



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teachers Provide Feedback on how to STEMtheGAP in U.S. Education Dow's STEMtheGAP™ Teacher Challenge Awards 25 Grants

Midland, Mich. – July 28, 2014 – Professional development days, project-based learning exercises and career exploration with industry employees are just a few of the suggestions on how to **STEMtheGAP™** from teachers across the U.S. After receiving 312 submissions to Dow's STEMtheGAP™ Spring Teacher Challenge, the company awarded 25 educators with \$1,000 grants for their outstanding ideas and feedback surrounding science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

The Teacher Challenge is designed to foster dialogue between educators and businesses around the growing concern of uninterested kids and unrealized opportunity around STEM. With the STEMtheGAP™ Teacher Challenge, Dow hopes to encourage increased collaboration and innovation in helping to drive new ideas surrounding STEM education in the United States. The spring challenge is the start of a three phase competition that will award a total of \$100,000 to 100 winners over the coming months.

"The Teacher Challenge is an excellent way for Dow to award educators who are passionate about STEM," said Rob Vallentine, global director, STEM Education. "The challenge also allows us to communicate with teachers directly and learn what gaps in STEM education are most prevalent in today's classroom."

The 25 winners of the STEMtheGAP™ Spring Teacher Challenge are as follows:

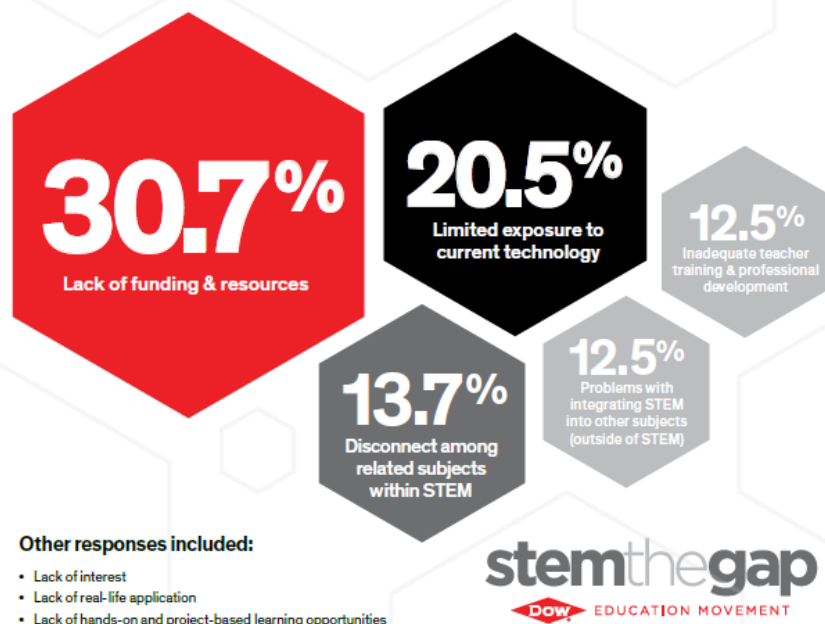
William Jagers – Chateaugay, NY
Julie Estrada – Windsor, CO
Rebecca Brewer – Troy, MI
Donna Himmelberg – Fairport, NY
Sondra Whalen – Verona, NY
Todd Beard – Flint, MI
Deb Wimberley – Manchester, TN
Janie Simpson – Monroe, LA
Bryce Balif – Plain City, UT
Ronald Phelps – Merrillville, IN
Jennifer Brannon – Liberty, IN
Colin Johnson – Dallas, TX
Tamara Williams – Ashland City, TN

Cindy Tabor – Warsaw, IN
Anne Mlod – Auburn, NY
Traci Bianco – Wheatfield, IN
Tawasha Thomas – Opelousas, LA
Ryan Sonognini – Layton, UT
Susanne Hannigan – Anchorage, KY
Rodrigo Anadon – Mishawaka, IN
Tina Manus – Milford, CT
Jason Wiley – High Point, NC
Bonita Richins – North Logan, UT
Stacy – Chattanooga, TN
Nancy Gifford – Harwich, MA

The Center for Science Teacher Learning, who selected the winners, analyzed the 312 submissions providing an overview of the main issues teachers were concerned about in STEM education.

STEM in the classroom: What are the widest gaps?

As part of our Spring Teacher Challenge, we asked teachers from around the country to identify the most troubling gaps in STEM education. Here's how over 300 respondents ranked the issues:



The STEMtheGAP™ Teacher Challenge will continue with a summer challenge, closing July 30, awarding 25 teachers and a fall challenge, opening August 4, awarding another 50. For more information about the STEMtheGAP™ Teacher Challenge or the Dow education movement, visit www.dow.com/education.

About Dow

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