



Weber Innovation Center
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CTE Director
Dr. Rod Belnap

Memo

To: Superintendent Gina Butters, Weber School District Board of Education
From: Dr. Rod Belnap, Career and Technical Education Director
Date: October 16, 2024
Re: CTE Drone Kits

Weber District CTE teaches a wide range of classes in drones, aviation, robotics, computer science, and other related classes. Last year, in our CLNA (needs assessment) it indicated that one of the fastest growing industries in northern Utah was aviation. It has among the most jobs and industry demand from companies like Parker, Boeing, HAFB, and Northrup among others. That said, in order to give students experience that is foundational, build valuable skills preparing them for the world of work and to be Future Ready, we want to give students access to technology to grow those skills and point them to careers that are high wage high demand in Weber County. To do this, we have worked closely with industry, postsecondary, and secondary partners to identify an affordable drone experience writing into our Federal Perkins Grant the needed funding. This purchase allows students to use play, games, and fun to build, program, and fly drones that will pique their interest early in junior high and build our aviation and STEM pathways.

The total amount requested for purchase approval: Each Drone Soccer Kit is \$15,000 and in order to have them in multiple junior high school courses, we have budgeted a total of \$75,000 to purchase 5 kits... and each "kit" has 18 drones in it so that the entire class can learn/play. They will be used in multiple classes from STEM, computer science, engineering, to automotive. None of this money will come from district CTE, instead it is funded from the Federal Perkins Grant written by WSD CTE.

We would be happy to provide you with any further information or answer questions regarding this purchase. Thank you for your support and consideration regarding these items.

Professionally,

Rod Belnap, CTE Director