

2019-20 ISC Mini-Grant Funded Projects

All LMSD Home and School Associations and the Education Foundation of Lower Merion generously contributed to the Interschool Council Mini Grant Program. This year's program resulted in the funding of 28 projects, of which 20 were fully and 8 were partially funded, for a total amount of \$12,800. A special thank you to the members of the Mini Grant Review Committee for all of their insightful input in awarding the following projects:

In the **Elementary Schools**, the following ISC Mini Grants have been awarded to enrich our youngest LMSD students:

- BELMONT HILLS ELEMENTARY: Kristin Lawson's **LEGO STEM** project will provide LEGO STEM kits for students to be able to explore and challenge themselves during their free time. *Total Funding: \$457*
- CYNWYD ELEMENTARY: Michael Tavani's "**Seen vs. Unseen**" - **Integrated Curriculum for Meaningful Learning** will add an element of art to his integrated lesson plan, allowing students to express and better understand their perceptions of the world. *Total Funding: \$350*
- CYNWYD ELEMENTARY: Karen Salladino's **Intersection of Art and Science Mural** will create a mural with a focus on the intersection of art and science. *Total Funding: \$500*
- GLADWYNE ELEMENTARY: Rebecca Jones's **Beat Blocks: Building Creative Minds Through Music** will use Mega Blocks to teach rhythm and note values in different meters to young musicians. *Total Funding: \$158*
- GLADWYNE ELEMENTARY: Samantha Mancini's **Monarch KinderGARDEN** will receive a hose to water the plants that attract butterflies in the Kindergarten playground. *Total Funding: \$98*
- GLADWYNE ELEMENTARY: Riva Rothenberger's **STEM Bins** will provide plastic containers filled with simple engineering manipulatives to use with open ended STEM activities. *Total Funding: \$130*
- GLADWYNE ELEMENTARY: Melissa Stagliano's **SuperFlex: A Super Hero Social Thinking Curriculum** will help first grade teachers provide strategies to effectively develop positive and healthy social skills. *Total Funding: \$499*
- MERION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Wendy Phillips's **Increasing Students Social and Emotional Development through Bibliotherapy** will purchase books to support student's social and emotional development in both special education and two general education classrooms. *Total Funding: \$308*
- MERION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Alexis Vastardis's **Exploring Social Skills** will provide students with Autism materials to supplement the social thinking curriculum with creative avenues to practice, review, enrich and extend existing curriculum. *Total Funding: \$650*
- MERION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Alexis Vastardis's **Social Thinking Extension** will provide students with Autism materials that supplement the current social thinking curriculum to help them develop their social-emotional thinking skills. *Total Funding: \$500*
- PENN VALLEY ELEMENTARY: Carol Burgos' **Jumbie Jam Steel Drum Band** will utilize steel drums for instructional use in music classes, chorus concerts and school musicals. *Total Funding: \$960*
- PENN VALLEY ELEMENTARY: Christopher Vaccaro's **Hydroponic Gardening in the Classroom - Part 2** will add a mobile hydroponic system to the current garden, teaching students about sustainable practices. *Total Funding: \$152*
- PENN WYNNE ELEMENTARY: Lisa Isenberg's **Lego Wall** will expand a makerspace area to include a Lego wall for additional student expression and exploration. *Total Funding: \$225*
- PENN WYNNE ELEMENTARY: Cindy Murray's **Flexible Seating** will provide various seating options to encourage a cooperative and engaging learning environment. *Total Funding: \$758*
- PENN WYNNE ELEMENTARY: Brahin Tabb's **Music Therapy in Library** will purchase a CD music system for the library to promote a calming environment for students. *Total Funding: \$180*

In our **Middles Schools**, ISC Mini Grants are benefitting students through the following awards:

- BALA CYNWYD MIDDLE SCHOOL: Katie Sullivan's **Relaxation and Wellness in Middle School** will create a calm, comfortable waiting area with unique puzzles, fidgets and sensory relaxation tools for students visiting the health office. *Total Funding: \$461*
- WELSH VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL: Carol Chung's **Sensory Tools** will utilize various sensory integration tools to increase engagement and reduce hyperactivity in Special Ed population at the school. *Total Funding: \$467*
- WELSH VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL: Sarah Rittenhouse's **Conversational Jenga** will enable students in class to practice speaking in their target language and engage kinesthetic learners through Jenga. *Total Funding: \$130*
- WELSH VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL: Kevin Ginsberg's **Movie Voice Overs** will purchase a professional broadcasting and recording microphone set for students to create podcast book reviews, original songs and a movie based on a current social issue. *Total Funding: \$299*
- WELSH VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL: Michael Sullivan's **Aviation Communications** will add pilot communications to his current aviation program. *Total Funding: \$750*

And the ISC Mini Grant Program will fund these amazing projects in LM **High Schools**:

- HARRITON HIGH SCHOOL: Laura Vogel's **3D Solutions in Science** will use a 3D printer to provide students with the opportunity to innovate in the field of science. *Total Funding: \$560*
- HARRITON HIGH SCHOOL: Laura Vogel's **Learning Self Expression and Coding with Robots** will use technology for autistic support classes allowing them to learn basic coding and will support students self expression and an introduction to the robotics. *Total Funding: \$498*
- HARRITON HIGH SCHOOL: Melissa Hecht's **Flow of Genetic Information** will provide Genetic Flow of Information kits which provide hands on experience for students while understanding the process of reading, transcribing and translating DNA into a protein. *Total Funding: \$589*
- HARRITON HIGH SCHOOL: Christine Kiley's **DNA Discovery** will use DNA Discovery kits to provide accurate visualization and hands on experience with the structure of DNA. *Total Funding: \$598*
- HARRITON HIGH SCHOOL: Nyanthen Bantone's **NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers Jr. Chapter)** will purchase starter STEM kits so NSBE High School student mentors can work on various projects with elementary students. *Total Funding: \$750*
- LOWER MERION HIGH SCHOOL: Tom Reed's **buildOn 100 Hours of Service Project** will purchase plaques recognizing students who achieve 100+ hours of service throughout the school year. *Total Funding: \$800*
- LOWER MERION HIGH SCHOOL: Laura Stiebitz's **Costumes and Props for Teaching "Romeo and Juliet"** will use props and costumes to help students engage more deeply with Shakespeare. *Total Funding: \$375*
- LOWER MERION HIGH SCHOOL: Taryn Stevens's **Boogie Boards for Daily Informative Assessments** will provide the ability for quick questions/review with students during Biology class while engaging them through instant feedback. *Total Funding: \$598*