



Parkland School District Education Foundation  
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## **Parkland School District Education Foundation Awards 47 Grants Totaling \$134,660 for 2018-2019 School Year Projects**

*"Celebrate Innovation" Grants Benefit Parkland Students*

(Allentown) – As a culminating activity in the seventh year of the Parkland School District Education Foundation's existence, the Foundation Board of Directors awarded 47 "Celebrate Innovation" grants totaling \$134,660 to the Parkland School District with the intent of enriching the current curriculum to benefit a wide range of students, staff and community members.

In total, 17 awards were given to the eight Elementary schools, 14 went to the two Middle Schools and 7 were awarded to Parkland High School. Additionally, 9 grants will serve the District at large. With the addition of these grants, the Foundation has given over \$875,720 back to the District since its inception in 2011.

Funding for the grants was made possible by staff contributions and by local business and community-wide support for the school district. In May, a fundraising Gala netted more than \$76,000 in support of the Foundation's mission. Superintendent Richard T. Sniscak said, "I could not be more pleased with the widespread support of our programs, students and teachers. We thank everyone who took the time to apply for a grant and all those that donated to the cause this year. Special thanks also go out to the Foundation's Board of Directors, the Allocations Committee and all of the volunteers who helped make the program possible."

### **ABOUT THE CELEBRATE INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM**

The "Celebrate Innovation" grant program was introduced at the start of the 2011-12 school year to the Parkland staff. In January, the opportunity for staff to apply for a "Celebrate Innovation" grant occurred with a deadline of April 1. In May, the Superintendent's Cabinet scored the grants for "need," the Curriculum & Instruction Department scored the grants for "fit", and a committee of Foundation volunteers reviewed the grants for clarity, purpose, measurable benefits, collaboration between parents, teachers and other community members, sustainability, and the range of people that the grant would benefit. The rubric offered the possibility for a grant application to score a total of 100 points. In total, 72 grant applications worth approximately \$177,148 were filed by staff this year.

The Parkland School District Education Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization whose primary goal is to raise funds to enhance the academic, arts and athletic programs for the benefit of students and staff in the Parkland School District in order to preserve a tradition of excellence and help build the dreams of children in our community.