

Imagine Professional Development Grants

1998

Oxford Study (\$2,000)

Linda Fendley and Sandy Peters (ZCHS)

Ms. Fendley and Ms. Peters traveled to England to attend seminars and symposiums at Oxford University, as well as travel to historical and literary venues.

1999/2000

Learning the Navajo Way of Life (\$1,000)

Faye Peter (Eagle) and Mary Mills (Union)

Ms. Peter and Ms. Mills traveled to northeastern Arizona where they immersed themselves in Navajo life and culture on a reservation.

Elementary School Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute (\$1,000)

Kayleah Maddock, Sally Noel, and Sarah Copeland (ZLMS)

These teachers traveled to Williamsburg for a week, where they experienced daily life in 18th century Virginia, bringing back their insight to their classroom study of the colonial period.

2001

A Choral Experience in Hawaii (\$1,000)

Marie Palmer (ZUMS)

Mrs. Palmer traveled to attend the Pacific Rim Choral Festival at the Polynesian Cultural Center in Hawaii. There, she observed rehearsals and performances and brought back a curriculum of "Music From the Pacific Rim."

Overseas Practicum for Experienced Teachers (\$1,000)

Mary Testin (ZCHS)

Ms. Testin travelled to New Zealand, where she learned about new teaching techniques, curriculum ideas and strategies to be integrated into her own repertoire.

2002

Following Shakespeare (\$1,000)

Sandy Peters and Linda Fendley (ZCHS)

Following their trip to England several years ago, Ms. Peters and Ms. Fendley travelled to Stratford, Ontario, Canada to fuel their enthusiasm and knowledge of Shakespeare plays, productions, and history.

Midwest String Teachers conference (\$1,000)

Kathleen Swayze (ZMS)

Ms. Swayze was one of nearly 100 string teachers from all around the nation to attend this conference, where she attended classes, performed in ensembles, and networked with other music educators.

2003

Dino Dig

Becky Ottinger (Eagle; Stonegate)

Ms. Ottinger traveled to Faith, South Dakota to participate in Dino Dig 2013, sponsored by the Indianapolis Children's Museum as a precursor to the opening of Dinosphere.

2004

Mexico Trip (\$1,000)

Karen Breault (ZMS)

This grant funded a trip to Mexico with students to construct homes for local residents.

2005

Harvard Summer Institute on College Admissions (\$1500)

Brian Disney (ZCHS)

This grant funded participation in a week-long seminar held at Harvard University for high school counselors who are interested in improving acceptance rates of their students into competitive schools.

Summer Study at the National Institute at Landmark College, Putney, VT (\$1500)

Cathy Fuelling (Union)

This grant funded participation in a summer workshop titled "Teaching Writing, Reading, and Study Skills to Students with Learning Disabilities and/or ADHD."

2006

Leadership in Literacy (\$1500)

Leslie Frobig (Stonegate)

Ms. Frobig attended a 2-day conference for literacy leaders with the intent to lead in-house professional development on literacy teaching strategies and the development of a Professional Literacy Room.

Lugares Diferentes, Corazones Iguales: A Partnership with Rural Honduran Schools (\$1500)

Suzanne Lyons (ZWMS) and Lindsay Alessandrini (ZCHS)

These teachers traveled to rural areas south of Tegucigalpa, Honduras to mentor teachers in struggling schools in an effort to increase student learning and achievement.

Valuing the Whole Child: Embracing a Global Vision (\$1500)

Janet Rummel (PVE)

Ms. Rummel attended the 2007 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) annual conference to learn about educational leadership and organizational development, policy and advocacy, and cutting edge techniques for learning and teaching.

2007

Learning Forensic Science from the Experts (\$1500)

Cynthia King (ZCHS)

Ms. King attended the Henry Lee Institute for a 5-day forensic science workshop presented by one of the premier forensic scientists in the business.

Promoting Literacy through Research, Education and Advocacy (\$1500)

Tonya Taylor (PVUE)

Ms. Taylor attended the International Dyslexia Association Annual Conference where she gained insight into cutting edge research delivered by leaders in the literacy community.

2008

Perils of a Pop Bottle. Where does it come from? Where does it go? (\$2306.83)

Libby Rease (ZWMS)

This proposal was for a far-reaching project that allowed Ms. Rease to learn about the manufacturing and production process, the foundation of her students' study on the Industrial Revolution. The grant also funded purchase of materials for her to bring her lesson into her classroom.

ZMS Educators Go Above and Beyond (\$3000)

Sean Conner, Derek Grimm, Chris Kern, Mitzi Macaluso, Chase Mears, Monica Plantan (ZMS)

These teachers and administrators traveled to the Annual National Middle School Conference to specifically prepare for the school's 1:1 laptop program.

Getting PSYCHed about PSYCHOLOGY (\$3000)

Amanda Vanderbur (ZCHS)

Ms. Vanderbur attended the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology Annual Conference to increase her repertoire of teaching strategies for a wide range of learning preferences in psychology education.

2009

Virtual Zionsville (\$2051)

Erin Bivans (ZWMS)

Ms. Bivans was awarded a grant to attend the Florida Virtual School Training in 2010. She attended to learn about virtual classrooms with the goal to work with her colleagues to create a technologically advanced hybrid school that models both types of top notch education: classroom and virtual.

National Educational Computing Conference (\$968)

Jeremy Skura (ZMS)

Mr. Skura was awarded a grant to attend the ISTE (International Society of Technology Educators) Conference in Denver, CO. The purpose of this conference was to learn new strategies on integrating technology in the math classroom, with a focus on handheld learning technologies.

2010

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Meeting and Exposition (\$2745)

Scott Kubly (ZCHS)

Nine ZCHS math teachers attended the NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) Annual Meeting and Exposition, the largest professional development event dedicated solely to mathematics education.

Meet Me In St. Louis: Gateway to College (\$1510)

Melissa Ludwa (ZCHS)

Ms. Ludwa attended the NCACAC (National Association for College Admissions Counseling) National Conference. The conference focused on the latest college admissions trends, testing expectations, and working with families on the college admissions process.

Race to Top: Advancing Zionsville Chinese Program at National Stage (\$2256.53)

Wendy Yuan (ZCHS, ZMS, ZWest)

Ms. Yuan attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages conferences, where she presented her talk "Authentic Assessment in Chinese Class."

2011

Creating Connections: Neighbors in Harmony (\$2998.64)

Rebecca Hampton (PVE) and Julia Graham (Union/Eagle)

Ms. Hampton and Ms. Graham were awarded a grant to attend the 4-day National Orff Schulwerk Association Professional Development Conference. They worked with other music educators to learn about research-based strategies and "kid-tested" materials.

Assistive Technology and Beyond (\$2304.72)

Audrey Csikos (Boone Meadow)

This grant allowed four speech therapists to attend the Assistive Technology conference. This purpose of the conference is to provide innovative ways to reach children with communication disorders with a focus on technology.

Expanding Horizons: ISTE 2012 (\$2663)

Sara Hunter (Union)

Ms. Hunter was awarded a grant to attend the International Society for Technology in Education 2012 Conference to learn innovative ways to integrate relevant technology into the classroom.

2012

"E-Revolution" (\$3,000)

Kris Devereaux (ZWMS)

Twenty-seven ZWMS teachers attended a 2-day conference entitled "E-Revolution." The purpose of this conference was to allow teachers to learn about innovative learning models, 21st century standards, digital literacy and leadership in the digital age.

American Choral Directors Association Conference (\$2,215)

Marie Palmer (ZMS)

Ms. Palmer attended the American Choral Directors Association 2013 National Conference in Dallas, Texas. She learned about repertoire, conducting techniques, and new technology in music education. She was also able to observe performances by the top youth choirs in the country and from around the world.

2013

Annual Coaching Institute at the Teachers College at Columbia University (\$3,000)

Jodi Burns (PVE) and Beth Brent (Eagle)

Ms. Burns and Ms. Brent attended the 10th Annual Coaching Institute at the Teachers College at Columbia University (founded by preeminent literacy coach, Lucy Caulkins). The purpose of attending this conference was to learn about best practices to support the district-wide goal to improve writing instruction.

Best Assessment and Reporting Practices Book Study (\$3,006)

Kris Devereaux (ZWMS) and Sean Conner (ZMS)

This grant funded the purchase of the professional development book, How to Grade for Learning, for all teachers and administrators at both middle schools. This book was used as a basis for the staff to focus on best assessment and reporting practices based on up-to-date research. Staff used the information to improve grading practices by linking grades with standards and establishing practices that better reflect student achievement.

2014

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Meeting and Exposition (\$2,796)

Scott Kubly (ZCHS)

All ZCHS mathematics teachers will attend this regional meeting of NCTM to learn and share best practices on mathematics education.

Touring Normandy: The Turning Point of the Twentieth Century (\$3,000)

Henry Nolan and David Rodgers (ZCHS)

Mr. Nolan and Mr. Rodgers will tour the beaches of Normandy alongside Zionsville residents Dr. E. Carver (WWII veteran) and Marianne McGriff.

Indiana Library Federation's Annual Conference (\$550)

Cathy Sutton (ZWMS)

Ms. Sutton attended the conference to learn best practices, with the focus of increasing use of the media center in the upper middle school grade levels.

Annual Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (\$1400)

Nicole Yanez (ZWMS)

Ms. Yanez attended the ACTFL conference to learn new techniques, methods, and materials for foreign language acquisition and education.

2015

Global Competence Certificate (\$3000)

Amy Conrad (ZCHS)

Grant to pursue an online certificate program for in-service teachers administered by the Teachers College at Columbia University, the Asia Society, and World Savvy.

Center for Teaching and Learning Internship (\$2,400)

Ryan Batsie (ZWMS)

Grant to attend the Center to step inside their learning spaces for a week to witness how workshop-based classrooms transform students' literary lives. It is an opportunity to shadow effective literacy teachers and learn the logistics of student-centered learning.

Every Kid's Yoga: Creating Inclusive Yoga Classes for Children with Varied Abilities and Needs (\$1,490)

Clair Purtell (ZCHS)

Grant provides the opportunity to attend a training course designed by Craig Hanauer. Hanauer specializes in training yoga teachers, special educators, occupational therapists, and parents in programming for children with special needs that integrates the creative arts, yoga, and play.

Return to Honduras (\$1,500)

Lindsey Alessandrini (ZCHS)

The grant enables the opportunity to revisit a successful former ZEF grant project. In February of 2007, ZEF graciously sent the teacher to Honduras (Central America) to work and learn within small, rural Honduran elementary, middle and high schools for one week. This 2015 grant enables the teacher to return to these 6 schools to observe, teach, and connect with the educators and students. These connections would further improve the teaching expertise and level of Spanish. Additionally, this grant would provide the opportunity to connect with educators and schools in order to develop new service-learning projects for ZCHS students.

Teach on the Beach (\$3,000)

Marissa Diemer (Pleasant View Elementary)

Grant enables the teacher to travel to Busua, Ghana to volunteer for the organization Teach on the Beach. This non-profit organization brings teachers together from around the world to teach and live in the village of Busua. During the day they will teach alongside a local teacher at a primary school, but after school hours they will work for the program's after school tutoring program and NewsHour program. This experience exemplifies the resourcefulness of teachers who work with very few resources and supplies.

Teaching Proficiency through Reading & Storytelling (\$1,818)

Megan Contreras (ZWMS)

Grant to attend two Teaching Proficiency through Reading & Storytelling workshops to create a research-based curriculum supported by cognitive psychology. This approach identifies that the most effective way to teach Spanish using comprehensible input is not through memorization and games with vocab but through a curriculum that is rich with reading.

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Convention (\$2,300)

Mercedes Peredo-Muniz (ZCHS)

Grant provides participate in the 2015 convention. Through this convention, attendees will get exposed to the latest developments in educational methods and technology, will network and compare notes with other teachers from around the world, will get new ideas as officer of IN-NELL (Indiana Network for Early Language Learning).

Ron Clark Academy (\$3,000)

Terri Clayton and Breanne Tisch (Stonegate and Union Elementary)

Grant to travel to the Ron Clark Academy, Two-day experience for two Zionsville teachers. Both teachers will glean new information about kinds of learners, experience strategies from dynamic educators, and learn new ways to make learning engaging, fun, and inspiring. While at the academy they will have the opportunity to tour the school, speak with students, and attend a variety of workshops.

2016

Central States Conference of the Teaching of Foreign Language (\$1,617.84)

Mercedes Muniz-Peredo, Zionsville Community High School

Grant to attend the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in Chicago. Goals include learning about the latest developments in educational methods and technology for foreign language, to network with other teachers, and to serve as a voice for the Indiana Network for Early Language Learning (of which Muniz-Peredo is a board member).

National Art Education Association Conference (\$2,795.00)

Scott Miller, Pleasant View Elementary

Grant enables Miller to join the national art education conversation by attending this conference. As a presenter on the local level on the Local Elementary Art Forum professional development organization and the Studio-Driven Art teaching methodology, exposure to the national forum will elevate the conversation up to the next level.

National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention (\$2,200.00)

Ryan Batsie, Zionsville West Middle School

The National Council of Teachers of English began in response to the effects of college entrance exams on high school English education. The grant allows for exposure to leaders in literacy education and best practices in literacy research. Upon return, a dialogue will open between Zionsville classrooms and local college students based on the context of the activities garnered from the convention.

Central States Conference of the Teaching of Foreign Language (\$412.00)

Lindsay Alessandrini, Zionsville Community High School

After presenting to state-wide conferences twice, this grant allows Alessandrini to explore the Central States conference. This event brings together 14 states of teachers and researchers in the area of world language teacher and learning.

Indiana Library Federation's Annual Conference (\$800.00)

Cathy Sutton, Zionsville West Middle School

This grant will allow the media specialist to attend the state conference with the added attraction of hearing from one of the country's most popular Young Adult authors, James Patterson. Along with hearing this exciting keynote speaker, a goal of attending the conference is to come back with insights on creating a maker space and integrating it into the middle school curriculum.

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Immersion Adventure for Teachers (\$3,000.00)

Amanda Harmon, Zionsville Community High School

Anthropology is a new subject to be offered at ZCHS. Although Harmon has taught a broad variety of social science classes, this is a new curriculum for her. The grant enables her augment her knowledge with personal experience. The educational program at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is an immersion into the Pueblo culture.

Teachers College at Columbia University (\$3,000.00)

Beth Brent, Katelyn Slack, Annette Knox, and Marissa Grant, Eagle Elementary

Founded by Lucy Calkins, a preeminent author and teacher of literacy education, this institute offers this group of teachers to bring Calkins' research, expertise and experiences back to Zionsville. The goal of the project is to maximize the art of conferring and make small group work more efficient and meaningful for readers and writers.