

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

September 8, 2026

SUBJECT:

Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) K-12 Catalyst Grant for STEM Education Awards to Aiken County Public School District – FY27

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Aiken County Public School District has received \$42,500.00 in grant awards from Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) made possible through the generosity of Battelle Savannah River Alliance, LLC. (BSRA), and the Columbus Foundation. The purpose of K-12 Catalyst Grant for STEM Education Program is to support teachers in bringing STEM into K-12 classrooms which provides students with real-life skills, making them better problem solvers and better prepared for their future. After evaluating all of the grant applications submitted to SRNL, five Aiken County Public School District teachers were selected to receive awards. The funds are to be used by the awardee teachers to carry out the projects stated in their grant application. The individual awardees are listed below:

School	Awardee	Amount
Byrd Elementary School	Alyssa Smokes	\$5,000
Gloverville Elementary	Christina McDiarmid	\$5,000
Ridge Spring-Monetta Middle/High School	Georgina Anderson	\$5,000
Millbrook Elementary School	Jennifer Minolfo	\$5,000
North Augusta Elementary School	Kaitlyn McGurk	\$5,000
Graniteville Elementary School	Kelli Randall	\$5,000
East Aiken School of the Arts	Mary Nicodemus	\$2,500
North Augusta High School	Michelle O'Rourke	\$5,000
Jackson STEM Middle School	Patricia Saxon	\$5,000
Total Awarded:		\$42,500

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

The Division of Instruction has evaluated the goals and objectives and finds them to be consistent with district educational goals.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the \$42,500.00 in SRNL K-12 Catalyst Grant for STEM Education grant awards to Aiken County Public School District and adjustments to the FY27 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the awards and expenditures.

PREPARED BY:

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