



Park Hill School District
**Education
Foundation**

Investing in the Future of Our Students

2024 Classroom Grant SUMMARIES

The Power of Developing Independence in the Self-Contained Classroom

*Union Chapel Elementary
Bailey Moorehead*

This grant will provide students with access to a variety of tasks aimed at enhancing their skills. Students will have the chance to develop skills like pull apart and put in tasks, stacking, sorting, one-to-one correspondence, and building finger dexterity and hand-eye coordination. These tasks boxes will serve as a way for students in the self-contained classroom to build their independence when it comes to work tasks.

Growing Minds Grant: High Schoolers Supporting Early Readers

*LEAD Innovation Studio
Courtney Carter*

"High Schoolers Supporting Early Readers" aims to foster a love for reading among young children by engaging high school students as mentors and literacy advocates. This is a mutually beneficial program in Child Growth where high school students support and nurture the reading abilities of early learners. Additionally, this bridges connections to the powerful role that books can have in conversation, teaching, and bonding.

Instruments Build Essential Skills

*English Landing Elementary
Caitlin Carney*

The adaptive population is growing at English Landing. Being able to provide enough of each type of adaptive and safe instrument for each student to be able to play as a group in unison will increase students' exposure to new instruments to broaden their elementary music experience. We are committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive environment for all our students, and this expansion is just one step towards achieving that goal.

Shiny Student Services

*Lakeview Middle School
Ally Swisher, Lesley Mathes, Jill Hazel*

Lakeview's Student Services space is in need of a transformation to create a calming and welcoming environment for our students. With this grant, we will be able to create a space that feels more like a home away from home instead of a typical school office. We are committed to providing our students with the best possible experience when they come to visit us, and this redesign will help us achieve that goal.

Wiggles Be Gone

*Prairie Point Elementary
Tara McCune*

Oodle Stools are fantastic for kids who may have a lot of energy, nervousness, need to fidget, etc. It allows them to rock back and forth and side to side without any sound or distraction to others around them. With more students needing an outlet to release energy, the Oodle Stools are a perfect solution to support their learning environment.

Continuously Building Stronger Readers

*Prairie Point Elementary
Lyndsay Beaver, Stacie Roach, Ryan Turner*

Guiding our fourth grade students in the right direction for a chapter text can be difficult, and our previous titles have developed a love for reading! The books have not only helped our students track important elements such as characters, themes, and how a story can unfold in a pattern, the club has encouraged them to be lifelong learners. With this grant, we will be able to add additional titles to our collection, providing more resources for our students.

Healthcare Skills Lab

Professional Studies

Melanie Farber, Colleen Katzenberger

The Aspiring Medical Professionals program provides students with a comprehensive understanding of healthcare, including career opportunities, educational pathways, and professional skills. With this funding, we will be able to establish a skills lab and purchase the necessary equipment to teach students how to take patients' vitals. This hands-on experience will provide invaluable training for students interested in pursuing a career in healthcare.

Frames of Knowledge: High School Graphic Novel Adventures

LEAD Innovation Studio

Kelly Seymour

The spirit behind this grant is to create an engaging non-fiction research unit using the graphic novel as a cornerstone in exposing students to a topic new and of interest to them. When we encounter a reluctant reader, the visual medium can make a text less daunting and more approachable and accessible to students as graphic novels support visuals and the visuals support text. This creates an increased likelihood of the reader successfully finishing the piece.

Flexible Seating Makes the Brain Grow

Tiffany Ridge Elementary

Amber Johnson

Research has shown that when students are given the opportunity to choose their seating, they are more focused and ready to learn. When students are allowed to get comfortable, they are calmer and less likely to need redirects. The flexible seating options will provide an engaging learning environment for the first grade students, enhancing their educational experience.

Empowering Voices: Author Visits to Inspire Student Writers

Lakeview Middle School

Lisa Sickel

This initiative seeks to create a dynamic platform where authors share their insights, experiences, and expertise with students, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the art of writing. The grant will fund author visits, allowing students to engage in meaningful conversations, ask questions, and gain valuable insights into the creative process. By connecting students with established authors, the grant aspires to inspire and cultivate a new generation of passionate and skilled writers.

iPad for Math Instruction

Union Chapel Elementary

Kathleen Kaiserski

In our third grade curriculum, we focus on building a strong foundation in multiplication, which sets the stage for future academic success. Manipulatives can increase student fluency and develop a deeper understanding of this essential math skill. By using an iPad and an Apple Pencil with existing classroom technology, students can display their work and receive real-time feedback from the teacher and classmates, allowing for a more interactive and engaging learning experience.

Think Vertically, Learn Mathematically

Instructional Coaches

Jessica Todd, Becky Morse

The project aims to distribute Wipebooks, dry erase markers, and erasers to educators passionate about fostering deeper, sustained, and highly engaging thinking in their math classrooms. These tools will serve as dynamic canvases for students to collaboratively explore mathematical concepts, encouraging active participation and critical thinking. The grant will not only enhance math education but also contribute to a more collaborative learning environment, fostering a community of engaged and empowered math learners.



Segment and Write Boards for English Language Learners

Union Chapel Elementary

Ashley Klocke

The goal is for English Language Learners to learn to read and feel successful when reading. With these boards, students will gain phonics skills as well as phonemic awareness. The boards are unique because they allow students to practice word chaining in a fun and engaging way. Instead of using traditional methods like writing on a piece of paper or whiteboard, the boards offer a hands-on approach that involves moving letters around when students hear sounds in words.

Lights, Camera, Education!

LEAD Innovation Studio

James Miscavish

The final student project in film studies is writing and filming an actual short film for competition or entry into film festivals. The project asks students to take all the skills and feedback they've gained throughout the entire course and put together an experience that combines all their problem-solving skills and critical thinking to produce a film that truly delivers on its theme and message. Currently, students are limited to filming on their phones due to a lack of shared equipment. With this grant, new equipment will be available to distribute among the groups. This will allow students to create shots, experiences, and scenes that were previously impossible.

LEAD Quality Art Prints

LEAD Innovation Studio

Kelsey Jury

LEAD's art students produce a great variety of original quality artwork every year. The department often gets requests from the community for student artists to sell prints of their work. A quality photo printer will allow our talented art students to make prints in-house, providing them with the opportunity to market and sell their creations. These experiences will not only provide our students with a source of income, but also set them apart from other students entering art schools and creative fields.

Kokorikos and Tubanos and Gankoguis, Oh My!

Line Creek Elementary

Misty Kikoler

By incorporating non-Western music and instruments, students will increase their musicianship, particularly in the areas of composition, literacy, and improvisation. Students of all grade levels will have the opportunity to play songs from the new materials and instruments, and their work will be showcased in grade level programs throughout the school year. This project will greatly enhance student engagement and broaden their understanding and appreciation of music from diverse cultures.

Engaging Book Clubs for All Students

Chinn Elementary

Nicole McDaniel, Felicia Bowles, Rachel Evans

The ultimate goal of the Engaging Book Clubs for All Students is promoting inquiry and deeper learning. Through book clubs, students will have the opportunity to ask and answer a variety of questions, which will not only enhance their reading experience but also provide scaffolds for asking meaningful questions about other academic content and the world around them. By having access to book characters that mirror their lives and connecting with peers around a meaningful experience, students will have the opportunity to build community and feel more connected to their peers.

Building a Community of Readers

Tiffany Ridge Elementary

Amy Hoban, Maria Walsh

Tiffany Ridge will participate in the One School, One Book program. In this program, every family will receive a copy of the same book, *Word Travelers* by Raj Hadlar. The program aims to encourage parents to spend time with their children reading and discussing the book. By reading a common book, families can promote engagement, excitement, and create a love for reading at home. One School, One Book also provides an equitable opportunity for all families to participate and enjoy reading together.



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Meet Them Where They Sit

Park Hill High School

Amanda Irvin-Black

The high school resource level special education class is receiving this grant. It will greatly benefit students with ADHD, Autism, and other behavioral disorders who struggle with self-regulation and typical seating arrangements. By providing flexible seating options, we expect to see increased engagement, participation, and collaboration among our students. Additionally, we anticipate that this will lead to improvements in behaviors, focus, and attention.

Have Books, Will Travel

Park Hill South High School

Alicia McKinney, Liz Schmidt

Many of our students often struggle to find time to visit the library during the day or before or after school due to various constraints. Our solution to make books and other resources more accessible to them is to create the Park Hill South's Mobile Library program. The mobile library will visit whole classes and individual students around the building throughout the week, bringing them much-needed books and other resources. Additionally, we'll feature curated books and materials customized for the needs of the classes we are visiting.

Family Game Night Done Right

Chinn Elementary

Jennifer Miscavish

Our program will include monthly Family Game Nights, where families can come together to play and learn a variety of games that build skills such as dexterity, hand-eye coordination, visual perception, thinking and logic, memory, cooperation, and storytelling. We also want to provide families with the opportunity to borrow the games to take home and play between game nights. With the grant, we will be able to expand opportunities for family bonding and skill-building without the financial burden of buying games they might not enjoy or be a good fit for their family.

English Landing 5th Grade Simulated City

English Landing Elementary

Leah Neiberger, Cortney McQueen, Emma Ball

Fifth grade students will design their own business, create a business plan, select and order products to sell, and develop knowledge of the concepts of business expenses, pricing, scarcity, and supply/demand. Students will act as consumers and producers throughout the program. By allowing students to experience these ideas firsthand, they will develop a deeper and more relevant understanding not only of our 5th grade standards, but the world at large.

Fostering Future Builders with Robotics

Tiffany Ridge Elementary

Katie Betts

The Robotics and Coding Club will provide a unique opportunity for interested students. Through this program, students will have access to hands-on experience with building and coding robots and will also learn about careers and other projects that utilize coding and engineering. The hope is that this club will inspire students to become more interested in STEM topics and continue to build on this knowledge as they progress through school and their future careers.

Educator Zen Den

Park Hill High School

Rebecca Hart, Lindsey Hood,

Shanda Ortega, Morgan Padilla

As we all know, teachers are the backbone of any educational institution, and they play a vital role in shaping the future of our students. Sometimes we overlook the fact that teachers face their own set of challenges and stresses in their day-to-day work. This grant will create a safe space where teachers can gather their thoughts, and composure. This initiative will benefit everyone in Park Hill High School because this focuses on the people who have their own stresses but are too often occupied with the stresses of the students they support.



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Shining Star Literacy Initiative: Illuminating Pathways to Educational Excellence

Tiffany Ridge Elementary

Ali Holder

Students will have the opportunity to engage in new literacy centers designed to improve their phonics and phonemic awareness skills. The addition of a light table will provide a more engaging, hands-on experience for students as they manipulate letters and sounds to create words. This experience will be a refreshing change from traditional methods such as working on the floor or using worksheets.