

USTAR Grant

Kane County School District recently participated in a competitive grant process to apply for funding from USTAR (Utah Science Technology and Research) through the Utah State Board of Education and funded through Utah Legislature's allocations. USTAR's goal is to enhance student learning in science and mathematics through offering more educational opportunities to classes and programs in these specific areas. USTAR funding can be used to attract and retain highly qualified math and science teachers by increasing their compensation to provide additional course sections in their content area. During the application process, 52 districts and charter schools completed the USTAR grant application, which totaled over \$11 million in requests for \$6.2 million in state funding. After the review committee met and scored the USTAR applications, Kane School District was approved for \$108,300 each year for the next three years for a total of \$324,900 in new revenue to provide additional programs and classes in math and science to our students. The new funds will be used to pay for summer credit recovery programs at VHS and KHS, provide stipends for the afterschool Mathcounts program at VHS and KMS, provide Math I Honors class at KHS, Science 8 at KMS, Chemistry and Physics at VHS, Math 1030 at KHS, and ACT prep courses at KHS and VHS. I would like to thank the Kane County School Board for their support of the program, the math and science teachers for their willingness to teach the additional courses, and the Utah Legislature for their allocation of state funding. An additional advantage is that our students will see an increase in math and science programs without increasing the local taxes to cover cost of the new programs.

Ben Dalton
Superintendent
Kane County School District