



2019-2020 Grant Summaries

SYSTEM WIDE (K-12)

EMBEDDING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING INTO ALL ASPECTS OF SCHOOL CULTURE

Brian Jones, Tony Laing, Richard Whitehead Caroline Han, Rose Marie Furey, Daniel O'Connor, Jennifer DiStefano

This grant provides funding for the Director of Student Services, Diversity & Equity Coordinator, METCO Director, a principal and three teachers to attend a national Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Institute to learn best practices in SEL. Upon return from the conference, the attendees will share what they learned with teachers and other district administrators in order to identify and implement initiatives in alignment with Wayland's goals.

TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP FELLOW

Caroline Han

This grant partially funds the participation of the WPS Diversity and Equity Coordinator in the Transformative Educational Leadership program. This group integrates leadership, equity, SEL and mindfulness into one model of inner and outer transformational change.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

ADAPTED TRAVERSE CLIMBING WALL

Danielle LeBaron

This grant provides funding for the Claypit Hill PE teacher to purchase and install an adapted traverse climbing wall for the gym. This wall will offer students opportunities to improve balance, coordination, physical fitness, & self-esteem along with healthy and safe opportunities to take risks. The wall will be inclusive and provide students with various physical disabilities the opportunity to participate in activities with their classmates in a way that affords them a sense of strength and inclusion.

CLAYPIT HILL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Karen Watson, Jennifer Root

This grant provides funding to purchase “we-go round” playground equipment for the Claypit Hill playground. The “we go round” will benefit all students, including children with disabilities, by providing opportunities for constructive, social and sensory play.

COMPUTATIONAL THINKING TAKES FLIGHT WITH DRONES AND CODING

Stephanie Meyler, Nancy Colbert, Beth Crozier

This grant provides funds to purchase six drones per elementary school (18 total drones). This will provide an opportunity for students to program and fly drones using their own block programming code with an iPad or Chromebook. Having this opportunity will prepare students to think about the coding which they have learned and apply it using real world applications.

ANIMATION BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE

Maureen Devlin, Jaclyn Mattson, Alyssa Leo, Colleen Flannery, Beth Crozier

This grant will introduce students at Happy Hollow to animation via an expert children’s book author and animator, John Lechner, and then give students the opportunity to develop their own animation skills using Fablevision software, Animaton-ish.

BIODIVERSITY: EDUCATING OUR STUDENTS ON SAVING THE PLANET

Anne Johnson, Brian Jones

This grant brings a speaker from Young Audiences of Massachusetts to the Loker School. “Billy B” uses science, humor, music, dance and audience participation to introduce earth’s biodiversity, why it is declining and how we can help to protect it.

EMBRACING MEXICAN CULTURE AND TRADITIONS

Brian Jones, Liliana Smith

This grant funds an assembly at the Loker School called “Dancing with the Colors of Mexico.” Performer Veronica Robles will teach students about Mexican culture through dance and songs. This program will provide an opportunity to incorporate Hispanic culture and language school-wide, which will build connections to the Spanish Immersion program, which is housed at the school.

OPT OUTSIDE

Jennifer Mohr, Jennifer DiStefano

Opt outside will provide an outdoor space for teachers to take their class outside the traditional school building at Loker Elementary School. This grant funds outdoor classroom construction costs including stump seating and an outdoor easel. It also provides four days of professional development for Loker teachers to learn how to teach students effectively outdoors. This PD will be provided by nature-based learning educators.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

CLIMATE CHANGE PBL

Brian Reddington, Stacey Reed

This grant provides summer work days for Wayland Middle School teachers to create a new Projects Based Learning unit on the effects of plastics and climate change.

ENHANCING EXPLORATION & EXPERIMENTATION IN THE VISUAL ARTS CLASSROOM

Pete Curran, Visual Arts Teacher

This grant enhances the current classroom offerings in visual arts at the Middle School, encouraging in depth exploration and support for student inquiry in three areas of interest: Digital drawing/ artmaking, three dimensional design, and digital filmmaking/ documentation. The funds will be used to purchase two Apple Ipad Pros for latest digital drawing app/tools, a Makerbot Replicator+ for a larger build plate and latest software capabilities that sync with chromebooks, and a DJI Osmo Gimbal Kit to enhance video production capabilities for in-class cameras.

JUMP START READING WITH AUDIOBOOKS

Lori DiGisi, Sara Ravid

This grant purchases a number of eBook/ audio book titles so that students have readily available and easy access to popular audio books to further their enjoyment of reading. This is especially important for struggling readers whose interest would have waned while waiting for a book which would otherwise not have been available.

LEGO MINDSTORM EV3 BRICKS

Bethann Monahan

This grant purchases twenty seven EV3 Intelligent Bricks to upgrade the Lego Mindstorm NXT robotics kits to support the ongoing Robotics Club at the Wayland Middle School.

SEEING THE INVISIBLE: 21ST CENTURY MICROSCOPY

Stacey Reed, Brian Reddington

The grant purchases twenty six digital view microscopes for the Middle School life sciences program. These microscopes allow students of all abilities to view the microscopes and to save, cast, edit and discuss shared images that students discover.

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKOUT UNLOCKING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Joanne Schmidt, Eric Wolven, Eva Urban Hughes

Breakouts are immersive learning games that bring the challenges of an escape room to the classroom. They can be physical or digital activities where students are

presented with a number of clues/resources/puzzles related to a topic of study. Clues are used to break a lock- break all the locks to breakout of the activity. This grant purchases twelve breakout kits, a school-wide license for breakout activities, access to a platform with games and a digital game creator, and a cart.

COLLABORATIVE LANGUAGE COMMONS (CLC)

Nicole Haghdoust, Laura Marie, Megan Smith, Mary Barber, Leisha Simon

This grant provides funding to design an innovative learning space at the high school called the Collaborative Learning Commons. This space will give WHS students an enhanced and unique experience in their language class and will benefit every student at WHS.

DEVELOPING CO-TEACHING PARTNERSHIPS AT WAYLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Amanda White

This grant provides for a consultant, professional development, and classroom observation time for the Special Education department at Wayland High School to develop targeted co-teaching partnerships between its members and teachers within the general education departments. These partnerships will facilitate increased instructional opportunities for all learners, addressing district goals to elevate student achievement and support social-emotional learning for all students.

EXPANDING AND REFURBISHING THE WIRELESS MIC SYSTEM (HS AUDITORIUM)

Aidan O'Hara

This grant funds eighteen individual wireless microphone systems for the Wayland High School auditorium. In addition, the systems will be installed professionally to maximize the quality of sound expertise for both the participants and audience.

FORENSICS CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT

Kristin Cowell

This grant purchases a series of forensics lab investigations. These investigations will augment the current forensics curriculum at the high school to provide for an overarching theme and consistent evaluation throughout the year.

NEW CARDIO EQUIPMENT FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL FITNESS ROOM

Scott Parseghian, John Berry

This grant purchases one indoor rower and three bikeergs for the Wayland High School fitness room. The fitness room is being used more before and during school and will also be used during the school day as part of the wellness curriculum.

WONDERMORE AUTHOR VISIT

Joanne Schmidt, Brian Keaney, Gwen Goldin, Martha Gowetski

This grant brings author Kekla Magoon of Wondermore to Wayland High School for three presentations. Kekla's presentations will focus on her young adult novels and writing workshops that emphasize finding and trusting your own creative voice.