

Innovative Teaching Grants

\$44,635 Awarded September 2020

- **Flatland or Bust / Sarah McCrae** granted \$4,000 to further geometry studies for Tivy High School math students. After learning about the attributes of a variety of geometrical figures and using iPads purchased with this grant award, students will read the 1884 book, "Flatland." This book ties-in their math studies for the school year for a cohesive understanding of geometry.
- **STEM Turns to STEAM in the Art Room / Jody Schwartz** granted \$1,052 for the purchase of STEM items so that more STEM can be brought into the art room (Kinder-5th). Exposing students to STEM activities in the art room promotes creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking.
- **Uke Can Do It! / Alyse O'Brien** granted \$1,083 to bring the ukulele into 4th and 5th grade music rooms. A simple instrument, the ukulele can be easily learned unlike many orchestra instruments. The students will be able to learn simple songs with immediate success and then go on to more complex material.
- **Telling Stories Through Podcasting / Jessica Sturm** granted \$1,500. Through podcasting, students are able to find their own unique voice, literally and figuratively, through their writing. Additionally, podcasting impacts their ability to tell a story, make personal connections, and write for an audience with a purpose in mind.
- **Mathematical Literature Connections / Pamela Boyer** granted \$2,500 to use children's literature and hands-on materials to build a stronger understanding of multiplication and division facts so that fluency/automaticity can be achieved.
- **Creative Seating for Creative Learners / Hailey Mohnke** granted \$2,500 for flexible seating which gives students more control and responsibility, improves their academic engagement, and erodes the typical face-forward orientation of the traditional learning environment.
- **Heart Health / Sharon Pintsch** granted \$3,500 for an EKG machine. A significant portion of this grant was funded by Peterson Health. The EKG machine will be used by high school students seeking EKG certification in the Health Science pathway.

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- **Collaborative Literacy Space / Cristy Jackson** granted \$5,000 to add flexible furniture to the library setting so students can manipulate their spaces for literacy groups, book studies, STEM projects, and study groups.
- **Robotics in Middle School STEM / Vennisa Rodriguez** granted \$2,500 for robotics. This grant, which was generously funded by KPUB, helps create a STEM/Robotics program at the middle school level with the objective of helping students increase their math and science skills and expose them to careers through hands-on experiences.
- **Flex Forward / Marydwen Peschel** granted \$2,500 for flexible seating accommodations and student-standing desks in a second-grade classroom. Flexible seating is a scientific and researched-based way to set and amplify student-centered instruction with measurable benefits in academic performance.
- **Productivity, Personalization, Participation and Pods / Christina Loftin** granted \$2,500 to purchase 21st century classroom furniture. Since classroom design directly impacts student engagement and encourages student collaboration, this furniture gives students more control over their environment and recognizes the differences in learning styles.
- **Tally Fifth-Grade Team / \$4,000** for a large-screen, interactive Viewsonic display monitor with collaborative capability for the 21st century classroom.
- **Starkey Fifth-Grade Team / \$4,000** for a large-screen, interactive Viewsonic display monitor with collaborative capability for the 21st century classroom.
- **Nimitz Fifth-Grade Team / \$4,000** for a large-screen, interactive Viewsonic display monitor with collaborative capability for the 21st century classroom.
- **Daniels Fifth-Grade Team / \$4,000** for a large-screen, interactive Viewsonic display monitor with collaborative capability for the 21st century classroom.