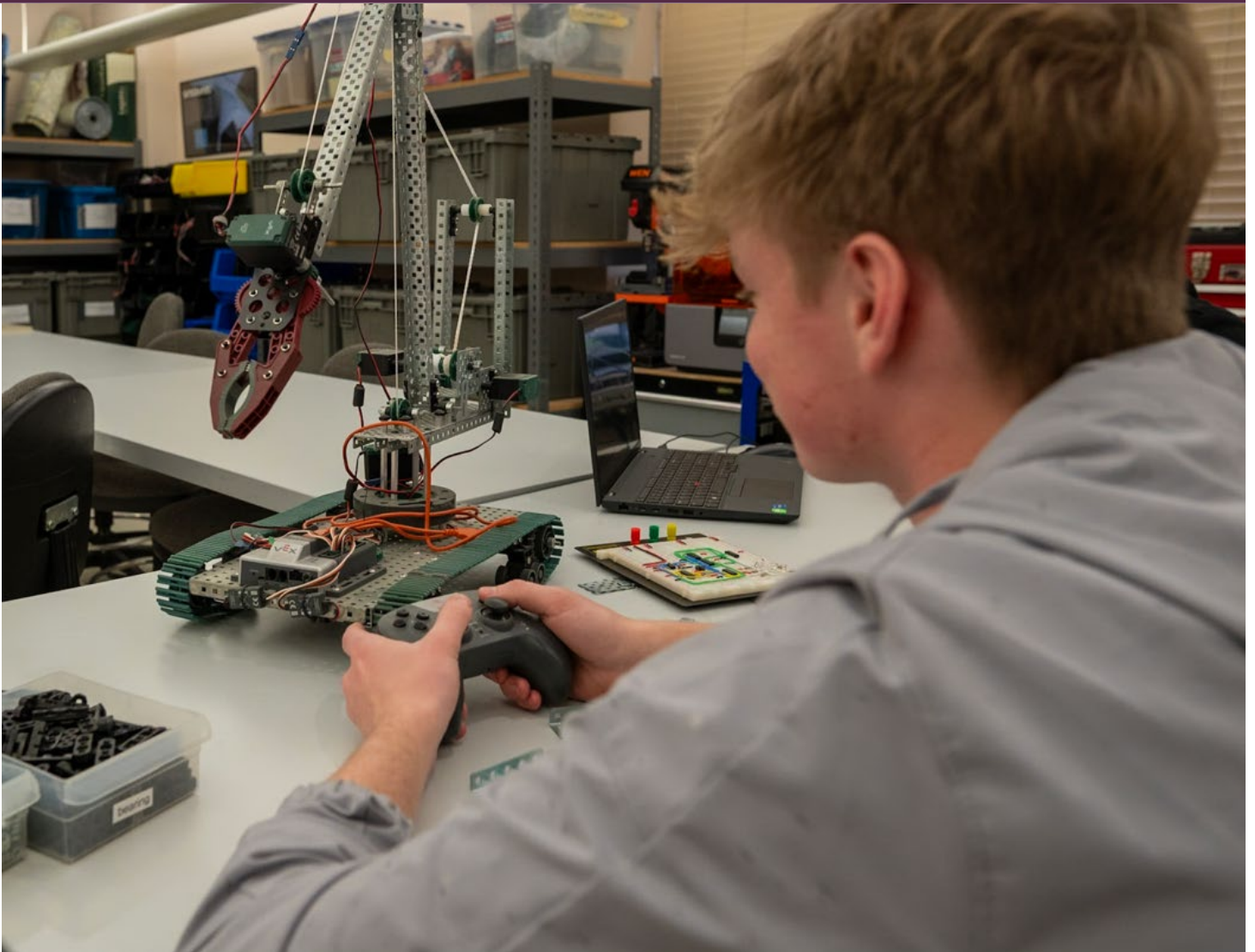




south dakota
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Learning. Leadership. Service.



WORKFORCE EDUCATION FUND

Annual Report to the Government Operations and Audit Committee

Fiscal Year 2025



WORKFORCE EDUCATION FUND

Background:

Established in 2013 via SB 235, the Workforce Education Fund (WEF) receives 30% of the Building South Dakota Fund annually. The WEF currently is solely used to support secondary CTE programs through Workforce Education Grants.

WORKFORCE EDUCATION GRANTS – OVERVIEW

Purpose:

Support transformative improvements in CTE programs for middle and high school students by funding projects that align with high-skill, high-demand, high-wage careers in South Dakota.

Eligible Applicants:

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
- Private, nonprofit entities

Projects must show sustainability, alignment to workforce needs, and completion capacity.

Funding Details:

- Grants began in FY2016.
- Up to \$250,000 may be awarded to nonprofit CTE providers.
- A 1:1 match is required; projects must be completed in 18 months



PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Projects Must:

1. Build, reform or enhance an approved secondary CTE program;
2. Align to high-skill, high-demand, and high-wage careers and postsecondary education programs in South Dakota; and
3. Demonstrate the ability to complete the project.

Project Categories Include:

1. Evaluation for alignment to postsecondary education and workforce demands;
2. Development of career pathways or programs of study;
3. Development of career guidance or work-based learning programs;
4. Educator training;
5. Facilities;
6. Equipment; or
7. Instructional materials.

Priority Considerations:

In accordance with ARSD 24:10:47, grants favor projects that:

- A project evaluating local CTE systems for the purposes of redesigning approved secondary CTE programs;
- An innovative project demonstrating alignment to postsecondary education and South Dakota workforce needs and including work-based learning, dual or concurrent credit courses and any applicable CTSO;
- A project which includes collaboration between multiple secondary schools;
- A project demonstrating partnerships with postsecondary education and business or industry;
- A project including industry-grade practices, equipment, and student certifications;
- A project integrating academic content, work-readiness skills, and entrepreneurship education;
- A project increasing access to and support for approved secondary CTE programs in rural areas;
- A project including plans for sustainability;
- A project which supports the retention of highly effective teachers, career counselors, and administrators for approved secondary CTE programs.

Grants Awarded:

Grants totaling \$8,308,244.31 have been awarded from FY2016 through the end of FY2025. A complete history of school districts and other entities awarded Workforce Education Grants can be found at the end of this report.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Custer School District

The Custer School District is set to enhance its Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings by constructing a 19,000-square-foot addition to Custer High School, alongside remodeling 5,500 square feet of the existing structure. This initiative aims to address local and regional workforce demands by broadening the district's CTE programs.

The expansion will equip students with high-quality, industry-standard resources across various CTE programs. Highlights include larger, enhanced woodshop and welding classrooms with improved safety features; larger, modernized Culinary Arts spaces with commercial-grade equipment; and a new technology area featuring a green screen and editing suites. Additionally, existing spaces will be converted into classrooms, paving the way to offer new programs and opportunities for students such as Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources program offerings. The expansion also allows for the continuing development of additional Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO).

CTE prepares students for in-demand careers with real-world skills that fuel workforce and economic growth.

Huron School District

The Huron School District (HSD) project is an approximate 11,500 square foot addition to the west of the existing high school. This addition includes two CTE classrooms and two CTE lab spaces. As a result, four career clusters and five new courses will benefit. Three surrounding rural schools have committed their support and partnership in sending students to Huron for CTE classes they are unable to offer locally.

The district aims to provide career exposure and exploration that may alter the trajectory of a student's future. The courses that they will offer will directly impact and assist in developing South Dakota's talent pipeline for workforce development and economic growth.

Learners who participate in the new courses will be better prepared for success in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Manufacturing, STEM, and Transportation, Distribution and Logistics by sheer virtue of the professional experiences they will be afforded and the relationships they will build in the process. The district will take advantage of the infrastructure constructed in this project to open doors to new partnerships, continue to build upon current partnerships, and grow our learners.

OPEN GRANTS

As of July 16, 2025, there are two Workforce Education Grants open with a balance of \$443,284.00 remaining on the grants. Details of the open grants are in the table below:

School District/Entity	Grant Year	Total Awarded	Balance to Date	Description
Burke School District	2025	225,000.00	225,000.00	Purchase industry grade equipment and construct a new CTE addition to enhance the AFNR cluster.
Harrisburg School District	2025	218,284.00	218,284.00	Enrich the Education & Training and Human Services clusters by establishing a childcare and early learning center serving as a CTE working lab.
TOTAL		\$443,284.00	\$443,284.00	

*Grant Agreements can be found at www.open.sd.gov. For more information, visit <https://doe.sd.gov/cte/WEG.aspx>

School District/Entity	Fiscal Year Grant was Awarded	Grant Agreement Number*	Grant Award End Date	Grant Award Amount	Amount Reimbursed FY2017 - FY2023	Amount reimbursed YTD FY 2024	Amount reimbursed FY 2025 as of 6/27/2025	Grant Amount Dismissed After Final Grant Payment	Balance Remaining
Gayville-Volin School District	2016	2016G-526	12/28/2017	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 99,995.19	\$ -		\$ 4.81	\$ (0.00)
Meade School District	2016	2016G-473	09/01/2017	\$ 28,504.64	\$ 27,689.88	\$ -		\$ 814.76	\$ (0.00)
Mitchell School District	2016	2016G-484	09/01/2017	\$ 107,233.00	\$ 99,071.82	\$ -		\$ 8,161.18	\$ (0.00)
Rapid City School District	2016	2016G-479	09/01/2017	\$ 43,446.00	\$ 35,120.04	\$ -		\$ 8,325.96	\$ -
Webster School District	2016	2016G-482	12/28/2017	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 39,691.94	\$ -		\$ 3,308.06	\$ (0.00)
Grant Year Totals:				\$ 322,183.64	\$ 301,568.87	\$ -		\$ 20,614.77	\$ (0.00)
Aberdeen Development Corporation	2017	2017G-600	11/01/2018	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 249,221.51	\$ -		\$ 778.49	\$ 0.00
Armour School District	2017	2017G-594	07/31/2018	\$ 17,495.00	\$ 17,495.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Belle Fourche School District	2017	2017G-595	11/14/2018	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Brookings School District	2017	2017G-604	07/31/2018	\$ 493,500.00	\$ 314,961.57	\$ -		\$ 178,538.43	\$ -
Hitchcock-Tulare School District	2017	2017G-180	09/01/2017	\$ 33,169.00	\$ 32,978.58	\$ -		\$ 190.42	\$ (0.00)
Lennox School District	2017	2017G-603	06/30/2018	\$ 41,323.00	\$ 41,323.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
McIntosh School District	2017	2017G-602	07/31/2018	\$ 76,000.00	\$ 76,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Northwestern Area School District	2017	2017G-605	11/01/2018	\$ 74,505.35	\$ 69,123.82	\$ -		\$ 5,381.53	\$ 0.00
Pierre School District	2017	2017G-601	07/31/2018	\$ 244,500.00	\$ 244,500.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ (0.00)
Platte-Geddes School District	2017	2017G-599	06/29/2018	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 95,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Redfield School District	2017	2017G-440	08/20/2018	\$ 55,575.00	\$ 34,042.38	\$ -		\$ 21,532.62	\$ 0.00
Sioux Falls Career & Technical Education Academy	2017	2017G-181	12/28/2017	\$ 99,760.00	\$ 91,661.28	\$ -		\$ 8,098.72	\$ 0.00
Webster School District	2017	2017G-597	11/01/2018	\$ 133,158.00	\$ 133,158.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Yankton School District	2017	2017G-179	11/01/2017	\$ 278,400.00	\$ 277,738.04	\$ -		\$ 661.96	\$ 0.00
Yankton School District	2017	2017G-593	12/01/2018	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 249,654.20	\$ -		\$ 345.80	\$ (0.00)
Grant Year Totals:				\$ 2,642,385.35	\$ 2,426,857.38	\$ -		\$ 215,527.97	\$ 0.00
Estelline School District	2018	2018G-571	12/01/2019	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 103,860.67	\$ -		\$ 46,139.33	\$ (0.00)
Meade School District	2018	2018G-570	12/01/2019	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 21,951.22	\$ -		\$ 48.78	\$ (0.00)
Milbank School District	2018	2018G-572	12/01/2019	\$ 44,424.00	\$ 44,423.52	\$ -		\$ 0.48	\$ -
Mitchell Area Development	2018	2018G-577	12/01/2019	\$ 79,984.00	\$ 79,984.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Mitchell School District	2018	2018G-569	12/01/2019	\$ 46,429.00	\$ 46,429.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
RTEC, Inc.	2018	2018G-573	12/01/2019	\$ 45,540.00	\$ 45,277.50	\$ -		\$ 262.50	\$ -
Grant Year Totals:				\$ 388,377.00	\$ 341,925.91	\$ -		\$ 46,451.09	\$ (0.00)
Dell Rapids School District	2019	2019G-461	11/01/2020	\$ 11,661.34	\$ 9,189.52	\$ -		\$ 2,471.82	\$ -
Deubrook Area School District	2019	2019G-460	11/01/2020	\$ 16,625.00	\$ 16,625.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Harrisburg School District	2019	2019G-459	11/01/2020	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Menno School District	2019	2019G-456	11/01/2020	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Mitchell School District	2019	2019G-458	11/01/2020	\$ 72,086.48	\$ 63,494.98	\$ -		\$ 8,591.50	\$ (0.00)
Rapid City Area School District	2019	2019G-468	11/01/2020	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Sioux Falls Catholic Schools (O’Gorman)	2019	2019G-462	11/01/2020	\$ 91,028.90	\$ 90,995.26	\$ -		\$ 33.64	\$ (0.00)
Tea Area School District	2019	2019G-457	11/01/2020	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
Grant Year Totals:				\$ 1,091,401.72	\$ 1,080,304.76	\$ -		\$ 11,096.96	\$ (0.00)
Canton School District	2020	2020G-397	12/01/2021	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 47,227.40	\$ -		\$ 12,772.60	\$ -
Huron School District	2020	2020G-395	12/01/2021	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -
McCook School District	2020	2020G-398	12/01/2021	\$ 57,945.00	\$ 56,526.76	\$ -		\$ 1,418.24	\$ -
Mitchell School District	2020	2020G-396	12/01/2021	\$ 56,290.35	\$ 49,243.13	\$ -		\$ 7,047.22	\$ -
Grant Year Totals:				\$ 399,235.35	\$ 377,997.29	\$ -		\$ 21,238.06	\$ -
Brookings School District	2021	2021G-759	12/01/2022	\$ 204,000.00	\$ 198,830.00	\$ -		\$ 5,170.00	\$ -

Edmunds Central School District	2021	2021G-760	12/01/2022	\$	142,453.51	\$	142,233.14	\$	-	\$	220.37	\$	-
Rosholt School District	2021	2021G-761	12/01/2022	\$	225,000.00	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Mitchell School District	2021	2021G-762	12/01/2022	\$	118,791.24	\$	111,315.02	\$	-	\$	7,476.22	\$	-
Grant Year Totals:				\$	690,244.75	\$	677,378.16	\$	-	\$	12,866.59	\$	-
Bridgewater-Emery School District	2022	2022G-485	12/01/2023	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-
Bon Homme School District	2022	2022G-486	12/01/2023	\$	225,000.00	\$	10,518.48	\$	214,481.52	\$	-	\$	-
Florence School District	2022	2022G-487	12/01/2023	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-
Tea Area School District	2022	2022G-488	12/01/2023	\$	118,500.00	\$	-	\$	118,500.00	\$	-	\$	-
Spearfish School District	2022	2022G-491	12/01/2023	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-
Canistota School District	2022	2022G-524	11/24/2023	\$	40,400.00	\$	-	\$	39,341.52	\$	1,058.48	\$	-
Grant Year Totals:				\$	1,058,900.00	\$	10,518.48	\$	1,047,323.04	\$	1,058.48	\$	-
Sioux Falls School District	2023	2023G-552	12/01/2024	\$	62,275.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	61,993.55	\$	281.45
Wall School District	2023	2023G-553	12/01/2024	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-
Woonsocket School District	2023	2023G-554	12/01/2024	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-
Edgemont School District	2023	2023G-555	12/01/2024	\$	84,957.50	\$	-	\$	84,957.50	\$	-	\$	-
Parker School District	2023	2023G-580	12/01/2024	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-
Grant Year Totals:				\$	822,232.50	\$	-	\$	309,957.50	\$	511,993.55	\$	281.45
Huron School District	2024	2024G-579	12/01/2025	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-
Custer School District	2024	2024G-580	12/01/2025	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	225,000.00	\$	-
Grant Year Totals:				\$	450,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	450,000.00	\$	-
Burke School District	2025	2025G-466	12/01/2026	\$	225,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	225,000.00
Harrisburg School District	2025	2025G-465	12/01/2026	\$	218,284.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	218,284.00
Grant Year Totals:				\$	443,284.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	443,284.00
Workforce Education Fund Grand Total				\$	8,308,244.31	\$	5,216,550.85	\$	1,357,280.54	\$	961,993.55	\$	329,135.37
													443,284.00

*Grant Agreements can be found at www.open.sd.gov