

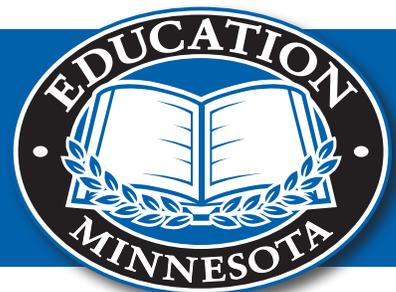
EDUCATION MINNESOTA  
**FOUNDATION**



*for Excellence in Teaching and Learning*

## **Grant Programs**

*2011 Classroom, ESP, Higher Ed and  
Affinity Grants*



## Classroom

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### Jon Baumgard

Melrose

#### Speaking Dragon

**\$2,991.72**

The **Speaking Dragon** project will allow selected students to use speech-to-text technology to improve their language arts skills. Students and teachers will use this technology to simplify and enhance learning.

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### Amy Braukmann

Deer River

#### Using iPads to Increase Desire to Read

**\$3,000**

Using iPads to Increase Desire to Read promotes the enjoyment and value of reading, allowing students to learn and practice effective reading strategies, improve student engagement, confidence, and the desire to read.

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### Donalee Butler

Staples/Motley

#### Reading for All

**\$1,800**

The **Reading for All** project allows books to be sent through the mail to provide students with easy access to books in order to maintain their reading level through the summer. This is done with no expense to the parents.

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### Amy Dahlin

Roseville

#### The National Scholar

**\$2,750**

The **National Scholar** is an academic journal that will publish the scholarly work of secondary students from across the nation. It seeks to recognize the best writing from students in all disciplines. Once organized, it will be sold and used as a teaching resource.

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### Julie Daly

Burnsville

#### Enriching Language through Science

**\$2,147.48**

The **Enriching Language Through Science** project is intended to give second grade English Language Learners engaging, informational texts and supplies that will coordinate with the district's science standards and help the students apply the concepts through experimentation.

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### Marie Doherty

Cambridge-Isanti

#### Read to Me: A Monthly Book Club

**\$2,980**

**Read to Me** is a reading program that uses a book club for students and their families to positively impact several key developmental areas: print awareness, book handling skills, background knowledge on a variety of topics, and larger receptive and expressive vocabularies. This reinforces pre-academic skills including attention skills, thus creating a positive parent/child bonding activity.

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### Gary Downing

North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale

#### The Popcorn Project

**\$2,612**

Exploring new ways to motivate students with special needs, **The Popcorn Project** allows students to make and vend popcorn to the general school population. The project aims to increase functional math skills, real-life application of social skills, and critical thinking skills.

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### Sarah Fritzsche

Jordan

#### iPads to Boost Math Skills and Confidence

**\$2,999.94**

The **iPads to Boost Math Skills and Confidence** project uses new technologies. Use iPad and iPad in the class setting in order to ignite the interest of the students in fun and exciting ways, thereby enhancing their math skills.

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### Lynn Grenz

MSCF

#### Theme Kits

**\$1,500**

The **Theme Kits** project will enable college students in a Child Development program to develop interactive activity kits that can be checked out by community members and students. These kits will include at least one book and several interactive activities that relate to the book and that target each developmental domain (cognitive, physical, social/emotional, language).

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### Craig Hagberg

Wright Technical Center

#### WTC/WLC Land Restoration Project

**\$3,000**

The **WTC/WLC Land Restoration Project** will allow for the restoration of a vacant 5.2 acre section of school property, using native species of vegetation with a goal of biodiversity. The area is intended to be used as a multipurpose classroom and interpretive center.

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### Tori Jensen

Spring Lake Park

#### Teens Read Too!

**\$2,993**

The **Teens Read Too!** project aims to increase teen literacy and teen interest in reading by offering reading materials in various formats, and through peers and role models students like and respect heading reading groups. By making reading more of a social activity, students will read more.

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### Carla Johnson

Dawson-Boyd

#### Personal Character is the Story

**\$1,000**

Ninth and tenth graders participating in the **Personal Character is the Story** project will be reading books on the advanced reading list, comparing the main characters to their lives. They will read the books from a health perspective, where the students will be required to write reports about the characters' health and choices.

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### Teresa Kelly

St. Paul

#### Effects of Rhythm/Pitch on Phonemic Awareness

**\$1,770**

Eight kindergarten and first grade classes will be involved in the study at the heart of the **Effects of Rhythm/Pitch on Phonemic Awareness** project. The comparative study will examine improvement in phonemic awareness through either daily rhythm or pitch training.

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### Carrie Koenigsberger

*Intermediate District 917*

#### Increasing Communication- Decreasing Behavior

**\$2,769.82**

In the **Increasing Communication--Decreasing Behavior** project, Program Alternative for Communication Education and Socialization (PACES) students will use iPad applications to enhance their ability to communicate with others across a variety of school settings and reduce the occurrence of negative behaviors towards themselves or others.

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### Anne Krafthefer

*Duluth*

#### Art and Science Connection

**\$1,250**

The **Art and Science Connection** project explores the potential for deepening students' scientific understanding through art. The goal of the project is to teach students to be able to demonstrate the ability to observe key details and changes in them in their physical world with science and art activities.

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### Kate Kramer

*Chaska*

#### Would You Drink It? Testing Water Quality

**\$3,000**

Middle school students tend to be hands-on learners. With a water quality testing kit, students will get out of the classroom to test the water quality in nearby ponds and creeks. The **Would You Drink It?** project will help students practice their measuring and analyzing skills while showing them a real-world connection between their curriculum and their environment.

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### Amy Lemke

*Cambridge-Isanti*

#### Home Runs

**\$3,000**

Many parents of children with special education needs express a desire for help with their children in their homes. The development of the **Home Runs** curriculum for preschool Early Childhood Special Education students will allow educators to schedule home visits with students and their families. The Home Run kit includes not only books and toys for children, but parenting resources as well.

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### Kerry Lindgren

*Staples/Motley*

#### Applied Science and Technology Labs

**\$3,000**

Providing an exciting approach to career awareness and hands-on learning, this project supports a partnership between high school agricultural programs and the University of Minnesota. The **Applied Science and Technology Labs** project will bring high school students to university labs to explore topics such as DNA extraction and the physiology of animal organ systems.

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### Lauren Martin

*Parkers Prairie*

#### Nature, Imaging, and Tactile Learning in Secondary Education

**\$2,700**

Teachers and parents partner in this team-teaching effort to restructure the construct of reality through a new series of arts, science, and technology courses focusing on nature. The **Nature, Imaging, and Tactile Learning in Secondary Education** project will provide a learning environment that more directly connects students to nature, strengthening their mental health and honing their observation skills.

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### Carrie Mathison

*Fillmore Central*

#### Jewelry/Metal Work Equipment

**\$3,000**

The **Jewelry/Metal Work Equipment** project expands the options available to students in the area of 3-D art. Through the implementation of jewelry and metal work, students will develop skills in attention to detail, precision, metal work processes, and 3-D forms.

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### Jenelle Milleson

*DCUE*

#### EHS/CID Program

**\$2,994**

Students identified as having Communication Interaction Disorder (CID) learn communication skills more effectively through the use of digital media, social stories, and video modeling. The **EHS/CID Program** project will provide support for a Broadcasting course that allows students to develop skills through a variety of new mechanisms.

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### Donna Ohlgren

*Osseo*

#### Electronic Book Club

**\$1,494**

Gifted students who read above grade level too often fail to meet their targeted Rasch unIT (RIT) growth. The **Electronic Book Club** project will allow for the development of a book club targeting this population using e-readers to enhance students' interaction with texts and deepen their comprehension.

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### Patricia Rodysill

*Moose Lake*

#### Navigating Education in the 21st Century

**\$2,980**

In an effort to reduce bullying and obesity, and enhance math, geography, and science skills, **Navigating Education in the 21st Century** teams high school students with middle school students. Together, the students will use GPS units for geocaching and compasses for orienteering in a designated school forest.

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### Sarah Rother

*Chaska*

#### Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) Project

**\$3,000**

Transition to middle school presents many challenges for students. The **Where Everybody Belongs** project is a student-centered leadership and mentoring program that connects every incoming student with a caring upper-grade student through structured activities over the course of a year, allowing for a smooth transition both academically and socially.

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### Christi Schmitt

*St. Paul*

#### Reading Expeditions

**\$3,000**

In order to address the needs of English Language Learners, the **Reading Expeditions** project allows students to develop their reading literacy and fluency with access and support of take-home books and correlated activities based on their reading levels.

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### Michelle Shaw

*Edina*

#### Sharpening the SAW (Spelling Achievement in Writing)

**\$1,164.05**

As a response to poor spelling skills and the fear of writing they often engender, the **Sharpening the Saw** project will provide elementary school writers with Franklin Talking Children's Dictionary and Spell Correctors. The project will measure student improvement and lead to a better understanding of the impediments many students face with writing.

### Kathi Sims

*Foley*

#### Partnering with Parents

**\$1,688.94**

Using videos of students with and without special needs in a classroom setting, the **Partnering with Parents** project allows Early Childhood Education teachers to partner with parents and a variety of specialists to assess and measure social and classroom skills, thus enabling them to develop comprehensive plans for individual student improvement.

### Jodi Spohnholtz

*Wayzata*

#### 21st Century Literacy

**\$2,919.54**

Using eReaders, grade-level digital novels, and audio CDs, the **21st Century Literacy** project will explore the potential for new technologies to improve student literacy. These technologies will allow for students who need additional support for literature assignments to continue to work at the same pace as proficient readers.

### Darci Stanford

*MSCF*

#### Lending Library

**\$3,000**

The **Lending Library** project will enable college students in a Child Development program to develop interactive activity kits that can be checked out by community members and students. These kits will include at least one book and several interactive activities that relate to the book and that target each developmental domain (cognitive, physical, social/emotional, language).

### Pamela Strawn

*Burnsville*

#### Teaching Reading and Language with Social Studies Content

**\$2,995.15**

The **Teaching Reading and Language with Social Studies Content** project will provide English Language Learners with engaging, non-fiction social studies literature. These resources will coordinate with the Minnesota State Standards and will expand and deepen the students' background knowledge.

### Jordan Swiontek

*Maple Lake*

#### The Irish Musicality Program

**\$578**

In an effort to increase tone quality skills, **The Irish Musicality Program** project will allow band students to participate with Minnesota Brass Inc.

### Naomi Tague-Hamlin

*Cambridge-Isanti*

#### iPads for Achievement

**\$2,994**

The **iPads for Achievement** project will provide students with disabilities access to innovative technology that will increase student on-task time, motivation, practice, and commensurate academic achievement.

### Elena Thiede

*Staples/Motley*

#### Math and Non Fiction Literature

**\$516.11**

Research has shown that children learn best when they connect new learning to their existing knowledge and skills. The **Math and Non-Fiction Literature** project will provide math students with non-fiction children's books which will integrate non-fiction and mathematics using real-world applications.

### Andrea Tuerk

*St. Paul*

#### Central Minute Mart

**\$2,819.68**

The **Central Minute Mart** project supports a unique program offering students with developmental cognitive disability and emotional/behavioral disorders opportunities to develop real-world job transition skills.

### Janice Velgersdyk

*Mounds View*

#### Discovering Language with Books

**\$2,258.46**

Adult Basic Education programs often lack resources necessary to for adults learning English at a basic level. The **Discovering Language with Books** project will allow for the purchase of adult easy-reader books covering important cultural and scientific concepts useful to ESL students.

### Kelli Waalk-Gilbertson

*Osseo*

#### Bowling Wii Will Go...

**\$3,000**

Students in grades 10-12 with developmental cognitive disabilities, learning disabilities, and Autism spectrum disorder face several challenges developing healthy, active lifestyles and fundamental social skills. The **Bowling Wii Will Go** project will support the development of a Wii bowling league for these students based on a curriculum targeting motor and sensory issues, activity, and social skills.

### Joan Waldschmidt

*Osseo*

#### Using Mobile Technology to Break Down the Invisible Walls Between Speech Therapy and Students' Real Life

**\$1,400**

**Using Mobile Technology to Break Down the Invisible Walls** is a project that uses portable, user-friendly, highly motivating technology to help students with speech disabilities. Use of such equipment is a powerful tool in helping students carry over the newly-acquired speech and communication skills they learn in therapy to real life interactions.

### Kristin Warehime

*Owatonna*

#### Exercise and Learning

**\$2,975**

The **Exercise and Learning** project uses physical activity to jump start neural connections for 7th grade students with DCD, SLD, and EBD. Using hula hoops, jump ropes, balance boards and more, the project integrates physical activity with reading instruction.

## Classroom *continued*, Educational Support Professionals

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### Sandra Woodhull

Wayzata

**Ta-Coumba Aiken -Artist in Residence**  
**\$3,000**

The Ta-Coumba Aiken Artist in Residence project will allow a teacher to partner with an artist to gain a deeper understanding of artistic voice and style. Students in the program will work with the artist-in-residence and the teacher to design and plan banners that express their sense of ethnicity and community, as well as other forms of identity.

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## Educational Support Professionals *(awarded*

*April and November 2010)*

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### Mary Attig

United South Central ESP

**2010 AFT Convention**

**\$1,000**

This ESP grant allowed two members to attend the 2010 AFT Convention and to bring back exciting new ideas to their colleagues.

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### Anthony Baysah

Minneapolis

**Professional Development**

**\$1,000**

Developing knowledge and skills related to interacting with students with severe emotional and behavioral disorders leads to more effective, positive, and respectful communication. Anthony will take a Behavior Management class in Special Education at the Mankato State University.

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### Coral Berge

St. Paul

**Technology Training on PowerPoint, Captivate, and Word**

**\$790**

The Science Museum of Minnesota offers technology courses that lead to enhanced proficiency and effectiveness. Coral will be taking course to increase her skills with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Adobe Captivate.

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### Pam Booth

Minneapolis

**Managing Anti-social Behaviors**  
**\$1,000**

By attending the Education Research and Dissemination Training on Managing Anti-Social Behaviors, Pam will be able to share new research and skills with other district staff.

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### Julie Dargis

Minneapolis

**Managing Anti-social Behaviors**  
**\$1,000**

By attending the Education Research and Dissemination Training on Managing Anti-Social Behaviors, Julie will be able to share new research and skills with other district staff.

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### Lisa McQuarter

Osseo-ESP

**Responsive Classroom Seminar**  
**\$525**

Attendance at the Responsive Classroom Seminar will allow Lisa to deepen her skills and efficiency related to working with students in the classroom.

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### Janet Nelson

St. Paul

**ECFE Basic American Sign Language**  
**\$1,000**

The ECCE Basic American Sign Language project explores the efficacy of using sign language to increase communication between staff and families who speak multiple languages and families with preverbal children.

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### Ellen Olsen

St. Paul

**Spanish Language and Hispanic Cultures**  
**\$1,000**

As a sign language interpreter and transition assistant, Ellen works with a great many Latino students and families. By taking the writing-intensive, Spanish immersion course called Introduction to the Study of Hispanic Cultures, Ellen will better develop her Spanish skills and will broaden her understanding of cultural factors impacting her work.

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### Ellen Olsen

St. Paul

**Sign Language Interpreter Ethics Training**  
**\$600**

Ethics play a vital role in the work of sign language interpreters. This grant will allow the participants to bring a leader in the field of interpreting to present Ethics Training for Sign Language Interpreters to the sign language interpreters in their district.

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### Sue Olsen-Snyder

St. Paul

**CEU Cruise**

**\$550**

With this grant, Sue was able to attend five workshops developing American Sign Language skills.

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### Karen Piepho

Osseo-ESP

**Technology Training for ESP's**  
**\$780**

While Smart Board, doc cam, and projector/computer technologies are available, the district trains only teachers to use them. The Technology Training for ESP's grant will allow for hands-on training in such technologies for ten ESPs.

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## Higher Ed

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### Thomas Brandt

MSCF

#### Development of Custom Painting Course

**\$2,853**

Many of the students enrolled in the **Auto Body Collision Technology** department at Southeast Technical College in Winona have a strong desire to gain knowledge in the area of custom paint techniques, custom paint products, and related tools and supplies. This professional development grant will allow Thomas to pursue coursework and the acquisition of training materials in the field of custom painting for the auto industry.

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### Elizabeth Burand

MSCF

#### Conference & HAPS Membership

**\$1,240**

The **Human Anatomy and Physiology Society Annual Conference** includes workshops devoted specifically to the teaching of Anatomy and Physiology. Elizabeth is particularly interested in learning about the latest research and resources available to her as she works to develop online and hybrid Anatomy and Physiology courses for Southeast Technical College.

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### Lynn Grenz

MSCF

#### Parent Aware Curriculum

**\$2,230.78**

Blue Earth and Nicollet counties are involved in the pilot **Parent Aware** program, which is a quality rating system that recognizes quality early childhood programs and provides resources to improve them. The new materials will allow for instruction on the pilot program to all students majoring in Childhood Development Careers.

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### Kimberly Hansen

MSCF

#### Accreditation Assessment Seminar

**\$2,489.53**

As part of the accreditation process, faculty members in the accounting, business, and office technology programs at Riverland Community and Technical College are seeking to learn more about the tools available for, and the value of, assessing for student learning. Attending a seminar offered by the **Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs** will provide them with a solid foundation in the philosophy and guiding principles of accreditation.

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### Craig Longtine

MSCF

#### Innovation 2011 Conference

**\$1,580**

The annual **Innovations** conference regularly attracts a diverse group of community college educators, administrators, and staff. Through his attendance at the conference, Craig is particularly interested in broadening opportunities for undergraduate research at community colleges.

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### Sue Shelerud

MSCF

#### Health Educators Conference

**\$2,961**

Nursing programs throughout the state of Minnesota are currently transitioning from Board of Nursing standards to those set by the National League of Nursing. Attendance at the **Minnesota Annual Health Educator's Conference** will allow nursing instructors at Lake Superior College to deepen their skills and knowledge in the areas of simulation training, evidence-based practice, and best practices for clinical education, which will help them both in the transition to NLN accreditation and in their classrooms and clinical sites.

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### Darci Stanford

MSCF

#### Parent Aware Curriculum

**\$2,230.78**

The **Parent Aware** program is a quality rating system that recognizes quality early childhood programs and provides resources to improve them. The new materials will allow for instruction on the pilot program to all students majoring in Childhood Development Careers.

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## 2010-11 Affinity Grants

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The Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning also includes the Affinity program — opportunities for nonprofit organizations to partner with us to bring high-quality professional development and instructional materials to our members. Twice a year (November and April), the Board considers applications. Preference is given to organizations that are nonprofit, charitable organizations or professional associations and to programs that have a broad, general appeal — working toward our mission of promoting vision, best practices and achievement. During this past year, the Foundation was proud to provide assistance to these organizations and programs:

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**Duluth Superior Area Educational Television Corp.  
(WDSE WRPT)**  
<http://www.wdse.org>  
**\$5,000**

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**Minnesota State Bar Association - Civic Education  
Committee**  
<http://www.mnciviced.org>  
**\$4,500**

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**Ordway Center for the Performing Arts**  
<http://www.ordway.org>  
**\$5,000**

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**The Advocates for Human Rights**  
<http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org>  
**\$5,000**

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**University of St. Thomas School of Education**  
<http://www.stthomas.edu/education>  
**\$4,625**

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