

February 20, 2014

Phillips 66 Signature Community Initiative
c/o Billings Refinery
401 S 23rd Street
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Phillips 66 Signature Initiative Selection Team,

I am the President of Rocky Mountain College and served as Director of their PA Program for 5 years. I also was a practicing physician for 20 years at the Billings Clinic. I truly value STEM education and know how important it is to the success of our young men and women.

I became involved with the Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools after participating in their Educator for a Day program. I visited the Career Center and saw their Project Lead the Way programs of engineering and biomedical sciences. When Krista Hertz, the Foundation's Executive Director, asked me to join the STEM Leadership Team I accepted enthusiastically.

I strongly endorse the Education Foundation's proposal for the STEM Initiative. A gift from Phillips 66 allows Billings Public Schools to train its teachers at one convenient location with state of the art technology. Technology they will soon have in their classrooms. The first year assistance with implementation of a K-5 STEM program at five of the twenty-two schools allows our children to ignite their curiosity, think creatively, and learn to collaborate in order to solve problems. The second and third year assistance allow us to bring this exciting program to more students.

I am excited about this program and the possibilities it offers to the children in our community. I ask you to join us in our vision to prepare and inspire life-long learners from kindergarten through graduation. By learning collaboration, communication, and innovative thinking skills, our students will enter society equipped to meet the challenges of a global economy. It will also allow them to think critically and make good decisions in life.

Thank you for considering this grant request.

Sincerely,

Bob Wilmouth MD, FACS

President RMC