

Spring 2016 Classroom Grants

Junior Great Books: Learning How To Think Critically (\$1,679)

Jennifer Hamelmann (Union Elementary)

This grant enables the purchase of Junior Great Books, which is a strong, inquiry-based language arts program that refines and extends students' skills in reading, thinking, and communicating. This program impacts both third and fourth grade students. The program utilizes a student-centered learning model including activities with complex ideas and rigorous texts used to develop reading and thinking skills. Students will have another tool to learn by asking questions, formulating and sharing their opinions, and supporting their ideas with evidence.

Fountas and Pinnell Red Leveled Literacy Intervention System (\$5,396)

Carly Miller (Pleasant View Elementary)

This grant enables the purchase of the Fountas and Pinnell Red Leveled Literacy Intervention System. The system organizes students in small groups for supplementary intervention as is designed to help teachers provide daily, small group instruction for students who find reading and writing difficult. The major objective of this project is to increase student achievement by providing students the opportunity to learn strategies to help them comprehend and interpret literary text. This system will benefit approximately 80-100 students in second through fourth grade who need intensive support to achieve grade level competency in reading and writing.

Full Steam Ahead in Kindy! (\$1,423)

Jill McCune (Pleasant View Elementary)

This grant enables the purchase of STEAM centered tools for the Kindy Makerspace Time involving kindergarten students. Kindergarten students are inquiry-driven by nature and have endless potential to explore and make discoveries. The materials for this grant will enable students the opportunity to leverage STEAM thinking skills in weekly Kindy Makerspace Time to explore and create projects involving math and science.

Tower Garden Project at Union Elementary: Recipe for Success (\$3,180)

Trish Brimmer and Patty Williams (Union Elementary)

This grant enables all grade levels of the students at Union Elementary to watch vegetables grow indoors in a modern, hydroponic tower system. The goal is to grow enough produce year round with these three growing towers to provide vegetables to the cafeteria to incorporate into school lunches. The school is utilizing a program called Try Day Tuesdays to get students to taste and experience different kinds of vegetables.

Two to One Computing in Elementary (\$6,981)

Carly Havlik, Jonathon LaRosa, Scott McKinley (Eagle Elementary)

This grant enables Eagle Elementary to purchase additional Chrome Books to reach two to one concentration for the third and fourth grade. The project helps students be prepared for middle school by using technology on a daily basis to write/compose, test, and communicate with others. This grant complements prior PTO, Boone County Foundation, and Donors Choose funding sources that initially purchased Chrome Books for the school. Together, all of these grants allow enough for two students to share a single device.

Music Technology Workstation (\$1,824)

David Schurger (Zionsville Community High School)

This grant enables the orchestra director at ZCHS to purchase a music technology workstation for use by over 100 students in the program. The station allows for the composition of class specific music exercises, restructuring of instrument parts, and arrangement of music as needed for the orchestra program. The instrument allows the input of music from a piano keyboard, capture of music creation, editing of separate parts, and output of audio exercises for the orchestra for many years.

Tools for Transition (\$551)

Brenda Jalaie (Zionsville Community High School)

This grant enables the art teacher to purchase tools to support a Choice-Based art classroom to leverage student creativity. This student focused approach encourages a diversity of art creation by providing tools to work with different media and subject stiles.

Uke Can Do It!: A New Approach to Music Literacy (\$2,971)

Rebecca Hampton (Pleasant View Elementary)

This grant enables the purchase of ukuleles for the fourth grade to complement the existing musical instruments in the program. This approach provides another way to engage students in the study of music theory as a new trend in music education in the United States. The grant complements recent professional development by the teacher and enables both class time and club activities to learn music on a different instrument.

Board Games and Social Skills (\$576)

Carrie Nonte, Krista Hoffman, Jessica Yates, Stephanie Harrison (Zionsville Middle School)

This grant enables the purchase of traditional board games to provide students who struggle with social skills an opportunity to practice interactions in a social environment with their peers. The Social Thinking Curriculum terminology will be incorporated to help students generalize social skills to the academic setting. For some students, board games provide an opportunity to enhance face to face interactions, patience for waiting their turn, and the ability to handle negative outcomes all in a social setting.

Fidgets for Focus (\$1,086)

Amanda O'Donnell, Kristi Walters, Sarah Livengood, Amanda Crabb (Zionsville West Middle School)

This grant enables the purchase of task specific tools to support non-disruptive fidgeting options for the classroom. Recent studies indicate that focusing on a complicated mental task increases the students' need to fidget, wiggle, or move. These devices provide students a means to fidget at their desk while not distracting others.

Total grants awarded: \$25,665.08