



The District 200 Education Foundation

proudly announces the

2011 Impact Grant Awards

November 16, 2011

“Making Things Happen That Ordinarily Would Not”

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District 200 Education Foundation 2011 Impact Grant Recipients

T-Stools (\$200)

All D200 Elementary Schools

Stacy Keckhaver, Occupational Therapy Assistant

T-Stools are a therapeutic tool that has proven to improve posture, balance and attention. Mr. Thompson at WHS has agreed to have students build these stools for a fraction of the cost of buying them from a catalog.

Chasing Vermeer and Art Appreciation (\$348)

All D200 Elementary Schools

Mary Klos, Gifted Education Coordinator

Chasing Vermeer is an accelerated reading program in content as well as in process and concepts. Students benefit by participating in high level reading discussions, introduction of new vocabulary, use of deductive and inductive thinking skills, and in learning about artistic elements and artists of the 16th century.

D200 Lab Ratz (\$355)

All D200 Middle Schools

Jennifer Messmer

Eighth grade Challenge Corps students as “Lab Ratz” present exciting physical science demonstrations to district sixth grade students. These presentations provide an introduction to many key concepts in chemistry and physics.

Taking Flight! (\$590)

All D200 Middle Schools

Melinda Malo and Marcy Buchanan

The project consists of a one week lab where students use balsa wood airplanes to learn how flight is related to a major concept taught in 8th grade; motion and forces. After constructing the airplane, students perform test flights and calculations of the speed and distance traveled by their airplanes.

Empowering Through the iPad (\$950)

All Schools

Allison Neff

As a speech language therapist, it is difficult to have everything I need to meet the many needs of the Life Skills students I service. The ability to have an accessible therapy tool and communication device for myself and my students is powerful for me and very empowering for my students.

Woodstock CUSD #200 Special Olympics (\$400)

All Schools

Jennifer Moskowitz, Life Skills Teacher

The Woodstock District 200 Special Olympics Team allows our students with intellectual disabilities opportunities to participate in sport events that their same age peers are participating in.

District 200 Art Shows (\$300)

All Schools

Kathy Algrim

The District 200 Art Shows have expanded to include the artwork of our students from WNHS, Clay Academy and the Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center. Each unique exhibit showcases over 800 student-created masterpieces. We need two new display panels to help continue our tradition of excellence.

Parent University (\$250)

All Schools

Melissa Toynton Walters, Social Worker

The purpose of this event, Parent University, is to extend resources to parents within District 200. The event is hosted at WNHS and is intended to provide the guardians of students within the district education on various topics, including: parenting, co-parenting, prescription drug abuse, raising healthy teens, bullying, raising drug-free teens, restoring peace to parents, and sessions in Spanish for our Hispanic families.

Increasing Spanish Oral Language Through Music and Theater in a Dual Language Classroom (\$230)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center

Katia Hage

Using the Musical and Theater project will enhance the development of my Second Language Learners. My students will have the opportunity to improve their Spanish communication skills by reading, writing, interpreting, speaking and vocalizing fluently through dramatizations and songs. They will not only be able to use verbal and corporal expression, fast thinking and memory in the new language but they will also have fun and enjoy the benefits of working as a team.

Literacy Takes Center Stage (\$200)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center

Kim Beystehner and Cyndy Layoff

The delightful “Frog and Toad” children stories by Arnold Lobel have captivated our youth for many generations. The stories send positive messages about friendship, teamwork and encouragement. Literacy comes center stage with a theatrical production of “A Year With Frog and Toad”, put on by CYT Chicago in Huntley, Illinois in May of 2012.

Playaway into Literacy (\$450)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center

Nancy Cain, Library Media Specialist

Playaway into Literacy is a project where the Library Media Center at VDELC will provide Playaway digital audiobooks for check out. They will be used by the children for listening to and reading books. Listening to stories not only promotes enjoyment of reading, but also builds fluency in young readers.

Debbie Diller Renovation (\$252)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center

Mark Jones and Shari Manke

The purpose of the renovation is to obtain supplemental materials to support our core literacy program through Debbie Diller Work Stations.

The Polar Express (\$250)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Lori Tillman and Toby Parker Goad

During the month of December, our two kindergarten classes at Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center will be reading the popular children's book titled *The Polar Express*. The children will bring the story to life by dressing in their pajamas and go on a train ride. We will pretend that we are going to the North Pole (to Harvard and back to Woodstock) on the Metra train. Once we arrive in Woodstock we will be greeted by Santa and have cookies and hot chocolate at the Trax Cafe. Santa will give each child a silver bell, just like in the story. After our *Polar Express* train ride adventure, we will create our own polar express trains out of milk cartons in the classroom.

Animals 2 X 2 On the Farm (\$750)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Toby Parker Goad and Shari Manke

This project will offer all kindergarten students in District 200 an opportunity to extend the Foss science unit Animals 2 x 2 by going to a local farm. Most of our student population has not had the experience of visiting a farm.

Learning about Pets Using the Project Approach (\$300)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Emily Beaumont and Dawneen Connery

Our child-initiated pets project will be done in our dual language classrooms to help us meet our Common Core Standards. The students will learn more about pets by taking a field trip to PetCo, observing our class pets, and reading books.

Giving Back Project (\$200)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Amy Mock

No summary provided.

Speakeasy (\$600)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Carla Voss, Beth Miller and Allyson Fessler

This project will utilize the iPad to promote articulation and language skills with the preschool children at Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center. The iPad is an alternative for children with speech and motor control problems. Many young children are drawn to technology and are dependent upon it to succeed.

Increasing Phonemic Awareness Skills with Earobics at Dierzen (\$657)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Jane Adebayo and Diana Frisbie

Earobics is a research-based literacy program that can be used with small groups or individuals. The software program includes assessment tools, a professional development component, and multi-sensory student activities that increase in complexity to meet the needs of early learners. Earobics would be a powerful, effective additional intervention for our reading program.

Yoga for Kids (\$250)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Jackie Anderson and Diana Frisbie

Teaching basic yoga principles to the students and staff at the Early Learning Center will extend our focus on wellness and healthy living. The proposed grant will allow us to purchase mats, resources, and music/DVDs that will be used for instruction and yoga practice.

Fairy Tale Theatre (\$400)

Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center
Kimberly Hansen, Jessie Rigby and Marcos Gomez

This is a theatre project in 50/50 and 90/10 dual language kindergarten classrooms. The students will be investigating theatres and performing a play in their second language. We focus on oral development at this age, which is the first step in order to become bilingual in the future.

Si Se Puede! (\$452)

Dean Street Elementary School
Judy Mae Foszcz

Most students dream of what they want to be when they grow up. These dreams are often based on exposure to positive role models. The purpose of my project is to immerse my bilingual students in the stories of exemplary Latino leaders in our community and celebrate them in a “Latinos of Woodstock” magazine we’ll create.

Book Club Lunch Bunch (\$260)

Dean Street Elementary School
Maureen Butler

Dean Street third and fourth grade students will have the opportunity to sign up for the Book Club Lunch Bunch where we will make use of books, electronic readers, iBooks, electronic books, and iPad applications to enhance group book discussions. Following group discussions, students can continue to communicate safely via Edmodo book group chats.

Delving Deeper into Non-Fiction (\$250)

Dean Street Elementary School
Sue Oberman and Debra Yarc

Literacy in one of the main focuses of the first grade curriculum. Students need to spend a lot of time practicing the skills learned in small group by reading independently. In order to enhance daily independent reading, students need to increase their reading of non-fiction text. Often children find reading about real-life science and social studies topics more engaging than reading fiction. This project would increase the amount of non-fiction leveled text in the first grade classrooms.

Audio Battle of the Books (\$300)

Dean Street Elementary School
Rita Kaminski

The audio Battle of the Books will allow students who read at a lower level, read slower, or are second language learners to participate in the school Battle of the Books. We are hoping this will level the playing field and give all students who wish to participate the opportunity.

Literacy for Life (\$600)

Dean Street Elementary School

Vicki Larson

Using storytelling in the classroom is one way to address literacy development by improving oral language, reading comprehension, and writing. To learn to read and write, children require demonstrations, opportunities for engagement, a positive environment and importantly a meaningful purpose. Storytelling provides imagery-building skills, increases listening skills, and expands interests. Having a resident storyteller at Dean Street Elementary School will provide each classroom, every child and all families an opportunity to promote literacy skills.

Just Right Books for Beginning Readers (\$400)

Greenwood Elementary School

Kimberly Dwyer and Rebecca Adams

Beginning readers want to find interesting books that they are able to read independently. This project will offer first graders an opportunity to have access to fiction and nonfiction books at their reading levels. The children will be able to bring the “just right” books home for practice.

Information Please! (\$500)

Greenwood Elementary School

Lauren Collen

No summary provided.

Getting In Touch With Reading (\$500)

Greenwood Elementary School

Gay Mather

No summary provided.

PBIS – The Greenwood Way (\$300)

Greenwood Elementary School

Jason Eggert, Principal

The PBIS system, referred to as The Greenwood Way and introduced this past fall, teaches students the school’s behavior expectations and acknowledges them with a token when they show these behaviors. This project will fund the purchase of Greenwood School spirit wear for students to purchase with their tokens called “Eagle Eggs.”

IPAD (Increasing Performance and Autistic Development) (\$550)

Olson Elementary School

Kathleen Wakitsch and Leslie Staniszewski

No summary provided.

CyberSmarts: Staying Safe Online (\$250)

Olson Elementary School

Melinda Parrent

Students are online for both social and academic reasons. It is imperative that they learn how to keep their personal information private and stay safe from online predators and cyberbullies. The *CyberSmarts: Staying Safe Online* set of interactive ebooks simulates real-life situations while students learn how to be safe online.

Curious Minds Want to Know! (\$350)

Olson Elementary School

Melinda Parrent

“How do I build a robot?” “What can I make for a quinceañera?” Olson students are inquisitive and want to learn. *Curious Minds Want to Know!* will provide funding to purchase high-interest informational books, nurture students’ love of learning and reading, and inspire future innovators and creators.

Skype -- Bringing the World to Students (\$30)

Olson Elementary School

Melinda Parrent

Skype – Bringing the World to Students will give teachers the ability to invite such guests as authors, illustrators, and even other classrooms to join their students in the joy of learning and discovery.

Monarch and Bluestem Student Choice Awards (\$250)

Olson Elementary School

Melinda Parrent

Monarch and Bluestem Student Choice Awards will provide Olson Elementary School students an opportunity to participate in The Monarch Award: Illinois’ K-3 Readers’ Choice Award and The Bluestem Award: Illinois’ Grades 3-5 Readers’ Choice Award. After reading nominated books, students will vote for their favorites in February and March 2012.

Checkmate! (\$150)

Olson Elementary School

Melinda Parrent

What activity increases student academic achievement? Improves critical thinking and problem-solving skills? Increases standardized reading and math test scores? Research shows playing chess does it all. Playing chess also increases self-control and concentration, and improves social skills. Purchasing chess sets will allow more students to play.

Launch and Learn (\$350)

Olson Elementary School

Renee Simes, Crystal Christensen, Stephanie Plourde, Pablo Pomares

Third grade students at Olson Elementary School will be constructing and launching their very own rockets. In conjunction with our study of spaceflight, the students will apply the physics of flight and blast off over Olson field. It will be a learning experience they will never forget!

Olson Mustangs Fitness Room (\$400)

Olson Elementary School

Melinda Etnyre

In an effort to increase physical activity options for students and staff, we are proposing to open a fitness room in Olson Elementary School. The space would provide a much needed area to be used for Teacher Directed Physical Education, homeroom physical activities, character education, and adapted physical education.

Love To Read In Spanish! (\$400)

Olson Elementary School

Lauren Cisneros

Love to Read in Spanish! will provide books in Spanish for my classroom library and instructional use. The purpose of the project is to get students excited about reading in Spanish and to provide them with the material resources they need in order to do so.

And Now Time For Listening! (\$460)

Olson Elementary School

Maria V. Galera

No summary provided.

Pony Express (\$500)

Olson Elementary School

Maria V. Galera and Laura Gould-Colangelo

No summary provided.

Mustang Big Give (\$210)

Olson Elementary School

John Rigby and Cindy Palmer

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 \$10 (\$5 earned at home and a matching \$5 from D#200 Foundation Grant) to a charity or organization of their choice.

Hooping To Be Healthy Friends (\$200)

Olson Elementary School

Kelly Steele and Kim McLaughlin

No summary provided.

Health, Growth, and Development for Students with Severe Disabilities (\$241)

Olson Elementary, Prairiewood Elementary and Creekside Middle Schools

Patricia Williams

Students with autism and developmental disabilities present a unique challenge to teach. This is especially true when trying to instruct them on the skills of hygiene, body changes during puberty, personal safety, and nutrition. A curriculum is being developed that is conducive to the learning style of these students.

Interactive Education (\$815)

Prairiewood Elementary School

Susan Mancera and Ashley Aldridge

The goal of the Interactive Education project is to equip my classroom with the MimioTeach Interactive Whiteboard System. Using this economical technology provides students with an exciting, engaging, and dynamic learning environment. It is a portal to meaningful and innovative applications of technology designed to improve learning and teaching.

Enriching Musical Experiences for Students with Special Needs (\$550)

Prairiewood Elementary School

Dawn Firak

Learning and experiencing music is an important developmental experience for every child, and all children should have the same opportunities to have a high quality, purposeful music education. The purpose of this project is to provide rich musical experiences for students with varying physical and intellectual abilities.

McHenry County Conservation District Field Trip (\$300)

Prairiewood Elementary School

John Girard

No summary provided.

First Class Pass: A Parting Gift (\$265)

Prairiewood Elementary School

Chuck Jones

The first class to travel all the way through Prairiewood Elementary will create a work of art to commemorate the time they spent at our school. This work will hang in the main office at Prairiewood.

Enrichment Through e-Readers (\$300)

Prairiewood Elementary School

Tracy Jacobson

Enrichment Through e-Readers will provide students at the elementary level the opportunity to explore books that are both enriching and challenging while being cost effective. This opportunity will promote literature and growth in students by offering engaging material that is both current and accessible in both English and Spanish.

Prairiewood Gymnasium Mural (\$251)

Prairiewood Elementary School

Cory Knopik, Chuck Jones and Robert Mecklenburg

The Prairiewood Gymnasium Mural Project will address the need to bring color and life into our gym. The 5th grade fall and spring after school art club members and the life skills art classes will create sport themed colorful murals to be hung on the gymnasium wall. The pictures will reflect the diversity and unique student population at Prairiewood Elementary School.

Creating and Cooking + Communication Learning through Food = Loving the Language (\$475)

Prairiewood Elementary School

Jeanette Letmanski and Sarah Scholinsky

No summary provided.

Westwood Wee Deliver (\$350)

Westwood Elementary School

Tammy Ortmann and Courtney Deering

Who delivers Westwood's mail? Wee Deliver does! This grant would provide materials to continue Westwood's Wee Deliver program. Grant award funds would be used to purchase t-shirts for our student employees as well as awards for our end-of-year recognition ceremony and a special celebration breakfast for our Wee Deliver employees.

Let's Read Together! / ¡Leámos Juntos! : the Sequel (\$500)

Westwood Elementary School

Margaret Jensen

This program provides first and second grade students with leveled reading materials and comprehension activities which are completed at home with their parents or guardians. It has been well received and we wish to have one complete set in English and two in Spanish at each grade level.

SMART Learning With Our Classroom SMART™ Board (\$200)

Westwood Elementary School

Courtney Deering

No summary provided.

Westwood School Safety Patrol Program (\$200)

Westwood Elementary School

Thomas Ross, Principal

Due to the continuation of the South Street sidewalk extension all the way to Westwood School, we need to add a Safety Patrol Program for the safety of our staff and students.

iSLPad (\$550)

Westwood Elementary School

Joy Fister

No summary provided.

Dual Language Library Wing (\$400)

Creekside Middle School

Daniel Aguilar

Acquire books, magazines, periodicals and other literary works to develop a Spanish Wing in the Creekside Middle School Library.

Life Skills/Target Program (\$250)

Creekside Middle School

Lisa Czyz

The Life Skills/Target Related Arts program services Life Skills II and Target Program students. The program serves students in sixth through eighth grade with special needs. The program's educational focus is on functional and vocational skills including cooking, health, art, and nutrition. This class is in place of the general education related arts classes.

Introducing Life Skills to Community Experiences (\$175)

Creekside Middle School

Natia Hong and Jennifer Moskowitz

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 visit with their families. It will help students learn the necessary skills needed to be a contributing member of their community.

Best Buddies Middle Schools (\$750)

Creekside Middle School

Julie Stone, Kat Mitchell and Joan Thomas

Best Buddies is an international nonprofit organization that seeks to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities through one-to-one friendships with peers who do not have disabilities. Creekside's program has grown from 20 members to 80 plus members over the last four years.

Improving Reading Using Phonics Blitz (\$400)

Creekside Middle School

Julie Stone

The program is designed for use at the middle school level and works to improve foundational reading skills for struggling students.

Integrating Sensory Exploration Within the Classroom to Enhance Academic Performance (\$450)

Creekside Middle School

Jennifer Moskowitz

This project is integrating sensory exploration within the classroom to enhance academic performance by creating two areas in the room to meet the sensory needs of the students within the Life Skills Program.

Extending Life Skills To Real Life (\$200)

Creekside Middle School

Natia Hong and Jennifer Moskowitz

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.

Vegetable/Herb Garden (\$400)

Creekside Middle School and Prairiewood Elementary School

Todd Clement

The students will be involved in choosing, growing, and harvesting the food. We want the students to learn about healthy eating and hopefully cooking.

Starlab Comes to Northwood! (\$300)

Northwood Middle School

Katie Spaldon and Robert Rivera

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. It is irreplaceable for teaching sixth graders the fundamentals of star-hopping and basic astronomy, and instilling a love for the stars.

Camp Timberlee Scholarships (\$300)

Northwood Middle School

Katie Spaldon and Robert Rivera

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 Archery, Wall-Climbing, Horseback-Riding, Canoeing, and many other activities.

PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) – PRIDE Continues at Northwood (\$300)

Northwood Middle School

Jake Wakitsch

PBIS – PRIDE Continues at Northwood is an incentive/reward program at Northwood Middle School that helps to improve student behavior in the hallways and classrooms by teaching our Positive Behavior Matrix and by providing fun activities and rewards for our students for Making Good Choices.

7th Grade Team Building Camping Trip (\$500)

Northwood Middle School

Jason Laidig

With supervision and guidance, Northwood's 7th grade student body will be responsible for planning the details for a multifaceted camping trip. This overnight experience includes team building activities that span across the curricula areas. Students will practice the responsibility of planning and preparing a trip of this magnitude benefiting over 200 students.

Readaway With Playaway (\$200)

Northwood Middle School

Karen Bergren

No summary provided.

Dual Language Research Partnership (\$400)

Northwood Middle School

Sue Tetz

No summary provided.

Northwood Middle School Veteran's Day Program (\$400)

Northwood Middle School

Gail Vanderpoel

Northwood students and staff invite local veterans to tell about experiences in the armed services. Students participate in a variety of writing, art, music, history, and other activities to prepare them with a full understanding of our Veterans Day theme. An assembly honoring the veterans is the culminating activity.

Bakery and Candy Shop Measuring & Money (\$190)

Northwood Middle School

Gail Vanderpoel

No summary provided.

6th Grade Poetry Night (\$75)

Northwood Middle School

Betsy Iversen

The 6th grade language arts teachers would like to put on a poetry evening in the library of Northwood Middle School in the spring. The entire 6th grade students would be invited to attend, read one poem they have written during the year, and invite family members to attend.

Blue Streaks of Kindness (\$100)

Woodstock High School

Rebecca Aldridge and Melissa Toynton

The program we are seeking to implement is a service-learning project. The impact that a service-learning project(s) has on a student is valuable and beneficial to their overall sense of well-being. This is their opportunity to give something back and feel a sense of accomplishment and pride.

Carpe Diem (\$500)

Woodstock High School

Arthur E. Vallicelli

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.

WHS Math Team (\$300)

Woodstock High School

Chelsea Baird and Marcy Wiebe

No summary provided.

Field Trip to a Performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* (\$400)

Woodstock High School

Lisa Beard

During Fall Semester at WHS many freshmen and sophomore students read Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. We would like these students to have an opportunity to attend a live production of *Macbeth* in December 2011. The performance will enhance understanding of Shakespeare's written word and will make available a cultural experience to students who may not otherwise have an opportunity to attend a Shakespearian play.

Button-Maker for WHS Cartooning Club (\$250)

Woodstock High School

Elon Shaffer

To encourage creativity and provide Woodstock High School Cartooning Club members an opportunity to fundraise, the club would like to purchase a button press, button-cutter, and button parts for use in teaching principles of computer art/design and also how to market/sell a product.

Woodstock North Math Team State Competition in Champaign (\$300)

Woodstock North High School

Carol Koltz

The State of Illinois holds a statewide Mathematics competition every year at the University of Illinois – Champaign on the first Saturday of May for all qualifying schools. The students will compete individually and on team events by taking very rigorous math exams.

Understanding Woodstock's Water (\$115)

Woodstock North High School

Keni D. Rienks

No summary provided.

Kindles for the Classroom (\$550)

Woodstock North High School

Shana Van Grimbergen

With this pilot program, students can harness the power of technology for use in the classroom. Students will use eReaders to read their assigned texts, annotate and highlight important passages, share their ideas with other students, and complete group readings and discussions.

Cooking for Independence (\$250)

Woodstock North High School

Karla Nussbaum and Nancy Schuette

The Life Connections Transition Program views cooking skills and nutritional planning as an essential part of becoming independent in adult life. On cooking days we plan the menu, go shopping with our list, come back to the school and cook. After the meal is enjoyed we clean up our mess.

Job Interview Portfolios (\$52)

Woodstock North High School

Karla Nussbaum and Nancy Schuette

The Life Connections Transition Program provides a pre-vocational class where “soft” job skills are taught. The students build a portfolio as they work on their interests, strengths/weaknesses, and skills to help them pick a realistic career. Interview skills are practiced cumulating with a mock interview given by a WNHS guidance counselor.

WNHS Hula Hoop Club (\$178)

Woodstock North High School

Camden Harlan

The WNHS Hula Hoop Club is an organization designed to introduce students to exercise that promotes coordination, dance movements, camaraderie, and healthy living. The Hula Hoop Club’s biggest project for this year is to be able to purchase the materials to make performance hoops.

WNHS Garden (\$450)

Woodstock North High School

Camden Harlan

The WNHS garden is a project that encompasses fruit and vegetable gardening, along with perennial, wildflower, rose, and children’s gardens. The garden benefits WNHS students and staff, as well as, MCC students and the community, by providing food, beauty, and an outdoor classroom.

2011: A Credit Recovery Odyssey (\$450)

Woodstock North High School

Carol Nystrom

2011: A Credit Recovery Odyssey is a grant proposal designed to enhance our new Compass Learning curriculum. Our students are engaged in online courses that will enable them to complete the necessary credits for graduation.

Functional World Events Related Arts (\$150)

Woodstock North High School

Dan Michel

Functional World Events is a class that provides instruction in Related Arts to students in Life Skills I (Mentally Handicapped) Life Skills II (Severe & Profound Developmental Disabilities) and TARGET (Autism) programs. Students engage in art, cooking, and functional money use activities using themes developed in their respective programs.

Connections to the Community (\$350)

Woodstock North High School

Nancy Schuette

This grant would support our transition students in creating a partnership with the community. This includes exploration of jobsites and community resources, training in the use of public transportation, independent skill practice and development, and self advocacy training. Our goal is for this grant to support students in overcoming individual barriers thus helping them gain a higher level of independence.

Clay Academy Team Spirit (\$300)

Clay Academy

Heidi Dunderdale

"Team Spirit" is a program that will help the students take pride and ownership in Clay Academy while away from their home school. This program will provide spirit wear to the students and staff at Clay Academy and help create a sense of unity and being part of a team.

Increasing Expressive Language by Decreasing Stress/Anxiety through Creative Play (\$400)

Clay Academy

Elizabeth Donato

A child's expressive language can be negatively affected when a student is feeling anxiety and/or stress. Creative play with materials such as extra large building blocks, puppet theater, a pretend kitchen and musical instruments can lessen a child's stress/anxiety thus allowing them to communicate more effectively.

PBIS Reward Store – Clay Academy (\$300)

Clay Academy

Kasandra Kienbaum and Meghan Scianna

Our PBIS Reward Store will reinforce positive behavior choices within the academic school setting. Part of the RtI model, PBIS is a crucial aspect of our therapeutic setting. Clay Academy would utilize this grant to fund items that our students are willing to work for on a bi-weekly basis.

Teaching and Sharing the Joy of Reading (\$600)

Clay Academy

Judith Parks

Students at our Therapeutic Day Treatment School, Clay Academy, do not have an inviting environment to instill the enjoyment of reading – no single purpose library and no Media Specialist. We need shelving, two rugs to designate each space and twelve bean bag chairs to help create an area conducive to reading.