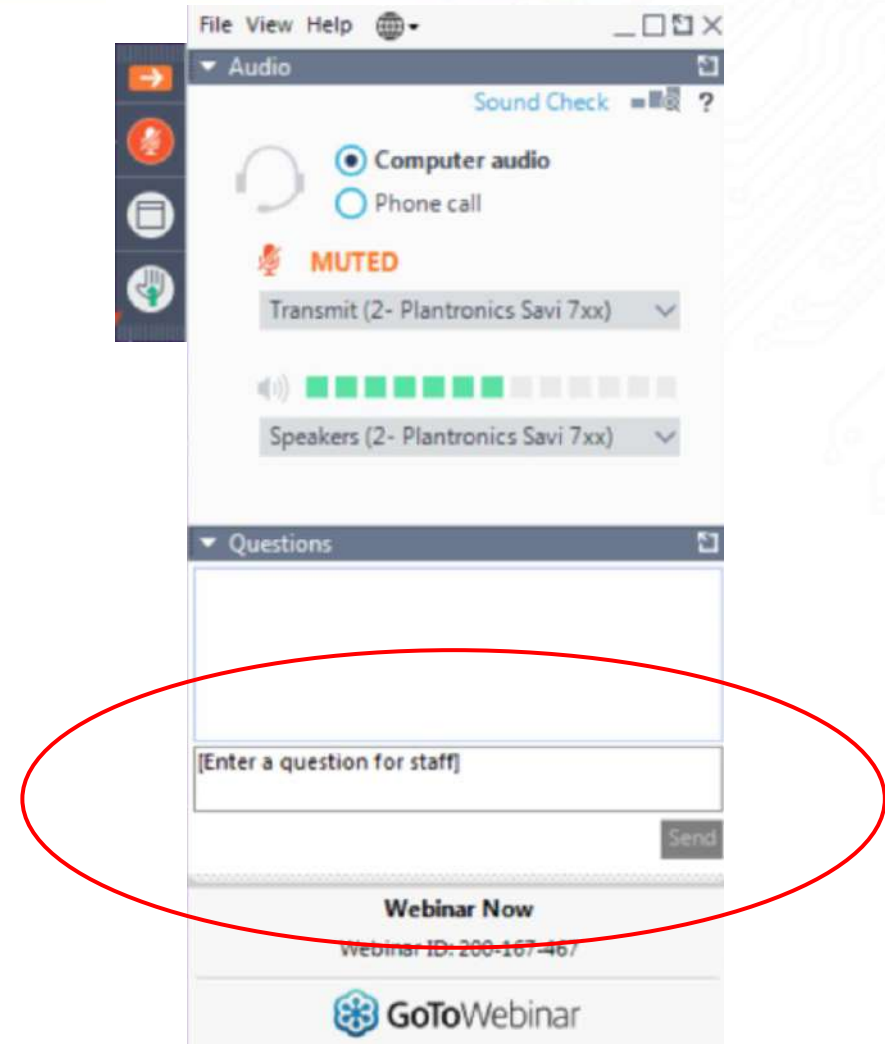# A ROADMAP TO
Successful STEM Grant Writing

GoToWebinar

Everyone will be muted throughout the presentation.

Please send us your questions through the questions panel.

Host

Suzy Haislip

STEMbassador

PCS Edventures

Agenda

- Who is PCS Edventures?

- How to Write a Grant
  with Kaitlin Maguire

- STEM Partnerships
  with Laurie Anderson

- Teacher's POV
  with Brandi Milliron

- Q&A

Who Is PCS Edventures?

- Pat's Computer School founded in 1988

- Network of experiential learning centers in Idaho, Washington and California

- Learning solutions adopted in over 7000 sites in all 50 US states and throughout 17 different countries

- Philosophy of hands-on projects that fuel a passion for learning and a lifelong love of STEM

PCS Edventures Serves...

- K-12 educators in classrooms

- After-school programs

- Libraries and makerspaces

- Youth groups such as FFA, Boys & Girls Club, 4H, etc

Panelists

Kaitlin Maguire

iSTEM Coordinator and
Grant Writer
Idaho STEM Action Center
istem@stem.idaho.gov

Laurie Anderson

K-12 STEM Education
Programs Manager
Micron Technology Foundation
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Brandi Milliron

STEM Teacher and
Grant Recipient
West Minico Middle Schools
bmilliron@minidokaschools.org

Successful STEM Grants

Idaho STEM Action Center

- About Us

  ○ Established in 2015, Office of the Governor

  ○ Provide grants and professional development

- Stay Informed - Newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

- Check out our Opportunities At a Glance

  ○ https://stem.idaho.gov/apply/

Successful STEM Grants

Opportunity	Application Opens	Application Closes	Award Date
Idaho Makers for Equity	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
Educurious: Idaho School Leaders' STEM Academy Cohort II	7/8/2019	9/2/2019	9/9/2019
Public-Private Partnership	7/25/2019	5/20/2020	End of month, Aug-May
Educurious: Project-Based Learning Workshop for Educators	7/26/2019	12/1/2019	12/13/2019
Making Sense of Science Leadership	8/2/2019	9/11/2019	9/16/2019
Early STEM Fall Summit	8/5/2019	9/20/2019	9/27/2019 (Event)
Junior Botball Challenge	8/6/2019	9/1/2019	9/9/2019
eCYBERMISSION	8/7/2019	9/22/2019	9/26/2019
ISEF	8/9/2019	12/20/2019	2/28/2020
ISEF 2020 Support	8/9/2019	12/20/2019	End of month, Sept-Jan
IDX - Idaho Exhibition of Ideas	8/20/2019	10/6/2019	10/21/2019
PK12 Innovative STEM Project Grant	8/21/2019	9/22/2019	10/15/2019
Family & Career STEM Awareness Event	8/21/2019	9/22/2019	10/15/2019
Integrated STEM Teaching & Learning Professional Development	8/30/2019	9/25/2019	10/1/2019
FIRST Robotics Team Registration Sponsorship	9/1/2019	9/30/2019	10/15/2019
MakerMinded	9/18/2019	4/23/2020	5/1/2019
STEM Externships for Businesses	10/1/2019	12/31/2019	4/1/2020
i-STEM Strand Provider	10/15/2019	12/1/2019	1/15/2020

https://stem.idaho.gov/apply/

Successful STEM Grants

Helpful Tips

- Read the RFP and instructions

- Start with your budget

- Use the rubric

- Proofread and make sure all components are complete

- Credibility and stats folder

- Final reporting is IMPORTANT

Successful STEM Grants

Grant Components

- Problem/Need Statement - Why am I applying?

- Goal(s) and Objectives

- Outputs and Outcomes

- Program Design

STEM Partnerships

Micron has a variety of ways, beyond funding, to partner with students, schools, afterschool programs and educators:

- Hands-on STEM lessons (presentation or check-out)

- Family STEM night materials & volunteers

- Professional Development

- Career Awareness presentations

- Mentors, volunteers & judges for clubs & competitions

- Job Shadows

- Site visits to Micron

STEM Partnerships

"Education" is a part of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) mission for many companies – find one that meets your niche – either for funding or programming:

- Obvious:
  - Technology companies
  - Science-based companies

- Not so obvious:
  - Car dealerships (e.g. Kendall Ford, in our area)
  - Banks (National, Regional & Local)

- Science Organizations
  - National Science Teachers Association
  - American Association for the Advancement of Science

- Government:
  - National Labs & Utilities
  - Agencies (e.g. Forest Service, EPA, etc.)

STEM Partnerships

What about other corporate connections?

- Companies close to your school

- Companies that have a focus for your need or cause
  - Curriculum Focus: Engineering, Biology, VR, etc
  - Demographic Focus
- Regional Corporate Consortiums, e.g.:
  - Idaho Business for Education
  - Idaho Technology Council
  - Southwest Idaho Manufacturing Association

STEM Partnerships

Other groups that can be sources of funding, outreach, volunteers and classroom assistance:

- Colleges or universities

- STEM Technical Associations
  - IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
  - AIBS: American Institute of Biological Sciences
  - etc.

- Workforce Sector Associations, e.g.:
  - Mining
  - Agriculture
  - etc.

- Civic groups
  - Chamber of Commerce
  - Rotary, Kiwanis, etc
  - Local community donor groups

STEM Partnerships

Don't forget your networks...

The community won't know what you need until you ask - and don't forget to tell the story of the great things you do!

- LinkedIn

- Donors Choose

- Volunteer Match

- Educator / Administrator connections

- Parent & PTO connections

STEM Partnerships

Some examples of where to look for grant money...

- Foundation Directory
  - https://fconline.foundationcenter.org/

- Birdbrain (where to look for grants)
  - https://www.birdbraintechnologies.com/grant-assistance/

- Frey Scientific (where to look, tips for applying)
  - https://freyscientific.com/resources/grants

- LEGO
  - https://education.lego.com/en-us/grants-and-funding

- And don't forget your browser!
  - "The entire depth and breadth of human knowledge is available at the end of your fingertips via the internet!"

Micron
STEM Outreach

Why not try?

- First grant application is the most daunting

  - Gathering data, background info, etc.

  - My 1st grant

- You have nothing to lose and a LOT to gain!

- Students benefit the most

- We ask students to try new things all the time. Why don't we do the same as teachers?

Teacher's POV

Items Received from Grants

Tello Drone Classroom Set

RubiQ Discover Drones
Classroom Set

Items Received from Grants

Sphero Bolt Power Pack

FlashForge Finder 3D Printer

- **Answer the question asked. I try to re-state the question in my answer.**

- Stay on topic.

- Try to find in-kind money so the grant is not the only source of funding for the project. This can include the school's PTA or another sponsor.

- Write the grant with a co-worker. This helps when developing answers to the grant questions.

- **Write a lot of grants! Not all get funded, but this increases your chances of a successful application.**

- Gina Kwid, K-5 Engineering Teacher

Teacher's POV

- **Stop procrastinating just take the time to get started.**

- Be clear about what you are asking for.

- Show that you have other stakeholders involved in the project.

- Be sure to address the specific language from the RFP and use their language to address your goals and objectives.

- **Be concise and to the point. Remember they will be reading many requests.**

- Jim Schmidt, EdD, Career and Technical Education

Teacher's POV

- If there is a rubric for the grant, use it to earn higher scores.

- Identify the need for your student population and the gaps it fills.

- **Explain how the grant will be used in words non-educators can understand.**

- If possible, identify how the project will be sustainable.

- If available, review successful grant applications awarded in the past.

- Follow all formatting guidelines.

- Understand the reporting process that is required for the grant.

- **For large grants, cite research that supports your project plan.**

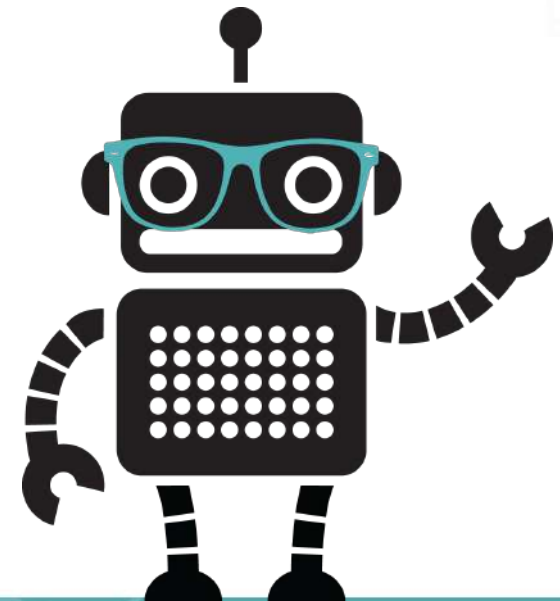**- Kellie Taylor, EdD, 3rd Grade Teacher**

Teacher's POV

- Find local grants that fit your programs.

- Know what the granting organization is looking for before you apply.

- Have a plan before you write the grant and make sure you have the capacity to fulfill the grant.

- Don't be afraid to ask questions.

- **Apply for the grants offered in the summer when everyone else is on vacation!**

- Brian Hunicke, Superintendent

How PCS Can Help

- Funding Resource Lists and Grant Alerts

  - https://edventures.com/pages/funding

- Technical Information for Grant Applications

  - Standards & Alignment

  - Learning Objectives

  - Materials & Refill Kits

- Weekly Newsletter with Notifications

  About Giveaways, Grants and More!

Questions?

PCS **edventures!** ™

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STEM EDUCATION

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