



# Mountain Lakes School District

SUPERINTENDENT / BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Monday, June 20, 2022

# MLEF - A Successful Community Partnership



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**2022-23**

**Mountain Lakes**

**Educational**

**Foundation Grant**

**Recipients**

Standard & Microgrants

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# 2022 was a historic fundraising year for MLEF!

- Community support for MLEF initiatives and events was at an all-time high in the 2021-22 school year. Through our annual Casino Night Gala, Tennis Social, 50/50 raffle and ML gear sales (towels, stickers, magnets, masks & lanyards), MLEF is able to award over \$70,000 in grants for the upcoming 2022-23 school year!
- MLEF awards two categories of grant - Standard Grants and Microgrants (awards of \$750 and less are considered Microgrants).
- MLEF will be awarding **8 Standard Grants** and **20 Microgrants** for the 2022-23 school year!

# MLEF Grant Application Process

- MLSD Administration sent out grant applications on behalf of MLEF to all educators, support staff and administration in May, with a one month-long window for applying for grants.
- All four schools in the district had multiple submissions for grants (for the first time!) as well as several grants representing educational clubs and initiatives benefiting all students in our educational community.
- The MLEF Board voted for grants with a two-scale system, having each member rank the priority of funding on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being high priority) for grants and then on a second scale, ranking the order of funding based on the number of grants submitted. All ballots were confidential.
- The full details and list of awardees will be available on the MLEF website.

# 2022-23 MLEF Microgrant Highlights

## Lake Drive School

- ★ **Literacy For Everyone, K-8**  
\$749 has been awarded to teacher  
Teresa Fiorina.

*Many of our hearing impaired students struggle with Literacy. In the early grades, making reading meaningful is often key to helping students learn the reading process and to develop comprehension skills. Interactive, engaging lessons are pivotal.*

## Briarcliff School

- ★ **For the Love of Reading, 6th Grade**  
\$750 has been awarded to teacher  
Jennifer Peify.

*Students thrive when given the chance to choose a book, discuss with peers, and demonstrate understanding using a variety of platforms. The growth I witness throughout the year is tremendous. I commonly hear comments such as, "I never liked reading and now I'm good at it and love to read." Priceless. Even more books would certainly make a positive difference to many of our 6th graders.*

# 2022-23 MLEF Microgrant Highlights

## Wildwood School

- ★ **Expansion of World Language K-4**  
**\$675** has been awarded to teacher **Melissa Dunn**.

*The younger children are exposed to foreign language, the more likely they are to truly acquire the language. Language learning should be a central part of any curriculum. In the 21st Century, knowing a second language is not only beneficial, but necessary for success in life. Learning another language also provides many other benefits including greater academic achievement, greater cognitive development, and more positive attitudes towards other languages and cultures.*

## MLHS

- ★ **In-Class Libraries for Three Classrooms**  
**\$750** has been awarded to teachers **Tania Siebert, Alexis Urriola & Kerriann Ecklund**

*We are working hard at the high school to build up our independent reading program. We would love to create fuller classroom libraries in the English department, as we want to encourage reading for reading's sake. Unlike the texts we read together as a class, we don't want to tie this reading to any high-stakes assessment. We also want to create opportunities for students to talk with one another about what they are reading.*

# 2022-23 MLEF Microgrant Awardees

## MLHS

1. Portable sinks (\$750), Teresa Fiorina, Teacher
2. Environmental Science Lab Equipment (\$400), David Sica, Teacher
3. American Computer Science League (\$710), Stephanie Baier, Teacher
4. Film Art Lighting System (\$462), Patrick Jax Butler, Teacher
5. Pocket Constitutions (\$159), Mark Hoffman, Teacher
6. ASL Video Library (\$400), Susane Alese, Teacher
7. In-class libraries (\$750) to Tania Siebert, Alexis Urriola & Kerriann Ecklund, Teachers
8. Edulastic/EdPuzzle (\$350) to Gisele Gomes, Teacher

## Briarcliff

1. Math Glow Day (\$250), Christina Doolittle, Teacher
2. Special Ed Alternative Seating (\$376), Kaitlin Platt, Teacher
3. For the Love of Reading (\$750), Jennifer Peifly, Teacher
4. 7th grade science goggles (\$100), Danielle Peterson, Teacher
5. Drums & Music (\$750), Ryan Price, Teacher
6. 8th Grade Math Activities (\$200), Michele Major, Teacher
7. Robotics Field Set (\$683), Bethany DeWalt, Teacher

## Lake Drive

1. Gym Equipment (\$450), Anthony Carangelo, Teacher
2. Literacy for Everyone (\$749), Barbara Supple, Teacher
3. ASL Video Library (\$400), Susane Alese, Teacher

## Wildwood

1. STEAM for Kindergarten (\$750), Rebecca Santana, Teacher
2. World Language Expansion (\$675), Melissa Dunn, Teacher
3. Rocalingua for Language (\$250), Melissa Dunn, Teacher



# 2022-23 MLEF Standard Grant Awardees

## MLHS

- ★ **MLHS Atrium & Courtyard**  
**\$35,477 has been awarded to Principal Rick Mangili**

*MLHS continues to work to promote social/emotional learning in every possible capacity. A MLEF standard grant would help to provide much-needed additional capacity for block lunch through expanding the use of the cafeteria courtyard as well as to provide a usable, safe location for an outdoor classroom space at MLHS in the Atrium. This project would provide hundreds of students with access to the outdoors, daily. We would also be able to fully equip our spaces with umbrellas for shade and tables for seating.*

## Wildwood School

- ★ **K, 1st & 2nd Grade & Specials Classroom Zen Zones**  
**\$10,400 has been awarded to Principal Beth Azar & School Counselor Marissa Fleming**

*Zen Zones are spaces in the classroom where students practice coping mechanisms. This year, more than ever, our students need social/emotional support from trusted staff. Providing the essential and necessary tools to help students validate their feelings, self-regulate their emotions, and understand how to release anxiety are just a few targeted skills we will address in our Zen Zones.*

# 2022-23 MLEF Standard Grant Awardees

## MLHS

### ★ **MLHS Wellness Room**

**\$7,475 has been awarded to Student Assistance Counselor Cara Pagan**

*In September of 2021, MLHS was able to provide students a Wellness Room. The purpose of the room is to provide students with a safe place to practice coping, calming and self regulation skills and also provide students and teachers with a quiet and useable space for small group interaction. The room was so well received by students and staff, that we would like to continue to expand the offerings, and to transform it into a calming space that reflects our 21st Century school community and commitment to student mental health and wellness.*

## MLHS

### ★ **Chemistry Probes**

**\$4,000 has been awarded to Teacher Christopher Wallace**

*Over the last few years, I have acquired portable probes that remotely connect with students' phones. Thus, each student has the capability to become an independent data collector, using the probeware and the phones that they already have. These probes enhance the lab activities that we can do at the high school, for all levels of chemistry. These probes address both the crosscutting theme of the district (linking math, science and engineering) and the integrated use of technology.*

# 2022-23 MLEF Standard Grant Awardees

## Wildwood School

- ★ **2nd & 3rd Grade Special Ed  
Microsoft Surface Pro package  
\$2,284 has been awarded to Teacher  
Ceri Daly**

*It would be a wonderful educational tool to have these specialized Surface Pros for the students. Microsoft has created a number of learning tools specifically geared toward helping to support students with special needs. Using the Surface Pro Immersive Reader program provides text decoding solutions to specifically aid students with Dyslexia. The picture dictionary feature allows images to pop up when specific words are pressed. A grammar feature color codes words as nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc. Friendlier fonts can be downloaded to make reading easier and more enjoyable for students.*

## ML MakerSpace

- ★ **Large Format Printer  
\$1,500 has been awarded to the ML  
MakerSpace at the ML Library for the  
use of the entire educational  
community**

*A large format printer is a resource that will help promote unique work by ML students. Showcasing student work with professional style posters will promote our students' great work, inspiring new students to engage with STEAM subjects. We need to promote our students' academic work more. An excellent large format printer provides a path to achieve this goal. The large format printer connects with all subject areas; math, history, current events, science, sports, literature, etc.*

# 2022-23 MLEF Standard Grant Awardees

## Lake Drive

- ★ **3D Art Printer**  
**\$850 has been awarded to Teacher Maria Gonzalez**

*Deaf and Hard of Hearing children are extremely visual learners and they would highly benefit from learning how to use the 3D printer to create new objects. Learning a trade at a young age can also lead to successful careers in the future. By exposing them to this new technology, it may lead to an interest in creative design as well as so many other art and design pathways.*

## MLHS

- ★ **AP Art Portfolio Materials/Display**  
**\$784 has been awarded to Teacher Sarah Adams**

*This grant would provide items needed for students to professionally display their portfolio of work at the end of their Senior & Junior years at our Annual AP/Portfolio Art Show. This ties into the National Core Art Anchor Standard of Presenting (visual arts): Interpreting and sharing artistic work. As well as honing the ability to select, analyze and interpret artistic work for presentation.*

# Summer Academy Update



# Summer Academy 2022

- [Website](#) & [registration](#) open!
- Welcome [email](#) provides all applicable information.
- All courses will be held on campus.
- Monday, June 27th - Friday, July 29th
- Close to 40 offerings
  - Across all grade levels & disciplines



# Wildwood Time To Soar



# Wildwood Time to Soar

School Year	Enrollment
2016/17	68
2017/18	70
2018/19	75
2019/20	71
2020/21	0



2021/22 Enrollment type	5 days	4 days	3 days	2 days	1 day
Early Birds	12	4			
After School	38	14	15	12	1
Dual enrollment	12	4			
Multiple children	17	10	9	6	