

**Becton Dickinson/BD, CAPABLE, and Custer Public Power District are proud to announce the completion of the mobile STEM Lab which will be available to schools in the Custer Public Power District service territory. With the assistance of NPPD and ESU 10, the STEM Lab was able to become a reality.**

The STEM Lab will be following NPPD's "Pathway to a Technical Future" program which allows students to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics in a "Makerspace" education approach. The program is funded through the Nebraska Developing Youth Talent Initiative (DYTI) grant, a program that connects young Nebraskans to careers in manufacturing and technology sectors.

The STEM Lab will be available throughout the school year in two week intervals to schools in the Custer Public Power District service territory. The STEM Lab consists of 10 stations that allow students to explore the four components of STEM in an open learning environment. The categories of the labs fall into the themes of "Make It New", "Make It Do", "Make An Impact", and "Make It You".



The four themes encourage exploration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The 10 labs create a "makerspace" for students to explore design, engineering, fabrication, and education. A few things the labs will contain are a 3-D printer, Carney CNC Mill, robotics, electronics, sensor station, and more. The makerspace education model allows stu-

dents to explore, fail, and succeed. As the STEM Lab travels throughout the schools, so does a log book for each of the labs. The log books allow students at the next school to pick up where the last students left off. It is an example of "progressive engineering design". This philosophy allows an uncompleted project

to grow into something bigger.

So, to sum it up, the mobile STEM Lab is a resource for schools to utilize a Makerspace Education model that encourages science, technology, engineering, and mathematics with the emphasis in open source learning and sharing. The ten labs give the students the opportunity for hands on exploration utilizing "figure it out" thinking, while reinforcing life skills needed in today's workforce.

## What is a Veteran?

*A "Veteran" ~ whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve ~is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to, and including his life."*

*Custer Public Power thanks you for your service and sacrifice.*

