

# LAEF



LOS ALAMITOS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## **PRESS RELEASE**

---

*For Immediate Release*  
December 2023

**Contact: Carrie Logue, Executive Director - (562) 234-9823**

### **LAEF Donates Over \$67,000 for STEAM!**

(Los Alamitos, CA) – The Los Alamitos Education Foundation (LAEF) was proud to grant over \$67,000 to Los Al schools in late November for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math) needs this year. LAEF accepted grant applications from school administrators and teachers to support anything STEAM related, such as curriculum, supplies, technology and/or staff salaries. To date, LAEF has granted \$517,450 to support STEAM across Los Alamitos Unified School District.

Grants to the elementary schools included funds to purchase digital microscopes, owl pellet dissection kits, as well as composters, gardening, and art supplies. Multiple elementary schools are using funds for Makey Makey sets, which teach circuits and electrical engineering concepts. At Weaver, one grant will fund technology communication boards for the kindergarten playground to help kids of all abilities communicate with one another. Multiple elementary schools are continuing to use LAEF STEAM funds to support salaries for STEAM/Media Center teachers.

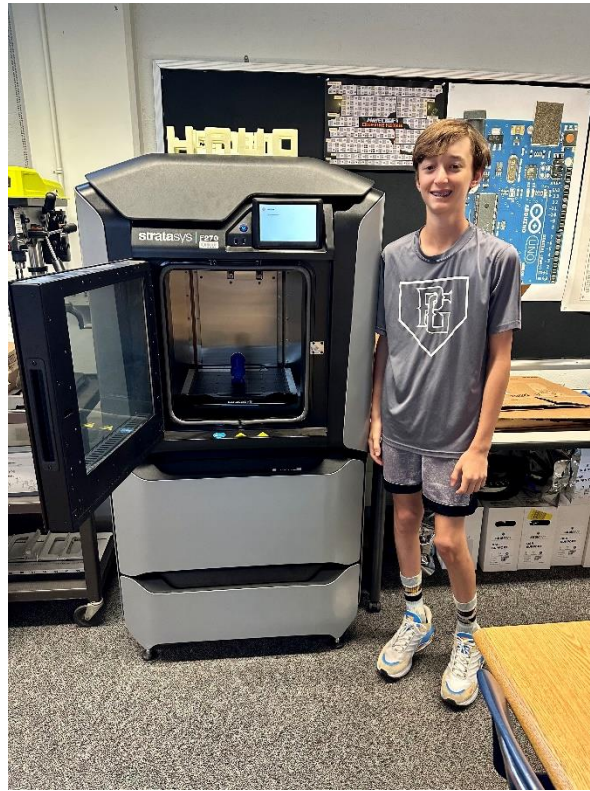
At the middle schools, McAuliffe will add Sphero Robots to the STEM lab and at Oak grant funds will help with current STEAM projects. At Los Alamitos High School, STEAM funds will

support the Robotics Club with purchasing supplies for their current projects. In addition, the math department will purchase iPads, Apple TVs and classroom buzzers to enhance teaching and student engagement.

Past STEAM grant funds were used to purchase 3D printers at both McAuliffe and Oak Middle Schools. Recently LAEF learned how these printers are inspiring student innovation and creativity. Oak Middle School seventh grader Lucas Wadleigh shared that his STEM class is his favorite class because he can dream up an idea, plan the design and “watch them become real with the 3D printer.” This includes his most recent design of a “12 slot USB holder combined with a 2 slot SD card holder” to fit his personal cardholding needs.

The STEAM donations are due in large part to the support from LAEF’s major donor group, the Los Al Leadership Circle (LALC). The LALC consists of the distinguished, significant supporters of LAEF’s visionary work. Members of the LALC provide the critical donations that bring LAEF’s support of Los Al kids to the next level. To learn more about how to become a member of the LALC, please visit [www.LAEF4kids.org/LALC](http://www.LAEF4kids.org/LALC).

LAEF is the non-profit partner of Los Alamitos Unified School District. LAEF enhances educational excellence by providing after-school and summer enrichment programs to children in grades Pre-K to 12. LAEF impacts all students by providing significant funding for STEAM teachers and instruction, as well as igniting new programs and providing valuable resources. For more information, visit [www.LAEF4kids.org](http://www.LAEF4kids.org) or call (562) 799-4700 Extension 80424 today.



Oak Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> grader Lucas Wadleigh in front of a 3D printer purchased with support from LAEF STEAM grants.

###