Gov. Sisolak announces Nevada teachers selected for curriculum development fellowship at Tesla’s Gigafactory 1

Carson City, NV – Today, Governor Steve Sisolak announced that the Nevada Governor’s Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT) will work with Tesla to offer a series of hands-on STEM fellowships for teachers hosted at Gigafactory 1 in Sparks, Nevada.

“One of my top priorities as governor is ensuring our hardworking educators have the resources and tools needed to provide our students with the best education possible,” said Gov. Sisolak. “The work these teachers will do with Tesla this summer will benefit not only their students, but students across Nevada.”

As part of Tesla’s $37.5 million commitment to K-12 education, OSIT received grant funding for teachers and university students to help develop the curriculum for Nevada’s new Automation Technology Career and Tech Education K-12 State Standards. The curriculum will be open and available to all schools in Nevada.

“Robotics education is a fun and engaging way for students to learn valuable STEM skills such as engineering and automation, teamwork and collaboration, persistence, and creativity,” said OSIT Director Brian Mitchell. “I would like to thank Tesla for their strong partnership in providing these important opportunities to Nevada’s students.”

“It has been amazing to see the growth of robotics in Nevada over the past few years,” said Chris Reilly, Tesla workforce development lead. “We are so excited to launch this program with Nevada teachers and help ensure that quality curriculum is accessible throughout the state.”

The fellowship awardees are as follows:

- Clinton Barnes, automation instructor, Cimarron-Memorial High School, Las Vegas
• Hollister Holliday, STEAM educator, Legacy High School, North Las Vegas
• Scott Weiler, aerospace engineering instructor, Rancho High School, Las Vegas
• Rizalito Nicolas, engineering instructor, Southwest Career & Technical Academy, Las Vegas
• Aspen Anderson, mechanical engineering student at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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 education and STEM workforce development, so that Nevada’s workforce can meet the demands of its growing economy. This fellowship complements the recently announced Robotics Academy of Nevada, which is providing over 200 middle and high school teachers a one-week development opportunity in coaching engineering and robotics coursework. The fellowship also complements Tesla and OSIT’s efforts to fund the purchase of robotics kits for schools across Nevada.

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