

## **Innovative Teaching Grants**

### **\$121, 062 Awarded 2023**

**Critter Coding In Kinder / Hope Mills (Tom Daniels)** granted \$1,000 for introducing and implementing coding to kindergarteners using robots, coding critters, and books. This gives students advanced thinking skills and teaches them how to design, develop and communicate with digital technology.

**Hands-On Learning + Interactive Tools = Student Success / Gwendoline April Sykes (Nimitz)** granted \$2,505 to provide more interactive, hands-on, multi-sensory learning tools to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. Tools include Wipe-Off/Dry Erase tables and interactive cross-curricular games and manipulatives based on the Science of Reading.

**Click To Be Engaged / Hailey Mohnke (Starkey)** granted \$1,750 for a Student Response System that includes student remotes and a presenter remote to engage students and present questions in a variety of ways as well as track student learning data. Also included are re-write tablets for students to show work when using the Student Response System.

**STEM Literacy / Stacey Ramirez (Tally)** granted \$2,500 for STEAM kits, problem solving STEM kits, a building engineering center, and books for the classroom library.

**Digging Deeper Into The Living World / Darci Burchers (Tivy)** granted \$2,325 for equipment for Tivy Pre-AP and AP Biology classes including bacterial stain and morphology kits, dissection tools and trays, a DNA detectives classroom kit, and a magnetic stirring hot plate.

**Interactive Learning / Tally First Grade Team** granted \$3,500 for science kits, models, books, and other items to enhance learning such as preserved insects, incubating eggs, and a collection of minerals. Materials to reinforce phonics programs are also included in the grant.

**KPSF Is Lighting Up Learning / Candice Dominguez (Daniels)** granted \$1,388 for a set of light table panels and a library of math, ELAR, science and social studies accessories to use with the panels for small group learning.

**Let's Talk: I Have Something To Say / Dana Dunagan (Early Childhood Center)** granted \$2,800 for a post mounted communication board that will help students express their needs and wants as well as better understand behavior and play expectations during the school day. Students of all abilities will increase their expressive and receptive language skills using vocabulary from the communication board.

**Kiln & Clay / Kevin McCorkle (Nimitz)** granted \$2,150 to the art classroom for a new shelving kit, clay extruder, and elements for the ceramics kiln.

**EXTREME ART! / Amanda Lord (Hal Peterson MS)** granted \$3,950 for stained glassmaking materials including grinders, soldering irons, work surfaces, a shelving unit, safety equipment, tool sets and instructional books.

**World At My Fingertips! / Alma Garcia (Tally)** granted \$2,500 for a hydroponic garden to help study plant life cycles and soil types/importance, 5 iPads to use with last year's VR goggles and to use for research, and a variety of replica animal skulls and pelts for an adaptations unit.

**Turn Us Into YEAR-ROUND Gardeners! / Melissa Martin (Daniels)** granted \$2,500 to purchase a greenhouse for the Challenge Lab 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade gardening program. This will allow experimentation with fall/winter gardens in the colder season.

**Let the Creativity Flow / Kenna Bush (Tally)** granted \$10,000 through a donor-directed grant for various art equipment including kiln equipment, a display case, printmaking tools, clay tools, photography professional shooting tent, smocks, and more.

**Second Grade Loves Math / Ann Schroeder (Nimitz)** granted \$1,575 for math manipulatives to aid in hands-on learning. Materials include base 10 blocks, fraction tiles, play money, various lengths measuring tapes, geometric shapes, math symbols, and more.

**Moving In Math! / Brittney Wardlow (Starkey)** granted \$7,650 for math mats for Kinder – 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to provide kinesthetic opportunities to students while learning math concepts. The concepts include place value, comparison of whole numbers, addition and subtraction of whole numbers, reading clocks, decimals, and graphing.

**Let's Make Learning Fun / Cheryl Higdon (Tally)** granted \$1,765 to the Tally behavior program to purchase materials that help students read at grade level. Items include a finding text evidence kit, reading comprehension cards, letter activity center, language/phonics puzzles and games, and build-a-word magnetic boards with letters.

**Allowing Students To Be "Model" Citizens / Sarah Thompson (Tivy)** granted \$4,100 for science models, manipulatives, and replicas including protein synthesis models, dissection kits (squid, starfish, fish, and clam), flower models, antibody models, DNA manipulatives, and various skull, teeth and egg replicas.

**Math Mania! / Amy Alejandro (Daniels)** granted \$4,500 to the first-grade team for four bundles of math supplemental resources. The guides and manipulatives will help to ensure the foundation of math is taught at each of the students' varied levels with a more hands-on and visual approach.

**Helping A First Year Teacher Close The Gaps / Aimee Longoria (Nimitz)** granted \$2,404 for math and phonics-based tools, manipulatives, and materials to help create more differentiated, engaging, and exciting learning activities and to help "close the gaps" of struggling students. It also includes some flexible seating to help alleviate distractions.

**Each Book You Read Adds A New Shelf To Your Brain, Cada Libro, Que Lees Agrega Un Nuevo Estante A Tu Cerebro / Alita Davis (Starkey)** granted \$2,400 for authentic and relevant text for the bilingual program including informational and expository texts, and science-based and social studies-based text.

**Set The Stage To Engage / Carrie McCulloch & Kelly Toepperwein (Tally)** granted \$3,850 to the math team for materials to help transform the classroom into a more real world experience for the students as they study various math topics. The classroom will be transformed into a realtor's office when working with comparing and ordering numbers, into a scientist's lab when studying the unit on converting measurements, and many more transformations throughout the year!

**Sandy Science / Cathy Dutton (Early Childhood Center)** granted \$8,000 for an augmented reality sand table to increase STEM opportunities and further align Kinder Science objectives with the preschool curriculum. The table adjusts information and projections to give a deeper understanding on topics such as plant & animal adaptations to a changing environment and geographical and topographical changes as students shift sand in the box.

**Molding Kinder Math Minds / Tom Daniels Kindergarten Team** granted \$3,400 to the kindergarten team for multisensory math resources and technologies such as measuring tools, math games, and math manipulatives.

**Engage And Turn The Page / Merydwen Peschel** granted \$2,300 to update the classroom library and transform the classroom to kickoff each genre unit.

**Tuners For Band / Jason Jung (Tivy)** granted \$4,400 for metronomes and tuners for band.

**Searching Stress Free! / Irene Garcia (Nimitz)** granted \$1,200 to the school library for three Generation 9 iPads to replace slow, old desktop computers. The iPads will help the students look up available books in the library and aid in the understanding of the Dewey decimal system, call numbers, and book locations.

**Starkey Recess Reset / Sally Smithson (Starkey)** granted \$1,550 to the P.E. department for recess packs that are size appropriate by age (kinder-2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades). Equipment includes basketballs, soccer balls, playground balls, footballs, speed ropes, hula hoops, and storage for equipment.

**The Backyard: A Collaborative Space to Learn Together / Hunter Miller (Tally)** granted \$10,000 to the campus for picnic tables with writable surfaces and outdoor desks to create an outdoor learning space.

**Filling In The Gaps / Chef Mario Estrada (Tivy)** granted \$3,500 for equipment to support culinary department in banquet events including warming carts, serve ware, and buffet setups.

**Pilot X for Tom Daniels Team / Paxten Reeh (Tom Daniels)** granted \$12,600 to the campus for four Pilot X teaching stations. Pilot X allows more mobility for the teacher to work with different groups of students during lessons as well as allow more student interaction by utilizing a mobile wireless document camera that is built in to the teaching station.

**Fit for Life Physical Education Course: Phase 2 / Alex Johnson (Hal Peterson MS)** granted \$2,500 the P.E. department for the Fit for Life program. This second phase builds on the previous phase KPSF supported and focuses on organization, responsibility, strengthening of self-assessment, nutrition, hygiene, and record keeping.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Guided Reading Upgrade / Stephanie Halpin (Nimitz)** granted \$2,500 to upgrade guided reading groups by providing materials to assess students throughout the year and implement a word study system that benefits all learners with a variety of leveled readers.

**Mobile Library – Reading on the Go! / Rebecca Anson (Starkey)** granted \$2,000 to create a mobile library so students can “Read on the Go” in the classrooms and throughout the 5<sup>th</sup> grade hallway. Students will have immediate access to new books instead of waiting for the once a week library trip.