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LLNS GIFT BENEFITS PLEASANTON'S HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE STUDENTS

Through a \$10,000 gift from Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS), the entity that manages Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, high school students from the Pleasanton Unified School District are using upgraded equipment in their science labs to better assist them in obtaining accurate data, completing projects on time, and meeting science curriculum goals.

A portion of the LLNS gift- \$5,000 – was presented to Foothill High School's science department to acquire additional sets of probe ware and upgraded instrumentation in the school's science labs. Prior to the gift, teachers were required to share one set of probes among multiple classrooms, which often took time and led to data inaccuracies. The remaining \$5,000 was presented to Pleasanton's Amador High School.

"Additional equipment allows us to use instrumentation, instead of indicators, in many labs," explained Craig Kelso, Foothill High School science teacher whose biology classes benefit directly from the LLNS gift. "This will improve the data we evaluate from qualitative to quantitative data and allow us to perform mathematical analysis of the data."

"We believe it is important for you to have the necessary equipment for your research," said LLNS representative Cindy McAneney during a visit to Kelso's freshmen/sophomore biology class where the new equipment is being used with experiments on photosynthesis. "It is a fantastic opportunity for me to represent LLNS in presenting you with this gift."

LLNS provides funds to non-profit organizations dedicated to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education.



(From left) Jim Bono, director of LLNL Public Affairs Office; Parvin Ahmadi, superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District; Cindy McAneney, LLNS representative; and Craig Kelso, Foothill High School science teacher with students during the presentation of the LLNS gift to the Pleasanton Unified School District.



Teacher Craig Kelso and students examine a photosynthesis project using equipment purchased with funds from LLNS, during a biology class at Foothill High School in Pleasanton.

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LLNS manages Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration. LLNS is comprised of: Bechtel, the largest project management contractor in the United States; The University of California, the world's largest public research institution; BWX Technologies and URS Corporation, the top two DOE nuclear facilities contractors; and Battelle, a global leader in science and technology and technology commercialization. The team also includes Texas A&M University, which provides programs in homeland security and national security.