

Glenview Education Foundation Donates

Over \$104,000 to ALL D34 Classrooms in 2018-19

Below is a list of the 9 grants that received funding from the Glenview Education Foundation during 2018-19 school year.

Stylus Sets for Handwriting

This grant requested funds to purchase a set of styluses for kindergarteners. This set will benefit three teachers and about 100 students a year for several years. These low-tech styluses are caps that can be attached to any pencil. Many students entering kindergarten are not yet writing their letters and numbers. Students have been utilizing their iPads for increased engagement and reinforcement of writing skills. Unfortunately, when students use their fingers for practice it is not helping their grasp development and ability to transfer over to using traditional writing tools. The OTs recommend the use of a stylus for this reason. Having a stylus for iPad writing practice will help students develop these fine motor skills. The proposal could easily be expanded across the district and more classrooms if they are proving to be as useful and helpful as anticipated.

Middle School Makers: After School STEAM

The Middle School Makers grant requested funds for continuation of an after school club entitled STEAM at both Attea and Springman. This ties directly to our initiatives and allows students an environment to create, problem solve, connect and innovate. The club directly supports science enrichment by actively engaging students in applying their scientific knowledge in a dynamic way. This is a grant that we have been funding for a few years. We will pay for school year 2019-2020, with hopes that the district will continue this in the future.

BOSS Boxes (Bucket of Student Supports)

Bucket of Student Supports (BOSS Box) will provide teachers with easily accessible, low-cost, easy to use items, tools and strategies to support the regulatory and sensory needs of all students. Having materials and activities available to students in each classroom and area of the school gives them the power to be self-directed learners. The goal is to give every child the individual sensory support needed to fully access the curriculum and educational environment. The grant will be a pilot at Westbrook, but has a potential of going district-wide as we move more special needs students into blended classrooms.

Booked for Lunch

Booked for Lunch is a grant which will support struggling readers by providing additional opportunities for reading in a structured setting using highly-engaging texts. These groups will meet over lunch approximately twice each month. This group of students has been identified by the district as "at-risk" and in need of additional reading supports.

Multicultural & Multilingual Texts for Henking Students, Teachers, & Families

Henking School has a lot of diversity to celebrate: cultural and linguistic, socio-economic, religious, and more. This grant will seek to empower Henking students and families through the acquisition of texts that represent these multi-cultural identities and provide exposure to diversity for all Henking students. This grant will fund the purchase and organization of two types of picture books: First, English language books featuring multi-cultural characters and experiences for use by students within the LRC and individual classrooms as independent reading books and mentor texts for minilessons. Second, multilingual texts (English as well as another language) and monolingual (second language with an existing English version in the LRC collection) will be available featuring languages such as

Polish, Korean, Spanish, Mongolian, and Russian. These texts will be available through the ELL services to students as well as ELL families (for use at home).

Building Memories for ELL Students

This is a continuation of another grant that has been used with the Bilingual students at Henking school. This grant will create 30 take home book bags with 5 books in each for ELL students. Students will check out a bag of books, read the books within the bag at home, and write a reading response to their favorite book in the bag. Upon returning the bag, students will receive a small prize, and they will then check out a new bag of 5 books. This allows students regular access to books without having to visit a library or bookstore. The books are those that the students can read without the help of a parent who may not be able to read in English with their child. In addition, this grant brings multilingual ELL families to school for a Reading Night that introduces them to the take home book bags. There will be interpreters on hand during the evening, and parents will attend a workshop on how to read with their children, how to create a reading routine, and how to support literacy in English and a native language.

TCRWP Phonics Institute

This grant proposal requested funds for seven teachers across Henking, Lyon, and Westbrook, plus one district coach, to attend a 3-day workshop at Teachers College in New York, focusing on the Phonics Units of Study. Phonics is the next area of study for the district; there is currently not a common program used throughout the district. Implementing the Phonics Units of Study is a natural next step to create an even more cohesive and balanced literacy program to supplement the Writing Workshop Units of Study that the district has already adopted, and the Reading Workshop Units of Study which will be adopted next year. The grant recipients will, after their training in October, begin a Phonics Workshop Interest Group for all interested teachers across the three primary buildings, share information learned during grade-level PLCs and open their doors throughout the year for learning labs across the district. This will give all primary teachers the opportunity to observe and learn about the Phonics Units of Study. This follows the model used previously with reading and writing.

Outdoor Play and Learning Spaces - Research and Development

This grant requested funds for the exploration of outdoor, natural learning spaces at District 34 schools aimed to enhance student learning by providing opportunities for creative play, outdoor learning experiences and social interactions. Specifically, the grant supports teacher investment (10 teachers and administrators) in the concept of "Nature Play Spaces" (as named and promoted by the Natural Wildlife Federation). It will also enable the use and collaboration of outside experts in the curation of these spaces. This collaboration could end in initial designs for pilot implementation with a subsequent grant.

STEM Family Events

This grant requested funds for a series of STEM nights at the schools. Students who actively participate in the "Family STEM Night" events will engage in behaviors that will help them become successful high school and college students. Students will learn how engineers solve problems by following a design process to develop potential solutions. Students will also learn how engineering, technology, science and society are interconnected and impact our daily lives. We approved one night per cluster and no middle school events.