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The Parkland Education Foundation celebrates giving \$143,859 dollars in the form of 56 Celebrate Innovation Grants back to the Parkland School District for the 2020-2021 school year.

(Allentown) – As a culminating activity in the ninth year of the Parkland School District Education Foundation's existence, the Foundation Board of Directors awarded 56 "Celebrate Innovation" grants totaling \$143,859 to the Parkland School District with the intent of enriching the current curriculum to benefit a wide range of students, staff and community members.

The board and review committee worked hard to find grants that will help schools during this difficult time. This year the Foundation chose to invest heavily in our school food pantries, in technology and diversity. The Parkland Education Foundation strives to provide opportunities to Parkland students that aren't possible under normal public-school budgets.

Funding for the grants was made possible by staff contributions and by local business and communitywide support for the school district. 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."

We are so thankful to our community and the support they continue to provide. We live in a place that understands the value of a good education and the importance of investing in it.

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, 77 grant applications worth approximately \$191,840 were filed by staff this year. The Parkland Education Foundation is so proud to be able to honor 72% of its staff member requests. These grants really 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.