

**CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY
LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT (LSTA)
FISCAL YEAR 2017/2018
PITCH-AN-IDEA GRANT APPLICATION**

ELEMENT 1: BASIC INFORMATION (please see application instructions for additional information)

Applicant Information

1. Library/Organization	2. Library's DUNS Number		
Nevada County Community Library	010979029		
3. Legal Business Name (must match name registered with Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN))			
Nevada County Library			
4. Project Coordinator Name	5. Project Coordinator Title		
Lisa Nowlain	Youth Services Librarian		
6. Email Address	7. Business Phone Number		
lisa.nowlain@co.nevada.ca.us	530-265-1541		
8. Mailing Address	City	State	Zip
980 Helling Way	Nevada City	CA	95959

Project Information

9. Project Title	Tech Lending Library
10. LSTA Funds Requested	\$76,700
11. Cash Match & In-Kind	\$32,786
12. Total Project Cost	\$109,486

13. California's LSTA Goals (Check one goal that best describes the project)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Literate California | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bridging the Digital Divide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 21 st Century Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Connections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 22 nd Century Tools | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Connections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Content Creation/Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensuring Library Access for All |

14. Primary Audience for project (Select all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adults | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-School Children |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural Populations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants/Refugees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Age Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intergenerational Groups (Excluding Families) | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Staff, Volunteers and/or Trustees | <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Public |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban Populations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non/Limited English Speaking Persons | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Populations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> People with Limited Functional Literacy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Young Adults and Teens |

ELEMENT 2: PROJECT BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

Describe how this project was identified as a need, how it relates to your library's strategic plan, what will be accomplished if this project is implemented, and how you will know whether your project is successful. Summary should relate to activities in the timeline (Element 4) and include statistical information to support the project.

Residents of rural Nevada County have limited access to technology opportunities that are prevalent in more highly-populated areas. There are few extracurricular tech-related activities for young people and families as well as limited access to the internet in many areas, where internet service is either completely unavailable or available only through dial-up. In early 2016, the Library commissioned a countywide poll to assess the community's priorities for library services. Two of the top three priorities identified through the poll were (1) access to technology and (2) services for children and teenagers. In surveys the Library conducted in February and March 2017, respondents named technology classes as the second most important library technology need. We identified Technology as one of the strategic priorities in the Library's Strategic Plan for 2017-2022, which was approved by the County Board of Supervisors this May. We are dedicated to improving our offerings in this area.

The Library would like to establish a collection of cutting-edge technology to be used in Library programs as well as loaned to teachers and nonprofit groups that work with young people. Some of the sets will relate to robotics and coding (Spheros, Dash & Dot robots, Kibo robot kits, Lego Mindstorms), electronics (Little Bits, Arduino), engineering (K'Nex, Early Machines Legos, Makey Makeys), content creation (Wacom tablets, virtual reality headsets, Snowflake microphones), and computer hardware (Samsung Galaxies, iPad Minis, Chromebooks). They will be loaned out as sets for group or classroom use, not to individuals. We plan to partner with the Nevada County schools to promote this Tech Lending Library to teachers in order to help bridge the technology gap for school-aged children. The Library can provide the technology to support learning and growth in our community, as well as information on how teachers and community leaders might use the technology with their students and groups.

The Tech Lending Library is a logical extension of the Library's efforts to offer better access to the tools that the public needs to learn and grow. In 2003, the Library established the Collaborative Technology Center (CTC) at the Madelyn Helling Library. The CTC includes a computer lab and a classroom in which we offer twenty to thirty classes per month, most of which are technology-related. We also train interested members of the public in how to use our 3D printers and then allow them to borrow a 3D printer for in-library use. Last year, the Library launched the Mobile Technology Center, a vehicle specially outfitted with technology (3D printer, vinyl cutter, laser cutter, mobile hotspot) in order to take the offerings that are available in the CTC out into the County. The Mobile Technology Center was funded through an LSTA grant, as were the 3D printers and other technology in the CTC.

We will involve and inform the public through events at our branches designed to introduce the technology and the lending program to educators and the broader community. We will also conduct a promotional campaign aimed at nonprofit organizations that work with young people to make them aware of their group's ability to check out tech materials from the Library and the support we can provide to help them to understand and use the technology. Family Tech Nights will be held regularly at the library branches to demonstrate technologies to the public and to give them a chance to try them out. We hope to have many families participate as they learn and explore together. The technology will be used in Library classes throughout the year, particularly in monthly programs for young people on various technology topics that will be held in the library branches. We have experience with this type of programming, as we have monthly scheduled classes in the Collaborative Technology Center, including classes on how to use our 3D printers.

In addition, the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools' office is enthusiastic about coordinating communications with teachers in all school systems to let them know about the Tech Lending Library and how it can help them bridge the digital divide in their classrooms. This assistance with coordination cannot be underestimated in a rural county with 10 school districts, 12 charter schools, 4 private schools, and a high number of homeschooling families (many of whom are associated with homeschooling charter schools).

Of course, the overarching goal is to increase the public's awareness of the Library, our important role as a connector between technology and our community, and our relevance in this digital age. We will use this new service as a means to promote library cards and library usage to educators, students, and other stakeholders. The Tech Lending Library project will be successful if participants in our technology classes and programs, as well as teachers and community leaders who borrow sets of technology, indicate that their knowledge of technology has been broadened and enhanced. Our goal is to increase the public's access to technology and introduce more community members to the opportunities and resources available through their public library system.

ELEMENT 3: PARTNERSHIPS

Please list all formal partners for your project here. Please attach (under Element 7) a copy of your signed agreement with each partner, which outlines the role the partner will play and the resources the partner will contribute.

Partner Name	Organization Type (see instructions for valid entries)	Legal Type (see instructions for valid entries)	Role on Project	Resources That Partner Will Contribute (materials/funds/staff)
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools	School	School District	Facilitate communication with educators; include Library in training sessions	Staff time

ELEMENT 4: PLANNING AND EVALUATION

Please answer each area concisely and completely. For section A-F limit responses to four pages.

A. Project Intent (Check only one that best describes the project)

Lifelong Learning

- Improve users' formal education
- Improve users' general knowledge and skills

Information Access

- Improve users' ability to discover information
- Improve users' ability to obtain information resources

Institutional Capacity

- Improve the library workforce
- Improve the library's physical and technology infrastructure
- Improve library's operations

Economic & Employment Development

- Improve users' ability to use resources and apply information for employment support
- Improve users' ability to use and apply business resources

Human Services

- Improve users' ability to apply information that furthers their personal, family, or household finances
- Improve users' ability to apply information that furthers their personal or family health & wellness
- Improve users' ability to apply information that furthers their parenting and family skills

Civic engagement

- Improve users' ability to participate in their community
- Improve users' ability to participate in community conversation around topics of concern

B. Project Purpose – Short statement which answers the questions: we will do what, for whom, for what expected benefit(s).

The Nevada County Community Library's Tech Lending Library will establish and promote a collection of cutting-edge technology sets to be used in Library programs and loaned to teachers and nonprofit groups that work with young people in order to improve access to, and increase knowledge of, technology in our rural county.

C. Anticipated Project Outputs – Measures of services and/or products to be created/provided.

- A collection of 26 technology sets will be purchased and cataloged.
 - Library staff members will present at 1 Professional Day and 4 Tech Forums sponsored by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools.
 - The Library will hold Launch Parties for teachers and non-school entities at 4 branches.
 - The Library will host 9 monthly tech programs for teens at 3 branches each for a total of 27 programs.
 - The Library will host 3 Family Tech Nights at 3 branches each for a total of 9 programs.
 - The Library will use Tech Lending Library technology to teach 10 classes in the Collaborative Technology Center and/or Mobile Tech Center.
 - The technology set collection will have a 60% circulation rate during the school year.
- 75 books will be purchased to supplement the Library's technology collection.

D. Anticipated Project Outcome(s) – What change is expected in the target audience's skills, knowledge, behavior, attitude, and/or status/life condition? How will you measure these outcomes? (for examples see attachment B of the application instructions)

- At least 75% of participants in tech programs for teens, Family Tech Nights, and technology classes will report an increased knowledge of technology as a result of the program or class.
- At least 60% of Launch Party attendees will report a desire to learn more about the Tech Lending Library and to encourage their children's schools and organizations to utilize it.
- At least 10 teachers and other community leaders will obtain their first library card in order to be able to use the Tech Lending Library and because promotion of the program broadened their awareness of Library offerings.
- At least 60% of teachers and nonprofit leaders who borrow Tech Lending Library resources will report that their students have increased interest in technology due to borrowing and using the set.

These results will be measured by surveys at related programs, classes, and events. Teachers and community leaders will be required to authenticate their eligibility before being able to check out from the Tech Lending Library, thereby enabling us to track new library cards issued as a result of this new program.

E. Briefly describe how this project will be financially supported in the future.

The Library will support ongoing costs, such as equipment updates and replacements, promotional materials, and staff time, as this project fits into the Library's Strategic Plan.

F. Activity Information. Activities are action(s) through which the intent or objective of a project are accomplished. Four activity types have been identified, each with select methods to help you describe how you will carry out this project. Indicate activity types that require a significant commitment of resources to the project (representing 10% or more of total project resources).

1. **Instruction** - Involves an interaction for knowledge or skill transfer and how learning is delivered or experienced. (*Check all that apply and provide a description including whether the format will be in-person, virtual, or both*)
 - Program - Formal interaction and active user engagement (e.g., a class on computer skills).
 - Presentation - Formal interaction and passive user engagement (e.g., an author's talk),
 - Consultation - Informal interaction with an individual or group of individuals (library staff or other professional) who provide expert advice or reference services to individuals, units, or organizations.
 - Other

Description:

Program: The project will conduct four launch parties to inform teachers and other stakeholders about the project and its resources. Launch parties will be held at the Madelyn Helling Library, the Grass Valley Library, the Truckee Library, and the Bear River Station. The project will also present nine tech programs for young people each month at the three large branches (Madelyn Helling, Grass Valley, Truckee) for a total of 27 programs. Classes will introduce participants to the technology acquired through the grant and relate them to real-world applications. Three Family Tech Nights will be held at the three large branches in November, February, and May, for a total of nine events. Each Family Tech Night will showcase several technologies and give participants the chance to try them out through simple projects. Tech Lending Library technology will be used to teach ten classes in the Collaborative Technology Center at the Madelyn Helling Library and/or the Mobile Technology Center.

Presentation: The Library will participate in a Professional Development Day organized by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools in August, at which we will present mini-sessions to interested teachers about the Tech Lending Library and showcase the technology. We will also present different technologies and give a brief overview of how they can be used in classrooms at four Tech Forums hosted by the Superintendent of Schools throughout the school year.

All programs will be publicized through the Library's website, Facebook page, and press releases. Launch Parties will be publicized to nonprofit organizations throughout the county in targeted emails and press releases. The school-focused events will be publicized directly to educators by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools.

2. **Content** - Involves the acquisition, development, or transfer of information and how information is made accessible. (*Check all that apply and provide a description including whether the format will be physical, digital, or both*)
- Acquisition - Selecting, ordering, and receiving materials for library or archival collections by purchase, exchange, or gift, which may include budgeting and negotiating with outside agencies (i.e. publishers, vendors) to obtain resources. May also include procuring software or hardware for the purposes of storing and/or retrieving information or enabling the act of experiencing, manipulating, or otherwise interacting with an information resource.
- Creation - Design or production of an information tool or resource (e.g., digital objects, curricula, manuals). Includes digitization or the process of converting data to digital format for processing by a computer.
- Description - Apply standardized descriptive information and/or apply such information in a standardized format to items or groups of items in a collection for purposes of intellectual control, organization, and retrieval.
- Lending - Provision of a library's resources and collections through the circulation of materials (general circulation, reserves). May also refer to the physical or electronic delivery of documents from a library collection to the residence or place of business of a library user, upon request.
- Preservation - Effort that extends the life or use life of a living or non-living collection, the individual items or entities included in a collection, or a structure, building or site by reducing the likelihood or speed of deterioration.
- Other

Description: 26 teaching sets of technology in the areas of robotics/coding, electronics, content creation, computer hardware, and engineering will be ordered to establish the Tech Lending Library. These sets will be loaned to teachers and community leaders for use with young people, as well as used for Library programs and classes at all branches and the Mobile Technology Center. See Appendix B for a complete list of acquisitions.

3. **Planning & Evaluation** - Involves design, development, or assessment of operations, services, or resources and when information is collected, analyzed, and/or disseminated. (*Check all that apply and provide a description including whether the format will be in-house or third-party*)
- Retrospective - Research effort that involves historical assessments of the condition of a project, program, service, operation, resource and/or user group.
- Prospective - Research effort that projects or forecasts a future condition of a project, program, service, operation, resource, and/or user group.

Description:

4. **Procurement** – May only be used for projects with an Institutional Capacity Intent. Acquiring or leasing facilities; purchasing equipment/supplies, hardware/software, or other materials (not content) that support general library infrastructure. (*Provide a description*)

Description:

ELEMENT 5: GRANT TIMELINE/ACTIVITIES

Show each major project activity and when it will be started and/or completed throughout the project. The timeline should correspond to the activities described in Planning and Evaluation. Please put an X in each pertaining month.

ELEMENT6: BUDGET

The budget should clearly identify the amounts requested and from what sources.

Budget Category	LSTA	Cash Match & In-Kind	Total
Salaries/Wages/Benefits			
Library Technician (technology programs)	\$0	\$9,766	\$9,766
Library Assistant I	\$0	\$8,352	\$8,352
Youth Services Librarian/Project Coordinator	\$0	\$7,065	\$7,065
Library Technician (cataloging)	\$0	\$1,560	\$1,560
County Librarian	\$0	\$2,418	\$2,418
Administrative Services Assistant	\$0	\$1,104	\$1,104
Accounting Technician	\$0	\$280	\$280
Associate Superintendent of Schools, Educational Services	\$0	\$2,241	\$2,241
Subtotal	\$0	\$32,786	\$32,786

Description: The Library Technician responsible for technology programs will prepare for technology classes; assist with Family Tech Nights; participate in Tech Forums; and provide tech support for staff and borrowers (257 hours x \$38/hr; 0.12 FTE). The Library Assistant I will process and check the technology in between circulations (288 hours x \$29/hr; 0.14 FTE). The Youth Services Librarian will serve as the project coordinator; plan classes and programs; attend Tech Forums; and coordinate outreach and support for the program (157 hours x \$45/hr; 0.08 FTE).

The County Librarian will oversee the grant and assist in planning and implementation (26 hours x \$93/hr; 0.01 FTE). The Administrative Services Assistant will track the grant's progress and facilitate grant activities (24 hours x \$46/hr; 0.01 FTE). The Accounting Technician will handle the financial tracking and reporting for the grant (8 hours x \$35/hr; 0.01 FTE).

The Associate Superintendent of Schools for Educational Services will coordinate promotion of the Tech Lending Library to school teachers and staff and will coordinate the Library's participation in Tech Forums and other outreach opportunities (27 hours x \$83/hr; 1.01 FTE).

Consultant Fees			
Instructors for technology classes	\$2,700	\$0	\$2,700
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$2,700	\$0	\$2,700

Description: Expert technology instructors (source TBD) for library technology classes - 9 classes @ \$300 each.

Budget Category	LSTA	Cash Match & In-Kind	Total
Travel			
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0

Description:

Supplies/Materials			
Tech Lending Library circulating materials (see Appendix B for list)	\$66,627	\$0	\$66,627
Storage and charging equipment for Tech Lending Library	\$3,973	\$0	\$3,973
Books and user guides	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Apps for iPads	\$200	\$0	\$200
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$72,300	\$0	\$72,300

Description: Items will be purchased to circulate as sets as part of the Tech Lending Library. Items to include robotics and coding (Sphero, Dash & Dot, Kibo, Lego Mindstorms), electronics (Little Bits, Arduino), computer hardware (Samsung Galaxies, iPad Minis, Chromebooks), engineering (K'Nex Maker and Kids sets, Early Machines Lego Sets, Makey Makeys) and content creation (Wacom tablets, virtual reality headsets, Snowflake microphones). See Appendix A for a complete and detailed list, including number to purchase and unit cost.

Storage and charging equipment includes a storage locker, charging systems for the Chromebooks, Samsung Galaxies, and iPads, and boxes for storing and transporting pieces for the Lego Mindstorms.

75 books @ average \$20 each will be purchased to supplement the Library's technology collection and to include with circulating materials, when applicable.

Educational apps will be purchased for the iPads (\$200 maximum).

Budget Category	LSTA	Cash Match & In-Kind	Total
Equipment (\$5,000 or more per unit)			
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0

Description:

Services			
Monthly service fees for mobile hotspots	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200
Printing costs	\$500	\$0	\$500
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$1,700	\$0	\$1,700

Description:

The mobile hotspots will incur monthly data plans (12 months x \$10/month x 10 hotspots).

Real Graphics will print 500 brochures about the Tech Lending Library and print and bind 26 user guides..

Project Total	\$76,700	\$32,786	\$109,486
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Indirect Cost Rate Applied	0.0 %	Indirect Cost	
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Check one:

No Indirect Federally negotiated indirect cost rate * Indirect proposed cost rate *

* please attach supporting documentation if required

Description:			
	Grand Total	\$76,700	\$32,786

ELEMENT 7: ATTACHMENTS

If you have additional resources that support your grant, please attach after this page

ELEMENT 8: INTERNET CERTIFICATION

Check the Appropriate Library Type

Public Library **Academic** **K-12** **Multi-Type** **Special/Other**

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant public library, public elementary school library or public secondary school library applying for LSTA funding, I hereby certify that the library is (*check only one of the following boxes*)

A. An individual applicant that is CIPA compliant.

The applicant library, as a public library, a public elementary school library or public secondary school library, has complied with the requirements of Section 9134(f)(1) of the Library Services and Technology Act.

B. Representing a group of applicants. Those applicants that are subject to CIPA requirements have certified they are CIPA compliant.

All public libraries, public elementary school libraries, and public secondary school libraries, participating in the application have complied with the requirements of Section 9134(f)(1) of the Library Services and Technology Act. The library submitting this application has collected Internet Safety Certifications from all other applicants who are subject to CIPA requirements. The library will keep these certifications on file with other application materials, and if awarded funds, with other project records.

C. Not Subject to CIPA Requirements.

The CIPA requirements do not apply because no funds made available under this LSTA grant program will be used to purchase computers used to access the Internet or to pay for direct costs associated with accessing the Internet.

SIGNATURE

I have read and support this LSTA Grant Application.

Nevada County Community Library
Library/Organization

Tech Lending Library
Project Name

Laura Pappani
Library Director Name

County Librarian
Title

Library Director Signature

Date

APPENDIX A: Worksheet for Pitch-An-Idea budget - Tech Lending Library proposal				
Budget Item/Description	Unit Cost	Number of Units	Total Cost	
Technology				
Sphero Education Pack	\$ 1,799	5	\$ 8,995	https://store.sphero.com/products/sprk-plus-power-pack-education
Dash & Dot Classroom Pack	\$ 2,620	3	\$ 7,860	https://store.makewonder.com/?gclid=Cj0KEQjwx6TJBRCWtsiXpl7bhOYBEiQA1en3FyLDcniwxpb-2pzhHQ_IkfbE2otkVP1StK0Gp6HXJQYaAvPT8P8HAQ#/education
Wacom Tablet	\$ 99	24	\$ 2,376	
Little Bits Workshop Set	\$ 1,999	2	\$ 3,998	https://shop.littlebits.cc/products/workshop-set
Mobile Beacon Hotspot	\$ 108	1	\$ 108	(admin fee for 10 from Tech Soup) http://www.techsoup.org/products/up-to-10-hotspots-for-mobile-beacon-4g-lte-internet-service-for-nonprofits--G-49863--
Arduino Starter Kit	\$ 99	35	\$ 3,465	
Replacement parts: LEDs, wires			\$ 100	
Samsung Galaxy	\$ 99	10	\$ 990	http://www.bestbuy.com/site/samsung-galaxy-tab-e-lite-7-8gb-black/4943617.p?skuId=4943617&extStoreId=&ref=212&loc=DWA&ksid=cb2c2860-499b-442c-afb9-1f70bca9f343&ksprof_id=3&ksaffcode=pg233388&ksdevice=c&lsft=ref:212,loc:2&gclid=Cj0KEQjwx6TJBRCWtsiXpl7bhOYBEiQA1en3F76CbBoiAARAMGQDTHykn15cFB0QHu_1PgtAmYwaV6UaApVa8P8HAQ#
iPad Minis	\$ 278	24	\$ 6,672	
Chromebooks	\$ 179	24	\$ 4,296	
K'Nex set: Maker Set	\$ 100	2	\$ 200	http://www.knex.com/maker-kit-simple-machines
Kid K'Nex sets	\$ 42	10	\$ 416	https://www.amazon.com/KNEX-Education-Building-Preschool-Educational/dp/B000NGM090/ref=sr_1_2?s=toys-and-games&ie=UTF8&qid=1495903575&sr=1-2&keywords=kid+k%27nex+sets
Kibo Classroom Set	\$ 4,835	2	\$ 9,670	http://www.shop.kinderlabrobotics.com/Full-Classroom-Package-CLASSROOM-FULL.htm
Lego Mindstorm Kits	\$ 390	15	\$ 5,849	
Virtual Reality Headsets	\$ 699	5	\$ 3,495	http://www.pcmag.com/article/342537/
Snowflake microphones	\$ 60	10	\$ 600	
Early Machines Lego Set	\$ 149	5	\$ 745	https://education.lego.com/en-us/products/early-simple-machines-set/9656
Makey Makey	\$ 49	15	\$ 735	\$ 60,570
Tax/shipping				\$ 6,057
				\$ 66,627 Tech Total



HOLLY A. HERMANSEN, SUPERINTENDENT

380 Crown Point Circle
Grass Valley, CA 95945

530-478-6400 • fax 530-478-6410

May 30, 2017

To: Selection Committee, LSTA Pitch-An-Idea Grants

California State Library

P.O. Box 942837

Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

Re: Nevada County Superintendent of Schools in support of
Technology Lending Library, Nevada County Community Library

Dear Selection Committee:

STEAM, an acronym for Science-Technology-Engineering-Arts-Math, has become a vital component in all aspects of education as our schools work to engage students and address the 21st Century skills needed in the workplace and beyond. Classrooms rely heavily on technology to engage students in all areas of learning, however resources can be hard to come by.

It is in this regard that a collaboration with the Nevada County Community Library becomes a good fit, as they will provide a multitude of opportunities for teachers to move forth in a world that changes at a clip that is hard to keep up with.

The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office (NCSOS) whole-heartedly supports the Technology Lending Library. Library staff has made a point of communicating with NCSOS staff, to ensure that what they select is actually what will be needed. It is greatly appreciated that they are taking this proactive stance to ensure teachers will be aware of and can easily utilize all that is being offered.

NCSOS will fully support communication with teachers and tech forum leaders and will host occasional trainings as part of teacher professional development. NCSOS sponsors not only a STEAM Expo each year, but also a county-wide Professional Development Day. The Nevada County Community Library has a history of participating at the STEAM Expo with support to our students in these areas. We look forward to their participation in the Professional Development Day as well.

Our commitment to collaborate with the Nevada County Community Library runs deep, as we continue with Nevada County Reads & Writes – now in its 12th year, Student Library Cards campaign, Adventures in Learning Summer program, and visits from the Mobile Tech Center to many of our schools.

Thank you for your consideration. We sincerely hope to take advantage of this great opportunity to partner once again as we work to get resources and instructional tools into the hands of teachers, thereby enhancing student learning and engagement.

Shar Johns

Associate Superintendent, Educational Services