

2012-2013 Grants

Math

SYMPHONY MATH

Provides funding to implement the Symphony Math Program in Grades K-5 in the Wayland Public Schools. Symphony Math is a web-based intervention program that allows teachers to identify students at risk, establish their instructional level, provide individualized intervention and track their progress.

FINANCIAL LITERACY - MONEY AND LIFE LETTERS

Provides funding to purchase the recently acclaimed book "No One Ever Told Us That: Money and Life Letters to my Grandchildren", by John D. Spooner to support the Financial Literacy math elective at the High School. This book is acclaimed for the insight that it provides young adults regarding the financial challenges they will face in today's world.

Science

ZOO SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Provides funding for fourth graders from Happy Hollow School to participate in a customized program at Franklin Park Zoo that will allow them to engage and explore in a rich hands-on, multisensory experience relevant to the science curriculum. Habitat study, zoo exploration and the integration of tech tools will be incorporated into this field study research experience.

CLAYPIT HILL ORGANIC GARDENS

Provides funding to improve the overall use and appearance of the Claypit Hill Gardens. This landscape improvement will promote healthy growth of vegetables, fruits and flowers by improving nutrient and water levels in the beds. Students benefit from many hands-on learning activities in the gardens, including exploring the life cycle of plants, the composition of soil, composting, nutrition of plants, and historical facts related to growing food.

LEGO ROBOTICS CLUB

Provides material, equipment and software to start an afterschool Robotics Club at Wayland Middle School. Teams of students will design, build and program robots using the Lego Robotics NXT software system, and compete in the Lego League with surrounding towns. Adding a club at the middle school provides continuity with existing programs at the elementary and high school level.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN ELECTRONICS

Provides funding for the Middle School science department to update the 6th grade electronics curriculum through a customized professional development program. The department will move beyond current instruction in basic circuitry and expose students to modern technology and equipment, such as solar panels, LED lighting and robotics.

PEDAL POWER GENERATORS

Provides bike-powered or "kid-o-watt" electricity generators for the 6th grade science classrooms. This enhancement to the curriculum will transform learning about electricity and motors from reading about

theoretical concepts in a textbook to a hands-on (or feet-on!) experience of how to turn mechanical energy into electricity to run various household appliances.

INQUIRIES IN SCIENCE-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE LAB PACKAGES

Provides funding to augment the existing High School Environmental Science course with the purchase of hands-on Ecology/Ecosystem and Human Influence Labs. While this course has not typically been lab-based, the introduction of these labs will allow students to develop a better understanding of the environmental issues they face today, including Interacting Populations, Sustaining Ecosystems and Estimating Human Population.

Language Arts

TUNE INTO READING

Provides funding for a weekly pilot program which promotes literacy through music, rhyme and movement for kindergarten students. Tune Into Reading is an organized curriculum that addresses different learning styles and focuses on building phonemic awareness skills.

GUIDED READING THROUGH THE CONTENT AREAS

Provides funding for the Guided Reading through Content Areas Project, providing the Loker School Book Room with more books for Response to Intervention (RTI), and also providing guided reading books relating to the kindergarten curriculum. Students will learn to read with books that fall into the science, social studies and English language arts content areas, at their own reading level.

IPODS FOR READING FLUENCY

Provides iPods for reading work centers in all of the K-3 classrooms at Loker, Happy Hollow and Claypit Hill. Listening to audio books, while following along in print books, and recording and listening back to their own stories helps develop reading fluency and comprehension.

POETRY SLAM

An enrichment to the High School English curriculum, this funding will 'bring to the stage' live poetry performances, coinciding with the high school poetry and public speaking units across grades. Students and teachers will be given an incredible opportunity to see and experience the wonder of great poets with these exciting live performances. The grant also allows for a poet-in-residence to work biweekly with the newly formed spoken word poetry group, teaching poetry writing and performance.

Smart Classrooms

CONTINUING TO PROVIDE INTERACTIVE BOARDS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR DIFFERENTIATED, ENGAGING, AND COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Provides interactive whiteboards and sound systems for three 1st grade classrooms, completing the rollout of this technology in all Happy Hollow classrooms. This technology engages students with multi-sensory, hands-on learning, increases student participation and collaboration, allows exploration of concepts in greater depth, and expands access to multimedia and Internet resources.

IPADS INSPIRE

Provides 5-6 iPads in every first grade classroom at Claypit Hill and Happy Hollow for small group work and independent learning centers for all curriculum areas. Apps for reading, phonics, spelling, handwriting, math and science provide an engaging, convenient way for students to progress at their individual pace, practice skills, and give teachers assessment information.

ACTIVEEXPRESSION2 RESPONSE DEVICES

Provides a full set of the latest generation of electronic response devices for the 6th and 7th grade science classrooms at Wayland Middle School. Response devices provide both teachers and students with instantaneous feedback about student understanding versus after-the-fact assessment via a paper and pencil quiz.

ASSESSMENT IN A 1:1 SCHOOL: PROMETHEAN'S ACTIVENGAGE

Provides funding for a pilot program using the latest generation of electronic response devices (voting eggs) to be used in conjunction with the laptops recently distributed at the High School. The voting eggs allow students to answer multiple choice and short answer questions from their seats, allowing for immediate assessment of student understanding.

Media and Web

CAPTURING IT ALL

Provides funding to enhance the sound and creative photography capabilities of WSPN and the High School journalism classes through the purchase of two high-end microphone recorders for video production and a high aperture lens. Student's storytelling skills will grow through learning about and experimenting with this equipment.

WRITING FOR AN AUDIENCE: BLOGGING IN THE CLASSROOM

Funds the purchase of an external blogging program, EduBlog, designed to protect the privacy/security of student bloggers while allowing teachers to monitor and grade student blogs. Blogging is becoming a common form of informal everyday writing (e.g. journaling), with increased visibility and potential impact due to its public nature. The program will be used across disciplines including Language, History and English at the High School.

Arts

IPADS FOR ART

Provides funding for a pilot program at Happy Hollow that gives students the opportunity to create art using iPads, to share work with school audiences, and to explore new areas such as animation and storytelling with illustration. The iPads will also enable online access to concrete examples of concepts, techniques, cultural traditions, and artists.

FRAMING STUDENT ART WORK

Provides funding for replacement materials needed for existing framed and displayed 3rd and 4th grade student artwork at Claypit Hill. Presenting framed works of art by the students in a gallery and museum like

setting gives students the opportunity to respond to, reflect on, and assess their work and the artworks of their peers.

PHOTOGRAPHY /YEAR 2

Provides funding to increase the number of cameras and photography supplies necessary for expanding the Photography Club to a larger number of 5th grade students and faculty. The goal of the program is to work with students and faculty on learning to read and evaluate photographs and their impact, and then to use a camera to enhance expression. The photographs will be displayed at Happy Hollow throughout the year.

CAMERAS FOR CLASS

Provides six state-of-the-art Canon EOS digital cameras and accessories (lenses, memory, chargers, external flashes, protectors, tripods) for the highly desired digital photography class at the High School. The equipment provided by this grant will engage students in 21st century photography technology, providing students the ability to "simultaneously" learn step by step the intricacies of digital photography.

FRAMES FOR ART DISPLAYS

Showcasing multi-media art creations will be enhanced through funding of specialty frames to display an increasing array of High School artwork in a more professional and uniform fashion, increasing the individual pride of the artists and inspiring others. This will allow the Wayland community the opportunity to appreciate these works of art throughout the school, in conference rooms and at The Middlesex Savings Bank.

THE MAJESTY OF THE FRENCH HORN

Multiple High School ensembles will now have the complete majestic sound of the Double French Horn incorporated into their band and orchestra repertoires. Purchasing this instrument for the music department allows our music ensembles to study new and exciting music and perform at an enhanced level.

Facilities

ALPHABETTER DESK WORKSTATION

Provides funding for six AlphaBetter Desks to be used in a 4th grade Claypit Hill classroom. These desks, with a pendulum swing footrest, will become a workstation where all students in the classroom can lean, stand, swing their feet, and sit on a high stool while engaged in learning activities. Six AlphaBetter Desks in the classroom will create an environment where students can naturally expend physical energy, increasing their focus and time spent learning.

Guidance

TAG MATERIALS FOR GRADE 8

Provides funding for books and DVD's from The FableVision Company to be used during Grade 8 House and "TAG" time at the Middle School. The materials help teachers continue to foster and develop a positive learning community and positive identity among all students and give the teachers and students a way of developing important life/social skills related to the principles of TAG: Belonging, Empathy, Respect, and Trust.

CARA FILLER WINTER WEEK PRESENTATION

Provides funding for a presentation by Cara Filler, a renowned speaker on healthy decision making. Ms. Filler's heartfelt message resonates with not only young adults but parents and educators as well. This presentation at the High School during Winter Week provides an opportunity for this message of "good decision making" and how "communities can support it" to reach a large target audience.

LOL...OMG! MANAGING YOUR ONLINE REPUTATION

Provides funding to educate students (and parents) about the importance of social media and protecting their online reputation. Each High School student will receive an electronic copy of "lol...OMG! What every student needs to know about online reputation management, digital citizenship and cyber-bullying". The grant also provides funds for Matt Ivester, the author of the book, to host multiple student and community presentations at the High School and Middle School, educating students about how to safely exist in today's challenging online environment.

A number of grants awarded this year are collaborations across multiple disciplines:

Social Studies/Science/Language Arts

SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE INTEGRATION AT GRADE 4

Provides funding for non-fiction trade books and historical fiction or science fiction books to support students' learning in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. This grant will allow integration of all of the grade 4 Science and Social Studies units into the Language Arts curriculum, and will enable teachers to use Language Arts time to address the goals of Social Studies and Science. It will also allow students to better understand the Social Studies and Science curriculum, since they will learn about it for more time during the school day and in the way they would encounter these topics in the real world.

INTEGRATING NON-FICTION SCIENCE TRADE BOOKS AND READING

Provides funding for the purchase and use of science trade books to support efforts to teach non-fiction reading skills in grades K-5. Creative, up to date books from the "Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12" list created by the Children's Book Council and the National Science Teachers Association, will help the students explore scientific concepts and practices in all elementary school classrooms.

Math/Technology

ANDROID TABLETS FOR ANDROID APP DEVELOPMENT CLASS

Combined with tablets already purchased by the High School Math department, this grant provides funding for an additional 14 Android tablets to support the introduction of a new computer programming class at the High School. The Android tablets will allow each student to immediately test the validity of the apps they are creating, providing timely reinforcement of strategies employed. It will allow for greater creativity, experimentation and immediate reinforcement of concepts learned.

Science/Arts

3D PRINTER FOR ART & SCIENCE

Provides funding for a high-resolution, cutting edge 3D desktop printer utilizing stereolithography technology. Using Computer Aided Design (CAD), the printer turns resin into form allowing creative High School students in Arts and Engineering the ability to turn their designs into 3D reality.

Grants 2011-12

21st Century Data Collection -- Vernier LabQuest

Offers data collection devices to help Middle School students more accurately collect data. The new devices can connect to probes used in Physical Science, Life Science and Earth Science classes.

"I led a Vernier LabQuest workshop for the science department teachers in January. The teachers got excited as they realized how easy these devices are to work with and how versatile. The teachers were immediately brainstorming applications. Since then eighth grade students have used the probes to collect temperature data for their atmosphere unit and the sixth grade students are using them in their electricity unit. The momentum has begun and our first experiences have all been positive and confirmed that this method of data collection will be both appealing and intuitive to our students. I am delighted."

Thomas Longnecker

Middle School Science Teacher

Voting Eggs with Interactive Whiteboard

Equips a 6th grade science classroom with a set of voting eggs. Students are asked questions and respond with the voting egg technology, increasing student participation and giving the teacher a quick read on whether they understand what is being taught.

"The eggs provide students with an anonymous place to have a voice, to make mistakes without their peers knowing, and are an excellent way for teachers to collect hard data about student knowledge."

Kristin Dolcimascolo

Wayland Middle School Science Teacher

Musical Instrument Availability for All Students

Creates an "instrument bank" by purchasing a variety of musical instruments to be used by elementary students who cannot afford them and for students who would like to switch their instrument.

"I just got some instruments and already have a student who is using one of the trombones and another who is using a French horn. I have students who are interested in using another French horn and an oboe. This has been wonderful for students who are interested in playing a musical instrument (or switching instruments) but did not feel like they could afford it. Thank you for the grant. It is greatly appreciated!"

Tristie Keenan

Elementary Band Director

Francis Smith Presentation

Enables Wayland's beloved retired Classics teacher, Francis Smith, to return for a repeat High School performance/lecture on the concept of the hero in Classical Greek and Roman Literature.

"Francis Smith, former chairman of the Modern Language Department and classics teacher, returned to WHS where he taught for 39 years and delivered a highly engaging presentation on the heroes of Greek and Roman literature to an audience made up of four different classes."

Joe Auciello

Wayland High school English Department

On the Ball for Learning Success

Supplies innovative seating options for kindergarten children allowing them some degree of movement while doing group listening and working sessions. "Ball Chairs" have proven effective in helping young students move and learn in an appropriate manner.

"The ball chairs help children to pay attention at meetings and table activities. We have noticed that many kindergarteners, active by nature, are more involved in stories, open circle, and instruction when seated on a ball chair. They are able to move when seated on the chairs; this improves the children's attention and focus. The ball chairs also help all children become more involved in activities at tables, whether at a painting project, math game, writing or a science experiment. We presently have two ball chairs in our classroom. The children all get turns on these chairs. They are so popular that we help children take turns using them."

Annie Hale

Loker kindergarten teacher

iPods for Reading Fluency

Provides iPods for 3rd-5th grade students enabling them to listen to audio books and record their own stories. Students will develop greater reading fluency and comprehension, and will also become better writers as they create podcasts of their stories in Writing Workshop.

"The kids were excited that they have so many titles. The Rockstar (four pronged holder) allows multiple students to hear the books together on their ipods and then they can read along and discuss the book together. They also help with recording podcasts. The kids love the ipods for reading. They are fun to use because kids get to hear different voices acting out the characters in their books."

Miriam Morrison

Happy Hollow 4th Grade Teacher