



For Immediate Release

Contact Information:

Laura Kocher
Great Plains Communications
402-456-6429
lkocher@gpcom.com

Great Plains Communications Awards Grant to Support STEM Lab Development at Riverside Public Schools

April 23, 2019 (Blair, Neb.) - Great Plains Communications presented the Riverside Public Schools with a \$5,000 grant on April 16 to support the development of a modern Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) lab. The funds will go to support the purchase of equipment for the lab including a 3D printer and filaments, Dash and Dot robots and accessories, and Sphero robots. These devices will provide Riverside students with hands-on opportunities to create solutions to real-world problems and will provide an alternative to traditional learning protocols.

“When students can apply what they have learned, it takes education to a new level and provides endless opportunities,” said Stephanie Kaczor, Superintendent of Riverside Public Schools. “Using the devices to apply what they have learned takes us back to the purpose of STEM education which is the ability to work on solutions for future problems that may be encountered by using prior knowledge and collaboration.”

The Riverside Public School STEM lab is currently in the beginning development stages. Once completed, the devices will be implemented across all elementary and middle school grade levels. Laura Kocher, Marketing and Public Relations Director for Great Plains Communications had this to say. “STEM education allows students to learn in a new and practical way utilizing technology. Great Plains Communications fully supports keeping Nebraska schools on top of initiatives like STEM that will enable the success of our future leaders. We thank Riverside Public Schools for letting us be a part of this project.”

This award is part of the Great Plains Communications “Commitment to Our Schools” program, which provides nearly \$35,000 annually to schools and students in the form of grants and scholarships.

About Great Plains Communications

Great Plains Communications is the largest privately-owned telecommunications provider in Nebraska. The company provides over 90 communities across the state with high-speed Internet, cable television, and voice services. Business solutions range from traditional and cloud-based voice and data products to installation and support of large business networks with scalable Internet and Ethernet solutions.

At the core of its service offering is an extensive 9,500-mile regional fiber network including over 400 fiber miles in the Omaha Metro area. The network extends beyond Nebraska into Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wyoming offering community access rings, last-mile, and middle-mile solutions, all fully supported by their 24x7x365 Network Operations Center. The company is financially strong with over a century of experience providing reliable and innovative solutions. Great Plains Communications is privately owned by [Grain Management, LLC](#): a leading private equity firm focused on investments in the Communications sector. For more information visit www.gpcom.com.

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