



2018-2019 Grant Summaries

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

MINDFULNESS WITH GABRIEL

Robbin Rossi, Stephanie Dines, Ruth Burman

This grant provides funding for Gabriel Baldwin, mindfulness teacher, to be in residence for 20 days at Claypit Hill throughout the Winter and Spring of 2019. Gabriel will work with students in both large and small groups, as well as with staff, to teach a shared mindfulness skill set that will support the social, emotional and academic learning needs of the students and help cultivate a peaceful and kind school community.

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY COACH

Brian Jones, Jim Lee, Christie Harvey, Betsy Gavron, Allyson Mizoguchi, George Benzie, Ethan Dolleman, Tricia O'Reilly, Karyn Saxon

This grant provides funding for the District to hire a part-time Diversity & Equity Coach charged with two primary areas of focus: first, to analyze the achievement gap that currently exists in the Wayland Public Schools and determine next steps for closing the achievement gap, and second, to lead professional development for the faculties of all five schools on culturally proficient practices and provide support for administrators in creating a safe learning environment for students of all cultures and races.

REVISING THE WRITER/LED BY AUTHOR: GREGORY MONE

Jennifer Sole-Robertson and Christina Pimental

This grant provides funding for author Gregory Mone to host an assembly for all 5th grade students at each of the three Wayland elementary schools. Following the assembly, Mone will host a 1 hour workshop in each of the 5th grade classrooms on the strategies and importance of revision in the writing process. Mone will motivate and educate the students through a humorous approach to the revision process. He will start with the big picture and then zoom in through exercises that give the students the understanding of voice, sentence structure, fluency and word choice. This will provide a foundation for Middle School when students are expected to review and revise their writing pieces.

SENSORY INTEGRATION SWING

Brian Jones, Laurel Pirelli

This grant provides funding for the purchase of a portable sensory swing at Loker School for students who need additional sensory input. The portable swing provides sensory input in a manner for students to regulate themselves in a calming manner.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR LOKER PLAYGROUND

Ilana Wyner, Rebecca Abrams, Anne Johnson, Brian Jones

This grant provides funding for three musical instruments - a met allophone, a set of chimes, and a kettle drum - to be installed within the Loker School Playground. Students will have a new, creative way to get sensory input at recess while they connect and play together.

LOKER MOTORIZED PROJECTION SCREEN

Stephanie Meyler

This grant is for a mounted projection screen in the Loker gymnasium where there is currently not a screen at all. This will allow for presentations, artwork, pictures, video, and the like to be displayed properly where all participants and attendees can see the material.

MULTICULTURAL SERIES BOOK PROJECT

Kristin Murphy

This grant provides Claypit Hill third graders with a class set of each of the three books in the multicultural series, Zayd Salem, Chasing The Dream, written by award-winning author Hena Khan. The books can be used for both independent and teacher-directed reading, providing a forum for multicultural understanding and allowing students to embrace differences between and among people through a shared reading experience.

SENSORY PATHWAY PROJECT

Carol Cunningham, Andrea Gellerstein, Elizabeth Santomenna, Rosemarie Furey, Melissa Macdonald, Ginette Coffey

This grant supports the installation of sensory paths in all three elementary schools and the Middle School, where children can experience movement breaks completing gross motor tasks as a method for grounding and re-orienting students to their classroom pursuits. The grant writers describe the following goals in using these sensory pathways: help students develop self-regulation and spatial awareness, as well as improve balance and attention skills.

UKULELES FOR HAPPY HOLLOW MUSIC CLASSES

Amy Pohl

This grant provides funding for the purchase 25 Kala Ukuleles, accessories, and hangers for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students at Happy Hollow who do not participate in the strings or band program and instead participate in the Music Workshop class. Learning chords and basic melodies will encourage lifelong music making.

HAPPY HOLLOW GARDEN/ ENVIRONMENTAL UPGRADE

Deborah Niles, Jim Lee

This grant will upgrade the Happy Hollow garden, including funding for an irrigation system and storage shed. Additionally, the funds will establish a new cafeteria composting program, allowing students to take a more independent and hands-on approach to recycling organic material to produce compost for the garden.

STRENGTHENING READING HABITS AND ESTABLISHING A READERLY LIFE TO ENGAGE YOUNG STUDENTS THROUGH AN INNOVATIVE TOOL - THE POCKETCONNIE CONFERRING APP

Martha Godfroy, Karyn Saxon, Sarah Sontag, Deb Pellerin

This grant provides funding for the purchase of the PocketConnie web conferring app that supports teachers to assess, plan, and enact reading conferences with students. PocketConnie provides in person and online coaching within a community of teachers to improve their one on one individualized instruction with students. Students will practice and develop their independent reading habits from the feedback they receive in these conferences. This grant will be implemented in all three elementary schools.

MINDFULNESS WITH GABRIEL

Brian Jones, Jim Lee, Laurel Pirelli and Beth Santomenna

Building off the successful pilot at Claypit Hill School, this grant provides for Gabriel Baldwin, mindfulness teacher, to be in residence for 15 days each at Happy Hollow School and Loker School during the Fall of 2019 and Winter of 2020. Baldwin will implement yoga and mindfulness practices to support the social, emotional and academic learning needs of the students. He will support students with self-regulation and matching the size of the problem with the size of the

reaction and help students utilize mindfulness strategies in coping and overcoming challenging situations and stress. Teachers will learn evidence-based mindfulness practices that they can utilize when anxious moments occur in the classroom.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

STANDARDS-BASED GRADING AND THE CONNECT PROGRAM/ WAYLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Allyson Mizoguchi, Betsy Gavron

This grant provides funding for seven Wayland Middle School and three Wayland High School teachers to attend a two-day conference: The Standards-Based Assessment and Grading Seminar. Standards-based reporting, which measures proficiency in specific skills rather than using a traditional A-F grading scale, is already in use in some disciplines at the Middle School and this conference provides teachers in the English and Social Studies departments opportunities to learn more about how to apply it in their own disciplines. Teachers from the non-traditional, interdisciplinary Connect Program at the High School will also attend to explore how standards-based reporting could best be used in that context.

NOW HEAR THIS: THE SOUND OF SCIENCE

Alyssa Leo, Maureen Devlin, Jaclyn Mattson

Fifth grade science teachers will develop their understandings and teaching skills as they learn from an expert from the Museum of Science Traveling School Program presenting Now Hear This: The Sounds of Science. Fifth grade students at Happy Hollow will experience hands-on activities and develop their understanding of sound, while teachers will learn from a disciplinary expert about teaching sound to elementary students.

MINDFULNESS AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Amy Parker, Kelly Hagan, Stacey Reed

Further building off the successful pilot at Claypit Hill School, this grant provides funding for Gabriel Baldwin, the In-Residence Mindfulness Teacher, to teach a shared mindfulness skill set at the Middle School that will cultivate more peacefulness, kindness and focus in the school community. The students will learn an improved ability to skillfully handle strong emotions, stress, improve self-awareness and increase compassion towards self and others.

WAYLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH CENTER

Rebecca Poulo

This grant provides the funding to staff a math teacher in a new Math Center at the Middle School to serve all levels for each grade. Students may visit during study hall or flex time and get help in a timely manner. The Math Center can help with the increase in student requests to meet teachers to work on their Mode 2s and make corrections or need help with homework.

PARTNERING WITH THE WAYLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL AUTISM AFFILIATE

Jake Montwieler, Melissa McDonald, John McCoy

This grant will fund a new position, a liaison between the Autism Affiliate at WMS and the Social Studies department. The liaison will coordinate the development and sharing of curriculum between the Social Studies teams at each grade level and the Special Education teacher in charge of the Autism Affiliate. Additionally, the liaison will coordinate the sharing of pedagogies appropriate to students with autism and related diagnoses between the Autism Affiliate and core academic teachers, beginning with the Social Studies department.

UNIQUE UKULELES

Stephen Murray

This grant funds new ukuleles, cases, and instructional books for a new ukulele curriculum across all three grades at the Middle School. Providing instruction on the ukulele will expose students to a life-long musical skill with an easily accessible instrument.

SEE THE HEAT!

Matthew Lafond and Tom Longnecker

This grant will fund 12 thermal imaging cameras for the 6th grade science program at the Wayland Middle School. Currently the students are learning about heat energy yet they are typically unable to “see” the unseen heat from the infrared radiation. With the use of thermal imaging cameras, the students will analyze how and when the heat is released as a byproduct from a chemical reaction or during energy transformations. This will open up different avenues of learning, especially for visual learners.

DIGITAL BOOKS IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sara Ravid, Melissa Macdonald, Meeghan Peirce, Carrie Dirmeikis, Lori Digisi, Bethann Monahan

This project enables members of the WMS learning community to access a collection of ebooks and audiobooks through membership in the Commonwealth eBook Collection and includes the purchase of 9 Kindles to promote access to these resources. This grant supports the goals of developing a love of reading, the growth and development of reading mechanics, vocabulary, and comprehension through our most modern methods of accessing books – in electronic formats.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS (NCTM) REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Barbara Coughlin, Tricia O'Reilly, Rebecca Poulo

This grant provides funding for math teachers across the school district to attend the NCTM conference in the Fall of 2019. This professional development will allow teachers to have access to the latest ideas and development in their areas. The benefits of attending a national conference include the opportunity for teachers to learn ways to present topics differently as well as gain exposure to new technologies, materials and methods of teaching.

TRANSFORMATIVE STEM CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT FOR 8TH GRADE SCIENCE

Rich Battaglia

This grant works towards transforming an 8th grade Science classroom into a true STEAM environment by providing 6 new hydraulic whiteboard tilting desk tables for student design work, blueprinting, and concept mapping and encouraging collaboration amongst students.

WELLNESS CENTER RENEWAL AND EXPANSION

Pam Riddle

This grant funds a variety of fitness equipment for the Middle School Wellness Center. The addition of new cardio equipment allows use by more students before, during and after school and furthers the goal of providing a safe environment to foster enthusiasm for wellness class and increase exercise frequency outside of school.

PBL (PROJECT-BASED LEARNING) FOR 6TH GRADE

Michael Kotin

This grant provides the funding for two days of summer work for 18 6th-grade staff members to get together to share experiences and brainstorm about project-based learning opportunities as a whole grade. PBL projects are valuable because they demonstrate to students in a hands-on, experiential manner that learning in each discipline does not stand

alone, but rather constantly interacts with other subjects. The goal of this summer work is to cement a project-based learning activity into the fabric of the 6th-grade experience.

PBL (PROJECT-BASED LEARNING) FOR 6TH GRADE MATH

Michael Kotin

This grant provides the funding for two days of summer work for three 6th-grade math teachers to collaborate on creating an enriching project-based learning project. The teachers are working with our Town's Geographic Information Systems coordinator, Mr. Decker, to bring real-world math into their project idea. Our GIS coordinator works with maps, historic and environmental data, and topographic, aerial and digital information. With his input, the teachers hope to create a project that uses ratios, rates, proportions and geometry that will allow the students to see that the math they are learning in class has practical implications beyond the classroom walls.

HIGH SCHOOL

DEVELOPMENT OF NINTH GRADE IDENTITY SEMINAR

Allyson Mizoguchi

This grant provides funds to support a small team of teachers to collaborate over the summer to develop a course on Identity Development, including topics such as race, identity, culture and communication, that will be incorporated into a year long seminar for all ninth grade students at the High School. Our grant writers expressed their goals in this way. "By addressing important themes and giving students a safe place to discuss and explore these issues, we believe this experience would build community.... And set a tone for being a productive member of our community."

LIGIAH VILLALOBOS TO SPEAK AT WAYLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Nicole Haghdoust and Jill Swenson

This grant provides funding to invite Ligiah Villalobos, writer, producer, educator and lecturer to speak at two sessions (one in English and one in Spanish) at the High School in February or March 2020. Villalobos is best known for her independent feature film, *Under the Same Moon*, which she wrote and produced. The film will be incorporated into Spanish classes prior to her presentation. Villalobos's visit and film will make multiple connections to the curriculum including family, daily Mexican life, the Latino experience in the U.S. and immigration.

HEALTHY COOKING

Scott Parseghian

This grant funds supplies and the assistance of a food service worker for a new Healthy Cooking class at Wayland High School. The course aims to teach students how to prepare healthy meals independently while budgeting for ingredients and understanding the nutritional value of foods.

HIGH SCHOOL COMPUTER SCIENCE DATA CENTER SANDBOX

Mike Hopps, Mary Barber

This grant provides WHS Computer Science students the materials to build a classroom-based Computer Data Center with an infrastructure separate from Wayland's Production Data Center. Students would manage their own sandboxed virtual machines (VM), which would allow students access to system files and to install software development tools, enabling a true student-driven, project-based curriculum.

CLASSROOM PRINTING PRESS

Veronique Latimer

This grant provides funding for a printing press for the art room at the High School. This will allow the students enrolled in visual arts classes access to a more sophisticated printmaking process. Students enrolled in Introductory Art classes will be encouraged to create expressive, personal artwork, while Advanced students will have the opportunity to create etchings using a technique of etching on plastic sheets. Printmaking is an opportunity for students to learn craftsmanship and will also be beneficial to the students who are preparing portfolios for admission to art programs and schools.

PATENT INSTRUCTOR FOR INNOVATION CLASS

Jay Moody

This grant funds an experienced patent attorney to assist students in the High School's Innovation Class with the patent application process for inventions developed in class. The patent professional will further develop a process to allow future students to file for patents on an ongoing basis.

COMPETITIVE GAMING EQUIPMENT

Mark Nolan & Mary Barber

This grant provides funds to start an eSports program at Wayland High School. With the purchase of computers and peripherals this program will compete in the Massachusetts High School eSports League. eSports programs have proven to engage students, promote collaboration and communication and build leadership. As with traditional sports, engaging in eSports helps build character, discipline, self esteem and sportsmanship. Over 200 colleges offer eSports scholarships and the number is rising.