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LOCAL FARMERS ANSWER THE CALL. BAYER FUND AWARDS \$15,000 GRANT TO GENOA-KINGSTON AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT TO ENHANCE STEM CURRICULUM

By Working with Farmers, Bayer Fund Invests in Children by Strengthening Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education in Rural Schools

- **Bayer Fund's \$15,000 America's Farmers Grow Rural Education grant will allow Genoa-Kingston High School to**
- **School districts from across the country were nominated and selected by a panel of teachers and farmers to receive STEM grants through Grow Rural Education.**
- **Since 2010, Bayer Fund's America's Farmers programs have awarded more than \$57 million to thousands of nonprofits, schools and ag students across rural America.**

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (October 2020) – In early 2020, Bayer Fund's America's Farmers Grow Rural Education partnered with local farmers to nominate rural public school districts and award grants to enhance their science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curriculum. Agriculture instructor Toni Gabriel submitted an application through the Grow Rural Education program, and Bayer Fund awarded a \$15,000 grant to Genoa-Kingston High School located in Genoa, Illinois.

A brighter tomorrow for farming communities starts with a commitment from Bayer Fund today, which is why the America's Farmers programs have awarded more than \$57 million to rural America since 2010. Genoa-Kingston High School is one of the many schools across the country that has benefited from Bayer Fund's Grow Rural Education program.

Genoa-Kingston will use the Grow Rural Education funds to purchase equipment such as surveying transits, multiple welding machines and welding equipment, as well as personal protective equipment. This project will benefit all 90 students enrolled in the agricultural education program, with an emphasis on those interested in the agricultural mechanics specialization.

“Genoa-Kingston has a tremendous lab space for our students, and this will allow us to have the equipment to prepare our students for future careers. Our ag mechanics shop was in need of updated equipment and now thanks to local farmers nominations and the Bayer Fund, our students will have the ability to learn new processes such as DC arc welding, MIG welding, and land survey. Our students will

be exposed to so many more career opportunities,” said Gabriel. “We would like to thank the local farmers who nominated our district to apply for the Grow Rural Education Grant, as well as Bayer Fund’s Farmer Advisory Council who believed we could make a difference with the funds.”

To qualify for a Grow Rural Education grant, farmers nominate a public school district to compete for a merit-based \$15,000 grant. School districts that are nominated, then submit a grant application describing their STEM-focused project. Grow Rural Education’s Farmer Advisory Council, consisting of a panel of math and science teachers and approximately 30 farmer leaders from across the country, review the finalist applications and select the winning school districts, including Genoa-Kingston High School.

“Bayer Fund and the farmers we partner with feel incredibly passionate about Grow Rural Education because we’re investing in our children – who are our future – by enhancing STEM learning in rural public school districts,” said Al Mitchell, President, Bayer Fund. “We are always amazed by the incredible support of local farmers, as well as the countless ways Grow Rural Education brings teachers, students and people in the community together to set children up for success.”

To view a complete list of winners or to learn more about the America’s Farmers Grow Rural Education program, visit AmericasFarmers.com or follow along on Facebook at facebook.com/AmericasFarmers. Farmers are also encouraged to participate in Bayer Fund’s [America’s Farmers Grow Communities](#) program, which is accepting farmer enrollments through November 1, 2020. Grow Communities protects the programs and institutions that keep farmers and their communities thriving by allowing farmers to enroll for a chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to their favorite local eligible nonprofit organization.

About America’s Farmers

America’s Farmers, sponsored by Bayer Fund, is focused on strengthening rural America through three community outreach programs that partner with farmers to make an impact in communities where farmers live and work. The programs have given more than \$57 million to rural America since 2010 and include:

- America’s Farmers Grow Communities supports rural communities by allowing farmers the opportunity to direct a \$2,500 donation to their favorite local nonprofit organization.
- America’s Farmers Grow Rural Education supports rural education by providing \$15,000 merit-based grants to enhance STEM education.
- America’s Farmers Grow Ag Leaders supports students pursuing ag-related studies by offering \$1,500 scholarships towards higher education.

To learn more, visit America's Farmers at www.americasfarmers.com.

About Bayer Fund

Bayer Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where Bayer customers and employees live and work by providing funding for food and nutrition, education and community development projects.

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