

# **Glenview Education Foundation Donated**

## **Over \$63,000 to ALL D34 Classrooms in 2019-20**

Below is a list of the 7 grants that received funding from the Glenview Education Foundation during 2019-20 school year.

### **STUDENT SUCCESS**

#### **The 15th Annual GEF Recital Night**

The annual GEF Recital Night provides an in-district opportunity for band and orchestra students to prepare and perform solo and ensemble literature for professional musicians in a clinic/master class format. Instrumental teachers lead students in literature selection and preparation. At the festival, small groups of students perform for each other, their families, and a clinician (professional musician). The clinician conducts a master class, giving comments on the performances to help students improve their musicianship. In addition, when students are not performing, professional chamber ensembles from the Elgin Symphony Orchestra present "Informances". The musicians play and talk about their instruments, practicing, the music and playing in school. The festival was held in January 2019 at Attea Middle School.

#### **Computer Access**

Special needs students will pilot the use of a head mouse, eye gaze and facial recognition technology. First, students will learn the skills (e.g., dwell, left click, right click, etc.) necessary to operate the equipment. Students will play games to learn skills and build their endurance, then apply those skills to grade level assignments and activities assigned by their teachers. Over time, students would have control and independence in completing tasks assigned by the teacher and not have to rely on an associate to complete grade-level assignments. It is difficult to find rental devices to rent for more than two weeks, and it takes longer than that to effectively determine if the equipment can provide the desired results.

#### **Entrepreneur Makerspace**

The makerspaces in the middle schools have had tremendous success over the years. The makerspaces are currently in need of hands-on tools that would allow students real-world application of the inquiry process and innovator mindset by providing equipment designed specifically to support student entrepreneurship. This equipment would support a variety of entrepreneurial projects where students can use the design process to create solutions and then see their brands, logos, service, or "company" a reality. The plan is for 'Shark Tank' ideas in a more supportive environment to innovate, fail, redesign, and succeed. Following previous models, they would first roll out these ideas as an X block enrichment experience. Based on these results, the entrepreneurial makerspace could be a possible model for future expansion of creative arts options. Students will design, research, and create solutions to real-world problems using hands-on makerspace equipment specifically chosen to support entrepreneurs, including: t-shirt heat press machines, button makers, professional bike repair tools and stands, and a hydroponic urban farming system. Equipment will be purchased for both Attea and Springman.

### **Virtual and augmented reality in the middle school classrooms**

This grant requests funds to purchase Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality viewing headsets and special 3D/360-degree cameras. With these, students will be able to access virtual reality content as well as create their own 3D or 360-degree videos for others to view. The goal is to add virtual reality as a further choice in how students construct their learning, as it is an immersive way to access already-made content (such as virtual field trips and simulations). The use of 3D cameras and equipment will also give students the opportunity to plan, create, and share their own virtual reality content with other students, teachers, and the community. The middle schools have consistently sought innovative opportunities in tech areas and this in line with their philosophy. They submitted three possible combinations of equipment. We recommend approving this grant for the middle amount they requested (30 headsets and 2 cameras per school), which will allow enough to successfully pilot but also allow room for the district to supplement in the future.

### **Summer CAMP (Create - Ask - Move - Play) 2020**

CAMP is an opportunity for students to have fun, explore their interests, think and learn. With most in-person camps closed to students this summer and with many more families experiencing financial hardships, this CAMP provided a FREE opportunity for all students in District 34 to be intellectually stimulated and maintain important connections with peers and staff while we remain socially apart from each other. This model for summer school does not exist for a public school district. Many districts are not providing learning experiences for students this summer beyond the legally-required "extended school year" for certain students. Furthermore, this is a model that could be replicated in future summers by our district. To make this program as successful as possible, this grant seeks funding for supplies necessary for the project, which are items that are typically found in a student's house. However, we cannot assume that all families have these or can easily purchase them. Therefore, we are requesting funds to provide supply kits for families who need them. These kits were available for families to pick up during the Monday Meal Pick-Up times.

## **EDUCATOR GROWTH**

### **Professional Learning Videos to Support Implementation**

The goal of this grant is to create short, high quality instructional videos to support implementation of reading workshop, writing workshop, inquiry and teaching and learning in redesigned instructional spaces (learning spaces). This proposal has its roots in professional development provided within the district. Teachers often want to see the new practices in action, prompting the Learning Spaces team to investigate the process to create these videos. This grant would allow the district to hire a film production team (with guidance from D34 instructional leaders) to film and edit short videos of classroom practice that will enhance D34 teacher professional learning in prioritized areas. The purpose of these videos would be to grow the practice of teachers in the district. They would be created with D34 educators as the audience, and as tools to aid professional learning. The difficulties with lesser equipment are catching multiple aspects and angles of a classroom scene and interactions between students and teachers. To truly capture this, microphones that pick up students' voices and expert videographers who can capture the sense of a whole learning space are necessary. For example, in order to truly capture how inquiry works in a classroom, we need professional editing which will also help ensure the videos are engaging, thought provoking, and prompt the learning and reflection we are hoping for.

### **District 34 Educator Discovery & Development: Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity**

The District 34 Educator Discovery & Development: Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity grant seeks to discover and explore the methods by which D34 can enhance and deepen educator learning around the topics of diversity, inclusion, & equity. The essential question that will guide this discovery is: What are best practices for providing learning opportunities for D34 educators on topics of diversity, inclusion, and equity? This grant will fund the time needed to research and vet the best solution for D34, and the professional learning of a Discovery Team. The ideas of diversity, inclusion and equity are not new to the district. We are in an era, however, that demands a deeper and more holistic understanding on the part of all educators of their role in maintaining open, inclusive and equitable practices for all students. This proposal encompasses two phases, discovery and vetting of future sources of PD. We are approving the first phase, teacher discovery, and will be open to considering the second phase once the first is completed.