



## GRANTS SUPPORT SCIENTIFIC CURIOSITY AND INVESTIGATION IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

The articles that go along with the lessons are interesting and informational. I particularly liked the ones on genes and gene mutations.  
– Holden, 8th grader

The MTEF was excited to contribute to the new K-8 science curriculum that rolled out during the 2017-18 school year. Thanks to generous donations and a successful Fund-A-Grant campaign specifically raising funds for science and technology, MTEF was able to grant the MTSD funds to update their K-8 science courses, purchase computers for student learning, and provide personnel training related to the new curriculum.

Middle school students quickly adjusted to the new curriculum and enjoy what the new curriculum, STEMscopes, adds to their science classes. Lauren, a Lake Shore 7th grader, commented that “each unit has something for all types of learners. I like that there are articles, videos and hands-on experiments for each lesson so that we can really learn a lot about each topic.”

Allison Rudich, Lake Shore Principal, shared that “STEMscopes engages students differently and prepares them for how they will be learning as they get older.” She enjoyed the variety of science topics that students were challenged with throughout the year and felt that students really enjoyed the labs that went along with each lesson.

Teachers love the blending of technology with hands-on activities and feel that they can dive deeper into various topics than allowed by previous curricula. Middle school teachers shared the following comments about the new science curriculum:

*“The new curriculum is much more rigorous and engaging for the students”*

*“Students have had much more in depth experiences”*

*“The curriculum challenges them to think differently than they have in the past,” and*

*“The blending of technology with the hands-on learning has provided more real life experiences”*