
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE:	Consider Approval of Educational Grant Agreement with Gene Haas Foundation
DATE:	February 27, 2020
RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR:	Doug Brubaker, Ph.D. Superintendent
VISION 2023 STRATEGY:	1. Career Planning 2. Equity 3. Instruction 4. Learning Environment/Facilities

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

The PEAK Innovation Center, a regional career and technology center with a focus on innovative instructional strategies within the STEAM disciplines, will open in the fall semester of 2021 as part of the District's Vision 2023 Capital Improvement Program. Significant support from outside the district has been secured for this project. Some prior donations, grants, and commitments made in support of the PEAK Innovation Center are listed below:

- The donation of the PEAK Innovation Center site at the intersection of Painter Lane and Zero Street in Fort Smith by the Trust of William L. Hutcheson, Jr.
- A \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration
- A \$750,000 grant from the Windgate Foundation to the Fort Smith Public Schools Foundation for innovative arts programming
- A \$2.1 million funding commitment from the Arkansas Office of Skills Development (OSD) for advanced manufacturing equipment

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - **1. Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **2. Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **3. Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student's unique needs and aspirations. **4. Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **5. Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **6. Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **7. Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.

The Gene Haas Foundation is now in the process of approving a \$1 million donation for a planned computer integrated machining lab within the PEAK Innovation Center, subject to the conditions detailed in the attached agreement. Board approval is required to secure the donation.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends approval of the attached agreement. If the Board agrees, the motion would read: *move to approve the grant agreement as presented.*

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