

Mini Grant Submissions
Fall 2025

Marissa Swift

6th Grade ELA Teacher

- **Why:** A Screencastify account will support the creation of tutorial videos for parents, which can be shared on our website or in the Monday Message. The platform's AI translation feature is available in over 50 languages and will be especially valuable for our growing Russian-speaking community. Many parents who attend Parent Academy/informational events would benefit from the platform's translation and closed-captioning capabilities. While the platform also includes student-facing features, my initial focus will be on developing parent tutorials and tutoring resources.

- **Cost:** $120 for a one year subscription



Item: Screencastify account

Impact: All 6th grade families (80 students)

Cost: $120

Aubrey Titus

7th Grade ELA Teacher

- **Why:** I would like to request some props to help Shakespeare's *The Tempest* come to life! If each character had their own "prop" for us to hold while reading, it would help students remember the characters and be able to analyze the text at a deeper level. It would also help with engagement in the classroom. I am also asking for a Russian thesaurus that is specific to this book to help a few of my students who speak Russian as their first language.

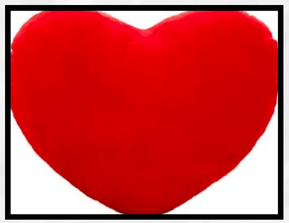
- **Cost:** $98.69











Item: Shakespeare props

Impact: 90 students (All 7th graders)

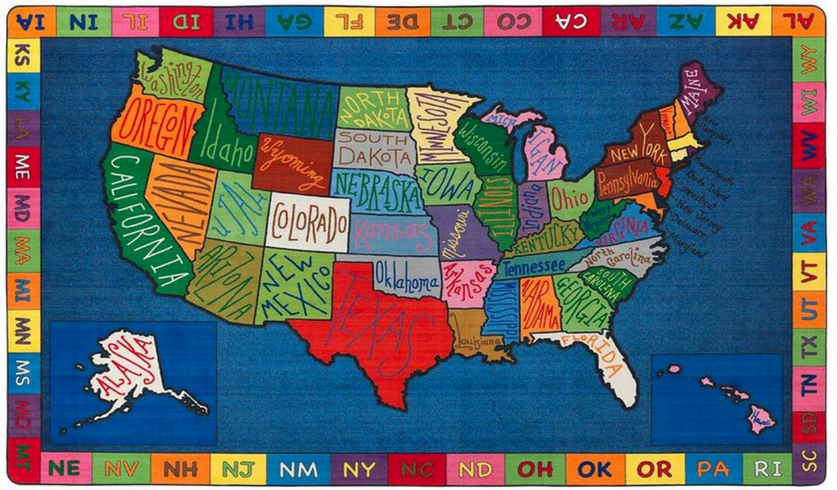
Total Cost: $98.69

Grace Gardner

2nd Grade Teacher

- **Why:** I’m interested in getting a grant for a classroom rug big enough for all my students to fit on, which will help students feel more included during our carpet time! We can use this space for morning meetings, games, learning and more. Currently I have a small one that fits about half of my class. If I am able to get a larger one, no one will feel left out and we can use the space more frequently.

- **Cost:** $324.99



Item: Classroom rug

Impact: 23 students and for years to come

Total Cost: $324.99

Emily Hall

7th/8th Grade History Teacher

- **Why:** I am interested in taking a seminar through the Institute for Educational Development in November, titled “AI in Social Studies: Practical Tools and Time Saving Strategies.” This seminar introduces practical and easy-to-implement methods for integrating AI to enrich my existing instructional designs. This seminar will help me pinpoint fundamental knowledge and success criteria, motivate my students with the latest AI EdTech tools, and explore a variety of instructional practices that cultivate active and involved learners.

- **Cost:** $295



Item: Teacher seminar

Impact: 143 students (All 7th/8th graders)

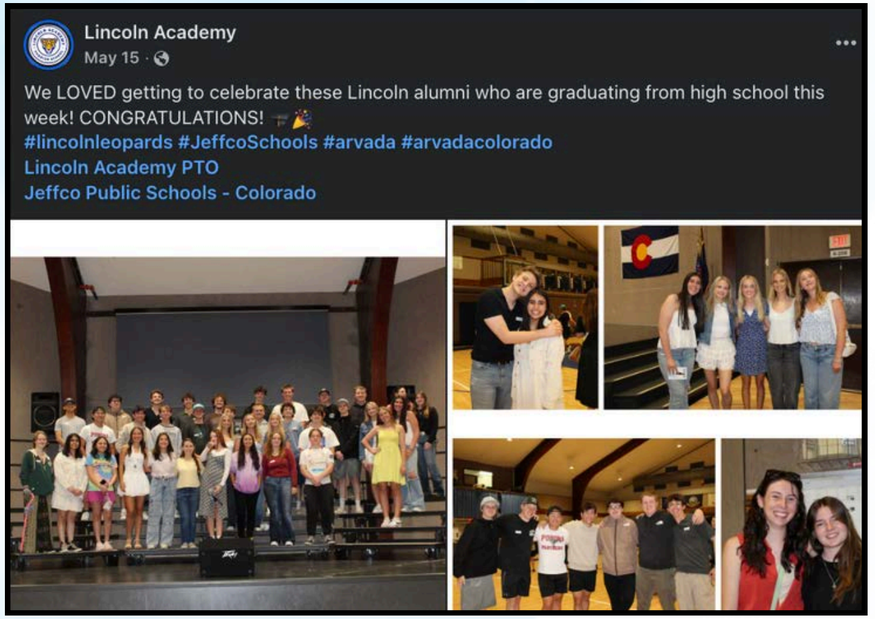
Total Cost: $295

Kim McKinney

Leopard Experience Team

- **Why:** Lincoln Academy Senior Afternoon is an enjoyable event for our school and a chance for alumni to remain active with our community. Students who attended Lincoln Academy and are graduating from high school this May will be invited to this event, along with teachers and staff who were here when they attended. This will show students from previous years that Lincoln continues to care for its students and community long after they have graduated from LA.

- **Cost:** $74.73



Item: LA senior alumni afternoon

Impact: 70+ former students & staff

Total Cost: $74.73

Brooke Euser

4th Grade Teacher

- **Why:** I would like to ask for a round group table to hold small groups and a space for students to work independently or with partners. I currently have two trapezoid tables put together at different heights and it takes up too much room, especially with growing 10- year-olds! It will be used for small instruction and group/partner time.

- **Cost:** $272



Item: Round group table

Impact: 29 students, 1 teacher, 1 EA & ESS

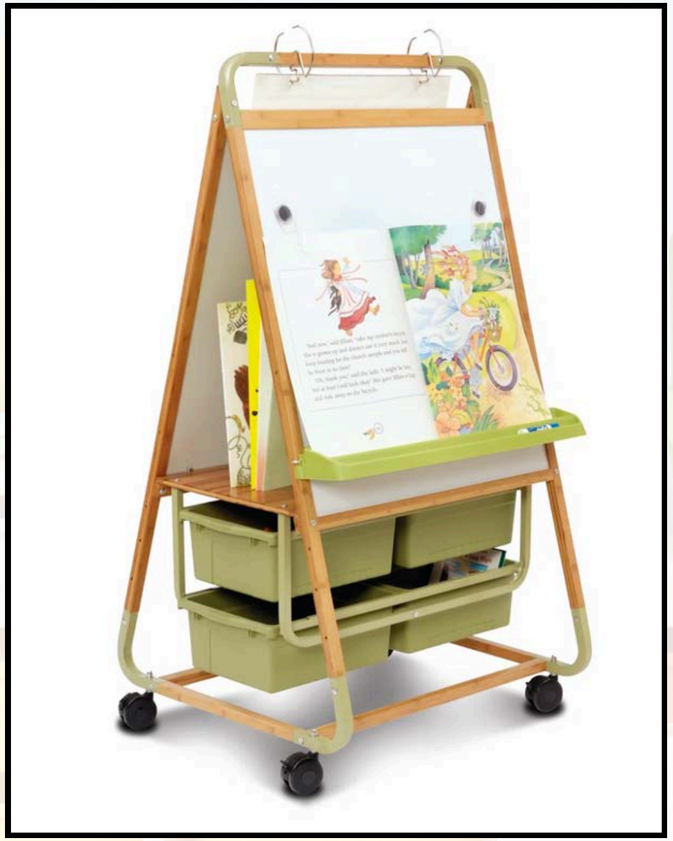
Total Cost: $272

Ami Paulsen

1st Grade Teacher

- **Why:** I would like a white-board easel for my classroom that allows me to teach students more effectively from our rug area. This would let students move between their desks and the rug for instruction, which gives them a chance to get up and move regularly. The easel would allow me to write our lessons on the board, display books on the easel, and give me space to create anchor charts. The easel also has storage which would allow me to quickly access curriculum and manipulatives. This easel also gives students a chance to come to the front and write, which is tricky on the Promethean board.

- **Cost:** $400 toward $500 easel



Item: White-board easel

Impact: 21 students & staff

Total Cost: $400

Heidi Rienstra

8th Grade Science Teacher

- **Why:** I am requesting funding to purchase and install sound-dampening panels in my 8th grade science classroom. The goal is to reduce echo and background noise to create a more effective learning environment where all students can hear, participate, and engage in instruction and collaboration.

- **Cost:** $100



Item: Noise-reducing panels

Impact: All 8th graders annually

Total Cost: $100

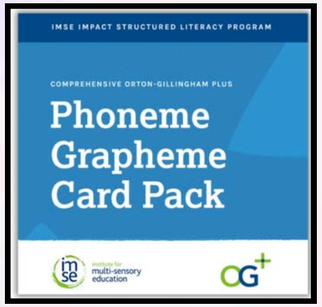
Alysha Sidlar

READ Act Interventionist

- **Why:** Purchasing these materials will allow the READ Act Interventionist to implement a structured, multisensory approach to teaching language skills. These multisensory learning tools will incorporate visual, auditory, and kinesthetic elements to reach each learner who may be struggling with reading, writing, and spelling. Each group in each grade level will move at different paces, so I am requesting a set of phoneme grapheme cards per grade level to better track each group's progress and save time sorting cards in each group.

- **Cost:** $250 toward $330 READ supplies





Item: READ supplies

Impact: 35 students/year

Total Cost: $250

Jayne Tolhurst

4th Grade Teacher

- **Why:** I’m requesting a grant for an in-house field trip presentation from 1859 Gold Rush experts. This type of learning creates wonderful memories and brings learning to life in ways that textbooks, videos, or static materials often cannot. By incorporating expert-led sessions, hands-on workshops, or live demonstrations, we give students meaningful opportunities to engage with the material in a deeper, more tangible way. These experiences help clarify misconceptions, spark curiosity, and make learning memorable.

- **Cost:** $420



Item: In-house field trip presenter

Impact: 90 students, 6 staff

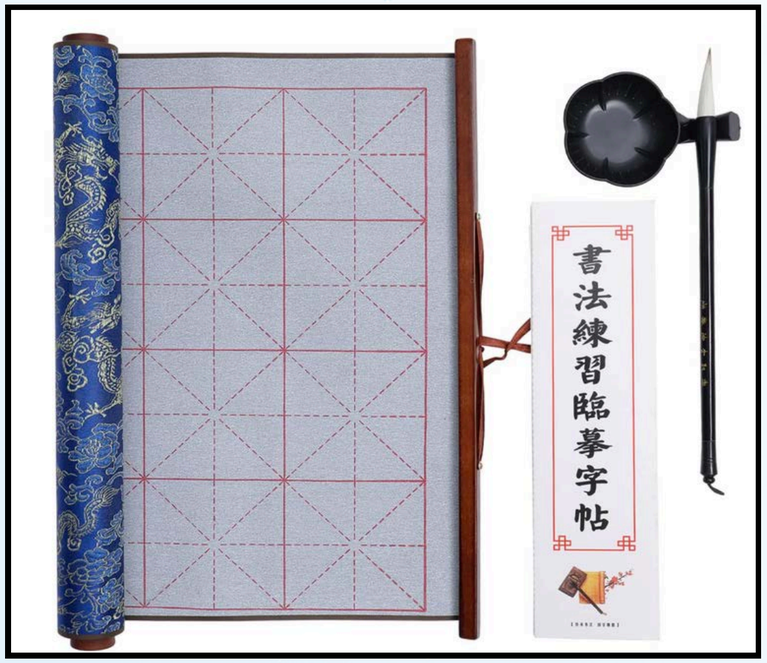
Total Cost: $420

Cathy Gipson

4th Grade Teacher

- **Why:** Calligraphy water scrolls will provide students with a hands-on learning experience as we explore the Dynasties of China. The reusable scrolls will enhance this experience as they have the Chinese character boxes printed on them, they can be used year after year, and they only need water, eliminating the mess. This is a reusable product that will be used annually during our Dynasties of China Core Knowledge unit.

- **Cost:** $150 toward $530 calligraphy sets



Item: Reusable water scrolls

Impact: All 4th grade students annually

Total Cost: $150

Halley Taylor

4th Grade Teacher

- **Why:** I would like to purchase a horseshoe table and chairs for small group work, reading support, and proximity to support students with literacy and writing strategies. With a horseshoe table, students will have a dedicated space for my support and an opportunity to settle into their lesson. Differentiation and ongoing check-ins matter and a space to hold this learning is vital to a reading/literacy course!

- **Cost:** $372 table



Item: Horseshoe group table

Impact: 90 students & staff

Total Cost: $372

Lauren Carpenter

Kindergarten Teacher

- **Why:** I would love to have a horseshoe table for small group instruction in my classroom, as well as a hard surface for writing practice. Our kindergarten classrooms are small, so the furniture that we have must serve many purposes. I currently do not have a space large enough to meet with small groups of students other than the floor. When practicing writing, this is not a great option. A horseshoe table is great for meeting with small groups of students and for completing many tasks throughout our day.
- **Cost:** $372



Item: Horseshoe group table

Impact: 23 students annually

Total Cost: $372

Brynn Wenen

1st Grade Teacher

- **Why:** I am requesting materials to help with assessment, positive reinforcement, small groups, and classroom organization. These are materials that will help make the classroom a cheerful, well-organized, great place to learn and grow for first graders. Some of these items (like card stock) make student projects higher quality and more durable for use with paint. Some of the items (like ice packs) help staff supply care to students without having to leave Building B. Many of these items help things like assessment or math lessons run smoothly by having the "just right" tools to do the job.

- **Cost:** $75 toward $170 misc. supplies









Item: Classroom supplies

Impact: 20 students

Total Cost: $75

Jessie Tanguma

5th Grade Science/Social Studies

- **Why:** I am asking for some cabinets with a solid top that will run the length of the north side of my classroom so I can have easy access to the tools and materials I need. My dream is to create a 5th grade Lab experience with locking cabinets so I can store my own set of Lab materials. I would love to create a storage solution in the classroom to be able to add counter space for lab setups and materials, that also includes storage for the Social Studies books as well. This will allow me to set up labs more quickly and extend the Science lessons to be more hands on and experiential.

- **Cost:** $350 toward $432 storage cabinets



Item: Storage cabinets

Impact: 90 students annually

Total Cost: $350

THANK YOU

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