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UCOR News Release

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For Immediate Release

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UCOR Awards 38 Mini-Grants for Local School Projects

Oak Ridge, Tenn., May 7, 2018 – URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR) today announced 38 winners from five East Tennessee counties in the 2018 UCOR Education Mini-Grant Program which recognizes and supports excellence in teaching. The winning teachers were recognized at a reception hosted by UCOR at Calhoun's in Oak Ridge.

Awarded annually since 2012, grant funds assist classroom teachers in developing specific projects or curricula, focusing primarily on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

“One of UCOR’s primary objectives is to support and encourage education initiatives,” Ken Rueter, UCOR President and Project Manager, said. “The UCOR Mini-Grant Program enables teachers to enhance their students’ educational experiences. Selected projects funded by our program give students a greater insight into the essential STEM subjects in fun and exciting ways.”

Applications were screened and awardees selected using a blind process that prevented members of the selection panel from knowing the names of the teachers or the schools. Schools in Roane, Anderson, Loudon, Knox and Morgan counties were eligible to submit proposals.

UCOR is the Department of Energy’s cleanup contractor for the East Tennessee Technology Park (former Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant) and other sites on its Oak Ridge Reservation.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: A complete list of grant winners by county is attached for your information and use.

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2018 Mini-Grant Winners by County

Anderson County

- “Engage STEM” Shelby Haun (Director ACS Preschool/Head Start), Anderson County Schools Afterschool
- “Creative Building Blocks” Janis Bishop, Briceville Elementary School
- “Robots Everywhere” Nicole Jett, Claxton Elementary School
- “Math ACT Prep Support” Karen Campbell, Clinton High School
- “Let's Filter It Out” Cristen Holden, Clinton Middle School
- “From Quadratics to Correlation Coefficients: Mathematical Modeling Using TI83s” Ligia Boundy, Clinton Middle School
- “Building STEM Leaders of Tomorrow” Amanda Cupp and Kristina Kenny, Crossroads Academy
- “Read Like an Oceanographer” Kristi Boruff, Glenwood Elementary School
- “The Living Classroom” Shasta Gilliam, Grand Oaks Elementary School
- “The Robotics Challenge” Janie Shanafield, Jefferson Middle School
- “To STEMfinity and Beyond: Full STEAM Ahead ” Lisa Buckner, Linden Elementary School
- “CO2 Dragster Track” Madison Jones, Norris Middle, Clinton Middle, Lake City Middle Schools
- “Electric Automobile Re-energized (Mazda Miata)” Mr. Patrick LaDue, Oak Ridge High School
- “RamSat Ground Control, Sponsored by UCOR” Todd Livesay, Robertsville Middle School
- “STEM Opportunities for SPED” Andie Breeden, South Clinton Elementary School
- “Robots Everywhere” Lorrie Irwin, South Clinton Elementary School

Knox County

- “Robot Assembly and Programming” William Schult, Bearden High School
- “Osmo stations” Jamie Czornohus and Heather Palmer, Dogwood Elementary School
- “SumoBots as STEM Ambassadors” Jane Skinner & Matt Howell, Farragut High School
- “STEAM literacy through Robotics” Katie Lusk, Stanford Eisenberg Knoxville Jewish Day School
- “Student Science Lab” Lynnsey Metcalf, Natalie Saunders, Jill Walker, Sterchi Elementary School

“Science through Engineering and Literacy” Louise Lindsay, The Knoxville Jewish Day School

Loudon County

“Library STEM Makerspace” Kimberly Callais, Loudon High School

“Robot Rampage” Rebecca Edwards, Steekee Elementary School

Morgan County

“Gateway to STEM Academy” Steve Alford, Morgan County Career & Technical Center

“Recycled Greenhouse” Michelle Collins, Petros Joyner Elementary School

Roane County

“Google Expeditions: VR Technology in the Library” Lana Foster, Cherokee Middle School

“3D for Everyone” Stacey Hauck, Cherokee Middle School

“Magnets, Gears, Building Bricks, OSMOS and iPads, OH MY!” Carly Harrison, Dyllis Springs Elementary School

“Makedo Cardboard Construction Kits” Andra Barnett, Jessica Marasco, Courtney Belcher, Midway Elementary School

“Combining STEM and Literacy” Ashlee Hill, Midway Elementary School

“If you build your STEM library collection, they will come.” Karen Buehler, Midway Elementary School

“Exploring Robots” Vivian Harris, Midway Elementary School

“Coding to Solve Problems... or Create New Ones” Katie McKee, Midway Middle School

“Growing Kids with STEM” Donna Widner, Oliver Springs Middle School

“Expanding Techno Tigers Robotics” Heather Robinette, Ridge View Elementary School

“First Robotics Team” Jason Young, Roane County High School

“From Here to STEM Career” Tracy Sands, Rockwood High School

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