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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Area schools receive \$24,000 for STEM learning  
American Crystal grant program part of community giving initiative**

MOORHEAD, MINN. – American Crystal Sugar Company has awarded six grants for a total of \$24,000 to Red River Valley schools to support STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. Grant recipients were selected through an application process that required schools to explain the educational rationale for projects and detail how projects would promote creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration among students. Eligible schools included all secondary schools throughout the Red River Valley region, where American Crystal's 4,000-plus employees and stakeholders live and work.

Recipients of the grants included: Ada-Borup (Minn.) High School, Fertile-Beltrami (Minn.) High School, Valley-Edinburg (N.D.) High School, Ulen-Hitterdal (Minn.) High School, Stephen-Argyle (Minn.) Middle School, and the Red River Area Learning Center in Moorhead.

Ada-Borup will use its grant for two laptops and robotics building materials for their robotics team; Fertile-Beltrami will use its grant to support animal science, agricultural science and horticulture classes; Valley-Edinburg will use its grant to purchase robotics hardware and classroom tools for its robotics team; Ulen-Hitterdal will use the STEM grant to purchase Kelvin Kel-Air Dragster System with Classview Timer to measure race car performance for the school's Dragster project; Stephen-Argyle will use its grant to purchase STEM kits for exploratory investigation; and Red River Area Learning Center will use the grant to purchase a tiller, plants, and other gardening tools for the school's garden project.

Representatives from American Crystal visited the schools on November 30 to present them with a check for the grants.



Photo: American Crystal representatives, process engineer Sean Richards (top row 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right) and molasses de-sugarization supervisor Amy Timian (bottom row first on the right) presented the grant and answered questions about at American Crystal Sugar Company.

*Ada-Borup High School*



Photo: American Crystal representatives, process engineer Sean Richards (top row 4<sup>th</sup> from the left) and molasses de-sugarization supervisor Amy Timian (bottom row 3<sup>rd</sup> one in) presented the grant and answered questions about at American Crystal Sugar Company.

*Fertile-Beltrami High School*



Photo: American Crystal representatives, process engineer Sean Richards (top row 1<sup>st</sup> on the right) and molasses de-sugarization supervisor Amy Timian (top row 2<sup>nd</sup> on the left) presented the grant and answered questions about at American Crystal Sugar Company.

*Stephen-Argyle High School*



Photo: American Crystal representatives, process engineer Sean Richards (top row 2<sup>nd</sup> on the right) and molasses de-sugarization supervisor Amy Timian (bottom row 1<sup>st</sup> on the right) presented the grant and answered questions about at American Crystal Sugar Company.

*Ulen Hitterdal High School*



Photo: American Crystal representatives, process engineer Sean Richards (top row 1<sup>st</sup> on the left) and molasses de-sugarization supervisor Amy Timian (top row 2<sup>nd</sup> on the right) presented the grant and answered questions about at American Crystal Sugar Company.

*Valley-Edinburg High School*