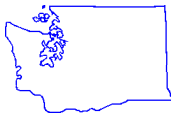


MARIA CANTWELL  
WASHINGTON



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

April 10, 2020

Thomas M. Brady  
Director  
Department of Defense Education Activity  
4800 Mark Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22350

Dear Secretary Esper,

I am writing in support of Central Kitsap School District's (CKSD) application to the Military-Connected Local Educational Agencies for Academic and Support Programs (MCASP) grant program. CKSD's "Elementary STEM – Building the Foundation for our K-12 STEM Pathways" project will focus on providing elementary students with a strong STEM education foundation, and the inspiration and opportunities needed to pursue STEM careers.

According to CKSD, the project will enable students to explore and prepare for a variety of STEM careers. The goal of the project is to engage students through real-world STEM learning opportunities and increase the number of students attaining technical credentials as well as two-year and four-year STEM degrees. This project will involve CKSD's 12 elementary schools and will impact students in grades K-5.

Grant resources will be utilized to:

- Research, select and develop STEM pathways and courses
- Recruit, train and prepare teachers to effectively teach these courses
- Provide the key start-up supplies and curriculum needed to effectively run these courses
- Provide opportunities for both teachers and students to explore and experience real-world STEM fields.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration to Central Kitsap School District's grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maria Cantwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator