



PRESS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:

Celeste Potter – celeste.potter@ectorcountyisd.org or EducationFoundation.Odessa@outlook.com

Education Foundation of Odessa Awards More Than \$120,000 to ECISD Teachers

(Odessa, TX.) The Education Foundation of Odessa is excited to award **\$120,198.75** to Ector County ISD teachers for the 2025-2026 school year through its innovative grant program!

The Education Foundation Grants Committee approved the funding of:

22 Elementary Classroom requests totaling \$86,288.27

12 Secondary Classroom requests totaling \$33,910.48

See attached list of grant awards.

“Teacher grants are at the heart of the Education Foundation,” says Education Foundation Executive Director, Celeste Potter. “Each year it brings the Foundation Board and Grants Committee members joy to be able to award these special grants to our hard working and dedicated teachers in Ector County. We are grateful to our donors who help ensure that the Foundation has the necessary funds to help our teachers make a positive impact on student learning in our community.”

About the Grants Program

Each year, teachers, principals, and administrators from across the district submit proposals to the Education Foundation. A committee made up of Foundation board members reviews each grant and comes to a consensus on which projects to fund. Grants are evaluated on their innovation, creativity, student need being addressed, sustainability and content.

Since the Foundation’s inception, and including this year, the Education Foundation has awarded more than \$3-million to fund innovative and creative projects in the classroom for ECISD students. Additionally, the Foundation continues to provide additional monetary support to ECISD through support of special programs and incentives that result in student success.

The Grants Committee is made up of Education Foundation Board Members and community volunteers who take time to review each grant proposal and evaluate based on innovation, how the project relates to curriculum objectives adopted by ECISD and overall project budget.

About the Education Foundation of Odessa

The Education Foundation of Odessa is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization of citizens who share a vision of enhancing education in ECISD.

The Education Foundation of Odessa provides a new and innovative source of funding to support the school district’s educational plan. The Foundation does not attempt to replace lost state funding, nor does

it attempt to take the place of the district's operating budget. When considering the level of funding required to educate students, the Foundation can expect only to provide funds for those projects and activities that go beyond the normal classroom experience. Such initiatives provide enrichment, research opportunities, teacher training, intervention and prevention strategies and extend the educational effort. Funding for the Grants Program and other Education Foundation supported projects stems from community support through donations.

The mission of the Education Foundation is to create opportunities for education in Ector County ISD. Our vision is that every student in ECISD will be school-ready, college-ready, work-ready... WORLD-READY!

Website: www.educationfoundationodessa.org

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Spring 2025 Grant Recipients

Burleson EEC

Title: **Beyond the Books**

Amount: \$2,286.00

Title: **Unboxing Potential: Themed Learning Stations**

Amount: \$5,015.34

Title: **Wheels in Motion: Rolling Toward Inclusion**

Amount: \$4,838.91

Buice Elementary

Title: **Wings and Whimsy**

Amount: \$1,681.20

Carver EEC

Title: **A Bugs Life**

Amount: \$897.75

Lamar EEC

Title: **Bugs, Bugs, Bugs**

Amount: \$1,200.00

Title: **Little Voices, Big Stories: Dramatic Play**

Amount: \$6,700.00

Title: **Camp Learn-a-lot**

Amount: \$3,897.00

Title: **Sensory Bloom: Learning Through Touch, Taste, and Aroma**

Amount: \$900.00

Title: **The Goldilocks Grant: Just Right for Every Learner**

Amount: \$9,500.00

Blackshear Elementary

Title: **Igniting Young Minds Through Space Exploration**
Amount: \$5,475.00

Dowling Elementary

Title: **Full STEAM Ahead: Family Science Day for Curious Minds**
Amount: \$9,000.00

Title: **Count Me In!**
Amount: \$9,000.00

Title: **Under Construction: Little Leaders, Big Futures**
Amount: \$5,551.59

Gonzales Elementary

Title: **Where Science Meets the Sand**
Amount: \$1,245.00

Title: **From Wonder to Wisdom**
Amount: \$2,841.00

Johnson Elementary

Title: **Weekly Wonders: Empowering Learning with Studies Weekly**
Amount: \$1,960.00

Pease Elementary

Title: **Creating Community Through Clay**
Amount: \$4,000.00

Ross Elementary

Title: **Imagination Stations: Kindergarten Dramatic Play**
Amount: \$4,499.48

Transition Learning Center

Title: **Broadening Our Horizons**
Amount: \$6,570.00

Title: **Sensory Delight – Special Delivery**
Amount: \$3,267.15

STEM Academy

Title: **STEMpower Supply Grant**

Amount: \$700.00

Title: **Navigate Discovery**

Amount: \$2,199.00

Title: **Trailblazing Texas: The Iditarod Goes West**

Amount: \$1,050.00

Title: **First LEGO League Robotics**

Amount: \$3,060.70

Title: **Mentorship Program**

Amount: \$1,199.72

Zavala Elementary

Title: **Rooted in Reading: A Garden of Literacy and Growth**

Amount: \$4,500.00

New Tech Odessa

Title: **New Era of Art**

Amount: \$5,438.60

Odessa High School

Title: **Spring Specialist Project**

Amount: \$4,410.00

Title: **A Sensory Safe Space**

Amount: \$1,500.00

Title: **Connected Conversations: Enhancing Equity in Counseling**

Amount: \$1,699.83

Permian High School

Title: **Kitchen Access for All!**

Amount: \$2,515.48

Title: **From Cart to Kitchen!**

Amount: \$1,000.00

Advanced Academics Department

Title: **Bricks for Brilliance**

Amount: \$600.00

