



The District 200 Education Foundation

proudly announces the

2016 Impact Grant Awards

September 28, 2016

“Making Things Happen That Ordinarily Would Not”

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District 200 Education Foundation 2016 Impact Grant Recipients

La Danza del Sol: Teaching 5th Grade Students About Aztec Culture (500)

All Elementary

Kathleen Lacey-Anderson/Lauren Cisnerso/Susan Mancera/Lauren Regner

Sones de Mexico, a Grammy Award-winning musical group from Chicago, will present a workshop titled La Danza del Sol to all 5th grade students in the D200 Dual Language program. The workshop, presented in Spanish, teaches traditional Aztec dances, accompanied by traditional instruments, interwoven with Aztec myths, history, and words in the Nahautl language. In addition to celebrating indigenous Mexican culture, the workshop extends the students' prior learning about Aztec culture carried out in their Spanish literacy classes.

Mariachi to celebrate multiculturalism (450)

All Schools

Luis F. Barutell

The department of Language and Culture will host the 3rd Annual DL Parent Education Night, which in previous years was attended by more than 300 people, including parents, kids and teachers. To enrich the event, and to reinforce the commitment of District 200 to multiculturalism and family engagement, the program will include a performance by a Woodstock based mariachi band.

Google Expeditions - Places Buses Can't Go!"" (2,800)

All Schools

Tracy Jacobson

Google Expeditions allows teachers to take students on virtual reality field trips without leaving the classroom. With a simple smartphone and a cardboard viewer, students can journey to over 200 far-away places and feel completely immersed in the environment. Google Expeditions takes students places buses can't go!

Wayne's Lanes Bowling (480)

Clay

Travis Mohr

Wayne's Lanes is a bowling alley within walking distance of our school and is a great culminating activity to wrap up our bowling unit. By going on this trip our students will get to apply the skills and knowledge they have learned in class to a real world setting.

It's All About Life! (228.94)

Clay

Nicole Wesolowicz

The materials will supplement the life skills program at Clay Academy by providing opportunity for interdisciplinary 21st century instruction. The hands-on, engaging, and meaningful learning activities will allow the students to utilize the skill sets taught within their current and future lives.

Read for All (300)

Clay

Melinda Parrent

This project will refreshen up the library collection, providing Clay Academy students with books that are interesting and that they will want to read.

Immigration, Culture and Communities (790)

Clay

Mary Stewart

Students are studying the development of their communities and the impact of different cultures on our communities. On the field trip to Old World Wisconsin students will explore, hands on, why people would pack all of their belongs into a truck and leave their homeland to come to America

Engines for Education (669.71)

Clay

Catherine Cantwell

Engines for Education will provide a creative and educational kinesthetic outlet with real life applications for our whole student population at Clay Academy. It will provide Actual working engines and engine parts, along with the tools needed to work on said engines.

Historian In Residence Program (800)

Creekside

Eric Schleutermann/Tom White

The Historian In Residence Program is a project that will connect the District 200 Seventh (7th) and Eighth (8th) graders from Creekside Middle School in their classrooms to a professional historian and storyteller. The two main ideas to be used in the Historian In Residence program of connecting classrooms to a historian and the use of distance learning were one of the integral parts of the grant.

6th grade Science Starlab (300)

Creekside

Megan Thomas/Kristi Wold

Present a Digital Starlab to all sixth graders. It is an inflatable planetarium, with presentation, to teach about the stars, constellations, and planets during the day. This gives all sixth graders a chance to experience a planetarium and the night sky during a school day.

Life Skills Learning Library (500)

Creekside

Natia Hong/Jenna McCoy

The Life Skills Learning Library project will allow our students with special needs the opportunity to have daily access to library books, materials, and experiences at their appropriate level. The implementation of these materials to the library at the middle school will enable easier access and ideally create more opportunities for learning activities and increasing interest range through self-selection of books.

Introducing Life Skills to Community Experiences (200)

Creekside

Natia Hong/Stephanie Tate

The Introducing Life Skills to Community Experiences project allows our Life Skills students opportunities to visit community settings that they may not have the opportunity to do with their families. It will help students learn the necessary functional skills needed to be a contributing member of their community.

CMS Cooking Club (250)

Creekside

Candice Learman

This program will teach students about healthy eating, food safety, skills needed in the kitchen, foods from other cultures, and how to cook nutritious meals. In addition, this program will teach students food-preparation skills that they will be able to not only use now, but into adulthood as well. It allows students to participate in fun learning activities about food, nutrition and food safety. Lastly, the program also teaches students the social skills of working together to prepare a meal and then enjoying it together.

Creekside Best Buddies Monthly Events (500)

Creekside

Katherine Mitchell/Stephanie Tate/Julie Stone

Best Buddies Middle Schools is a friendship club designed to improve the school environment by promoting friendships between students with and without intellectual disabilities. All special education students at Creekside Middle School benefit from the Best Buddies program. This year over 100 regular education students have already expressed interest in joining Best Buddies for a 1:1 match opportunity. We are noticing that more students want to make a difference, being more inclined to befriend and help rather than bully the students with disabilities. It is anticipated that membership in Creekside Best Buddies will reach a minimum of 120 students this school year.

Extending Life Skills into Real Life (200)

Creekside

Stephanie Tate/NaHong

The Extending Life Skills to Real Life project allows our Life Skills students to practice skills worked on in the classroom and incorporate them in real life situations

Sensory Garden (650)

Creekside

Jennifer Moskowitz/Stephanie Tate

The continuation of building onto and increasing the existing Sensory Garden at Creekside Middle School will not only teach the students about different plants and introduce them to a variety of plants, but it will also be a great calming area for students and staff. It will be a place that encourages the use of the five sense and invites students and staff to explore nature in a different way.

Big Words for Preschool (492.77)

Dean

Mary Beth Martin-Bellavia/Rita Kaminski/Beatriz Ruez de Leon/Marcos Gomez

This grant will provide age-appropriate, quality Spanish language books for Dean's two 90/10 dual language Pre-Kindergarten classes and one 9/10 Kindergarten class.

Flexible Seating: Creating a Student Centered Classroom (652.18)

Dean

Katie Jacobson

Flexible seating increases motivation and engagement, while creating better oxygen flow to the brain. Transforming our classroom into an area that contains flexible seating; standing tables, foam pad seats, balance ball chairs, etc. will allow each child to learn in an environment that meets their individual needs.

Tiny Fingers, Endless Possibilities (179.56)

Dierzen

Kristin Giacinto

The Ipevo IW2 Wireless Interactive Whiteboard System would allow my current projector to turn into an interactive whiteboard, for a fraction of the price of a real one. My kindergarten students would then be able to touch and use things projected onto the screen and increase classroom learning.

Click Clack Moo, a day at the Farm (800)

Dierzen

Alyssa Di Guido/Beth Miller

None Provided

Keep Calm and Speak on in the Kindergarten Classroom (465.25)

Dierzen

Carla Voss

Allow students to travel to Jewel to explore all of the food items at the store, visiting all of the various departments in the store, and give us the opportunity to purchase food supplies that will be used throughout the year during our weekly cooking activities. Cooking with the students will increase their literacy, speech/language, math, and social skills.

Hand Fidgets Support Learning (145)

Dierzen/Dean/Northwood

Julie Zay/Beth Miller

None Provided

The Power of the Core (400)

Endres

Linda Gabrielson

A 5th grade classroom will be equipped with a CanDo Plastic Ball Chair, Bouncy Bands for chairs and CanDo Chair Discs. In the last few years, District 200 has been researching movement and "The Power of the Core" on student learning. Studies show that equipping a classroom with core strengthening devices will increase learning potential.

Seed Propagation for School Garden (520.11)

Endres

Kiera Parpart

The Impact Grant will provide students at Mary Endres with grow lights, timers, and replacement bulbs so they can grow plants for their garden from seeds. Students will plant their seeds in the winter and watch them grow into strong, hardy plants that can be planted in their outdoor garden in the spring!

Steamroller for Sensory Regulation to Increase Academic Performance (635)

Greenwood

Trisha Schoeneberg

The Steamroller is a device designed to provide deep pressure input to help students with self regulation difficulties calm and focus so they can attend and be successful in their academic environment.

Lighten Up! (269.90)

Northwood

Melinda Parrent/Dara Turnball

Evenly lighting the green screen will help NMS students create special effects as they film a student-created web series.

Steady as She Goes (189.64)

Northwood

Melinda Parrent

A heavy-duty tripod will make filming easier by not only holding an iPad steady, but by also supporting a microphone and lighting. NMS students will use this tripod when filming a student-created web series.

The Art of Science (400)

Northwood

Deborah A Dechant/Marcy Buchanan

NGSS calls for the inclusion of real world phenomena to spark student interest and motivation to fuel their learning of science concepts. This plan includes two projects that produce student products displaying scientific phenomena. One is the aging of copper through a chemical reaction and two is the construction of kaleidoscopes, highlighting lightwaves and reflection.

Northwood Scrapbooking Club (132)

Northwood

Katie Spaldon

Northwood Scrapbooking Club is an after-school program for students to gather and use communal crafting supplies to create scrapbooks and other paper crafts. This club will be responsible for assisting in creating the Veterans Day Program Scrapbook for Northwood Middle School.

Water Works at NMS! (288)

Northwood

Katie Spaldon/Marcy Buchanan/Luis Ardon

Water Works at NMS! is a project where teams of sixth graders build their own versions of air conditioners as an exploration into teamwork, collaboration, engineering, and product design. Sixth graders also explore the role of water in these air conditioning units and in real-time data taken at Silver Creek.

An Afternoon of Writing Dangerously! (198)

Northwood

Katie Spaldon/Ryan Schmidt

An Afternoon of Writing Dangerously! is a program which helps support amateur novel writers meet their word count goals to produce an entire novel between November 1 and November 30 while developing a community of writers at Northwood.

Camp Timberlee Scholarships (150)

Northwood

Katie Spaldon/Melanie Stock

The Education Foundation Grant would allow several students full and partial scholarships to attend Camp Timberlee in East Troy, Wisconsin. Northwood takes its annual trip to Camp Timberlee to provide an outdoor education experience including Leather Craft, Wall-Climbing, Horseback-Riding, Canoeing, and many other activities

Starlab Comes to Northwood! (300)

Northwood

Katie Spaldon/Marcy Buchanan/Luis Ardon

Starlab instruction allows students to visit the nighttime sky in the middle of a school day. It is provided through the rental of Starlab equipment, provided by Challenger Center in Woodstock. It is irreplaceable for teaching sixth graders the fundamentals of star-hopping and basic astronomy, and instilling a love for the stars.

The Mustang Big Give (288)

Olson

John Rigby

The Mustang Big Give is a service learning project where our students will be given the opportunity to make a difference by donating at least \$6 (\$3 earned at home and a matching \$3 from D200 Foundation Grant) to a charity or organization of their choice.

Alternative Seating (750)

Olson

Allison Doyle

Alternative Seating is a classroom design that provides students additional flexibility to work around the room providing them the comfort, space and freedom required to stay focused throughout the day. Additionally, the Alternative Seating Classroom fits well with our 1:1 initiative because it allows students numerous opportunities to get their wiggles out throughout the day.

Opera For The Young Comes to Olson (790)

Olson

Daniel Beetstra/Diana Frisbie

Opera for the Young is a Madison, WI based organization that brings the art of Opera into our schools. This unique opportunity for children to participate in this treasured art form is an enriching experience and helps foster a love for the arts in our students at Olson Elementary.

Let's Put SPRK+ in our learning (600)

Olson

Maggie Jensen

Olson students have been bit by the "coding" bug and want to expand their knowledge of coding and programming to create useful solutions to real world problems. SPRK+ is a spherical shaped robot which can be used to teach robotics, coding, and the STEAM principles that integrate science, technology, engineering, art and math across the curriculum.

Olson Reads with STEAM! (353.72)

Olson

Maggie Jensen

STEAM is the acronym for “Science and Technology interpreted through Engineering and the Arts, all based in Mathematical elements.” (www.STEAMedu.com) To support a mindset of learning by doing, asking, imagining, planning, creating, exploring, discovering, making mistakes, improving, and communicating, the Olson LRC is in need of books which promote these characteristics.

Moving & Learning with Flexible Seating (702)

Prairiewood

Courtney Deering

Moving & Learning with Flexible Seating will provide Prairiewood second grade students with flexible seating options, including standing desks, stability balls, and sensory cushions. These alternative seating options will encourage movement while working which will lead to increased brain activity, which, in turn, will lead to better academic results.

The Art of World Drumming: Discover Diversity (720)

Prairiewood

Dawn Firak

Culture, Arts & Music is an organization that brings world drumming music from the community into the schools. This unique, enriching opportunity for children to foster their love of music through participation in a live music making experience will inspire them to discover world music and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

Artist in Residence: Jim May, Storyteller (1,500)

Westwood

Kathleen Lacey-Anderson

As Artist in Residence, local Emmy Award-winning storyteller and author, Jim May, provides monthly lessons to the students at Westwood Elementary School. Through telling stories, both traditional and modern, Mr. May teaches about story structure and oral literature, as well as world cultures and values.

The Core Classroom (750)

Westwood

Brett Fankhauser

Fourth Grade Dual Language classroom will be equipped with stability balls and chair discs. Recent studies on movement and the power of the core show that equipping a classroom with core strengthening devices will increase learning potential.

Yo Yo Ma and Chicago Symphony WHS Field Trip (774)

WHS

Lyndra Bastian

Woodstock High School students will Yo Yo Ma and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra on Friday, March 10th 2017. We will be taking the metra into the city, grabbing a quick lunch, then attending this inspiring, once in a lifetime, performance.

Carpe Diem at Woodstock High School (700)

WHS

Victoria Zaplatosch

Carpe Diem is a student-created literary arts magazine that showcases the talents of student-authors and student-artists. The magazine is published annually to reveal the year's best short stories, poetry, and artwork.

Business INCubator MVP (prototype) funding. (1,000)

WHS

Dustin Smith

Students are taking INCubator to create real businesses. The most important aspect of INCubator is creating a Minimum Viable Product(MVP). This MVP will be created as a prototype with just enough features/benefits to launch the product/service and receive feedback from customers. This grant will allow students to launch their MVP.

First Generation College Students (200)

WHS/WNHS

Amanda Harmer

We plan to take a group of first generation college students to McHenry County College to help bridge the transition to college.

Cooking for Independence (320)

WNHS

Karla Nussbaum/Nancy Schuette

The Life Connections Transition Program views cooking skills and nutritional planning as an essential part of becoming independent in adult life. Students read the recipe, make sure they have all needed ingredients and supplies, make the dish, enjoying eating their creation, then clean up the mess

WNHS Best Buddies Community Outing (500)

WNHS

John Liuzzi/Holly Ehlenburg

The WNHS chapter of Best Buddies is providing a unique, potentially once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students with disabilities to further develop friendships with their general education peers through a novel social experience tied to current IEP and curriculum goals.

Global Fest 2016 (525)

WNHS

Deborah Guild/Bart Labuz

GlobalFest is a One-Day Celebration of World Languages and Cultures held every year at a different high school in the broad Central Illinois region. District 200 students have benefitted from activities such as immersion classes in many world languages, cultural discovery programs presented by International Exchange students and competition in a scholastic quiz bowl.

Ellyn Wrzeski Impact Grant

Each year, one grant application is chosen to be honored as the Ellyn Wrzeski Impact Grant. This award is given in honor of retired former Superintendent Ellyn Wrzeski, in recognition of her many years of service to District 200. The grant exemplifies the innovation, originality and passion for education that Ellyn brought to our district.

This year's Ellyn Wrzeski Impact Grant is:

Ceramics Made from Clay (2,969.50)

Clay

Malinda Holmer

The students at Clay Academy are very creative and love to express themselves through their artworks. All of Clay Academy's K-12 students would benefit greatly with the purchasing of a kiln and the necessary accessories for the functioning of the kiln. I would like to provide every student with the opportunity to create glazed ceramic pieces in class and learn how the various firing processes work by using a kiln. Students will learn more vocabulary and grasp concepts better when they can make a ceramic piece with glazes and all! Clay Academy will be able to showcase more professional looking pieces with the use of a kiln in the art shows throughout the year and be able to use their pieces as functional art.