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D91's Receives \$133,134 In Grants To Enhance CTE Programs

Idaho Falls School District 91's Career & Technical Education Center has received grants totaling \$133,134 from Idaho's Division of Career Technical Education to enhance it's welding, nursing assistant and industrial mechanics programs.

"We are extremely grateful to the Idaho Department of Career & Technical Education for their support of our programs," said CTECT Coordinator Bev Hott. "These grants will give our students more opportunities to gain real-life experiences, which will help them become more employable, trainable, and ready for their future pursuits."

CTEC's welding program received a grant of more than \$12,000, which will be used to purchase a plasma cutter. Adding a plasma cutter to the program will allow students to gain skills in metal fabrication. They also will be able to learn print reading, measurement and layout, scaling and plasma arc cutting on steel and aluminum, which will give them more skills to land a job after high school.

A grant of \$11, 258.36 went to CTEC's Health Sciences program. They money will be used to purchase an AED and an ambulance cot so students have more opportunities for real-world training.

The largest grant -- \$109,604.29 - went to CTEC's Industrial Mechanics program. These funds will be used to purchase three milling machines - a desktop mini mill, a mini mill and a TL-1, a programmable tool room lathe. These tools will allow students to learn a variety of skills from programming and operating a mill to manufacturing ferrous and non-ferrous materials. This will help strengthen D91's partnership with the Idaho National Laboratory, which currently provides a pipeline for CTEC students to secure internships and eventually jobs at the INL.

"We are excited for the chance to further expand the real-world learning opportunities for students enrolled in our Career & Technical Education programs," said D91 Supt. Karla LaOrange. "CTEC provides students with tremendous opportunities to connect classroom learning to real-world experience, which prepares students for a successful future after high school."