

**INNOVATION FUND  
GRANT AWARD WINNERS  
October 5, 2015**

**PLANNING GRANTS**

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Organization</i>                   | <b>Baldwin County Schools</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>                   | Read Baldwin County (RBC)   |
| <i>Priority Area(s)<br/>Addressed</i> | Birth to Age Eight Language and Literacy Development  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>                 | Baldwin County  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>                  | \$9,999.00  |
| <i>Description of Project</i>         | Baldwin County Schools will explore potential community partnerships, research early literacy best practices, and compile a resource library in order to plan and pilot language and literacy programs for three age ranges (birth to three, three to five, and five to eight). |

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Organization</i>                   | <b>Decatur County Schools</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>                   | Building Personalized Learning Communities in Decatur County  |
| <i>Priority Area(s)<br/>Addressed</i> | Development and Replication of Blended Learning School Models   |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>                 | Decatur County  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>                  | \$10,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>         | Decatur County Schools, in partnership with the Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM (TIES) and other community partners, will plan a blended learning program for 5 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students in Decatur County. |

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Organization</i>                   | <b>Forsyth County Schools</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>                   | Let's Get Personal: Meeting Learners Where They Are   |
| <i>Priority Area(s)<br/>Addressed</i> | Development and Replication of Blended Learning School Models   |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>                 | Forsyth County  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>                  | \$10,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>         | Forsyth County Schools will research and create an implementation plan for a blended/personalized learning program, including a strategic budget, a comprehensive communication plan, a selection process for the program's teachers and leaders, and a professional development plan for selected staff. |

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Rome City Schools – Elm Street Elementary</b>  |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | STEM in 3D – Dream, Design, DO!   |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Applied Learning with a Focus on STEM Education   |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Rome  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$9,982.00  |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Rome City School’s Elm Street Elementary will plan and pilot integrated STEM applied learning units that incorporate 3D printing. |

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Rome City Schools – North Heights Elementary</b>  |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | Growing Up Green   |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Applied Learning with a Focus on STEM Education  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Rome   |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$10,000.00  |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Rome City School’s North Heights Elementary will address the community problem of living in a food desert by planning and piloting STEM-focused, project-based learning units that incorporate a school-based garden and greenhouse. |

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Whitfield County Schools</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | Beyond the Classroom  |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Birth to Age Eight Language and Literacy Development  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Whitfield County  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$10,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Whitfield County Schools, in partnership with community agencies, will research, design, and pilot a literacy program that integrates Learning Academies and Power Lunches for high-need children and their families. |

## IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Carroll County School System</b>  |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | Step into STEM   |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Applied Learning with a Focus on STEM Education  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Carroll County   |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$700,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Carroll County School System, in partnership with local industries, will implement Step Into STEM (SiS), a program targeting 15-year olds from Villa Rica High School who are statistically at the highest risk of dropping out of school. SiS will provide these students with integrated STEM curricula, academic and soft skills supports, and field experiences with the county’s leading employers, including Southwire, Tanner Health Systems, Sugar Foods, Carroll EMC, and Carroll County Water Authority. |

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Charles R. Drew Charter School</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Literacy in the Making (21CLM)   |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Applied Learning with a Focus on STEM Education, Birth to Age Eight Language and Literacy Development   |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Atlanta   |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$700,000.00  |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Charles R. Drew Charter School’s 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Literacy in the Making (21CLM) aims to eliminate summer learning loss, increase teachers’ pedagogical content knowledge, support more rigorous and creative project-based learning, and accelerate students’ 21 <sup>st</sup> Century skill development. 21CLM will accomplish these objectives through a Literacy in the Making full-day summer program for targeted rising 1 <sup>st</sup> through 3 <sup>rd</sup> graders and STEM Makerspace initiatives. |

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Lowndes County Schools</b>  |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | BLAST – Boosting Learning Through Authentic STEM Teaching  |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Applied Learning with a Focus on STEM Education  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Lowndes County   |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$700,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Lowndes County School’s BLAST program will target teachers and 7 <sup>th</sup> grade non-traditional students at Pine Grove Middle School (PGMS) in Valdosta, GA. During the grant, PGMS will develop hands-on, bioscience-focused STEM units, provide students with onsite and offsite applied learning opportunities – including outdoor classrooms and learning labs – and provide teacher development and support. |

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Morgan County Charter School System</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | STEAM N-RG (Network-Resources for Georgia)   |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Applied Learning with a Focus on STEM Education  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Morgan County  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$621,655.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Morgan County Charter School System’s STEAM N-RG will leverage a network of diverse partners to develop a K-9 district STEAM program with an energy theme. STEM N-RG will connect teachers to one another and to professional development, connect schools to community partners, and connect student’s learning to the real-world applications of energy. |

## SCALING GRANTS

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Atlanta Public Schools</b>  |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | Read Right from the Start  |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Birth to Age Eight Language and Literacy Development   |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Atlanta  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$700,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Atlanta Public Schools, in partnership with Atlanta Speech School’s Rollins Center for Language and Literacy and Westside Atlanta Charter School, will scale Read Right from the Start, an intensive language-and- literacy-focused professional development program, to eight elementary schools in the Douglass High School Cluster. |

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Organization</i>               | <b>Bibb County Schools –Westside High School</b>   |
| <i>Project Name</i>               | Westside Flexible High School and Modular Scheduling for Personalized Learning   |
| <i>Priority Area(s) Addressed</i> | Development and Replication of Blended Learning School Models  |
| <i>Area(s) Served</i>             | Bibb County Schools  |
| <i>Amount Funded</i>              | \$700,000.00   |
| <i>Description of Project</i>     | Westside High School, in partnership with Bibb County School District’s Hutchings College and Career Academy, Central Georgia Technical College, Mercer University, Middle Georgia Center for Academic Excellence, and other community partners, will incorporate its existing Twilight School model into the school’s master schedule – providing students personalized learning, differentiated instruction, and additional opportunities to prepare for college and career experiences. |