



## Zionsville Education Foundation 2021 Spring Classroom Grants

**Equipped for Inquiry** – *Shannon Eaton and Angie Miller, Zionsville West Middle School (\$384.04)*

Inquiry based learning fuels student empowerment and the scientific mindsets that students need to succeed. This grant enables the expansion of a successful pilot program using the argument driven inquiry method in science classes by providing manuals and lab materials for teachers and students.

**Creating Cultural Understandings Through Holidays** – *MacKenzie Luse, Boone Meadow Elem. (\$345.55)*

This project supports Boone Meadow Elementary Kindergarten learners in becoming culturally adept and broadening their global perspectives by allowing windows into different cultures through the study of holidays.

**Nuestra Pequeña Biblioteca** – *Kristen Travers, Zionsville Middle School & Zionsville West Middle School (\$769.72)*

Provides 31 different leveled Spanish novels for each middle school allowing students to strengthen their Spanish language reading skills.

**Tweener Weights for Tweener Lifters** – *Juli Speer, Amy Emkow, JR Howell, Scott Turnquist, David Williams, Zionsville Community High School (\$126.84)*

Novice lifters often have difficulty jumping to a full 5 pounds of added weight. The addition of 1.5-pound weight plates provides a safe way to help students reach their maximum potential in lifting as well as aid those recovering from injury.

**Acceptance of Others Book Club** – *Kim Lalley, Zionsville Middle School (\$537.72)*

ZMS 5<sup>th</sup> graders will have access to books about various cultures. Student will choose a book, read it in a small group, have quality book discussion, and connect it to their own lives. These books will serve as mirrors for students to reflect on their individual experiences and windows to open their eyes to different cultures across the world.

**Identity and Inclusion: Teaching Tolerance Begins with Sharing our Stories** – *Emily Wleklinski and Angela Parker, Zionsville Middle School (\$605.85)*

Provides materials for a 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade book club to inspire students to develop cultural understandings and respect for the diversity of our Zionsville community through book studies, engagement with guest speakers, and development of advocacy and service projects.

**Enhancing Choir Instruction with Technology** – *Sam Chenoweth, Zionsville Community High School (\$2,155)*

The ZCHS choir room will receive materials to help give students a 21<sup>st</sup> century choral experience. Upgrades to audio technology and the addition of teacher microphones will ensure consistent resources and provide unique learning opportunities for all choir students.

**Building Z-West One Student at a Time!** – *Trisha Smart, Zionsville West Middle School (\$934.83)*

Strength-training materials for all fitness levels and multiple areas of the body will be added to ZWMS wellness classes. They will provide an additional activity during social distancing guidelines and a resource for all classes for years to come.

**Making Math Class Memorable with Magna-Tiles** – *Liz Ferrand and Shannon Eaton, Zionsville West Middle School (\$719.94)*

Hand-on manipulatives provided by this grant will foster understanding of geometric concepts. Magna-Tiles in the mathematics classroom will allow teachers to be able to move the concepts that students are learning from the abstract to the concrete, creating a deeper understanding of the material.

**Engaging our Kindy Readers with Engaging Reader Text Sets!** - *Jill McCune, Tina Boudreau, Megan Fischer, Grace Gardner, Amanda Hassen, Jen Hilton, Alyssa Kayes, Pleasant View Elementary (\$2,823.44)*  
Shared reading is an important component of a balanced literacy program. These text sets will be shared among the PVE Kindergarten classes. A wide range of authors and characters will give students diverse stories as they improve their reading and writing skills.

**Finishing Cart** – *Amanda Lucas and Spencer Cassin, Zionsville Community High School (\$1,732)*

Providing materials for Independent work tasks in the ZCHS Special Education classrooms will enable students to work on fine motor skills, academic skills, and vocational skills when they finish an assignment ahead of the rest of the class.

**Mirrors, Windows and Doors - Learning about Ourselves and Others through Books** - *Kellie Valentine, Allyson Knue, Lynne Munley, Jodi Burns and Jen Raycroft, Union Elementary (\$3,500)*

Updates to the Union Elementary guided reading library will give teachers access to books with diverse characters and those created by authors and illustrators from diverse backgrounds.

**Decodable Texts for Growing Readers** - *Emily Clare, Melisa Benefiel, Kyla McDaniel, Tammy Westin, Melinda Strawmyer, Stonegate Elementary (\$3,658.60)*

Provides authentic decodable books with evidence-based foundational skills to complement Orton Gillingham instruction in 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes. They can be used during literacy intervention, in class with small groups, or with individual children and include informational texts, narratives, and poetry.

**STEAM-Powered Learning: Bringing Designs to Life with 3-D Printing** – *Grace Fletcher and Cassidy Spencer, Zionsville Community High School (\$3,058.10)*

As technology advances, so does the need to incorporate applied science into the art classroom. This 3-D printer will enable ZCHS art students to execute a design from the early stages of idea development to the finalized product similar to real world application in industries such as industrial design, architecture, and product development.