OPPORTUNITY FOR 2017 PARTICIPATING BIG IDEA SCHOOLS

Win a FREE consultation on how to design/build a makerspace!

Is your school and/or community interested in exploring the possibility of a makerspace? Creating a place where students and community members have access various tools and resources for them to create and explore new ideas? If so, here's a great way to kickstart the effort!

Travis Kiefer*, founder of technology company Ease and pivotal in creating the CREATE makerspace in Aberdeen, is offering his expertise to offer this makerspace assessment FREE for one lucky school!

CREATE has been offering a number courses on topics such as programming, 3D printing, squishy circuits, robotic arms, and soldering. Students have created fidget spinners, laser controlled cars and wearable electronics. Through the experience of building this makerspace, Travis discovered others wanting the same resources and is excited to help other towns on the prairie build makerspaces to engage and support students

> **Makerspaces** provide hands-on, creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build and invent as they deeply engage in science, engineering and tinkering.

THE FREE CONSULTING INCLUDES:

- Community assessment of what type of makerspace would work with the community
- Identify community stakeholders/champions that would be evangelists in starting a makerspace
- 3 skype consultations with 1 on-site visit depending on distance
- 1 year of makerspace management software starting upon opening of the makerspace
- Final report with a blueprint, timeline, and resources to start a makerspace

TO APPLY IS SIMPLE!

- Email your school name and contact person (name, phone and email) to Kelly Weaver at kelly@growsd.org NO LATER than Thursday, November 29
- Please include Makerspace in the subject line

TIMELINE:

Nov. 29– Deadline to send application email
Nov. 30 – Drawing for winning school name
Dec. 5 – Announce winner at final event

*Travis Kiefer is the founder of Ease, a technology company headquartered in Aberdeen, SD and the owner of the Citizens Building, an historic six-story building in downtown Aberdeen. Travis is originally from Groton, South Dakota. After graduating from high school, he received a full-ride scholarship to Stanford and spent seven years in Silicon Valley, later building a technology company. After selling his company, Travis returned to the prairie to bring his talent, connections, and expertise to be a resource to the region. In the past year, Travis has been a pivotal member in the creation of the makerspace in Aberdeen, SD called CREATE. Travis has participated with the BIG Idea Competition as a speaker and a mentor.