

March 8, 2018

Dear WVLS Board of Trustees:

The Colby Community Library proposed to partner with the School District of Colby and St. Mary's School to develop and sustain a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (S.T.E.A.M.) project area in the new library. The library is known for its exceptional children's summer program that draws over 300 children, and we were interested in making the library a year-round destination for area youth. The goal of this program was to provide learning opportunities for the community at the library to show that we are more than just a warehouse of materials. The CCL's mission is to provide quality materials, programs and services to our community and surrounding townships. The Innovation and Collaboration Grant proposal supports our mission.



The equipment for the Colby Community Library STEAM area has arrived. We were able to purchase a lab cart and are filling it with equipment to support the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. We are also fortunate to have 2 work tables and 8 lab stools for kids of all sizes/ages. These items are used daily by youth and staff.

We have held two of our collaborative Super Saturdays. The Science Saturday in January was attended by 29 participants and included hands-on science experiments for all the children. We were helped by St. Mary School personnel in the preparation for the event.

The Engineering Saturday in February was attended by 35 participants. The youth (and parents) were challenged to create engineered buildings, bridges, tents, and animals from spaghetti, toothpicks, and marshmallows as an activity to close out the session. Teachers from Colby Elementary School assisted with ideas for the event.



Barnes and Noble will be assisting us on Technology Saturday in March. They will be bringing technology equipment for hands-on activities from robots to drones to coding mazes.

In April, Arts will be featured with help from local artists. Math will be the focus in May.

We are very appreciative of the opportunity to apply for and receive this Innovation and Collaboration Grant of \$4,500 from WVLS. It is a very well-used area in our new library.



We are looking forward to hosting a V-CAT meeting when the CCL is a little more complete and showing everyone our STEAM area. It is a fantastic addition to our new building.

Thank you.

Vicky Calmes
Director
Colby Community Library

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