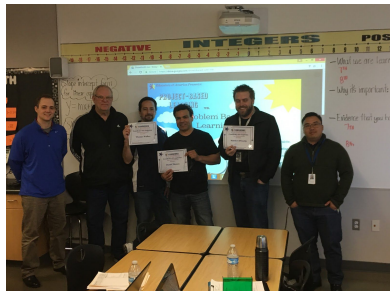


## Educators of America Programs Overview

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### 1. Teacher Training & Professional Development

With a talented team of teacher trainers on staff, we work with schools across the United States to help professional educators integrate technology tools effectively into their lesson plans. It can be a daunting task for teachers to try and keep pace with their schools adoption of technology; this is where Educators of America excels. We are exceptionally good at building relationships with teachers and getting them to take the risks associated with using new technology.



Moreover, we consult with schools that are seeking to implement new pedagogies such as project-based learning or PBL. Schools that implement PBL effectively enjoy higher graduation rates, increased attendance, and higher engagement in the school community. We offer PBL-101, PBL-201, TCH-101, and TCH-201 certificates for educators who complete our introductory and secondary workshops in technology integration and project based learning.

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### 2. Classroom Technology Micro-grants



Our classroom technology micro-grant program is the foremost edtech grant program in the United States. Open to all teachers and educators to submit their requests through our website, we award grants based on the proposed use of the tool to impact student achievement. Each application we receive, we carefully analyze discovering how the technology will be incorporated, what projects or curriculum it will integrate, and the sustainability of the technology as well.

It is a very thorough process but by using this methodology and analysis, the highest standards are created and carried throughout our organization and the schools that are granted their requests. The micro-grant program has provided three chromebook labs in schools and trained teachers how to use them with students more effectively in order to improve overall student engagement and achievement.

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### 3. Research & Development

The research department of Educators of America is focused on conducting long-term research and development studies to determine the efficacy of emerging technologies and instructional methods on student achievement. We develop between 2-5 in-depth proposals each year and submit to the National Science Foundation (NSF) or US Department of Education depending on the specificities of the project.



Currently, we are developing proposals for the National Science Foundation's Division of Research on Learning to study whether an innovative virtual reality technology experience combined with structured lessons and career extension activities can spark an interest in STEM careers, particularly in female students.

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### 4. Building Cultural Bridges Program



The Building Cultural Bridges (BCB) Program is a joint program developed by Peace Corps Namibia Volunteer, Brett Claydon, and Educators of America. The mission of the program is to connect Namibian and American students to encourage cross-cultural exchange, improvement of reading, writing, presentation, and relationship building skills, and familiarization with technology.

The BCB program establishes an initial exchange of pen pal letters, introducing Namibian students to American students. After the introductory letters are sent, American students reciprocate by delivering handwritten letters that introduce themselves, respond to initial inquiries, and propose questions themselves. As letters are continuously exchanged, a piece of video technology is donated to the Namibian school thus allowing virtual meetings between the designated groups of students.



The climax of the program is when Namibian and American students virtually meet one another and are able to hold discussions. This step is crucial in relationship building and presentation skills. As the program matures, students from both sides will be able to dive deeper into sharing cultural knowledge, language learning, and relationship building.

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## 5. Building Hope Campaign

The Building Hope Campaign, established in 2017, is the flagship community service mission of Educators of America. Inspired by a Board Member's decision to join the US Peace Corps and commit himself to serving over two years to help, assist, and empower a community in the southwestern African nation of Namibia, Educators of America's Executive Director, Michael Lynch, developed the initiative to assist the construction of infrastructure, implementation of education technology, and the training of educators for a school within Sub-Saharan Africa.

Africa is the world's youngest continent, with 60% of its population under the age of 25. With such a large demographic of young individuals, it is integral that free, supportive, and engaging education is provided to help combat illiteracy, break cycles of poverty, and encourage gender awareness.



In 2019, a ten member delegation will travel to Sub-Saharan Africa to assist in the implementation of technology, construction of infrastructure, and training of mentors and educators. The Building Hope Campaign is striving to establish a school that serves a community as a strong symbol of hope, community development, and opportunity.