary
11. Happening Habitats – Audrey McIlvoy – Chukker Creek Elementary
12. TABLETS: One a Day...Keeps the Teacher Away – Dawn Campbell – Clearwater Elementary
13. Hands on Life Science – Nathan Lobaugh, Kathy Doolittle and Kristal Hicks – Clearwater Elementary
14. Roller Coaster Design Challenge – Felicia Cullars and Brittany Rachels – Columbia Middle
15. Measurement Matters – Erica Neal – East Aiken School of the Arts
16. Ground Level Science: Exploring the Properties of Rocks and Soils – Jan Catotti – East Aiken School of the Arts
17. C.S.I. – Cool Science Investigations – Tara Gardner – East Aiken School of the Arts
18. Where in the World Are We? – Cathy Burbury – East Aiken School of the Arts
19. Manipulatives: The Missing Link in Middle School Math – Leslie Whitlock – Francis Hugh Wardlaw Academy
20. Hands-On Learners – Monica Petersen and Carol Rinehart – Gloverville Elementary
21. Cell-Tastic! – Jennifer Olsen, Terena Corley and Erin Spears – Gloverville Elementary
22. “Preschoolers Acquiring Language Through Science” – Mildred Walker – Greendale Elementary
23. Sizzling to the “Core” Math Stations! – Judith Boyd – Greendale Elementary
24. Fractions Make a Whole – Shannon Franklin – Hammond Hill Elementary
25. Breaking Bad.....Thinking in Science! – Jan Carol Boulineau – Hammond Hill Elementary
26. Project: Proof – Mary Richardson – Hammond Hill Elementary
27. “Weather or Not” – Jenny Williams and Kathy Prince – Hammond Hill Elementary
28. Marvelous Measuring – Carrie Clark – Hammond Hill Elementary
29. Are You Smarter Than a Smart Board? – Nancy Courtney, Angela Canepa, Julie Corbett, Margaret Green and April Leischner – J. D. Lever Elementary
30. S.T.I.R. I.T. UP! (Scientifically Teaching Independent Research through Informational Text) – Jennifer Powell – J. D. Lever Elementary

31. What's the Problem? – Abril McClure, Beth Bartlett, Phyllis Jones and Becky Hare – J. D. Lever Elementary
32. Kickin' It Up with Cognition – Judith Turner – Johnston Edgefield Trenton Middle
33. Bright Lights, Visible Lights – Jennifer Butler – Johnston Edgefield Trenton Middle
34. The Power of Checkmate – Ernie Murray, Jr. – Johnston Edgefield Trenton Middle
35. Science-It's in the Bag! – Kim Lorimer – Johnston Elementary
36. "Ladybugs, Butterflies, and Frogs...Oh My! – Angela Fallaw – Johnston Elementary
37. Vegetable Garden Bed Canopy and Trellis – Sarah Burnham – Kennedy Middle
38. All Aboard! Stations Everybody! – Vickie Cason – Lakeside Middle
39. A Little Mud Grows a Bud: A Little Sun Makes it Fun – Deborah Mims – LBC Middle
40. Silly Scientist – Jody Scott – Lewiston Elementary
41. We Grow As Our Trees Grow – Catharine Laufer, Kelly Kiger and Susan McLaughlin – Mead Hall Episcopal
42. Geometry Galore – Julie McLain and Patricia Carroll – Mead Hall Episcopal
43. Take a Turn – Dana Hunter, Mead Hall Episcopal
44. Sink or Sail – Ashley Elvis and Donna DeTroye – Mead Hall Episcopal
45. Leaping Into Learning – Vicki Moore – Merriwether Elementary
46. The Adventures of ROY G BIV: Exploring Properties of Color and Light – La' Kendra Garrett – Merriwether Elementary
47. Check THIS Out! Science Discovery Kits to Check Out in the Media Center – Lori Crane – Merriwether Elementary
48. Critters in our Classroom – Paige Geddes – Merriwether Elementary
49. Freeway Friction – Beth Jennings – Merriwether Elementary
50. We Stick Together: Magnetism Mini-Lab – Cris Burton – Merriwether Elementary
51. Mighty Mitosis Manipulatives – Michelle Cain – Merriwether Middle
52. Science Speaks – Tomeka Williams – Millbrook Elementary
53. Math Can Be Fun?!?! – Michelle Stone – Millbrook Elementary
54. Upclose: Cell and Organelles – Sheila Hornsby – Millbrook Elementary
55. Science Causes all Kinds of Reactions – Marie Hughes – Millbrook Elementary
56. Piece by piece, bit by bit, building the future – Tomia Jones – Millbrook Elementary
57. HITTING THE TRAIL – Leah Lewis – Millbrook Elementary
58. Math Is A Touchy Subject! – Pat Maranda – Millbrook Elementary
59. Techno-Counseling – Chasity McDaniel – Millbrook Elementary
60. Engineer Your Life: Bringing Steam to STEM –Margaret Hamman – Millbrook Elementary
61. "Hop On Board" using "Math Stations" – Donna Findley – Millbrook Elementary
62. "Weather" Shall We Go! – Kathy Mathis – North Aiken Elementary
63. Once Upon A Time – Gwendolyn Byrd – North Aiken Elementary
64. Tracking Force and Motion – Robert Barfield – Paul Knox Middle
65. What's for Dinner? – Audra Bedenbaugh – W. E. Parker Elementary
66. Mr. Troll, Science is not a fairy tale! – Teri Love – W. E. Parker Elementary

67. The Road Ahead: Fueling the Future – Brenda Jackson and Melissa Nicholson – W. E. Parker Elementary

68. Let's Get Down to Earth! – Nancy Croft – Warrenville Elementary

CATEGORY B - \$750 Grants

1. Engaging Guided Math – Belinda Anthony and Rosina Zimmerman – Chukker Creek Elementary
2. Write It Right – Cecelia Burns and Karin Heise – Evans Elementary
3. Measurement in Meteorology – David Phillips – Evans Middle
4. Clay Connections – Meredith Leopard – Hammond Hill Elementary
5. Geometry: An Adventure in Dimensions – Julie Hewston – Johnston Edgefield Trenton Middle
6. "Learning In the Breeze" – Oscar Stevens, Allison Rawls, Shirley Tillman and Terry Quarles – Johnston Edgefield Trenton Middle
7. Weather Watchers – Tiffany Burton – Merriwether Elementary
8. Canines, Claws, Coats, and Camouflage-It's All About Survival – Cathy Young – Millbrook Elementary
9. Writing to the Core – Brandy Smalley – Millbrook Elementary
10. Square Foot Gardening – Amanda Davis – Paul Knox Middle
11. "What's Sprouting in 5K?" – Luann Baker, Megan Gmerek, Cheryl Henderson, and Samantha Turner – Redcliffe Elementary
12. Animals Life Cycles – Bridgette Morgan – W. E. Parker Elementary
13. Squirmy, Fluffy, and Slimy...The Lifecycles of Caterpillars, Chicks, and Tadpoles – Jocelyn Abney, Amy Wilhelm, Allie Shealy and Angela McLaurin – W. E. Parker Elementary
14. Healthy Life, Healthy Mind – Jenny Mims and Heather Strickland – W. E. Parker Elementary
15. "Math in a Sack" – Nancy Sullivan – W. E. Parker Elementary
16. "May the Force be with You!" – Leigh Raines and Brana Patterson – W. E. Parker Elementary

CATEGORY C - \$1,000 Grants

1. "i" Read, You Read, We all Read for Success – Traci Nelson – Aiken Elementary
2. Read Fiction/Think like a Mathematician – Kelli Kilbourn-Williams, Aiken Middle
3. STEMulating Exploration – Debbie Vaughn – Belvedere Elementary
4. Two Pair O'Dice and Beyond (To Paradise and Beyond) – Caroline Clay and Esther Blake – Chukker Creek Elementary
5. Using Aquaponics to Raise Fish and Vegetables – Crystal Stawieri, Carl Hammond-Beyer and Sandra McCullogh – Davidson Fine Arts
6. Everyday Counts – Tiara Watson – Douglas Elementary
7. Squishing into Circuits – Kimberli Herring, Shomoneik Brown and Anna Underwood – East Aiken School of the Arts

8. Get Your STEAM On: Using Photography in Project-Based Learning to Integrate Math, Technology, and Art –Melissa Coogler – East Aiken School of the Arts
9. Where the Ocean Meets the Pen – Lisa Oliver, Vernon Williams, Linda Walker and Robin Bouye – East Aiken School of the Arts
10. The Lifeblood of Augusta: Exploring the Savannah River and the Augusta Canal – Mary Ann Marriott – Episcopal Day School
11. Instructional Gaming with Chess! – Bonnie Herskowitz – Freedom Park Elementary
12. Engaging Engineers Early – Carol Hayes – Greendale Elementary
13. Mastering Mathematics with Plants – Michael Truitt – J. D. Lever Elementary
14. W.O.R.M.S. – Phyllis Jones – J. D. Lever Elementary
15. Using the Library as a Makerspace to Promote STEM Education – Kimberly Isiminger – Lakeside Middle
16. I Like to Move It, Move It with Simple Machines – Alicia Miller – Lewiston Elementary
17. Student Resource Website and Mobile App – Lisa Naylor and Diane Hancock – Mead Hall Episcopal
18. Now You're Cookin': Using Math and Science Skills to Cook in the Classroom – Shari Huiet – Merriwether Elementary
19. The Great Outdoors – Suzanne Redd – Millbrook Elementary
20. How Do You Measure Up? – Sonya Forker – Millbrook Elementary
21. Robo STEM – Theresa Spieker – Mossy Creek Elementary
22. "The Seeds of Science Are Rooted in Reading" – Cheryl Zimmerman – Oakwood-Windsor Elementary
23. Magnified! – Jill Marriott – Stevens Creek Elementary
24. Team Building – Tommy Carl – Sue Reynolds Elementary
25. Blown Away – Kippy Kelly, Jessica Johnson, Fran Clary and Amber Scates – W. E. Parker Elementary
26. Science in the Sound of Music – Jennifer Rice – W. E. Parker Elementary
27. I'm A Weather Watcher! – Donna Higgenbottom – W. E. Parker Elementary
28. "Good Science is Smart Science" – Miranda Berry – W. E. Parker Elementary
29. TechConnect – Allison Millard, Tammy Briggs and Henr