

Grant supports school's STEM curriculum

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St. Alphonsus Catholic School has received a grant that will help it grow its STEM program for middle school students.

The Greendale-based parochial school will get \$30,000 from the Kern Family Foundation for a special curriculum, Gateway to Technology, that focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics learning.

According to a press release, that curriculum integrates the four STEM areas in project-based learning lessons that help students to become innovative and productive leaders. Gateway to Technology modules are geared for students in grades six through eight and use a hands-on approach to prepare them to think and function in an increasingly technical society.

"The projects are engaging and tied to real-world information and scenarios," Pat Wadzinski, principal at St. Alphonsus, said in the press release.

The grant will be used to purchase materials as well as to train instructors for each module. St. Alphonsus will also be able to use the money to update software and purchase additional computers to complement various module lesson plans.