



## 2017-2018 Celebrate Innovation Grants

### Elementary Schools – 15 Grants totaling \$33,192

- ***Da Vinci Science Center Field Trips, Kelly Rosario, Curriculum & Instruction, 4th Grade District Wide-*** The Da Vinci Science Center field trips help students master standards-based content and raise their awareness of STEMM careers. This grant money will bring STEMM subjects to life and help prepare students for tomorrow's STEMM careers. Each elementary school will book a field trip for fourth grade, as this is the grade level the Science PSSA takes place. - \$6,000
- ***BrainPop & BrainPop Jr., Julie Schultz, K-5, Cetronia-*** BrainPop & BrainPop Jr. are web based learning tools with an engaging series of videos for elementary students. It is based on presenting information in words, pictures, and sound, which has shown to be more effective than presenting information in words alone. This technological tool would enhance the current curriculum and be both equitable and accessible for all Cetronia students. The website username and password will be made available to all Cetronia teachers and families as well. - \$2,295
- ***Veterans Day Program, Judy Kelly & Karen Brokate, K-5, Jaindl-*** Veterans and currently serving men and women of the families and staff of Fred J. Jaindl Elementary School are invited to attend a Veterans Day program. This program teaches students the history of Veterans Day, our five branches of the U.S. armed forces, patriotic songs, and the importance of honoring these men and women. Those who cannot attend are sent cards made by the students. - \$373
- ***Flat Connections: A Week in the Life, Samantha Ding & Andy McGinniss, 5th Grade, Jaindl-*** Flat Connections is a website subscription that provides unique approaches to online global collaboration. It “flattens” the disconnected classroom to become a global learning environment. Students will use it to communicate, explore global topics, and share ideas and solutions through co-created digital artifacts with a class in another country. It will help students see how children in other parts of the world are affected by the same problem and gain exposure to various ways of thinking and problem solving. - \$378
- ***Build Your Armour, Sheri Deeb, Student Services, 4th & 5th Grade, District Wide*** Build Your Armour™ is a fitness/ nutrition program designed to educate 4th and 5th grade children on the key components to maintain strong immune systems. This grant would allow for each elementary school to participate in this program, which builds over an eight week period to help students gain a basis for wellness. The goal is for the children to learn the importance of fruits, vegetables, beans/legumes, and nuts/seeds in maintaining a healthy body. The importance of different types of exercise will be explored and how crucial "recovery" time is to helping our bodies repair and heal. The curriculum is also

designed with the goal of fostering discussion about diet amongst families by providing recipes to be made at home. - \$2,400

- **Fogelsville KinderGARDEN, Justina Verile, Amanda Keller, Julie Lapp & Megan Marra, Kindergarten, Fogelsville-** Gardening offers hands-on, experiential learning opportunities in a wide array of disciplines, including the natural and social sciences, math, language arts, visual arts, and nutrition. Our goal is to provide students with engaging learning opportunities in our “KinderGARDEN,” which cannot be done in the classroom. The garden will also provide a mindful learning space for the rest of the school community. - \$828
- **Flexible Seating, Chelsea Macdonald, Learning Support, Ironton-** Flexible seating allows children to learn in a variety of postures, including lying down, moving, leaning, bouncing, perching, or even squatting. By purchasing different types of seating, students are able to have choice in the classroom to do their best learning. - \$222
- **Sensory Integration Fidgets & Manipulatives, Todd Beidleman, Guidance, Jaiindl-** Students are increasingly exhibiting the need for tactile and kinesthetic devices which will provide students with the opportunity to increase their focus and improve learning. There are many students who do not qualify for school-based services who still have a need for help. Often times these students are labeled as disruptive and/or off-task when in reality they have tactile/kinesthetic needs that aren't being met. Through the grant, students will be given the opportunity to appropriately channel this by using the small gadgets to meet their tactile/kinesthetic needs so they may focus on instruction and learning. - \$321
- **Calm the Senses, Lori Schellhamer, 4th& 5th Grade Learning Support, Kratzer-** By offering a variety of sensory tools to students based on his or her individual needs, students will be able to learn in their best environment. This grant utilizes sensory equipment such as fidgets, weighted/pressure vests, therapy putty, seat cushions, pencil weights, foot bands, velcro vests and visual timers to be used during class time. - \$800
- **Reading Event (Camp-In), Principal Karen Dopera, K-5, Schnecksville-** The reading camp-in event was held in 2016 for 225 students as an after school event. It was a huge success! In 2017, every student who attends will received a new book, snack, drink and piece of pizza. Students read books aloud, sing songs and listen to guest readers all while snug in sleeping bags in the gym. The goal is to foster students who love to read as they are more likely to practice reading on their own and become better readers. - \$750
- **Flexible Seating, Daneen Dex & Sharon Iacobelli, Special Education, Schnecksville** By integrating flexible seating into the classroom you create a comfortable environment where students are engaged, behavior issues are minimal, student learning is maximized, students are more active and alert, their sensory input is attained and academic scores improve! Flexible seating helps students become more self-aware of what types of seating and environment help them learn best. And they're empowered by the opportunity to have choices in a comfortable environment. - \$2,089
- **Flexible Seating, Jillian Szilagyi, 4th Grade, Schnecksville** - Flexible seating provides students with the ability to take responsibility for their learning by creating a classroom environment that is conducive to open collaboration, communication, creativity, critical thinking and building a classroom community. - \$1,126
- **World Premiere/Meet the Composer, Scott Watson, Elementary Instrumental-** A Composer will be commissioned to write a new piece for the combined 5th grade band (all eight buildings) to premiere at our district wide spring concert. In addition to composing

the new music for our students, the composer will work with our students to guest-conduct the piece at the spring concert at PHS. - \$2,100

- **MakerSpace iPad Minis, Elementary Media Specialist, K-5 District Wide-** This grant will provide each Media Center additional iPads, thus allowing more students to access the MakerSpace learning capabilities. The Foundation helped establish the Make Spaces in 2016 in order to provide creative and collaborative learning opportunities and develop students' 21st Century Learning Skills. -\$12,000
- **Cyber Counter Renovation, Donna Reinert, Media Center, Cetronia-** To better utilize space for MakerSpace STEM activities as well as other technologies, School Services will be renovating an area within the Cetronia Media Center, by installing a counter height work space for students. This grant will provide funding for adjustable stools for student seating at the Cyber Counter area. - \$1,500

## **Middle Schools –13 Grants totaling \$22,613**

- **Take a Stand Program, Administration, Alison Thompson & Matt Carlson, 6-8, OMS & SMS-** Bullying in schools is a national concern and an issue that has not circumvented Parkland. The Foundation will support the secondary schools anti-bullying campaign with a motivational speaker and funds to design a unity project, facilitate class chats, coordinate building activities, and use our Change for Change fundraiser to Pay it Forward in our community through the donation of gift cards to customers at local stores. - \$3,500
- **Environmental Lab Station Kits, Christie Schlaner, 8th Grade Science, OMS-** The purpose of obtaining Environmental Science Kits is to create student-centered stations where hands-on lab activities can be performed in our outdoor Environmental Lab. The students will be exploring physical and chemical science as well as connecting their data to the environmental unit. - \$1,406
- **Music Composition Commission, Peter D. Zimmer, Instrumental Music, OMS**  
The commissioning of a composer to create a unique musical composition will not only instill pride in our students and community, but is unifying thread among some of the greatest band programs in our country. A commission is when a band director works with a composer to write a piece of music for a specific ensemble. The composer of the piece then comes to work with the students as the premier draws near. The composer offers insight on the pieces creation, proper performance techniques, and the student's abilities on their instrument. The premier is a publicized event where an audience hears the piece of music for the first time. - \$1,500
- **STEMM in Action-Taking Flight, Dianne Caspersen, 7th Grade Science, OMS**  
STEMM in Action-Taking Flight is a program which will engage students in the areas of aviation technology, physics, math and engineering. Through research, design and creative engineering, students will learn the basic forces of flight while creating and testing models. Students will construct a vertical wind tunnel and experiment with various designs of altered paper cones. Students will then soar through the clouds while using a flight simulator. To study unmanned aerial systems, students will learn the latest rules from the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration), concerning unmanned aircraft. Careers in aviation will be at the forefront. Jobs are growing by leaps and bounds in the areas of unmanned

aerial systems, pilots, aircraft technicians and aerospace technology experts. A member of AOPA, (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association), will speak about the variety of careers in aviation and aerospace technology. - \$1,302

- **Total Immersion with Google Cardboard, Noel Mahmood, 7th Grade Science, Computer Fair, SMS**- Virtual Reality is here with Google Cardboard-compatible headsets that use a smartphone as the “computer.” Bringing the global experience into the classroom with immersive images and videos can enhance lessons and is informative and engaging for students. In addition, there are apps that allow students to create their own 360° images and videos with the smartphone and many online places to host them. Students can share images from their school and community with the world! Tools are also available that allow students to add hotspots to their online images to provide links to additional information about the image for those that view it. This creation of 360° images enhances student skillsets in visual literacy, technology literacy, and attention to audience. - \$500
- **Mic Drop! Using Podcasting as an Instructional Tool, Alaina Swartz, 6-8 Music, SMS** Podcasting engages students as they conceptualize, create and produce their own narratives, all while reinforcing Language Arts Assessment Anchors. This grant will help fund the purchase of Blue Snowball USB Microphones for the recording of podcasts in the classroom, particularly during our I&E period. - \$389
- **After-School Assistance Program Incentives, Sara Yazujian-Wehr, 8th Grade, SMS**- The After School Assistance Program (ASAP) serves at-risk students who need additional assistance with homework, studying, and organization. The funds will provide supplies for the kids who attend. The students will be motivated to improve their study skills and work habits, which will ultimately lead to greater success in the classroom. - \$500
- **Beyond Conventional with Final Cut Pro, Noel Mahmood, Computer Fair, SMS**- iMovie is a great starting point for editing and creating movies. Final Cut Pro is what movie studios use to edit their movies. It's time for a higher caliber of our video projects. Teachers and students will be able to use this software to create engaging, professional videos. -\$324
- **eXcellence in Period X, Alyssa Fahringer, Dean Lewis, Noel Mahmood & Kerin Steigerwalt, 7th Grade, SMS** - To help our students get the most out of our remediation and enrichment Period X, our team is requesting tools that will enhance the projects we've developed this year, and allow students to make real-world projects that use green screens, microphones, and other tools to apply mathematical, reading, and writing skills in a meaningful way, encouraging students to work to their highest potential. - \$1,460
- **I&E PERIOD Ratios to Create Depth, Kerri Griffin, 6-8, Art, SMS** - Students will create artwork in which they will demonstrate how proportion is affected by portrayal of depth and/or size/scale ratio within the picture plane. They will then render the drawing with pen and ink techniques and add color to create a sense of 3-dimensionality. Students will be able to create a sense of depth in their drawing by varying the proportions of the subject matter in their illustration by decreasing or increasing the ratio of one subject drawn to another. Students will be able to use pen and ink techniques to further create the illusion of 3-dimensional objects. -\$856
- **Stand Up for Learning, Dina Dewald, 6th Grade, SMS**- Four stand up, adjustable height desks will be purchased for the benefit of students to accommodate students with a need for movement, especially students with ADHD. Studies continue to support stand up desks for students in a classroom. - \$1,426

- **Art Text Positive Word Mural, Christian Eggleston, Art, SMS-** The mural project will motivate students to "Take a Stand: Stay Positive!" The purpose of the project is to create a positive school atmosphere through art and word. The subject of the mural is words that encourage students to think positive. The result of the project would be a mural that will be displayed in the hallway. - \$1,500
- **Mobile Innovation Station, Lauren Will & Samantha Edwards, 6-8, OMS & SMS**  
The Mobile Innovation Station contains equipment that ALL teachers in each middle school can sign out and utilize within their classrooms. They can take multiple items or just one item at a time to explore collaboration, critical thinking, communication and creativity with their students. This will provide teachers with the tools necessary to enhance student-centric learning. - \$7,950

## **High School –12 Grants totaling \$28,382**

- **Engineering Club VEX Robotics Competition, Robert Yocum, Technology & Engineering**  
The Engineering Club has participated in the VEX Robotics Competition for the past six years. The club has grown from a few boys in 2012 to 3 full Robotic teams with a mix of boys and girls and strong culture. The Foundation will continue to support the improvement and growth of the program through the purchasing of new robotics equipment. - \$2,374
- **Parkland Post Prom, Jude Sandt & Parkland Post Prom Committee, Administration**  
Post Prom provides students a safe, drug and alcohol free event, which helps them avoid the many temptations and consequences during the high risk time of night after the Prom concludes. Students who attend Post Prom are able to participate in free activities, win prizes, and be entertained throughout the evening in this safe environment with their classmates until 5:00am. The school district allocates resources and personnel to the event and the Foundation will help to defray costs to provide students with a safe experience that they will remember forever. - \$1,500
- **High School Mindfulness, Brenda DeRenzo, Student Services** – This grant will create mindfulness groups for students with Dr. Christine Gorigoitia. Dr. Christy is currently training teachers in the art of mindfulness. The teachers then incorporate it into their class. Mindfulness consists of learning a variety of techniques to calm and regulate one's self. It's proven to improve attention, focus and overall health and well-being. - \$3,000
- **Games for Speech-Language Carryover, Donna Wendling & Holly Lotti, Speech and Language** - Due to a recent increase in the special education population in Parkland School District, limited resources are available for speech/language therapy sessions. The target population for this project includes students with varying disabilities, including low intellectual functioning and Autism. Due to level of disability, many of these students are functioning on an elementary level and have limited focus and attention span. Based on therapist observation, these students benefit from activities/games that promote active engagement in order to maximize participation and make progress on IEP goals. - \$525
- **Christine Bass PHS Chorale Clinic, Frank Anonia, Music-** Ms. Christine Bass, Assistant Professor of Choral Music & Music Education at Temple University, will provide a three-hour clinic for the Parkland High School Chorale. Ms. Bass will work with the Chorale on

their current repertoire and will build in all the elements for the performance of a piece from the onset of their learning. - \$500

- **Emergency Medical Technician Books, Eric Gopen, 12th Grade Science-** This is the pilot of an Emergency Medical Technician course at Parkland High School. In partnership with the Cetronia Ambulance Corp., students can become certified EMTs in school - \$1,500
- **Virtual Reality Innovation, Joan Vannatta, 9-12 World Language Department-** Virtual Reality head-sets will be utilized to teach students and reach them in specific target languages- American Sign Language, French, Latin, German, , Spanish, Arabic, etc. Each student can travel abroad virtually and gain a personal experience in language, culture, and heritage - \$1,824
- **Every School Needs a Mascot, Jude Sandt & Sami Jo Crivellaro, Administration-** The Parkland School District has worked very hard to establish a brand of excellence in academics, the arts, and athletics. Having a Trojan mascot as the focal point of these areas will help to build school spirit and provide an easily identifiable symbol for Parkland and its brand of excellence. Currently, the Trojan costume features a heavy helmet and chest plate that students do not want to wear. In fact, this past school year, no high school students were interested in auditioning to be the mascot. Getting a more costume will allow for male and female students to audition for the role. - \$1,500
- **World Language Week, Kellie O'Donnell, 9-12 Grade World Language Department-** World Language Week celebrates diversity, promotes cultural awareness and language learning, and to increase our student's global knowledge. With Parkland's diverse population it also gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their own cultural pride and teach others about their traditions. - \$2,310
- **Multicultural/Anti-racism Workshop, Nicole McGalla & June Sandt, Schoolwide-** Funding will allow a speaker to deliver training to class leaders, student council and multicultural leadership club officers as well as teachers and administrative staff on how to best address the changing demographics and growing diversity in our school. We strive to operate in an inclusive environment, but we recognize that hurtful sentiments do happen in school. We hope that diversity training will help our school to be an inclusive environment for everyone. - \$5,000
- **Experiencing Literature in Virtual Reality, John Greth, Jarrod Neff & Sean Bodner, 10-12 English & AP Comparative Government-** The class will be creating new and exciting 360 degree video content through an immersive environment that enables the students to demonstrate their mastery of the content in the most advanced form of digital storytelling in a professional and contemporary way. - \$4,445
- **Mobile Innovation Station, Lauren Will & Samantha Edwards, 9-12 Teachers**  
The Mobile Innovation Station contains equipment that ALL teachers in each school can sign out and utilize within their classrooms. They can take multiple items or just one item at a time to explore collaboration, critical thinking, communication and creativity with their students. This will provide teachers with the tools necessary to enhance student-centric learning. - \$3,904

## District Wide – 7 Grants totaling \$20,194

- ***Heroes and Helpers, Diane Joy Irish, Home & School Visitor / Pupil Services, District Wide***  
The Heroes and Helpers program is a shopping experience between students and uniformed police officers. Students who are experiencing difficulty in their home or family life are provided with gift cards to do holiday shopping for their family members. The program fosters strong community relationships by pairing students with law enforcement personnel. - \$1,500
- ***Be The Bridge, Diane Joy Irish, Home & School Visitor / Pupil Services, District Wide***  
Be The Bridge strives to support the non-academic needs of students by providing supplemental food, assistance with homeless families in obtaining stable housing, mentorship opportunities, and increasing knowledge of existing social services. When a student's basic needs are met they are better able to attend school regularly, concentrate on academic demands, and refrain from disruptive behaviors. - \$1,500
- ***Rotating Art Collection Framing, Nancy Nahrgang, Elementary Art Department Chair, Art, District Wide-*** Matting and framing for Elementary School artwork to be on display in the Administration building as part of the rotating collection. It will be professionally displayed for all parents and guests who visit the building. - \$1,500
- ***Rotating Art Collection Framing, Kaye Coval, 6-12 Art, District Wide-*** Each year the art department collects works from the Middle Schools and the High School to be framed, hung and displayed in the Administration building. The pride and accomplishment of getting your art work chosen is tremendous. It will display the very best that we have in Parkland from sixth through twelfth grades. - \$1,500
- ***Parkland STEMM Academies, Jason Henry, 6-12 Grades, District Wide***  
The Parkland STEMM Academy is a summer program designed to provide exploration in STEMM career fields. There are 10 different sessions that run in the month of July for middle school and high school students. The projects featured in this camp are not just in the science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine contents. The projects are a critical piece to our Career Readiness Standards and are aligned in all contents including social studies, music, arts, world languages, and health. - \$10,194
- ***Driver Safety Award Program, Tony Naradko, Transportation, District Wide-*** Because our bus drivers encounter constant and unforeseen difficulties in the execution of their duties, a Safety Awards Program was instituted to recognize their safe driving habits. The Foundation will provide financial support to grow this program to continue to motivate drivers and show them our appreciation for the huge responsibility they take on of transporting our children. - \$1,500
- ***ELLevations, Marge Evans, ESL, District Wide-*** ELLevations is an online platform which pulls together multiple pieces of student data in one location for our ESL students. Funding will be used for a one time set-up fee for data services. These services include the process fee to configure the ELLevation data base and the set up plan for the tech teams. - \$2,500