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News Release

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Three Grants Awarded to Educators in the Coachella Valley

Fresno, CA – Thousands of students have the opportunity to participate in innovative education projects, thanks to a long-standing program funded by the California Table Grape Commission (commission) on behalf of California table grape growers.

The “Innovation in Teaching” grant program was created in 1993 to support innovative teaching projects in the California table grape growing regions of the San Joaquin and Coachella valleys. Projects include the areas of agriculture, math, science, art, health, and technology.

The funded projects, which total up to \$750 each, will be implemented in the current academic year and will reach over 9,000 students. Three grants were awarded to educators in the Coachella Valley.

“For over 25 years California table grape growers have been proud to fund school projects that benefit students,” said Kathleen Nave, commission president.

Examples of projects in the Coachella Valley include creating and racing hydrogen fuel cell cars and creating a sensory garden for special-needs students.

A list of all the projects in the Coachella Valley is listed below.

About the California Table Grape Commission

The California Table Grape Commission was created by the California legislature in 1967 to create worldwide demand for fresh California grapes through a variety of research and promotional programs.

For more information on the “Innovation in Teaching” grant program, go to www.grapesfromcalifornia.com/community-outreach/.

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Summaries of Funded Education Grant Projects – 2018-19
Coachella Valley

California grape growers are proud to support the following education grants awarded to schools in the Coachella Valley.

Coachella Valley Unified School District

Hydrogen Fuel Cell Car

Edwin Detoya, Bobby Duke Middle School

Grant funds will be used to purchase hydrogen fuel cell car science kits for these seventh and eighth grade students to learn more about chemistry, renewable resources, science, and engineering with real life applications.

Desert Sands Unified School District

Career Girls Day

Kayla Adler, Palm Desert High School

Fifth through twelfth grade students will learn about science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (S.T.E.A.M.) career pathways at Career Girls Day. Grant funds will be used for activity kits and follow-up classes to learn coding, 3D printing, and a *Women in Ag* Saturday workshop.

Palm Springs Unified School District

Sensory Garden for Functional Life Skill Special Education Students

Nicole Stayskal, Rancho Mirage High School

Grant funds will be used to purchase horticultural therapy supplies including seeds, gloves, grow lights, and a starter kit for ninth through twelfth grade students to enjoy hands-on learning about science, math, art, and literature.