Press Release
For Immediate Release
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CAPESTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOLS RECEIVE COX INNOVATION GRANTS

Money to Fund STEAM Labs, Video Production and Environmental Education Projects

SAN JUAN CAPESTRANO- Four Capistrano Unified School District schools have received Cox Innovation grants totaling $12,511.64. Cox Communications awarded over $51,000 in grants to 16 Orange County schools in the Cox service area through the program. The grant program invited principals, administrators and teachers at eligible schools to submit a grant application for innovative classroom projects that focus on skills-based learning, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art/Design, and Mathematics), digital literacy, and/or cyber skills.

Below is the break-down of grant money awarded to CUSD schools:

**Viejo Elementary - STEAM Lab - $5,000.00:** Future STEAM Lab where students will engage in cross-curricular learning, hands-on science, technology, engineering, the arts and math.

**Clarence Logo - STEAM Academy - $2,895.60:** Kindergarten students will be taught beginning coding skills.

**Vista Del Mar Middle School - Video Production - $1,617.64:** Video production students are using media journalism to produce 30 minute shows.

**Dana Hills HS - Environmental Education Center Project - $2,999.40:** Students will investigate the roles that different animals play in the ecosystem, their feeding habits, plants that are native and invasive to the area and if there are any effects on wildlife.
“The support of our students and schools by members of our business community is essential to building a strong, educated and highly skilled workforce for the future,” stated CUSD Board President Amy Hanacek. “These boys and girls will one day be the men and women charged with keeping Orange County’s vibrant economy moving forward. We are grateful for Cox Communication’s investment in our young people.”

The CUSD Foundation, as a partner with Cox on the grant program, applauds all of the District’s schools who participated.

“Congratulations to all on receiving the Cox Innovation Grant,” said Michelle Hart, President of the CUSD Foundation. “Innovation in the classroom is so important in adequately preparing our students for the future. The Foundation looks forward to partnering with the schools to make the most of these grants.”

The applications were judged by a panel of 9 individuals. CUSD is proud to have had three schools in the top 15.

The Cox Charities Innovation in Education program was established to provide grants to public and private schools (grades Pre-K thru 12) and the dedicated teachers at those schools. The purpose of this program is to fund classroom and collaborative educational programs that encourage and promote students' ingenuity and imagination. Check presentations to the schools will be forthcoming.

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