



2018-2019 Celebrate Innovation Grants

The Foundation Board of Directors awarded 47 “Celebrate Innovation” grants totaling **\$134,660** to Parkland School District with the intent of enriching the current curriculum to benefit a wide range of students, staff and community members.

Districtwide – \$51,314

- ***Parkland STEMM Academies, Jason Henry, 6-12 Grades, Districtwide***
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. - \$9,315
- ***Heroes and Helpers, Diane Joy Irish, Home & School Visitor / Student Services, Districtwide***
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 / Student Services, Districtwide***
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
- ***OSS Reinforcement Materials, John Pfeiffer, Troxell***
This grant will provide educational videos that will be used to reinforce and model positive behavior strategies for students assigned to the out-of-school suspension program.- \$209
- ***Rotating Art Collection Framing, Nancy Nahrgang, Elementary Art Department Chair, Art, Districtwide***
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, Districtwide***
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 artwork chosen is tremendous. It will display the very best that we have in Parkland from sixth through twelfth grades. - \$1,500
- ***Driver Safety Award Program, George Husak, Transportation, Districtwide***
Our bus drivers encounter constant and unforeseen difficulties while transporting over 9,000 students a day. 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. - \$750
- ***Parkland Behavioral Strategies Program, Abby Rutch, Cyber Learning Program***
Students in the Parkland Cyber Learning program and the Parkland Behavioral strategies program will be given four height adjustable desks to give these students the option of flexible seating. The students are in one classroom all day and this will give them the option to stand while working on coursework, thus providing physical and emotional health benefits as well as academic benefits. \$1,140
- ***Mobile Makerspace, Lauren Will & Samantha Edwards, K-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-centred learning. - \$33,900

High School –\$10,505

- ***Electrify Your Strings, Brian Mishler, Senior High Orchestra***
Mark Wood, violinist for the Trans-Siberian orchestra, and his band will come to the school to work with students followed by a performance with the students. The students will learn about string technique, improvisation, memorization, performance skills, and historical perspective, in addition to performing with a world class musician. -\$2,500
- ***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. - \$2,085
- ***Emergency Medical Technician Books, Eric Gopen, 12th Grade Science***
In partnership with the Cetronia Ambulance Corps., students can become certified EMTs in school. The course prepares its students for a National Registry EMT certification. This grant will provide the necessary textbooks to prepare the students to take their EMT certification. - \$1,500
- ***Career opportunities in the Lehigh Valley and Beyond, Mary Zeiner and Andrew Walker, 9th grade English***

Students will select a career, conduct research, determine/explain which 21st century skills are required to be successful, and interview one local professional. They will synthesize information into a PowerPoint presentation. Representatives from the community will be invited to attend a seminar to view/discuss the presentations. -\$345

- ***Podcaster, Elizabeth Smith and Andrea Roposh, English/theater***
The podcaster allows students to work on screen while others are observing them in real time on the television. The students can then airdrop their performance and observe their strengths and weaknesses in their oral communication skills. This will benefit many students who need to record pre-screen auditions including monologues, musical theater selections, dance routines, class projects, and speeches. - \$960.
- ***Fitness Trackers for HWM elective, Chris Bleam, Health/PE 9-12***
We will obtain 10 fitbit trackers for student use in our Healthy Weight Management elective. Students will be able to receive real time feedback regarding exercise intensity and MET/caloric expenditure. This will allow students to adapt their exercise intensity in order to be working in their target range. -\$1,300
- ***Digital Cameras, Christopher Barrett, 10-12***
Digital cameras are needed for Photography classes at the high school. The students will be taught the benefits of using digital cameras to create images. Many different classes including computer art, graphics/animation, and AP Art History will benefit from these cameras. - \$1,815

Middle Schools –\$25,559

- ***STEAMM Expo Project, Christie Schlaner, 8th grade Science OMS***
The purpose of this project is to gather materials for student-centered stations resembling an Expo. Students from OMS will be creating hands-on lessons to teach elementary school students in Parkland the science behind their project or theme. Students will gain skills like creativity, teamwork, organization of a project, dedication, and the ability to work towards a goal. There is a need for student involvement in STEAMM and career awareness in these fields. - \$1,500
- ***Life Science, Jennifer Karetsky, 7th grade science SMS***
Digital microscopes with LCD screens are the next step to taking our science education to the next level, linking our students 'new chromebooks'. The LCD screen encourages our budding scientists to collaborate on their labs, create presentations and projects and discuss what they see. - \$1,440
- ***Da Vinci Science Center Field Trips, Susan Stern, Daniel Christman, Scott Bauer, Becky Adamson, 8th Grade Science, SMS***
The DaVinci Science Center's Career Exploration Days allow students to take an up-close look at STEM careers and speak with STEM professionals. Their exhibits, hands on workshops, and live science shows will engage the students as active participants in the learning process. - \$5,840
- ***Bullying Prevention, 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. - \$3,000

- ***Karen Vadino motivational speaker, Monica Ouly, OMS & SMS staff***
Karen Vadino is a motivational speaker who will present to the middle school administration at their back to school kick off event. This event is a way for the administration to learn to promote a positive climate within the middle school environment. Karen was the keynote speaker at the International Bullying Prevention Association Conference- \$2,400
- ***Graphic Design Redesign, Noel Mahmood, Computer Fair, SMS***
Students will explore like never before with the Apple Pencil on the new iPad Pro. This will give students experience in graphic design which will help them to explore their creativity. In turn it will help them to create a sense of pride and accomplishment when they have the tools and experience necessary to win the computer fair competition.- \$1,042
- ***I&E Depth Illustration, 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. - \$1,119
- ***We are Springhouse Mural, Christian Eggleston, Art, SMS***
The mural project will depict the theme of “We are Springhouse”. The mural will describe our school community, academics, and activities. The purpose is to foster school unity and a positive school climate. The finished mural will serve as a lasting display of Springhouse pride- \$1,500
- ***Document Cameras, Kate Kocsis, 8th grade SMS***
This document camera will allow for increased collaboration, self-correction, and initiative of the students to provide peer assistance. This camera will allow us to project work of the the students in real time to show examples, answer questions, and help make corrections as a class. - \$500
- ***SMS Wolves Den, Kate Kocsis, 6-8 grade***
The Wolves Den at Springhouse is a room in which students and classes can go as a reward for good behavior. This funding will update the space which includes technology, decorations, and furniture. The Wolves Den will continue to benefit students on a daily basis by providing them motivation to do well and behave respectfully. - \$1427
- ***Lehigh Valley Zoo Water Stream Analysis, Heimbach, Orr, Reitnauer, Karetsky, 7th grade SMS***
Students will go to the Lehigh Valley Zoo to participate in their water/stream analysis activities. Their experience will be cross curricular, including the 4Cs of 21st century learning skills, 7th grade science standards dealing with water, environment, biomes, classification, and life science. It will even include math standards. This is a hands on experience for the students to reinforce the 7th grade science curriculum.- \$2,460
- ***Young Student Science Fair (after school science enrichment) Kelly Rosario, 6th grade OMS/SMS***
Parkland student and National Science fair finalist, Sriyaa Suresh started this program that gives sixth grade students the opportunity to learn the skills necessary to be successful in a science fair competition. They meet throughout the year with the sixth grade students to guide them through

the planning and execution of a successful science fair project. The program culminates with an actual science fair competition. This is an invaluable program for young scientists. -\$1500

- ***TI-30XS Multiview, Richard Clee, Kate Koscis, Kevin Hallman, Lauren Cox, SMS 8th grade math***
The four 8th grade math teachers of SMS would like to purchase one classroom set of TI-30XS Multiview calculators. The 8th grade standards are extremely challenging for our most needy students. This calculator has many features that our current calculators do not. We'd like to give our most needy students every advantage to succeed. -\$1,574
- ***Lenovo N21 Chromebook, Kate Kocsis, SMS***
Through the use of technology in the classroom, the teacher will be able to reach students using a variety of teaching methods. Direct instruction will be carried on at the same time as students are involved in a group activity shown through the chromebook. These activities will include both remediation for students who need it or enrichment for students that are ready to be challenged even further.- \$260

Elementary Schools – \$47,283

- ***Book Love: Developing Depth, Stamina, and Passion in Readers, Andrea Marzano, Taryn Gergar, Jessica Holben, Ruth Tice, Nikki Gelfo, Alison Bauer, Kathy Pearson, and Mary Ann Anthony, Elementary Reading Specialists***
The book room in each elementary school needs to be updated to meet the rigor of the PA Core Standards and to provide a variety of fiction and non-fiction materials that will help us meet the district goal of having ALL CHILDREN READING ON GRADE LEVEL by the end of third grade, as well as ADVANCING ALL LEVELS OF READERS at least one grade level in reading each year. This grant will provide multiple copies of the most popular books at each level for every elementary school in the district. - \$8,000
- ***Da Vinci Science Center Field Trips, Kelly Rosario, Curriculum & Instruction, 4th Grade Districtwide***
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. -\$12,000
- ***Fostering Independence and Accountability Through Literacy and "The Daily Five", Daneen Dex, Schnecksville***
"The Daily 5" is a literacy structure that allows for differentiation in the classroom and provides consistency. It is an integrated literacy instruction and classroom management system for use in reading and writing. " The Daily 5"- 1. Read to Self, 2. Read to Someone, 3. Work on Writing, 4. Listen to reading, 5. Word Work. "The Daily 5" is a framework for structuring literacy time so students develop lifelong habits of reading, writing, and working independently. -\$676
- ***Hydroponics, Sharon Iacobelli, Schnecksville***
Tower gardens are perfect for project based learning and provide an excellent opportunity for hands-on learning while engaging, encouraging, and empowering the students. Students will have the opportunity to grow, harvest, and enjoy the product of their own hard work and learning. This is a great tool to promote health and wellness in their school. -\$955

- ***Creative Collaboration STEAM Centers, Jillian Szilagy, Schnecksville***
 This grant will provide STEAM morning bins for students as “morning work”. These STEAM bins will include puzzles, Legos, blocks, Magformers, discs, tangrams, geoboards, and beads to scaffold critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. - \$941
- ***Sensory in the Classroom, Judith Luengen, Kratzer***
 The sensory items requested will help with concentration, focus, anxiety, and overall needs of the students. It will also help us meet certain IEP goals. If a child’s sensory needs are met, they are able to be successful in the classroom. - \$400
- ***Teach the Way they learn best, Chelsea Macdonald Bashore, Ironton***
 This grant will help students achieve their IEP goals by providing flexible seating, organization, and real life math problem solving (specifically counting money). -\$521
- ***Cool Down Kits, Christine Bankos, Krazer***
 These cool down kits will be used in conjunction with the mindfulness teachings. Students will learn that it is acceptable to take a break at times in order to center themselves and be able to deal with their emotions in a healthy and appropriate way. These kits will contain stress balls, noise cancelling headphones, fidget items, possibly weighted blankets, along with printable signs, cards, and tips to help our students who need a quiet space within their classroom to calm down during the school day. A timer will be utilized so that students know it is a brief intervention which allows them time to refocus on the classwork at hand. -\$300
- ***Kindle Club E-Readers, Joan Krem and Debra Newhard, Kernsville***
 Students in grades 3-5 are chosen based on their STAR scores to participate in the Kindle Club. Students read a book on the Kindle that challenges them and are then required to respond with questions using Activelylearn.com. The goal is to see progress in ELA scores with text dependent analysis, vocabulary, showing evidence and communicating with peers. - \$3,000
- ***Elmo Visual Presenter, Geneine Parr, Cetronia***
 Through the use of an Elmo visual presenter, students will be able to dive into a text. By being able to project and annotate with the teacher the students will be to access deeper thinking. The Elmo will be used in all subject areas, including the enrichment and intervention period. \$459
- ***Using Document Cameras to Enhance learning, Michele Geczi, Brian Hahn, and Nicole Mandry, Schnecksville***
 A document camera in each first grade class will be used to increase student engagement by using student work as models for writing, mathematical problem solving, and presentations. Document cameras allow teachers to utilize additional resources to present visual models for learning. - \$1,072
- ***Technology Speaks Volumes, Lori Schellhamer, Kratzer***
 Three Ipads will be given to enhance many aspects of the curriculum. They will allow extra math practice, handwriting practice, reading comprehension, reading fluency, letter naming fluency apps, first sound fluency apps, phonemic segmentation fluency, and calming techniques apps to be used as a break for when students get frustrated. - \$1,500

- ***Xylophones and Glockenspiels and Metallophones, Oh My!, Alaina Swartz, Kernsville***
Mallet instruments are an engaging addition to music class. Instruments help reinforce music reading concepts and can be used in a variety of ways, like improvisation, composition, and more- plus they are fun to play!-\$ 1,170
- ***Shark Jam- Ukulele for the Schnecksville Music Classroom, Christine Lerew, Schnecksville***
Every child at Schnecksville will get to play the Ukulele. It is a great way to have students not only learn about the elements of music but apply them. Playing a ukulele engages students in learning 100% of the time. The students will only need to learn a few chords to be able to play a substantial amount of music. - \$1,338
- ***Kick Bands Boundy Desk Fidget Band, Wendy Rice, Ironton***
90 kick bands for third grade students will help students focus and will hopefully increase student success in all curriculum areas. Elementary students need to move and they can become distracted or disruptive if they aren't able to. Kick bands allow students the necessary movement to kick and fidget their feet while remaining seated and completing required classwork in a more timely and productive manner. - \$1,350
- ***Build Your Armour, Sheri Deeb, Student Services, 4th & 5th Grade, Districtwide***
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
- ***Sphero Minis Makerspace Set, Elementary Media Specialist, K-5 Districtwide***
This grant will provide each Media Center a classroom set of Sphero Minis, thus allowing more students to access the MakerSpace learning capabilities. The Spheros Minis are small, app enabled robotic spheres about the size of a ping-pong ball, with an embedded gyroscope, accelerometer, LED lights, and interchangeable protective shells. The spheres, including peripherals and a corresponding education app, incorporate coding, robotics and technology with collaborative STEAM activities for students. The Foundation helped establish the Maker Spaces in 2016 in order to provide creative and collaborative learning opportunities and develop students' 21st Century Learning Skills. -\$11,200