

KPSF Innovative Teaching Grants
\$53,800 Awarded in 2019

- **Tracy Flowers, District-wide Special Education** – Ms. Flowers was awarded \$10,000 for the “Every Voice Matters” grant that is enhancing communication skills for non-verbal and speech impaired students through the utilization of iPads and a specialized language and communications application.
- **Melanie Graham, Hal Peterson Middle School** - Ms. Graham was awarded \$5,000 to host a “big read” program to build community and promote literacy skills. The One Book One Day event challenges middle school students to read an entire novel together in one day and culminates with an author visit to Hal Peterson Middle School.
- **Stephanie Halpin, Nimitz Elementary** - A grant of \$3,500 was awarded to Ms. Halpin to add iPad technology and flexible seating options to her classroom. Incorporating mobile technology and flexible seating enhances learning and keeps students engaged in their environment.
- **Sarah Lewicki, Starkey Elementary** - Ms. Lewicki received \$3,000 to install sensory pathways throughout the Starkey campus. This leads to a child’s ability to complete more complex learning tasks and supports cognitive growth, language development, gross motor skills, social interaction, and problem-solving skills.
- **Sharon Pintsch, Tivy High School** - Ms. Pintsch enhanced the health science program at Tivy with a \$2,500 grant that funded a Geriatric Simulator package. A Geriatric Simulator is a wearable age simulation suit that enables health science students to experience a variety of age-related physical challenges.
- **The Tom Daniels 3rd grade team** - The 3rd grade teaching team was awarded a \$3,500 grant to purchase 10 iPads that will help these teachers provide differentiated instruction in order to build a stronger foundation in math and reading.
- **Amanda Lord, BT Wilson.** - Ms. Lord started a new ceramic program for 6th grade art students. A \$1,800 grant allowed her students to experience true hands-on art with two new potter’s wheels and a kiln.
- **Kimberlee Silerio, Early Childhood Learning Center** - Ms. Silerio was awarded \$1,000 to bring literature to over 300 young students. This will help them develop the ability to practice social and emotional skills that are the foundation of educational success.
- **The Tally Elementary Kindergarten Teaching Team** - Tally Kindergarten teachers incorporated flexible seating into their classrooms with a \$4,500 KPSF grant to allow students to better adapt to their learning environment.

- **Kelsey Davidson, Starkey Elementary** - Ms. Davidson received a \$3,500 grant to add 10 iPads to the Kindergarten team, allowing more students to practice learning letters, sight words and other early reading, math and science skills.
- **Candice Dominguez, Early Childhood Learning Center** - The \$1,000 grant awarded to Ms. Dominguez will be used to incorporate exploratory and play sensory centers in classrooms. Providing opportunities for children to actively use their senses as they explore their world through “sensory play” is crucial to brain development.
- **Catherine Butler, Hal Peterson Middle School** - Ms. Butler used \$1,000 in grant money to create a community garden for 7th grade students. She created cross-curricular lessons using science, math and reading to teach students how they can make a difference in the world around them.
- **Lindsey Salinas, Tom Daniels Elementary** - Ms. Salinas received \$2,000 for an innovative grant that allowed her to transform her 2nd grade classroom to a “kinesthetic” classroom with motion desks and tables that allow her students to be in motion while they learn.
- **Ann Schroeder, Nimitz Elementary** - Ms. Schroeder received \$1,500 grant to purchase iPads that will be a powerful tool for learning and comprehension for her 2nd grade students.
- **Stacie Cockrell, Nimitz Elementary** - Ms. Cockrell was awarded \$500 to purchase an incubator that will allow her 1st grade students hatch chickens from eggs. Her students will develop a deeper understanding of animal life cycle by observing the development of chicks as they grow.
- **Lea Anne Duckworth, Tally Elementary** - Ms. Duckworth was awarded \$3,500 in grant funds to add 9 iPads to the first-grade classes at Tally. These classes will create technology centers for reading and math stations and enrich the students’ academic needs.
- **Darci Burchers & Kelly Dunigan, Tivy High School** - The \$1,850 grant awarded to Ms. Burchers will help increase the number of STEM projects in her classroom and add an artistic component that pushes the project to STEAM for her Physics students.
- **Sarah Burkhart, Tivy High School** - Ms. Burkhart applied for a \$900 grant entitled Life is a Garden, Dig it! She used these funds, to start a garden, growing plants from seeds, for her Special Education students.
- **Tammy Callcott, Tom Daniels Elementary** - The counseling office at Tom Daniels purchased 2 iPads thanks to a \$1,000 KPSF grant. The iPads are used to combine technology tools with counseling strategies.

- **Lynde Hayes, Tom Daniels Elementary** - Ms. Hayes received a \$250 grant that will keep her classroom fun and engaging with a throw able microphone ball. The microphone is used to encourage classroom participation for 1st grade students.
- **Mindy Huerta, Tom Daniels Elementary** - Ms. Huerta was awarded a \$2,000 grant to purchase multisensory seating for her classroom in order to create a more effective learning space.