

VI. GENERAL FUND & MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE FUND

A.2 Library Services Improvement Fund Request

Under a memorandum of agreement (MOA), the Idaho STEM Action Center and the Commission for Libraries will implement “Summer STEM from Your Library” from June through August 2017. The purpose of the program is to provide STEM summer learning experiences for Idaho youth through school and public library outreach programming. The “Summer STEM from Your Library” has three primary goals:

- Increase access to fun, engaging, hands-on STEM activities and books for underserved youth at summer nutrition sites or low-income schools;
- Increase the number of youth who explore STEM resources over the summer months;
- Increase the number of youth who minimize the "Summer Slide."

MOA summary:

- The STEM Action Center will transfer \$30,000 to the Commission for Libraries.
- \$10,000 – ICfL will administer a grant program to provide up to 20 \$500 micro-grants to school and public libraries to help pay for presenters or materials to support their Summer STEM outreach efforts.
- \$10,000 -- ICfL will provide STEM-related books for participating youth with our bulk discounts.
- \$5,000 -- ICfL will contract with two educators to plan and implement “Summer STEM from Your library” programs that complement existing Literacy in the Park efforts.
- \$5,000 – ICfL will provide STEM presenters and hands-on materials for Literacy in the Park / “Summer STEM from Your Library”.

Libraries help spark curiosity, connections, and creativity but many students face barriers to getting to library programs in the summer. By partnering with summer nutrition programs, libraries can literally follow the food and ensure that youth have positive learning experiences while taking advantage of summer food options. States that have evaluated models that contain the three components of meals, hands-on learning activities, and books have seen increased turnout and positive learning outcomes. Many libraries have been incorporating STEM activities in their outreach (i.e. Lewiston, Gooding, Shoshone, Mountain Home and several elementary schools that are staying open over the summer). We are excited about the opportunity to start formalizing these efforts and work to consistently evaluate results. Library staff were polled about the idea and are looking forward to receiving help creating fun, engaging and hands-on STEM activities and the addition of good quality nonfiction STEM books that students can keep.

The STEM Action Center funds have been deposited in the Library Services Improvement Fund. As outlined in Idaho Code, I'm requesting approval to spend these funds to implement "Summer STEM from Your Library."

Idaho Code 33-2506 (2) Purpose. The purpose of the library services improvement fund is to further the development of library services for all the people of Idaho. Moneys in the library services improvement fund are appropriated to and may be expended by the board of library commissioners at any time for the purposes provided in this section.

(4)(c) Payments from the library services improvement fund may be used only for the purposes approved by the board of library commissioners. Funding decisions shall be solely within the discretion of the board of library commissioners.

Suggested motion: I move that the expenditure of \$30,000 from the Library Services Improvement Fund be approved for implementation of the "Summer STEM from Your Library" program according to the memorandum of agreement with the Idaho STEM Action Center.

MSC: _____