

EDUCATION MINNESOTA
FOUNDATION



for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Grant Programs

Funded April 2015-January 2016



**THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS**

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Classroom

Karin Beckstrand

Fridley Education Association
A Folksong Journey

\$3,000

We will bring Jack Pearson to Hayes Elementary School to work with our students in a multitude of musical areas such as singing, composing, instrument playing and building and learning more about folk songs. These musical areas will also connect to our International Baccalaureate Programme—the Primary Years—through the grade level planners of “How We Express Ourselves.” Through the study of American folk songs, our students will be able to connect their own personal lives to the planner through the writing of original songs.

Mary Bejblik

St. Paul Federation of Teachers
Birdhouse Project

\$1,250

This project collaborates math class and industrial arts class and incorporates the environment in building birdhouses. Each student will be given the choice of birdhouse styles and plans after researching the local bird species. The grant will help purchase supplies for the birdhouses.

Theresa Bowlin

Education Minnesota - Intermediate District 917

Life Skills Community Initiative
\$3,000

Special education high school students will develop hands-on transition skills in the areas of employment, post-secondary, and independent living skills by participating in the “Life Skills Initiative.” Students will practice functional math skills to budget, shop and follow recipes. They will gain work experience through volunteering and learning about areas of need, while increasing community awareness of services already available, and work as a team to meet project goals.

Denise Casey

Education Minnesota - Buffalo
Kindergarten Math-Literacy

Vocabulary Bins

\$1,919

This project is to design kindergarten math bins to be used in a small group, by our instructional ESPs, parent volunteers or older students working in classrooms. Each bin will have three stories about one of the topics listed, manipulatives related to the math concept, math vocabulary focus words, activity plans and other tools, such as whiteboards. The plans will be written to reteach, review and enrich.

Moneque Downs-Gacke

Education Minnesota - Osseo
Building Knowledge, Building Readers

\$2,979.59

The Daily Five program will be used to further build student skills through activities such as: listening to out-loud reading, checking for comprehension and providing resources at students’ reading level.

Sarah Fritzsche

Education Minnesota Jordan

More to Math Lego Kits

\$3,000

This project will open students’ minds to the idea that math can be filled with interactions, experimentations and making connections. Our Rtl math students will see that math can come to life, that questioning and finding multiple ways to solve problems can be fun and engaging and that math is much more than worksheets. Lego’s More to Math kits and curriculum will give our students the opportunity to interact with math in a new and engaging way.

Megan Heiman

MSCF-Vermilion

Study Abroad Program

\$3,000

Our goal is to create a quality study abroad program that includes for students 1) pre-trip experiences both in and outside the classroom including a cross-cultural course, cross-cultural training, paired course offerings and opportunities to engage with faculty and other travel-abroad students on grant writing, fundraising and social activities; 2) during-trip opportunities that include journaling, blogging and vlogging about interactions with local people and reflections on cultural similarities and differences; and 3) post-trip opportunities to share publically the experience and to receive support from faculty as they integrate the experience into their personal, academic and professional lives.

Twyla George

*Anoka Hennepin Education
Minnesota*

Creating a Calm and Caring Classroom

\$3,000

This project will create a safe and calm area in each classroom of our elementary school where students can go to relax, reflect and readjust their emotional state and be more prepared to get back to learning. The goal is to keep them within the classroom where they can still feel part of the community atmosphere by creating a relaxation station or “calm down corner” in each of our 20-25 classrooms, including support teachers’ classrooms.

Carol Henseler

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Write to Achieve

\$2,236.74

We will make our writing curriculum more relevant to our students’ lives by rewriting the biography unit. Students will interview and write a biography of a family member, rather than researching a historical figure. We will attend the “Increase Engagement through Absent Narratives” workshop at the Minnesota Humanities Center to provide a foundation for creating this unit. We plan to engage a media artist who will teach students how to use their iPads to create a video documentary of their biography.

Karen Huberty

Dakota County United Educators

Pedal Power = Brain Power!

\$3,000

The purpose of this grant is to provide additional movement opportunities for diverse middle school learners. These learners include students whose traditional electives are replaced with remedial academic classes, students who struggle with executive functioning or have a diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Classroom teachers will have access to stationary bikes and bike pedals for student use before class, during passing periods and during managed independent work time.

Ryan Kavanaugh

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Wireless Heart Rate Monitors for PE at Battle Creek Elementary

\$2,295

Hand-held, wireless heart rate monitors will help students understand the effect physical education has on their body on a personal level. The main goal of this project is to ensure that all students are exercising at the right intensity, ultimately helping them reach their full potential. All grades 1-5 will have access to heart rate monitors along with iPads during their physical education class.

Jeffrey Kohoutek

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Crossroads Elementary Student Coding and Robotics using Sphero and Mini Drones

\$2,841.85

We will use the engagement of Sphero Robotic Balls and Rolling Spider Mini-Drones to enable students to learn coding and programming to solve open-ended problems and meet challenges of their own design. All students K-5 at Crossroads Elementary Magnet School will have access and opportunities to work with these engaging and powerful tools. Students will start solving problems and meeting challenges in the two-dimensions on the ground with Sphero robots and obstacle courses, creating challenges for each other and completing tasks. As students become successfully with two-dimensional challenges, they will move to three-dimensional challenges with coding and programming Mini Drones to fly.

Vicki Lough

United Teachers of South Washington County

Motor Movement **\$3,000**

This grant will be used to purchase age-appropriate gross motor equipment to help the students learn and develop motor skills in a fun and safe environment and provide a safe and developmentally appropriate environment for our young students.

LaRae Mikkelson

Education Minnesota - Moorhead

Flexible Seating for Intermediate 21st Century Learners **\$2,949.32**

The “Flexible Seating for Intermediate 21st Century Learners” project will allow five fifth-grade teachers to purchase wobble stools, stability balls and one ergonomic standing desk for each of the five classrooms. Students will make their own seating choices based on personal preferences and learning styles, thereby enhancing student communication, collaboration and engagement.

Lynn Morris

Education Minnesota - Intermediate District 917

Beginning Computer Programming and Logic **\$1,395**

With this grant, we hope to broaden students’ concepts and implementation of computer programming and opportunities that exist in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for our students who may not traditionally seek the STEM career path. I will expand on the Friday advisory class I currently teach about basic programming to include the application of programming a three-dimensional printer. The final step will include an interactive gaming project utilizing the free GG-interactive gaming program download.

Laura Nelson

Education Minnesota Jordan

Alternative Seating in the Elementary Classroom **\$3,000**

Out with the old and in with the new! I will improve my students’ posture, focus, core muscles, balance, coordination and academic skills all at the same time. Students will be given the opportunity to use AlphaBetter Standing Desks or Hokki Stools in my first-grade classroom, and will no longer be expected to sit in desks that restrict their natural movement. I expect to see students who are able to focus better because their seating options will allow for natural body movements.

Gerri Nielsen

Education Minnesota - Fillmore Central

Standing Desks **\$2,625**

With this grant, I will purchase sturdy and adjustable standing desks from local manufacturers. With research, I’ve discovered that standing desks can be very beneficial to improve a student’s chances for success in the classroom. I expect a classroom atmosphere that allows for better focus, fewer distractions, and healthier and successful students.

Meg Paulson

Montevideo Education Association

I Need To Do What? By When? How, Again? **\$1,746.65**

With this project we hope to systematically teach students with weak executive functioning skills the pre-requisite abilities required to plan and complete tasks successfully using tools and strategies specific to developing executive functioning skills.

Lindsay Peifer

St. Paul Federation of Teachers Central@150

\$3,000

We plan to create a digital project in two team-taught English classes (general and special education) to celebrate and commemorate Central High School’s 150 years of existence. Through a series of student-centered activities, students will attempt to answer key questions to expand their literacy skills, ability to use technology for academic purposes, and understand how they are connected to Central’s legacy.

Jessica Peterson

Faribault Education Association

Teaching Together: Service-Learning-Life

\$3,000

The Faribault Area Learning Center presents at-risk students with varied learning experiences via interdisciplinary approaches to learning. Teachers co-teach, collaborating between subjects and departments, which allows for students to make connections between academic areas. This grant will allow us to take this approach further and bring students out into the community, providing hands-on experiential service learning projects and educational lessons, which are essential to making real-life connections to academia. In addition to co-taught learning experiences provided to the students, students will provide services to the larger community through projects setup through the school by teachers, work coordinators, the guidance counselor and the students themselves, to better help the area in which they live and gain the opportunity to participate in volunteerism and real-life learning.

Michelle Pose

St. Louis Park Association of Teachers

Alternative Seating

\$2,988.70

Our project aims to improve attention, increase student engagement and focus, encourage inclusion and provide organizing sensory input to all students in this fourth-grade classroom through alternative seating options for the entire class. It is a combined approach between the classroom teacher and the school occupational therapist. We expect that by increasing attention in the classroom, students will then retain information and demonstrate increased on-task behavior. In an effort to have a classroom that is inclusive of all students and meets everyone's needs, we will have alternative options for all students, as to not make students feel excluded for requiring different seating.

Teri Schierenbeck

Dakota County United Educators

We Are All Authors

\$3,000

This grant will allow me to facilitate an author's visit for our sixth-grade students. Students have been working on story structure through inquiry units of study around narrative text, as well as viewing text through different lenses—such as author or illustrator. I will set up classes so students can interact with an author to learn about the writing process, ask questions about the author's texts, talk about strengths and challenges/struggles and learn to view themselves as authors.

Brenda Smith

Blue Earth Area Education Association

Fit 4 Life

\$3,000

“Fit 4 Life” is a physical education project to increase student engagement in class participation of moderate to vigorous physical activity and to increase student awareness of personal effort toward class involvement. With enhanced equipment, we will make our small middle school weight room model more of a fitness center. This equipment will also be able to be used with the general physical education class. Students will be exposed to a variety of options to improve their personal fitness by offering more types of equipment to carry skills over to future lifetime fitness opportunities.

Michelle Spies

Education Minnesota Jordan

Non-Fiction Literary Circles

\$2,497.74

With this project, we plan to have several different nonfiction choices for students to read. They will work in groups to comprehend and discuss their books, but will also be able to meet in mixed groups to compare and contrast the different books. This will benefit students in numerous ways. By choosing high interest titles such as memoirs and biographies, students are bound to find something they are interested in because they will have several different choices. We are also planning on choosing books for different levels as well. This way, students who are struggling can read a book closer to their level, but still discuss with the rest of the class.

Amy Swaney

Education Minnesota - Intermediate District 917

Animal-Assisted Social Emotional Learning for Special Education Students

\$3,000

I plan to collaborate with Paws for Learning to use trained therapy dogs help teach social and emotional skills to students with significant challenges related to emotional regulation, mental health needs and trauma. The Paws for Learning staff and dogs empower students to deepen self-awareness, improve socialization skills, develop positive coping strategies, improve self-esteem and increase school engagement.

Taylor Thomas

Education Minnesota - Intermediate District 917

Student Created In-Service Project

\$2,329.76

With this project, I plan to help my students gain better access at school in a fun and memorable way. Students will create a video that will give their teachers in-service training about their educational needs related to their hearing loss. While working on this project, we hope students will enhance the awareness of their hearing loss, leading to successfully accommodating their needs in the classroom, and ultimately, improving their self-advocacy skills.

Christine Voigtlander

Education Minnesota - Osseo

Project ACE

\$3,000

The focus of this project is to address our students' sensory learning, social learning and emotional regulation. This direct social and emotional learning will address the fundamental conditions for learning and foster students' capacity to learn. Social and emotional support learning is fundamental to children's healthy development and enables schools to educate students to be good problem-solvers, and caring, responsible and engaged citizens.

Kelli Waalk-Gilbertson

Education Minnesota - Osseo

Building Peer Connections

\$3,000

High school special education students will learn social communication skills and develop peer friendships by participating in a variety of structured and creative building activities with mainstream peers. During weekly "opportunity hour," student pairs will "build" a variety of creative projects using kits for Legos, Marble Mazes, Rollercoaster Runs, Magnetix, Meccano Meccanoid Robots, and other similar types of building items students may come up with.

Mark Westpfahl

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Educational Learning Trunks

\$2,000

"Educational Learning Trunks" will provide students with an opportunity to explore different historic eras, expand their curiosity and research with artifacts as part of an interactive and engaging educational experience. This project will provide the development of three educational learning trunks, which will allow students to interact with authentic and reproduction artifacts from different eras to strengthen their understanding of different topics. Developing three educational learning trunks—Civil War, immigration, and World War II—will allow students to participate in the roles of investigative historians.

Dee White

St. Croix Education Association

Project Move to Learn

\$2,826

Students in special education will utilize the Journeys Room, a federal setting-three classroom for students with emotional/behavioral disorders and a behavior intervention room for all other special needs students. By providing students with movement opportunities within the classroom through the use of Stamina WirkRide Cycling Workstations, Kore Wobble Stools and Bouncy Bands attached to chair and desk legs, students' on-task behavior will increase, while disruptive off-task behaviors will decrease.

Sara Young

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Book of the Month

\$3,000

Our goal is to build a strong school climate with hopes that this cohesiveness will lead to co-peer learning, tolerance, welcoming of errors, increased feedback, positive teacher-student and student-student relationships. The key piece in attaining this goal is sharing common character-focused literature that reflects the culture of our students.

Brent Yule

Medford Minnesota Education Association

S.M.A.R.T. Grant

\$3,000

We plan to fully implement the “SMART (Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training) Curriculum” into our pre-K-second-grade classes. We are striving to get students to enter upper elementary grades more school—and learning—ready. SMART achieves this by doing a variety of activities that stimulate multiple senses to help the students become more ready to learn vital skills to be successful throughout their school career and on standardized tests. The funding from this grant will go towards equipment necessary to make this transition efficient and effective.

Ann Zitzow

Frazee Education Association

Community Involvement To Develop Language Skills

\$760

The special education students within the developmental cognitive disabilities program desperately need to be more active within the community. Through community activities they can learn more appropriate social skills and verbal interactions, especially with service personnel. We hope to be able to improve communication abilities as well as working on money skills, social interactions and giving them new experiences in a non-classroom setting. These are skills we work on within the daily classroom routine and could practice them for real-life with someone being able to assist those students who struggle severely with verbal interactions.

Katie Zuehlke

Annandale Education Association

Kinderspace, Makerspace

\$3,000

“Kinderspace, Makerspace” will invite students to use a variety of materials and manipulatives to wonder, create, ask and solve. These creations could be anything from a cardboard box arcade to a marble machine to a stuffed animal playground to a spaceship. Throughout the year, we will digitally connect with another kindergarten class that is involved in a “makerspace” to glean new ideas and share ours. “Kinderspace, Makerspace” lets kindergartners do what they do best—CREATE—with a purpose in mind.

Classroom Technology

John Almos

Education Minnesota - Cambridge-Isanti

Engineering with Robotics Equipment
\$3,000

We will purchase VEX Robotic Kits to be used within our new robotics class. Throughout the semester, students will engineer, design, prototype and build remotely controlled robots to play sport-like games within the classroom. During this process, students will learn key science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) principles and robotics concepts.

Emily Bergquist

Education Minnesota - Roseville

Bam! Pow! Using Comic Life To Teach Social Skills
\$2,714.95

Social stories were designed in 1991 by Carol Gray to assist students in understanding the nuances of interpersonal communication by modeling appropriate social interactions through pictures and stories. Using the Comic Life application will allow students to create their personal stories by taking pictures of their real-life scenarios and creating dialogue in a highly engaging, comic book format.

Sarah Buxton

Education Minnesota - Roseville

An Apple iPad a Day
\$1,775.96

Our project will include the student use of an iPad and specified research-based iPad applications to do the following: calm/relax, skill-build, and track mental health state. The student support team, including the school psychologist, school social worker and school nurse have identified one of the reasons for disengagement in the classroom is mental illness, specifically anxiety or depression. In behavioral health, a movement toward individual empowerment has taken place.

Chris Caduff

Farmington Education Association

Cubelets-Robotic in an Elementary Classroom
\$2,187

Our district has a 1:1 digital learning device program, with all students having iPads. We will add a robotics unit to our curriculum, specifically for our second-, fourth- and fifth-graders. The addition of Cubelets, and robotics in general, will enhance our hands-on approach to engaging students in the engineering design process.

Bryn Fadum

Northland Learning Center

Improving Information Processing Using the Kindle Fire
\$2,293

This project will use Kindle Fires, math and reading applications and licenses and Whispersync (immersion reading) for increasing several components of information processing such as storage, retrieval, acquisition and manipulation in high school special education students.

Randy Feldsien

State Residential Schools Education Association

Road to Employment
\$3,000

The Road to Employment project supports students in improving their communication and technology skills through the utilization of three cameras and one video camera, to take photographs and videos that will be used in presentations and other class activities. Mock interviews and speeches will be recorded allowing students to reflect upon their performances to build skills where needed with hopes of gaining employment, furthering their education and public speaking.

Kristi Green

United Teachers of South Washington County

Who Would Win?
\$2,999

The goal of this project is to integrate technology directly into the hands of students for informative research, word processing and presentation skills. Students will use Chromebooks to engage in a shared inquiry learning project over the course of several months.

Mary Laura Green

Rochester Education Association

Kinders Can Code
\$2,680.33

Bee-Bots are colorful robots that are designed for young learners. Students will learn to program “friendly” bee robots to follow simple commands. The Bee-Bots move forward, backwards, left and right based on programmed commands inputted by students. Lights and sounds confirm the completion of a program.

Dan Gruhlke

Education Minnesota - Monticello
1,000 Words Project

\$3,000

The “1,000 Words Project” aims to broaden the use of digital photography from the present class of 20 kindergartners to three classes of kindergartners in the 2015-2016 school year. They will learn compositional techniques and use of light by capturing moments, objects and scenes to express ideas and thoughts.

Caroline Hardyman

Education Minnesota - Roseville
Bringing Students Narratives to the Big Screen

\$2,500

This project will focus on expanding students’ narrative skills through the use of iPad technology and Apple TV to provide explicit instruction and encourage student engagement. Students will use the applications Story Builder, Toontastic, and Felt Board to create their own stories and share them through AirPlay with others in their group through and Apple TV system.

Carol Hazard

Education Minnesota - Cambridge-Isanti

C-I Cyber Citizens-Combining Character and Computers

\$2,240

As more computer access becomes a part of school curriculum the need to teach appropriate online behavior to students, grades kindergarten through 12, escalates. Our project proposes to combine our current “Citizens of Character” with a new digital citizenship curriculum K-12, to create a new program hybrid called “C-I Cyber Citizens.” This program will be a digital citizenship program that we hope will influence student online behavior, both in and out of school, create a model of digital student behavior for teachers to reinforce, and sustain our character traits curriculum into the 21st century.

Jillian Hildebrand

United Teachers of South Washington County

Digital Portfolios for CGI Math Problem-Solving

\$3,000

Through the creation of digital portfolios with cognitively guided instruction (CGI) math word problems during guided math centers, the goal of my project is to increase number sense fluency and problem solving skills in my students. Each of my students will create a digital learning portfolio with the application Seesaw: The Learning Journal. This project will address deficiencies that I see in number sense fluency and the digital portfolios will empower students to create, capture, and store digital and physical artifacts of their learning, thinking and justifications from their CGI math problems. This is a yearlong project that will be worked on every school day during guided math centers.

Richard Jopp

Rochester Education Association
3D Printer for a 3D Classroom

\$2,509.94

This project will focus attention on the technology aspect of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) by incorporating a 3D printer to the projects students create in seventh and eighth grades. Three-dimensional printers are the future of manufacturing and production in the real world, and I hope that factor will provide additional motivation for students participating in my class.

Sherry Kempf

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Digital Storytelling

\$3,000

This project will support four events planned around the theme of “telling our stories.” Each event is designed to highlight absent narratives of specific cultural communities—Indigenous People, Latin Americans, Africans and African Americans and Asians and Pacific Islanders. During these events, family and community members will be invited to listen to a professional storyteller and share their own stories in small groups. Artifacts from the Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) will be used as prompts for these stories, and iPads will be used to interview and record the elders telling their stories. After the stories are recorded, each will be assigned a QR code and then displayed next to the artifact on display at the MRC. Students who come to the MRC can then use the iPads and QR codes to access the stories.

Jennifer Kiminski

North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale Education Association

Articulation iPad Project

\$2,850

The purpose of the “Articulation iPad Project” is to increase the number of opportunities special education articulation students receive practicing their targeted sounds during a speech session. The more opportunities a speech student has to correctly articulate their targeted sound, the quicker they will make progress. The use of iPads and articulation apps will increase the number of opportunities each student has to practice their speech sound(s) through the use of technology.

Brian Knox

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Student Studio

\$2,747.80

“Student Studio” is an attempt to integrate iPad and StudioLive technology into a three-course sequence of music production courses. The project will teach students critical digital skills to work in the 21st century music industry.

Carrie Mathison

Education Minnesota Filmore Central

Tablets for Art Department

\$2,985

Our goal is to work drawing and technology directly together through the Wacom Pen and Touch Tablets. These tablets will allow students to create digital art individually in the classroom on their Mac Air computers. It will allow students to directly understand and use technology in studio art, opening the door to into graphic design.

Margaret Motzel

St. Paul Federation of Teachers

High School Technology Club

\$3,000

This project is for an after-school technology club for our students. The first goal is to engage and empower students to become ethical digital citizens and lifelong learners by providing access to rich digital content, technology and learning experiences to extend learning beyond the traditional school day. Club members will have an opportunity to expand their knowledge and capacity for using technology productively through instruction, hands-on exploration and project completion.

Donna Ohlgren

Education Minnesota - Osseo

Maker Mornings

\$2,878.40

The “Maker Mornings” will be offered to all grade levels to teach students in a hands-on, mentor-led learning environment. Students will experience project-based learning by integrating technology where they are able to create, invent and explore during “Maker Mornings.” These “Maker Mornings” will encourage students to utilize tools we already have and new tools supplied by this grant. The “Maker Mornings” will integrate an assortment of technologies at various grade levels and will further increase the knowledge they already have.

Marin Oldenburg

Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial Education Association

Using iPads To Enhance the Performance and Composition of Recorder Music

\$3,000

This project will support and encourage students’ understanding of technology and musical concepts through the use of iPads in conjunction with the applications Learn and Play Recorder and iWrite Free Music. It will be implemented in a third-grade general music classroom as part of a thematic unit on recorders. Students will use iPads and the Learn and Play Recorder app to gain a basic understanding of the history of recorders in western music and how to play the recorder. After building their skills in reading and playing recorder music, they will use the iPads and the iWrite Free Music app to compose, notate and print their own original recorder compositions.

Kelly Schmidt

*United Teachers of South
Washington County*

What Have You Done Today To Make You Feel Proud?

\$3,000

This project will give students the opportunity to create interactive student-driven portfolios. These portfolios will document their year of learning as a first-grader. Using iPad Minis and the application Seesaw, each student will log-in using a personal QR code. Then they can independently journal and document their daily learning throughout the day with pictures of their work samples, group work, videos and voice-recorded reflections. By creating a digital portfolio, each child will be motivated to produce quality work that they can proudly share with the classroom teacher, other school staff and their family each day. Parents can access their child's journal on their smartphone or on the web and leave feedback.

Christine Voigtlander

Education Minnesota - Osseo

The Brooklyn Blast Book Club

\$2,933

The "Brooklyn Blast Book Club" will give a group of seventh- and eighth-grade students the opportunity to read free advanced reading copies (ARC) of eBooks, and then post book reviews on a blog that will be shared with the world. We will meet one morning per week in the library and use www.netgalley.com, an online service that offers free ARC eBooks to educators, reviewers, bloggers, librarians and booksellers before they are officially released with the expectation that they will be publicly reviewed.

Melissa Wilhelm

Centennial Education Association

Physical Education FitStep

\$2,900.99

In physical education, it is our jobs as teachers to prepare students for meaningful engagement and physical activity as members of a technology-rich environment in which they live. A successful physical education program is dependent on our understanding of current technology and the needs of our students. I will incorporate the FitStep pedometer program into my physical education classroom to begin to introduce fitness technology to my students.

Leigh Zika

*Education Minnesota Eveleth-
Gilbert*

The Imaginarium

\$3,000

This project will enable our students to experience science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts through fun, hands-on projects while developing skills in the area of innovation, collaborating and creativity by expanding on our makerspace called "The Imaginarium."

IMPACT

Teresa Hunt

Southwest West Central Service Cooperative

Leaders for Life: Restorative Practices for Students

\$15,000

Seventh-graders from BOLD, BLHS, Cedar Mountain, KMS, Lester Prairie and MACCRAY schools came together for a full day of learning about the positive benefits of Upstander Leadership by attending the student summit, “Leaders for Life: Responsive Practices for Students” held at MACCRAY High School in Clara City, Minn. Students heard nationally recognized keynote speaker Marc Mero present his “Champion of Choices” show and participated in small, mixed group sessions on how to be a “Leader for Life.” Pre- and post-classroom activities have been conducted along with surveys to gauge students feelings in school safety, social and emotional security, and school climate as a whole. Positive and negative behavior reporting systems have also been developed through this “Leaders for Life” experience.

Higher Education Faculty *(awarded April and November 2015)*

Mary T. Amundson

MSCF - Northland CTC, East Grand Forks

Tools and Strategies for Conceptual Learning in Nursing Education

\$2,500

Dave Barrett

MSCF - Normandale

18th International Conference on Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences

\$2,425

Scott Blankenbaker

MSCF - Riverland CTC, Austin

College Music Society 2016 Summit

\$1,097.80

Jessie Breyer

MSCF - Century College

National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology (NITOP) Conference

\$2,161

Chris Caulkins

MSCF - Century College

Present at and attend Community College Conference

\$3,000

Christy Cook

MSCF - Northwest TC

Attend 2016 Education-Simulation Conference

\$3,000

Dan Creed

MSCF - Normandale

Attend Teaching Professor Conference

\$1,500

Shannon Dahms

MSCF - Minnesota State CTC, Moorhead

Simulation-Education Conference

\$3,000

Anna Gryczman

MSCF - Century College

National Conference

\$3,000

Megan Heiman

MSCF - Vermilion

D2L Conference

\$2,735

Renu Kumar

MSCF - Minneapolis CTC

National Conference on Undergraduate Research

\$3,000

Stephen Nelson

MSCF - Northland CTC, Thief River Falls

Workshop on Ontology and Metaontology

\$3,000

Ricky Nelson

MSCF - Century College

Attend SMA Annual Seminar - Visit Best Practices

\$2,894

Denise Reeser

MSCF - South Central, Mankato

Agribusiness Finance

\$1,800

Paul Richgruber

MSCF - Inver Hills

Professional Conference-W.H.A.

\$905

Stacey York

MSCF - Rochester CTC

Implementing Creative Curriculum for Preschool

\$1,899.78

Education Support Professionals *(awarded April and November 2015)*

Carly Fischbeck

St. Paul Federation of Teachers
Interpreting with Deaf Immigrant
and Refugee Students
\$850

Elisabeth Geschiere

Minneapolis Federation of Teachers
Increasing Student & Family
Engagement by Increasing
Language Skills
\$1,500

Lisa McQuarter

Education Minnesota Osseo - ESP
Envoy Part 2—The Cat in the
Doghouse
\$431

Ellen Olsen

St. Paul Federation of Teachers
2015 Registry of Interpreters for
the Deaf Conference
\$1,500

Joan Roberson

Education Minnesota Osseo - ESP
Moving Ahead in the Credentialing
Process
\$1,498.50

Sue Snyder

St. Paul Federation of Teachers
Interpreter Conference—Summer
2015
\$1,500

Diane Spicer

St. Paul Federation of Teachers
Processing Emotions in a
Confidential Setting: Self-Care for
Sign Language Interpreters
\$850

Julia Varner

Education Minnesota - Osseo ESP
A+ Training and Certification
\$566

National Board Certified Teacher Scholarships

Michele Barron

Foley United Educators
Elementary Education 1-6 and EBD
K-12
\$500

Susan Benjamin

Education Minnesota Little Falls
Science-Early Adolescence
\$500

David Hilgendorf

Education Minnesota - Osseo
School Library Media Specialist and
Secondary Social Studies
\$1,000

Amy Huset

Forest Lake Education Association
K-6 Elementary and K-12 Reading
\$1,000

Lena Mueller

Education Minnesota - Hastings
Middle Childhood Literacy:
Reading-Language Arts
\$1,000

Keith Steadland

*White Bear Lake Teachers'
Association*
Early Adolescence Science
\$1,000

Eliza Tocher

St. Paul Federation of Teachers
English for New Learners
\$1,000

Laura Watters

*White Bear Lake Teachers'
Association*
Adolescence and Young Adulthood
Science
\$1,000

Betsy Weis

Farmington Education Association
Adolescence and Young Adulthood
Math
\$1,000

Evan Weissman

*White Bear Lake Teachers'
Association*
Elementary Education
\$1,000

Affinity

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:

EdCamp Minneapolis-St. Paul

www.edcampmsp.org

\$4,337.50

Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library

www.thefriends.org

\$5,000

Green Card Voices

www.greencardvoices.org

\$5,000

Minnesota Association for Family and Early Education

www.mnafee.org

\$5,000

Minnesota Association of Women in Aviation

www.mnawa.org

\$4,457

Minnesota Council on Family Relations

www.mn.nefr.org

\$5,000

Minnesota Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges

www.minnmatyc.org

\$5,000

Penumbra Theatre Company

www.penumbra theatre.org

\$5,000

Viva Musica

www.vivamusica.org

\$5,000



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*Education Minnesota is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers,
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