

Magna Tiles Hands-On Geometry Tally Elementary School

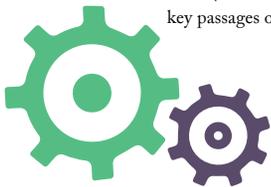
Mary Holt, a geometry teacher at Tally Elementary School, was awarded a grant for Hands-On Geometry with Magna Tiles. Twelve 100-piece Magna Tile sets will assist kindergarten students in learning the concepts of geometry, physics and spatial reasoning.

Science Rotation Stations B.T.Wilson Sixth Grade School

B T Wilson Sixth Grade School teacher Stacey Blair was awarded a grant for Science Rotation Stations. Her grant will provide ten science stations set up with ropes and pulleys, incline planes and other lab equipment to illustrate the concepts of physics. Sixth grade students will conduct experiments in small groups and learn the principles of physics.

Never eNough Books Program Kerrville ISD Librarians

Benefitting all KISD campuses, a grant for a technology program called Never eNough Books was awarded to Kerrville ISD librarians. Funds will be used to purchase 250 books for an eBook library that is accessible to all students from any device with Internet access. The eBook library will include books for elementary and secondary students. Teachers can use eBooks in classrooms with an interactive whiteboard (Smartboard) to highlight key passages or vocabulary words.



Lego Robotics

In 2013, Marilyn Mitchell was awarded \$1191 for her Lego Robotics project at the Tom Daniels Elementary School Challenge Lab. Her goal was to enrich students' interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and

Math) and give them an opportunity to enter their projects in a competition. She targets students who need encouragement in STEM, and specifically girls who are interested. The curriculum covers up to and includes 5th grade STEM learning objectives, including scientific investigation and reasoning.

She had already been awarded a STEM grant from Time Warner Cable (facilitated through KPSF) that allowed her to purchase the LEGO MINDSTORMS robotics kits. This latest grant paid for competition registration and materials for building competition surfaces.

KPSF is pleased to play a part in Mrs. Mitchell's efforts to advance her student's aptitude in these critical skill areas.



Operation Outdoor Explorer Early Childhood Center

Operation Outdoor Explorer is a complete outdoor classroom consisting of 5 activity centers.

Reading and Literacy: children can read books or increase skills in phonetics and handwriting through puzzles, sidewalk chalk and alphabet related games.

Fine Arts: Students will explore different sounds of a variety of musical instruments such as drums, maracas, and xylophones and other artistic activities using easels with paint markers and crayons.

Sensory Tables holding water, sand or other materials: Students can explore concepts of volume, density and texture and build mazes for the elements to travel through.

Math and Science: Students can choose to work with various math and science related manipulatives, as well as explore the entire outdoor classroom using a magnifying glass to observe nature around them.

Construction Center: Students enhance their problem solving skills through building, stacking, and constructing using blocks and rocks.

Success Through Movement Tivy High School

The grant awarded to Nancy Gawryszewski will be used to purchase four unique desks that allow students to choose the height of the desk so that they can stand, sit on a stool, or sit and rest their feet on a swinging foot rest. Movement allows the child to not feel so confined, and encourages focus and attention so that learning can occur.



Grants for Innovative Teaching

The most important work of the Kerrville Public School Foundation is to enhance and enrich the learning experience for Kerrville ISD students. Through our main program, Grants for Innovative Teaching, KPSF has awarded over \$400,000 to date. The grants give our teachers additional resources in the classroom that are not available through state and local funding.

In 2014, KPSF awarded five Grants for Innovative Teaching, totaling \$15,871.

KISD Elementary School Challenge Labs

In 2004, KPSF gave \$2500 towards the creation of Challenge Labs for all our elementary schools. The Challenge Labs program is designed to meet the needs of gifted and high achieving students. There are dedicated times each week for students identified for the gifted and talented program to meet and work together on long-term projects involving research and higher order thinking skills. Each of these groups is scheduled to meet in the lab once a week for a lunch with a focus on social and emotional development. All students are eligible to visit the lab. After demonstrating mastery in the classroom, students can visit the lab to do additional research and play games, activities all designed to expand student learning. These Challenge Labs are now a critical part of each elementary school, and in the past 10 years have given hundreds of students the opportunity to extend their learning and reasoning skills outside of the classroom.

