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Ohio EPA Awards \$38,911 Environmental Education Grant to Toledo Organization

Washington Local School District students will go on “power trips” to Toledo’s Imagination Station while learning about energy – from the types of energy, uses of energy and energy conservation.

An Ohio Environmental Education grant for \$38,911 has been awarded to Imagination Station to implement the program with Washington Local. Nine grants were awarded statewide for a total of \$300,000.

“Energy Explorations” is a comprehensive program for students and teachers in the third, seventh and 10th grades to help them become more informed energy consumers. It includes a two-day workshop to help teachers integrate district curriculum on energy with the revised Ohio Academic Content Standards for science.

In addition to field trips to Imagination Station, student activities will include 500 kits for elementary school students to conduct home energy audits of appliances and insulation. Ten high school students will be selected to attend the Ohio Energy Project’s Youth Energy Summit. Imagination Station staff also will deliver classroom programs that let students test solar race cars and the lifting power of windmill blades that they construct themselves.

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund is administered by Ohio EPA. Grants up to \$50,000 are funded from one-half of the civil penalties collected by the Agency for air and water pollution control violations. Eligible grant recipients include environmental groups, public and private schools, colleges and universities, trade or professional organizations, businesses and state and local governments. Approximately \$1 million is given each year.

The next OEEF application deadline is on July 15, 2011. An electronic letter of intent to apply is due on July 8. For additional information, contact the Ohio Environmental Education Fund at (614) 644-2873 or visit its website at www.epa.ohio.gov/oeef/.

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