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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bayer Fund Awards University City Schools \$24,700 for STEM Education

The School District of University City is excited to announce its third year of funding from the Bayer Fund (formerly the Monsanto Fund Grant) to enhance the District's STEM curriculum from pre-kindergarten through high school. The Fund has generously donated more than \$104,000 to the District since the start of the 2017-18 school year to encourage engaging, hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering and math.

The new \$25,700 grant will support the District's intensive U-Design Math Immersion program for District teachers. This yearlong professional development program empowers district teachers and specialists with conceptual learning instructional strategies and skills to identify student strengths based on learning styles to accelerate student proficiency for all students. This proficiency will better prepare students for a variety of STEM opportunities in the District, including new computer science courses and richer opportunities in engineering and robotics.

The School District of University City has a vision of Learning Reimagined, where every student is given rigorous and engaging learning opportunities that humanize, personalize and problematize their educational experience. The Bayer Fund gift enables the district to bring all of its math teacher leaders together to develop a common educational vision and language and to implement needed tools and online platforms to deepen the math-learning environment throughout the school district.

The District is deeply grateful to the Bayer Fund enabling us to continue to address increased math proficiency so all of our students graduate college- and career-ready. Past gifts from the Fund have supported projects to integrate engineering and robotics with curriculum and to align and support computer science courses.

"Thanks to the Bayer Fund, we are able to better implement Learning Reimagined in our school district so our students are prepared for a rapidly changing world that will need an innovative workforce with strong STEM skills," said Superintendent Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D., PHR.

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