

To Jim Gottfried,

I want to thank you and the INCOSE family for the generous grant of \$508.25. I was able to purchase the materials that I needed to begin an afterschool STEM club. I had anticipated that we would have a large number of students interested but I could never guess what happened.

The grant paid for two sessions of our clubs materials to allow for approximately 70 children to participate. After receiving the grant, I put out a flyer introducing the club. Within one week, we had over 170 children from grades 3-5 attempt to sign-up. Unfortunately, I was unable to have all students participate but it has given our school PTA and principal a new perspective on how important and in demand STEM is in our community. We are planning on continuing this club into the following years as its popularity continues.

We are currently in the middle of the first session. The group has discussed engineering, technology, optics, mirrors, angles of incidence vs angles of reflections. They were able to use a protractor and rules to measure angles and lengths. They are going to put all their foundational knowledge together and look at how to light up "an Egyptian Tome." They will determine cost analysis or have more intensive light and larger mirrors comparing those costs to smaller mirrors and less intense light. They are becoming amazing engineers.

None of this would be possible without the grant money. It was the spark that our school needed to become aware of the demand of STEM.

Thank you again,
Kimberly Trench