



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

11 May 2020

To: School Committee

Subj: RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT NEA FOUNDATION GRANT: \$5,000

Background

Mr. Jeremy Mularella, Oak Middle School teacher applied for and received notice of award for \$5,000 to support the Oak Middle School. The grant is offered by the NEA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that supports public education.

Mr. Mularella's grant project summary reads as follows:

Mr. Mularella will use micro:bits to introduce coding, electronics, and physical computing into the STEM curriculum at Oak Middle School. Students will develop creative problem solving as they learn to code programs for the Micro:bit using Microsoft MakeCode. After learning to code programs that control different modules (inputs, sensors, and actuators), students will use the engineering design process to design, program, and race hovercrafts.

The NEA Foundation grants are competitive and only about 120 grants are awarded to educators on an annual basis.

Acceptance of the award comes with no contingencies other than the normal implementation report and fiscal recap back to the NEA Foundation at time of completion.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the School Committee vote to accept the funds using the following motion:

"I move that the Committee accept the \$5,000 NEA Foundation Grant and use such funds for their intended purpose of improving the STEM curriculum at Oak Middle School."

In closing I would also recommend that the School Committee write a note of congratulations to Mr. Mularella for his initiative and success.