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OSIT LAUNCHES ENGINEERING FELLOWS PROGRAM

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The Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT) has partnered with the Northwest and Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Programs (RPDP), the UNLV and UNR Schools of Engineering, and the Nevada State Science Teachers Association to develop the Engineering Fellows Program, a collaborative program that will support teachers to facilitate addressing real-world challenges through the engineering design process in their classrooms. In total, 27 teachers were accepted as Fellows- 14 from Southern Nevada and 13 from Northern Nevada.

"The Engineering Fellows Program is a unique opportunity for 5th grade teachers to partner with professional engineers and engineering students from UNLV and UNR to develop their own engineering challenges that are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards and integrate engineering design process and real-world projects into everyday teaching and existing curricula," **said Brian Mitchell, Director of OSIT.**

The program consists of three Saturday workshops and an in-classroom visit. At the first workshop, Fellows will learn how to teach engineering, using a lesson created by OSIT and RPDP. At the second workshop, Fellows will follow the model from the first workshop and create their own challenge, partnering with engineering students and professionals. The program concludes with a Saturday workshop to share lessons learned from implementation. In between workshops, Fellows will use the model-engineering lesson and later the one they create in their classrooms. Program facilitators from OSIT and RPDP will visit Fellows' classrooms to observe the lessons and provide feedback.

Participating teachers will receive a playbook of all the engineering challenges created by their peers, and funding for equipment and supplies for five of the challenges- valued at about \$1,000.

More information about the Engineering Fellows Program can be found at <http://osit.nv.gov>.

About OSIT

The mission of OSIT is to coordinate, support, and align efforts by K-12 and higher education, workforce development and employers to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and STEM workforce development so that Nevada's workforce can meet the demands of its growing economy.