

Bosch Fund supports STEM education

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ST. JOSEPH — The Bosch Community Fund has announced more than \$50,000 grants to Southwest Michigan schools and organizations.

The grants are for educational programs to inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

“We are proud to be part of a company that dedicates so much effort to develop tomorrow’s work force,” said Robert Spaargaren, manager of the Bosch plant in St. Joseph. “These grants from the Bosch Community Fund are one example of

providing students with a valuable education to prepare them for a successful future in a STEM field.”

The six grant recipients are St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation, Lakeshore Public School, Benton Harbor Area Schools, Cornerstone Alliance, Lake Michigan College Foundation and Southwestern Michigan College.

Benton Harbor Area Schools received a \$10,000 grant to support a district program for middle and high school students that provide hands-on science research projects and experiments.

Lakeshore Public Schools received a \$4,054 grant to establish a sixth-grade FIRST LEGO

League team and a FIRST Tech Challenge team for seventh- and eighth-grade students.

St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation landed a \$10,000 grant to support an engineering tech pathway middle college program in the school district. This program is a partnership between the school district and Lake Michigan College.

The Cornerstone Alliance received a \$4,401 grant to buy robot work station kits to initially be used at the 2016 Southwest Michigan Mini Maker Faire. After that event, the kits will be housed at the Berrien RESA County Education Resource Center for student use.

Southwestern Michigan

College received an \$11,850 grant for a June robotics camp. The camp is a partnership between the college, Lewis Cass Intermediate School District, district schools and FIRST Robotics.

Lake Michigan College Foundation will use a \$10,000 grant toward its capital campaign for LMC’s Hanson Technology Center. This grant is the second installment in a five-year grant.

Since 2014, the Bosch Community Fund has provided more than \$85,000 in grants in Southwest Michigan. Nationally, the fund awards up to \$3 million annually.

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