



CENTAUR FOUNDATION NEWS

Supporting the Students, Staff and Community of Brooklyn Center Schools ISD 286

Fall 2026

The Centaur Foundation approved 19 teacher grants totaling over \$16,000 during the 2025-2026 school year. These grants helped pay for programs, supplies, materials and activities that enriched and enhanced the student learning experiences in District 286 schools. The Foundation thanks all who donated and made these grants possible. Below are a few of the grants the Centaur Foundation supported this past year.

1. **Funding JAG Curriculum for Alternative School Scholars** Funded a Jobs for America's Graduations learning curriculum for 100 students in the 10th - 12th grade. Included weekly connections with JAG Site Coordinator, weekly student sessions, accessed to JagForce to assist in tracking student progress, accessed to other LEAP programs, guest speakers, field trips, etc.
2. **Confident, Creative, Comfortable Music-Making for All Students** Purchased a classroom set of 25 pairs of noise-cancelling headphones for students in grades K-5.
3. **6th Grade Wolf Ridge Trip** Covered the cost of transportation for 100 students in 6th grade to attend Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center for a couple of nights. Helped satisfy a growing BC initiative in which students in all grades have an outdoor experience.
4. **Mille Lacs Indian Museum Field Trip** Covered the transportation cost and museum fees for 100 students in the 11th grade to attend Mille Lacs Indian Museum.
5. **Spanish 2 and High School Dance: Dance and Music Show** Paid for 50 students in the 10th-12th grade to attend a Dance and Music show that supported the Spanish 2 and Dance curriculum's study of Hispanic Heritage Month.
6. **Squid Dissection** Purchased squid dissection kits, gloves, and glasses for 125 students in the 3rd grade.



3rd Grade Squid Dissection Kits (Sydney Smith, Brooklyn Center Elementary)

7. **Bell Museum Field Trip** Funded the transportation and cost of admission for 20 parent chaperones to attend a field trip to the Bell Museum. Scholarship was received for all 125 students in the 3rd grade, as well as staff to attend for free.
8. **Gimkit Pro Account** Covered the cost of a Gimkit Pro Account for 80 students in 10-12th grade. It is an online learning platform that allowed them to review vocabulary and concepts in a more fun/interactive way.
9. **IFEST Experience** Funded the cost of admission for 18 students in the 9th-12th grade to attend the International Festival of Minnesota.

10. **Spanish Language Days at the Minnesota Zoo** Covered the cost of transportation for 15 students in 10-12th grade to attend Spanish Language Day at the MN Zoo. They each presented on an assigned animal in Spanish.



Language Day at the Minnesota Zoo (Julie Hart, Brooklyn Center Secondary)

11. **ECA Escape Room** Escape Room for approximately 45 students throughout the school (mostly in 11th and 12th grade).
12. **Buckets** Purchased 24 book bins to help students organize their space and allowed for a more streamlined process when retrieving learning materials.
13. **Pear Deck Subscriptions for ELA Teachers** Purchased 5 subscriptions for Pear Deck which allowed teachers to provide real-time feedback, and for students to make adjustments in real time. Was used by 150-175 students in 11th-12th grade.
14. **African American History Museum Field Trip** Covered the cost of transportation for 100 students in the 9th grade to attend the African American History Museum.
15. **Jackie Robinson Day and Physics Day at Target Field** Covered the cost of a field trip to Target Field for 20 students in 9th - 12th grade. Both Jackie Robinson Day and Physics of Baseball Day being celebrated as part of "Classroom in the Ballpark" programs at the stadium.
16. **5th Grade End of the Year Zoo Field Trip** Covered the cost for 100 students in the 5th grade to visit the Minnesota Zoo for an end of year field trip.
17. **1st Grade Field Trip to MN Zoo** Covered the cost for 113 students in the 1st grade to visit the Minnesota Zoo for an end of year field trip.



1st Grade Minnesota Zoo Fieldtrip (Grace Erpenbach, BCE)

18. **Ozobot Bridge Challenge** Covered the replacement cost of 18 Ozobots that are used by students in the 2nd - 5th grade to learn engineering and screen-free coding skills.
19. **"Signing Off"** Covered the cost of t-shirts for 330 students in the 6th - 8th grade. Shirts has the BC logo, and students spend the last day of school signing each other's shirts.

Spotlight Donors

Total Donations Exceed \$1000

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Centaur Donors

Total Donations Exceed \$500

****District 286 Donor**

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2026 SENIOR \$2000 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Three \$2000 scholarships were awarded to BCCS seniors. Awards will be given once the students complete their first and third semester of a post-secondary school program.



Left to Right: Justin Parnjan, Kayla Calles Leiva, Joseph Daramay

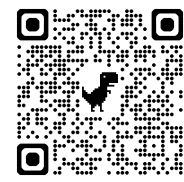
CENTAUR FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

During the past 18 years, the Centaur Foundation has awarded 340 grants valued at \$200,000. More than 3000 students have benefitted from these grants. 56 seniors have been awarded scholarships worth \$66,000.

DONATION INFORMATION

Donations can be made online via Paypal on the website or Facebook site.

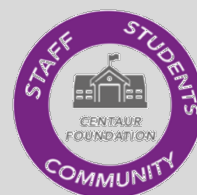
Checks can be sent to:
Centaur Foundation
6500 Humboldt Avenue North
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430



The Centaur Foundation thanks all the donors who have so generously donated to the Foundation. It is because of their generosity that the educational experiences of District 286 students have been enriched and enhanced.

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Once a Centaur, always a Centaur!