GEF

Glenview Education Foundation We're in the classroom

GEF Donates Over \$160,000 to D34 Classrooms in 2015-16

Below is a list of the 20 grants that received funding from the Glenview Education Foundation during 2015–16. Just over \$160,000 was donated back to District 34 schools in the form of advanced technology and educational programming.

Fountas and Pinnell Assessment Kit

This grant would purchase two Fountas and Pinnell Assessment kits to support Pleasant Ridge's fourth grade team. The kits are designed to assess students' reading and comprehension skills. The current assessment kit (which has been used by the PR reading support teacher and has been extremely successful) is not sufficient for the entire Pleasant Ridge population. The Assessment kit includes original, high-quality books written expressly for the purposes of literacy assessment and is the most well-researched leveling assessment. This grant supports our At-Risk population.

Jolly Phonics and Heggerty Phonemic Awareness

Jolly Phonics and Michael Heggerty Phonemic Awareness will provide early childhood teachers with the tools to teach all preschool students the foundations of reading. Research has shown that a child's awareness of the sounds of spoken words is a strong predictor of his or her later success in learning to read. The repetition and daily practice allows students to hear and manipulate the sounds as many times as they need to develop phonemic awareness skills. This program is currently used in the primary buildings; this grant seeks to pilot its use in the preschool program.

Reading Units of Study

This grant seeks funding to attend an esteemed five-day institute at Teacher's College in New York that will tackle curriculum development and planning in the teaching of reading. The institute emphasizes: teaching reading through the workshop model, specific instruction in comprehension strategies, the importance of assessment-based instruction, the role of the read-aloud book, methods of holding students accountable for doing their best work, helping students grow ideas about literature, and classroom structures that support inquiry and collaboration. Following the institute, attendees will create a model workshop classroom to be shared district-wide through a research-based learning lab process.

Ride and Read

Ride and Read reaches approximately 50 ELL students from across the district each summer. The Glenview Senior Center's bus and driver busses students to the Glenview Public Library once a week where they are paired with a volunteer to discuss books read at home, play the library Summer Reading Game, and find new books at the appropriate level for each student. This program increases and supports reading and comprehension skills taught during the school year and minimizes the loss of literacy skills over summer vacation. In addition to the focused reading time, students will have the opportunity to read with therapy dogs from Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy, will receive backpacks for safe book borrowing and book transportation along with prize books and a party at the end of the summer for the students, families, teacher coordinators and volunteers. This grant has received support from the past from the Glenview Senior Center for the bus, which is unable to continue its funding.

Construyendo memorias: Lectura en voz alta para familias

Designed to bridge the literacy gap found in our at-risk bilingual students, this program will support 80–100 at-risk bilingual Pre-K, kindergarten, first, and second grade students at Henking and their families through the use of take-home book bags containing 5 books to be read aloud to children by their parents or guardians. These book bags will rotate on a weekly basis and will include an imaginative enrichment activity. Before beginning the program, the parents will participate in an introductory evening where implementing the family literacy program will be modeled so as to provide a clear picture of how to use it successfully. With the district iPads, parents will also be supported with bi-weekly videos targeting specific reading skill sets. Families will also use the iPads to take videos of their progress and will keep reading logs and journal entries. Pre- and post- assessments will be collected and compared to measure the success of the program.

Nota Chairs for Instrumental Music Lessons

This grant requests funding for 20 Nota chairs for each intermediate band program. The chairs students currently use for lessons are too large for most students and therefore do not promote proper posture. Nota chairs are shorter and have a design that allows students to sit at the edge more comfortably or sit further back with more back support.

Middle School Makers: After School STEAM

The grant request is to continue support for the Tech/Maker Clubs at Attea and Springman. The grant also supports some curriculum uses that impact all middle school students. These funds are specifically for covering the main facilitators and additional support for weekly meetings. This year no additional equipment has been requested, as the grant applicants are still focused on planned use of equipment and training granted last year.

Elementary Science Olympiad Pilot

This grant requests funds to pilot an Elementary Science Olympiad program at Hoffman. Currently, Illinois is considering adding the Elementary Division A to its highly competitive program in 2016–17. Therefore, the district would like to pilot a program this year and expand it to Pleasant Ridge and Glen Grove next year.

Lead Up to Ride

This grant for 25 Cycleops 990 Wind Trainers, adapters and riser blocks makes it possible to utilize year round the 50 TREK bicycles purchased in 2014. The bicycles will be able to be used as stationary trainers, as a fitness unit similar to a spin class, and to pre-teach the skills used when learning how to ride a bike, which will expedite the process of learning to ride a bicycle. The trainers will be used at various times throughout the year with the first and second grade students at Henking, Lyon, and Westbrook.

The Eleventh Annual GEF Recital Night

In its 11th year the GEF Recital Night will continue to provide an opportunity for our band and orchestra students to prepare and perform solo and ensemble literature for professional musicians in a clinic/master class format. Solo and small groups of students will perform for each other, their families, and a clinician (professional musician). After the performances of the group, the clinician will conduct a master class. Also, professional chamber ensembles from the Elgin Symphony Orchestra present "Informances". The musicians will play and talk about their instruments, practicing, the music and playing in school.

Engineering Field Trip and Enrichment Program

The grant provides funding to replace the annual Northwestern Engineering Field Trip with a program to allow up to 48 students from Attea and up to 48 students from Springman to visit the Glenbrook South STEM program in late January. During this field trip, students will be introduced to STEM fields of study, STEM careers, and the GBS STEM program. The funding would cover teacher time to organize the event, supervise the application process, select the students attending the field trip, attend the field trip, and conduct a post field survey. The funding for the field trip would also cover buses, lunch, challenges prizes, and t-shirts for the attendees.

GEF will also attempt to launch a program to video individuals with STEM careers. GEF's hope is to create videos of 2–3 individuals or businesses this year and have this program grow over the coming years. These videos would be shared among area middle schools and Glenbrook South.

Universidad de Baile (Año 2) Dance University (Year 2)

Targeted students in Hoffman's bilingual program will take part in an after-school 8-week "dance studio" where they will learn cultural dances from the Hispanic culture: merengue, bachata, cumbia, and salsa. Ten students from each grade level (5 girls, 5 boys) will participate, for a total of 30 students. The program this year will expand to two sessions, allowing more students to participate. Bus transportation will be provided to the students. At the end of the 8 weeks, students will invite their families and friends to watch them perform and celebrate their accomplishments.

Financial Literacy Club Grades 6-8

This grant would fund the Financial Literacy Club for the second year at both Attea and Springman. Approximately 20–25 students were members of the club at each of the respective schools. The same teachers will lead the club and utilize PriceWaterhouseCooper's curriculum Earn Your Future and expand to other curriculum as well. The addition of local financial guest speakers is planned to be incorporated into curriculum this year. This club would run for approximately 2 months. A field trip to the Chicago Federal Reserve is also contemplated.

PACK (Phonemic Awareness for Children Kit) the Sack

The purpose of this activity is to foster a love of reading in the home while building phonemic awareness skills and reading comprehension strategies. It is also a direct way for the whole family to become active participants in their child's learning. "Pack the Sack" will create a set of book 'sacks,' one for each child in the Early Childhood program. The sacks provide students and parents with a variety of age-appropriate books along with guided questions to foster reading comprehension.

Henking Family Literacy Program

The main goal of this program is to increase bilingual parents' skills and confidence in their role as mentors to their children and to promote knowledgeable, active participation in their children's education. The program takes place at the Glenview Public Library and includes literacy-based activities for both parents and children. Families begin the program over the summer and continue through the school year. This is a continuation of programs from past years that have proven to be very successful.

Reader's Institute at Teacher's College

This grant seeks funding for teachers to attend an esteemed five-day institute at Teacher's College in New York that will tackle curriculum development and planning in the teaching of reading. The materials for this curriculum have already been purchased for all teachers at Lyon; the institute allows these teachers to dig deeper into their understanding of the teaching of reading.

Engaging Student Readers in Meaningful Independent Reading

When students engage in independent reading with systematic teacher support, we expect to see significant growth in students' reading performance and in their confidence as readers. Therefore, this grant provides professional development for teachers to learn new conferencing strategies and management systems to make independent reading a meaningful opportunity for academic growth for our most at-risk students. In addition, this grant seeks to purchase roughly 360 books that represent a wide range of high quality, interesting literature at lower reading levels so that struggling students can find their "just right" books.

Science Olympiad

This grant request allows funding to continue for the Science Olympiad program at Attea and Springman. Science Olympiad is a multiple school competition where a group of students compete in 23 different hands-on events in the fields of biology, chemistry, earth science, physics, engineering and technology. This grant request supports the purchase of materials, registration in events, and registration with the Illinois Science Olympiad. This grant also includes funding for teacher support and up to \$2,500 per school to help fund the costs of attending the State Science Olympiad tournament. The use of funds may vary based upon the level of parent volunteer versus teacher involvement, materials required, and if one or both schools qualify for the State tournament.

Video Studio in the Science Classroom

The purpose of this grant is to acquire materials that would improve student video creation in middle school science classrooms. These materials would supplement the 1:1 iPad initiative by adding in video equipment that is designed to work with the student iPads. Specifically, this grant requests padcasters and tripods.

Enhancing Students' Exploration, Creativity and Critical Thinking through the Orff Schulwerk Methodology

This grant seeks Orff certification to increase learning opportunities for students in the general music classroom and to provide continued professional development for the general music teachers in District 34. By having an intermediate educator who has gone through the certification process, we can provide meaningful professional development to our K–5 colleagues. All of the materials gained from the training can be shared, instructional methods can be discussed, and the general music teachers can collaborate to build a more cohesive and structured music experience for ALL children in District 34.