

INCLINE

**EDUCATION** FUND

## **Incline Public Schools Receive Nevada Governor's** Office Award

By Mary Danahey



## First and only K-12 STEM Designated School pathway in the state

All three Incline Village public schools have been awarded as Designated STEM Schools by the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation & Technology (GOSIT). This award highlights each of the school's commitments to providing a robust STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).



These STEM School Designations officially make the Incline schools the first and only vertically aligned schools in the state to achieve this honor. Tracey Howard, GOSIT Program Director, explained that this "means that every Incline public school student is guaranteed a high-quality STEM education across their entire K-12 experience".

Over the last three years, Incline Village schools, with the support of the Incline Education Fund, have been quietly investing in strategic STEM initiatives at each of the K12 public schools. They have prioritized hands-on learning experiences, integration of cutting-edge technology in classrooms, and partnerships with local businesses and UNR-LT to enhance the K12 educational experience.

One of the standout features of the Incline school STEM initiative is the implementation of interdisciplinary projects that encourage students to apply their knowledge in real-world contexts. Students in the elementary, middle, and high schools have been engaged in projects ranging from designing eco-friendly buildings using principles of engineering and environmental science to developing coding skills through programming robots. The elementary and middle schools have also recently added dedicated ART programs to their curriculum, giving STE(A)M to their STEM programs.

Each of the schools offer project-based learning programs that foster critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. These projects go beyond state educational standards and help prepare students for the technological and scientific challenges of the future.

This achievement is a proud moment for the Incline Village community and sets a benchmark for educational standards in the region.