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**For Immediate Release** Tuesday, September 15, 2015

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## Pittsburgh Public Schools Releases RFP for STEAM Mini Fall 2015 Grants

PITTSBURGH September 15, 2015 – Pittsburgh Public Schools is excited to offer teachers, principals, and schools the opportunity to apply for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) mini-grants that could support innovative projects within their classrooms. These grants have been made possible through the generous support of the Grable Foundation.

"We know that incredible teachers and principals are tirelessly working to ensure that our students receive a world-class education. In 2015, that involves embedding students in meaningful and relevant learning experiences, wherein they can lead and remake their learning. The STEAM Mini Grant Program will allow teachers and principals to create instruction that does this for our students," said Shaun Tomaszewski, STEAM Coordinator.

Proposals must include a cross-disciplinary approach explicitly connected to positively impacting student learning. Up to 10 mini-grants will be awarded during the Fall of 2015, totaling \$1,000-\$2,500. Schools may submit multiple applications, which must be submitted by October 14<sup>th</sup>. Successful grantees will be announced next month.

The application to submit a proposal can be found at: http://www.pps.k12.pa.us/STEAMgrants

In other related news, the STEM Funders Network (SFN) announced that Pittsburgh Public Schools is one of the 27 communities selected to pilot the national STEM Ecosystems Initiative. This project, built on over a decade of research into successful STEM collaborations seeks to nurture and scale effective science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) learning opportunities for all young people. Pittsburgh Public Schools selection is a demonstration of our existing progress in developing a strong STEM community and recognition of the commitment to continue this work.

"It is a tribute of the work of our staff thus far to be selected to join this Community of Practice," said Linda Lane, Superintendent. "The support of some of our regional partners to develop our program has been extremely helpful to us, so we know that this selection will expand our group from whom we can learn to how to better serve our students in the area of STEM Learning."