

Because of generous contributions from each Home and School Association, the Interschool Council Mini Grant Program was able to award \$9,700 to fully or partially fund 28 projects in 2011-12. The review committee included Ann Kirschner, Jeannie Hollander, Anne Horn, Vicki Peetros, Colleen Kunz, Jennifer Bale-Kushner, Ellen Keefe and Steve Barbato, Director of Elementary Education.

1. Belmont Hills, *Scores That Raise Scores*, led by Colleen Holmes will use books and CDs that enhance early literacy skills and music appreciation.
2. At Cynwyd, Wendy Kimmel will use an external hard drive to store photographs and movies of student art work from the *Americas Art Show*.
3. *Make New Friends, but Keep the Old* is a grant at Cynwyd where Terri Tyler will use games and activities on 1st and 4th grade "Buddy Days" to help foster communication and neutral and pro-social behavior.
4. *Wii Love Music and Movement*, a proposal from music teacher Anne Sterner-Porreca will utilize a Wii console and Wii music software to teach music, rhythm and theory to elementary students at Cynwyd.
5. At Gladwyne, Lori McCrudden will use an eReader with reluctant 2nd grade readers to increase fluency and comprehension as she implements her grant titled *Book Nook*.
6. At Penn Valley 2nd grade teachers, Janie Partridge and Susan Rose, will use a grant to continue their implementation of the *Responsive Classroom* approach, they will also begin to help other teachers implement the techniques and finally will create a CARES committee to encourage the school-wide adoption of the program.
7. Kevin Bray and the students at Penn Valley will use the inspiration of Nepalese prayer flags and the poetry of Langston Hughes to create flags that will be displayed in the Philadelphia *Dream Flags Project*.
8. "I will take Espanol for \$500 Alex." The Spanish students at Penn Valley will learn their vocabulary playing *Spanish Jeopardy*, a proposal from Spanish teacher Amanda Claussen.
9. At Merion, Jan Swenson will create a set of *Circuit Boards* to allow 4th grade students to discover how to light a light bulb, buzz a buzzer and create other projects using electricity.
10. *From Snack to Soil*, a grant from 2nd grade teacher Jennie Atienza, will create a composting station to teach students about composting left over snack food. The soil created by the project will be used in the school garden.
11. Merion Elementary might be a little louder next year. Music teacher, Marita McCormick, will implement *Bucket Band: Discovering Rhythm and Music in Everyday Objects*. A collection of percussion instruments made from everyday hardware and recycled materials.
12. At Penn Wynne, Sarah Ortiz and Shannon Quinn will use yoga with 3rd grade classes in a grant titled *Mindful Pupils*. They will provide "yoga breaks" to channel the need for physical activity into a calm and focused energy good for learning.
13. The *No Place for Hate Playground* will be implemented by Anita Deasey, gym teacher at Penn Wynne. She will build a collection of playground equipment that encourages team building and minimizes unstructured time in order to help prevent bullying and other negative social behavior.
14. At Bala Cynwyd, art teachers Beverly Russof and Christina Poplawski, will use 3 dimensional mask molds with 7th graders to highlight the art of other cultures in a grant titled *World Art Masks*.
15. *As the World Turns* will allow Kelly McDermott, Kit Malatack, and Deb Bosin to build a collection of young adult fiction books with multicultural themes.
16. Rachel Nichols, Jennifer Ekert and David Willis will explore contemporary dystopian fiction with 8th grade literature circles in a grant titled *Our Perfect World*.
17. Music teacher, Jenny Neff, will implement *Jazz and Creativity* a grant that will use the genre of Jazz to teach improvisation, music, theory and Black History to band students.
18. *BCMS Gets Schooled* is a grant from Kelly McDermott and Rachel Nichols. They will implement the Olweous Bullying Program in advisories. This is a literature based anti-bullying program.
19. At Welsh Valley Marybeth Raidy and John VSoske will build a collection of local primary sources to be used in 7th grade social studies class. This will allow the student to understand that *All History is Local*.
20. Cheryl Langdon will enhance the Welsh Valley *Mentoring Program* with mini grant funds to support activities and events that build upon the mentees connection to a caring role model.

21. 8th grade English teacher Janet Chung will implement *My World* at Welsh Valley. This will allow students to question, evaluate, challenge and manipulate messages of the visual world and use this medium to influence their local community.
22. *Internet Safety* a grant submitted by Alexandra Seherlis, Deb Wolensky-Chiaradonna, Marcia Goldstein, Gina Virkler, Barbara Serratore and Leslie Melman will design and develop a "common experience" internet safety program which will be implemented at both middle schools.
23. Betty Corcoran and Patti Rooney will take Welsh Valley 7th graders *Beyond the Textbook*. This grant will build a collection of historical and nonfiction books to be used in both social studies and language arts classes. The books will be geared to all reading levels and will allow history to come alive.
24. *Science is Nonfiction* will build a collection of nonfiction science trade books to be used in 7th grade science classes. This grant will be implemented by Christopher Lewis and Sharon Schindler and will allow 7th graders at Welsh Valley to increase their interest and engagement in science.
25. 8th grade challenge teacher Bernadette Bartholomew, will use the graphic novel *Maus (part 1 and 2)* to teach students about the Holocaust.
26. At Harriton, Robert Schwartz, A.P. Physics teacher will receive a classroom set of "Calculus for AP Physics C and Beyond." This text book will allow a student who has not yet taken calculus to obtain enough supplemental material to understand and comprehend the A.P. Physics curriculum.
27. At Lower Merion, Mary Kirchner will establish a *World Language Day* for the Sophomore class. The day will include activities related to both language and culture.
28. Sara Nemoy, at Lower Merion will purchase a *Spanish Verb Wall*. The Verb Wall presents students with verb endings both sequentially and randomly to aid in communication and retention.