

UScellular provides over \$2,100 in STEM learning support to Northern California teachers and students

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After a year that imposed never-before-seen challenges on students and teachers, UScellular donated \$2,136 towards Science, Technology, Engineering and Math resources for Northern California teachers and their students. Through a donation to DonorsChoose, an education non-profit organization that connects public school teachers with interested donors, UScellular provided funding for seven projects submitted by teachers in Crescent City, Fortuna, Hoopa, Lower Lake, Ukiah and Upper Lake. Nationwide, UScellular donated \$100,000 to DonorsChoose and reached 50,000 students in 333 schools by matching donations on more than 600 classroom projects.

To take an active role in addressing equity and gaps in STEM education, UScellular's funds went to schools where a majority of the students were from low-income households.

"We all have a role to play in creating a brighter future for tomorrow's leaders," said Vanessa Leija, area sales manager for the California region. "UScellular is proud to work with critical organizations like DonorsChoose to support teachers in Northern California who transform students' curiosity into real-life application through STEM learning."

“Many of my students lack basic math skills. They need math resources to help them become fluent in basic math facts. Having a hands-on way to enforce these critical math skills is vital to their future academic success. Even during these challenging times, I am optimistic about the future of education.” said Mrs. Bergenske, teacher for grades sixth through eighth at Fortuna Middle School. “With every student having access to their own individual math tool kit, they will have the tools needed to have hands-on experiences during math without the likelihood of spreading germs. These resources will reinforce, reteach, and engage all students no matter what level of math acquisition they are currently at.”

In May, UScellular surveyed parents regarding their child(ren)’s learning during the pandemic. The results showed:

Half of parents thought remote learning negatively impacted their child’s learning

1 in 4 parents felt their child needed tutoring over the summer

Nearly 50% of parents were interested in extra assistance for their child

To address the need for extra summer assistance, 10% of UScellular’s overall donation went towards summer school STEM projects.

UScellular has a longstanding commitment to supporting its local communities through donations and volunteerism. Since 2009, the company has donated more than \$20.8 million along with countless experiences and technology items to nonprofit organizations across the country. For more information about UScellular’s corporate social responsibility initiatives, please go to <https://www.uscellular.com/get-to-know-us/community-outreach>.