



Parkland School District Education Foundation  
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## **The Parkland Education Foundation Announces \$1M Given to Parkland Schools Since 2011 Inception**

*\$124,477 in Celebrate Innovation Grants to Parkland Schools this Year*

(Allentown) – As a culminating activity in the 8th year of the Parkland School District Education Foundation’s existence, the Foundation Board of Directors awarded 59 **Celebrate Innovation** grants totaling \$124,477 to the Parkland School District with the intent of enriching the current curriculum to benefit a wide range of students, staff and community members. This donation brings the Foundation’s total support to more than \$1M given back to Parkland Schools since its inception in 2011. Support has included 390 staff grants and support for capital improvements such as TV Studio equipment for all schools, and engineering lab machinery upgrades, the turf field installation and new pool liner at Parkland High School.

Every student in the Parkland School District benefits from the grants given back to the District by the Parkland Education Foundation. From Da Vinci Science Center field trips, to elementary ukuleles, middle school art supplies, High School Robotics equipment and special LCD microscopes, the Parkland Education Foundation has provided opportunities to Parkland students that aren’t possible under normal public school budgets.

Funding for the grants was made possible by staff payroll contributions and by local business and community-wide support for the school district. In May, a fundraising Gala netted more than \$91,000 in support of the Foundation’s mission.

Superintendent Richard T. Sniscak said, “I could not be more pleased the announcement of this milestone and 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. Any Parkland Staff member can apply for a Celebrate Innovation grant. 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 potential “impact to the students” and the Parkland community. In total, 73 grant applications worth approximately

\$148,000 were filed by staff this year. The Parkland Education Foundation is so proud to be able to honor 80% of its staff member requests. These grants enable our staff to come up with ways to enhance the educational experience of their students.

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.