



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Andrews Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Kimberly Artigues

Amount Requested: \$520

Project Name: STEAM Ahead to Creativity!!

**Project Summary:** The stimulating STEAM activities will be utilized to bring the fun of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math education to our students. The hands-on activities will encourage students to be actively engaged and provide them with the enrichment opportunity to build crucial problem solving skills while collaborating in teams to create their design. As students explore and discover, they will integrate the Engineering Design Process into their learning and exhibit critical thinking.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Andrews Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Lauren Handler

Amount Requested: \$975

Project Name: Write On!

**Project Summary:** Writing A-Z is an interactive online resource for teachers to provide differentiated mini-lessons and strengthen students' writing skills in an engaging and stimulating manner. The collection of skill building lessons will enhance writing instruction and strengthen students' critical writing skills. Writing A-Z's online reports track student progress and growth for teachers to monitor and adjust instruction.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Andrews Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Katherine Radke

Amount Requested: \$250

Project Name: Kids' Inquiry Club (K.I.C.)

**Project Summary:** Kids' Inquiry Club, or K.I.C., takes all the best parts of a science fair and "K.I.C.s" things to the next level! Students will be designing investigations and sharing their scientific understanding like a traditional science fair, but instead of an anonymous audience, each student will be paired with a student from a younger grade level, or club buddy, throughout the year. 5th-grade students will be tasked with demonstrating their understanding by designing high-interest experiments, books, and models for their club buddy. This project will not only deepen content knowledge for all students involved, but it will also foster relationships, encourage empathy, and hopefully inspire a love for STEAM in our students.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Andrews Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Sarah Riordan

Amount Requested: \$500

Project Name: Choir Library

**Project Summary:** Once students reach 4th and 5th grade, they have the opportunity at our school to participate in the school choir. This is an after-school program, but there are usually one hundred or more children who participate each year. One of the greatest benefits of an elementary choir is giving children their first experience performing with an ensemble, learning to listen, and learning to read notated music in that setting. I would like to expand our choir music library to provide them with those learning opportunities.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Armstrong Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Julie Eiben

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Positive Intent Project

**Project Summary:** Positive Intent is a project for students that has the ability to inspire, support, and motivate. This will be accomplished through the use of the MyIntent Project ([www.myintent.org](http://www.myintent.org)), which is a platform for meaningful conversations, intentional community building, mindful focus, and positive action. Students are led through a series of questions which create open dialogue, as well as deep introspection. Through conversations and journaling, each student focuses on ideas and words that represent a personal intention. Those ideas result in One Word that represents a mindful focus or intent. Students will then stamp that word on a bracelet; the bracelets are worn as a visible reminder of that special intent. ; The intentions are shared with peers and family members which facilitates meaningful communication and results in a spreading of positivity while promoting personal action. The results of the project can have widespread impact, as research has shown that when students feel connected and empowered, they respond with increased academic performance, less emotional distress, and fewer conduct problems.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Armstrong Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Kristin Haney

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: AVID Schoolwide College Campus Visit

**Project Summary:** Our annual AVID Schoolwide College Campus Visit is geared toward educating students about life at a college campus. Prior to our trip, students are provided with knowledge of what life is like on a college campus (dorm life, class sizes, clubs and organizations), benefits of a college education and college entrance requirements. On our trip, students experience what college really is! When we visit the campus of a major Texas university, students (often for the very first time!) tour the campus, receive information about the university from current students and faculty, eat lunch in a college cafeteria, and visit the campus bookstore.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Armstrong Middle School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Mary James

**Amount Requested:** \$750

**Project Name:** Apache PRIDE - SEL in the Classroom and Common Areas

**Project Summary:** Our campus has been utilizing the Positive Behavior Intervention Support framework for over 5 years, and we are now merging with the SEL initiative to create a Social-Emotional Support Site Team (SEL Site Team). Positive behavior supports have been provided to our students through a continuum that builds character and responsibility, and the social-emotional skills students need to be successful in school and the community. To extend this program as we merge the two together, we are seeking funding to provide classrooms with tools for calming and restorative practices, as well as continued reinforcers for students showing PRIDE in the classroom and common areas of the school. Tickets are given to students by all staff on campus for observing PRIDE in the classroom and hallways. Students receive a ticket, turn in to the office, and place their name on a bingo board. When bingo is made, the students choose a prize from an incentive list. We are looking for funds to keep the incentives motivating and original. We are also seeking funds to make calming jars, provide calming sequent pillows, provide poster-sized mindful color pages, and provide resources for community service projects for our students.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Armstrong Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Kari Nodeland

Amount Requested: \$680

Project Name: Counseling Mindfulness Toolkit

**Project Summary:** Adolescents can be very reluctant to open up especially if their emotions are running high and they are showing signs of stress. In order to serve our students counseling needs to the best of our abilities, we first need them to be in a more regulated emotional state (mindfulness activities can help us get to this point) and then we need them to feel comfortable sharing information that may be very personal in nature. When teens have something to focus on to bring them into the present, whether it is a fidget of some kind or a meditative coloring page as examples, they are more likely to talk and learn coping skills for the future. Different students respond to different tools, so it is important to have a variety of items available.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Armstrong Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Laura Simmons

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: CORE store for Families

**Project Summary:** As part of our Social/Emotional Learning initiative, we would like to provide our community with its very own CORE store to meet the needs of our families. The store will be stocked with essentials such as hygiene products, basic school supplies, clothing, soap, laundry detergent, shampoo/conditioner and other basic needs. This will benefit all of our students who need to be taken care of emotionally, physically, and mentally so their learning is not disrupted by the hardships they face outside the campus.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Armstrong Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Nancy Smith

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** English Discoveries - Using Technology to Maximize Literacy

**Project Summary:** My grant proposal embraces Best Practices for building language in ELL's (see Best Practices Research attached). English Discoveries (ED) is the superior choice for meeting the technology component of learning English for secondary students as the content and components of ED are written specifically for a secondary audience. The ten learning levels as well as the writing and career component make ED both relevant and engaging for older students. At the proposed rate of \$1500 for 20 user licenses, ED not only works out to \$20 less per student than Rosetta Stone; ED also agrees to provide additional licenses to our school at no charge for the remainder of the year as well as online and/or site training at no extra charge. Though we cannot predict the growth of our ESL population, if last year's newcomer growth and this year's beginning is any indication, we stand to benefit greatly from this generous arrangement.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Barksdale Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Celene Rosen

Amount Requested: \$300

**Project Name:** Using Trade Books to Support the 5E Instructional Model in Science

**Project Summary:** Outstanding Science Trade Books offer the opportunity to engage and spark interest in a science topic; present scientific problems/challenges; and afford opportunities to clear up common misconceptions in science. Aligning the use of these books to the 5E Instructional Model promotes engaging and rigorous science learning.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Barron Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Yomaida England

**Amount Requested:** \$3000

**Project Name:** Dream with your Eyes Open!

**Project Summary:** Books are a wonderful way for students to not only build their academic skills, they provide the opportunities for students to use their imagination and dream with their eyes open! The Books for Kids Project Committee is honored to provide personal books to Title I students on 18 Elementary campuses. These books give them visual and print access to concepts that promote PISD's STEAM (Science, technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math) and Social Emotional goals. ; The Books for Kids Project involves the following;; \* Securing funds through grants and donations for 3 giftings per year in grades 1-5; \* Purchasing the most appropriate books for the students' interests and reading levels; \* Applying bookplates to each book; \* Packing books for each Title I school; \* Delivering books to each Title I school; THIS PROCESS INVOLVES OVER 50 VOLUNTEERS.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Barron Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Suzanne Gaw

Amount Requested: \$750

Project Name: Taking Flight with Reading

**Project Summary:** Taking Flight with Reading will provide high-interest lower level chapter books to be used with students identified with Dyslexia (as well as other struggling readers) to build confidence and independence while reading longer more involved text. These books will build endurance while reading since they will be longer in length, but on a reading level to support independence, comprehension and most importantly love of reading!



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Barron Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Leighanne Halliburton

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Gadget Girls: Empowering Girls in Elementary

**Project Summary:** The goal of Gadget Girls is to develop creative thinking and problem-solving skills, to foster sustained interest in science, technology, engineering, and math fields, and to introduce girls at a young age to experiences relevant to daily life and future career pathways. By targeting underrepresented population of females, Gadget Girls strives to break down stereotypes of traditionally male-dominated fields and teach girls that intellectual skills grow over time regardless of gender. Studies show that relatively low numbers of girls select advanced courses in science and technology which inhibits career choices later on. According to the Generation STEM report, "African American and Hispanic girls have high interest in STEM, high confidence, and a strong work ethic, but have fewer supports, less exposure, and lower academic achievement than Caucasian girls." Gadget Girls can provide enriched opportunities to meet this growing need. Campus analysis reveals a similar trend on state assessments. Gadget Girls embodies a risk-free environment where girls push boundaries, test limits, and look at the world around them with inquisitive eyes. Campuses throughout the state have had huge success with this program. These reasons along with our focus on student growth in science are why I am requesting this grant.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Bethany Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Roslyn Jones

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Audiobook Reading Assistance

**Project Summary:** Students' reading skills will be reinforced by using technology. Using audiobooks along with companion books will make reading easier and more enjoyable for struggling readers and ELL learners. Audiobooks will incorporate technology to enhance the reading experience for students and help bridge the gaps caused by their inability to read. Students will develop a passion for reading if they are provided with books that are on their reading levels and are of interest to them. Having access to audio books will help foster a love of reading and result in student academic growth. Listening to human-read audiobooks can be an effective way to improve reading comprehension. Struggling readers and ELLs are expected to read and comprehend grade level text even though they aren't able to do so. Consequently, they become frustrated and don't enjoy reading. Providing students with access to audiobooks and companion books will give students the opportunity to make meaningful connections between letters / words and their corresponding sounds. Students in turn will become better readers, improve their comprehension skills, and increase their vocabulary.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Bird Special Programs Center

**Teacher/Librarian:** Samantha Iliff

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** R.I.S.E. Up Academy

**Project Summary:** Over the years, we have seen an increase in the need for a mentoring program on our campus. This year, we will continue a program that began last year that we call R.I.S.E Up (Respect, Integrity, Service, Education). In our middle school grades, this program will incorporate a character-building curriculum taught by a group of mentors. Each month, we will focus on a different Casel SEL competency (Self-Awareness, Self- Management, Responsible Decision Making, Relationship Skills, and Social Awareness). Students will learn important skills to help them make positive choices at school, at home, and in the community. Once a month, students will have the opportunity to participate in an on-campus workshop where they will focus on one of the Casel SEL competencies through team building activities, guest speakers, local events, and group mentoring. Current students, as well as students who have left our program, will be given the opportunity to participate in these events. We will also be participating in an off-campus event to put these skills into practice. In our Elementary program, mentors will be paired with students. These mentors will meet with students each week and will participate in several events throughout the year.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Boggess Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Kaitlynn Nam

Amount Requested: \$800

Project Name: Fidgety Friends Support

**Project Summary:** Many students identified with dyslexia struggle with reading along with staying attentive. Dyslexia therapy is systematically and explicitly taught for 45 mins. Students struggle staying seated and would benefit from having fidget tools, wobble stools, and seat bands. These tools will allow students to quietly manage their ADHD without distracting others.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Bowman Middle School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Ann Rose

**Amount Requested:** \$1200

**Project Name:** Expanded Core Curriculum for Students with Visual Impairments

**Project Summary:** The Vision Services Team is made up of Certified Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists who serve students with visual impairments, ages 0-22, on campuses throughout Plano ISD. We are itinerant staff members based out of Shiloh Center. Our coordinator is Eryn Gradig. ; The term Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) is used to define concepts and skills that often require specialized instruction with students who are blind or visually impaired in order to compensate for decreased opportunities to learn incidentally by observing others. In addition to the general education core curriculum that all students are taught, students with visual impairments, starting at birth, also need instruction in the ECC. Our students are invited to participate in events that address all areas of the ECC, including using public transportation, meeting and socializing with visually impaired peers, and meeting visually impaired professionals. Our anticipated events for 2019-2020 include a college visit to the University of North Texas, National White Cane Day celebration, a hands-on tour of Plano Fire Station 4, an eye dissection lesson at Perot Museum, a farm tour of Pure Land Organic, a day trip to Collin County Adventure Camp, and an introduction to cooking event.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Brinker Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Alison Adame

**Amount Requested:** \$650

**Project Name:** Sewing Supplies for Brinker Students

**Project Summary:** I would like to purchase supplies for my Art classroom in order to teach 3rd, 4th and 5th Graders how to sew. We would begin with simple projects in the 3rd grade and then gradually increase the complexity of their projects as they acquire sewing skills through 4th and 5th Grades. In order to teach my students this important Life Skill, I will need to obtain a set of good, sharp scissors, embroidery needles, thread and a variety of fabrics and batting. My students, both male and female, have exhibited an intense interest in learning how to sew. They truly relish the ability to make something that they can actually use, give to important people in their lives and onto which they can put their own personal touches. Once my students have mastered the basics of sewing, there is practically no end to the possibilities of things they can make!



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Brinker Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Patricia Pearson

**Amount Requested:** \$1316

**Project Name:** Books & Lunch Together - BLT

**Project Summary:** The project is to start a lunch time book club for fourth and fifth graders. The purpose is to build a community of readers, to promote a lifelong love of reading, encourage a variety of genre reading, and discuss books. Students will have the opportunity to read, think, reflect, make connections, and share thoughts with peers. TEKS and STAAR objectives will be incorporated into the discussions in a natural, real world manner. Participation will entail reading the book over a month time period and meeting as a group twice a month. This will be a year long project with a new book each month.; ; Protective materials for the paperback novel sets are included to ensure a long lifespan of the books, so they can be used and enjoyed by numerous students for many years.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Carlisle Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Sarah Hartman

Amount Requested: \$600

Project Name: Our Little Free Library

**Project Summary:** Our school is easily accessible for most of our students by walking or riding their bikes. It would be beneficial for these students to have access to a "Little Free Library" in front of our school. Students would be able to take a book and leave a book on the weekends, holidays, and throughout the summer. It would provide books for those who aren't able to make it to the public library, as well as young students that are not in school yet. I believe this would be a wonderful way to promote literacy and service throughout our community!



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Carlisle Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Rajasree Venkatesh

Amount Requested: \$1000

Project Name: Mentor Texts to Enrich and Extend Student Learning

**Project Summary:** Summary : At Carlisle, we have students from various cultural and economic backgrounds. We also have English Language Learners and students with learning disabilities. In order to provide reinforcement and enrichment, I have borrowed mentor texts in the past. I would love to build a rich classroom library that can enrich student learning. Mentor texts are also a great way to promote writing poetry, short stories etc. since it provides ideas and helps students make meaningful connections. Another excellent reason to use mentor texts is that it extends student learning beyond the stories from the text books. Students get to choose the books rather than read only what is assigned to them. I have noticed an increase in student engagement when they are allowed to choose. Finally, mentor texts from a variety of genres will expose the students to high quality literary texts.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Carpenter Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Regina Mandelblatt

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Campus Wide Saturday School

**Project Summary:** Our Campus is setting up a school wide Saturday School offering to assist our students with bridging the gaps in their learning. We want to provide targeted learning for these students to give them the tools they need to grow and be successful. Many of our students come to us with a gap due to various circumstances outside of the school environment. We want to assist them in gaining a strong foundation in the areas of literacy that will equip them to achieve in all academic areas as well as outside the classroom.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Carpenter Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Allison McCarthy

Amount Requested: \$978

Project Name: Active Learning Equipment

**Project Summary:** This is materials and equipment that will provide independence to our ALC students when it comes to vestibular input, cause and effect, and accessing switches that meet the needs of their disability.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Carpenter Middle School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Katherine Webb

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Culturally Responsive Classroom Libraries

**Project Summary:** Children need to see themselves represented in literature. When students read books with characters they can relate to, they are more likely to continue the enjoyable practice of reading beyond that one book. Books that represent everyone will build a more inclusive culture in the school, allowing all students to feel a sense of pride, self-respect, and understanding of others. Books can be seen as mirrors that reflect our own lives, and books can also be windows into another world. If the majority of the books on our shelves represent one culture or people group, we are doing a disservice to students who have lived a different narrative. This project would allow 10-12 teachers across our campus to provide a myriad of culturally diverse books in their classroom library including, but not limited to, fiction, non-fiction, biographies, and picture books.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Centennial Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Alison Leven

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: C-PENs for Success

**Project Summary:** This grant is for the purchase of six C-PEN readers. Text to speech is the most valuable assistive technology for students with reading disabilities and second language learners. While our students have many options with Chromebooks to access text to speech functions, there are still times that they encounter hard copy of texts and are limited by their reading disabilities, inattention or language acquisition. These pens function as a digital highlighter that can scan words, provide dictionary definitions, scan sentences/paragraphs and read them aloud to students, all allowing for greater comprehension. Studies show that access to technology for students with reading disabilities is an accommodation that can "level the playing field," so to speak, to their non-disabled peers.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Christie Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Christina Henderson

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Flocabulary for Elementary Engagement

**Project Summary:** Flocabulary is an educational website that combines Hip-Hop music with educational concepts. From Fractions to Figurative Language, Flocabulary engages students by using catchy music to teach essential concepts and vocabulary across all content areas. Instead of sitting and reading from a textbook, our 21st century students are able to learn in a language that makes sense to them. The Flocabulary YouTube channel offers a free taste of all that Flocabulary has to offer. Please visit the following link for more information:  
[https://www.youtube.com/user/FlocabularyYT/featured?disable\\_polymer=1](https://www.youtube.com/user/FlocabularyYT/featured?disable_polymer=1)



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Christie Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Jenna Hurtado

Amount Requested: \$420

Project Name: Critter Man Comes to Kinder!

Project Summary: Critter Man will present to the Kinder grade level a 45 minute Texas Junior Safari Program. Kids will meet some Lone State natives and learn the valuable services that these animals provide. They will get to meet a Ferret, Barn Owl, Alligator, Prairie Dog, Opossum and a King snake.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Christie Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Angela O'Brian

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Family Fitness Fun Bag

**Project Summary:** Family Fitness Fun Bags will provide students and their families with dedicated physical activities to complete together outside of school. These bags will be available to parents in grades k-2 on a weekly basis. The Family Fitness Fun Bags will help guide parents with materials to engage the whole family as they learn to take responsibility for their engagement in physical activities for life.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Clark High School

Teacher/Librarian: Mikel Salsgiver

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Send Girls In S.T.E.M. to iFLY!

**Project Summary:** A branch of the club, Girls In STEM, has just begun at our campus. The purpose of the club is to encourage female students to explore careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The Teacher Sponsor would like all the inaugural members to participate in the iFLY education program. With grant assistance, all the members will be able to afford this amazing living demonstration of science, technology engineering and math in action.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Daffron Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Catherine Chomistek

**Amount Requested:** \$1325

**Project Name:** We Both Read!

**Project Summary:** Parents and students will be able to check out appropriate high interest books to read together at home. Reluctant and struggling readers will begin to enjoy reading more and achieve greater success in reading. This research based series of fiction and non fiction books will engage parents and students in reading together to improve parent involvement, improve reading scores and increase excitement in reluctant readers. This series of books provides instruction for the parents to work with their children. Parents take turns reading aloud with their child alternate pages of a book. The program gives suggestions on how to read with children and provides instruction on discussing comprehension. The parent pages feature a higher text level to read while the child pages feature text that matches the child's reading level. Children get to practice reading at their skill level, and also have the opportunity to listen to fluent reading of more complex text. The increase reading will improve comprehension, fluency and decoding skills while creating a greater enthusiasm for reading. The books are high interest in both English and Spanish



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Daffron Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Julie McGlamery

**Amount Requested:** \$465

**Project Name:** Conflict Resolution en Espanol

**Project Summary:** Every year I teach Kelso's Choices, a series of lessons on conflict resolution, to students grades K - 5. Unfortunately I only have the kit, which includes visuals and scenarios on DVD, in English. Kelso's Choices has been an effective program to teach conflict resolution strategies in my experience as a counselor. The message is sometimes, however, lost in translation when presented to my bilingual students. I would like to purchase the Kelso's Choices En Espanol kit to teach these skills more effectively to my Spanish-speaking kids.; The kit provides resources that can be utilized by teachers, students and parents. The digital posters in the kits can be reproduced to post in classrooms throughout the school alongside their English counterparts. Students will have access to cards with reminders of the strategies they've learned. Because the strategies apply outside the walls of the school, it is important that Spanish-speaking parents have access to the tools as well. The kit provides that opportunity.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Davis Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Deborah Tubbs

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Meaningful Math Matters

**Project Summary:** Hands on math games and manipulatives will support student math practice during small group teacher lead instructions. Math bags will be sent home on a rotating basis for students to practice at home and strengthen the home-school connection. This will empower families to carry-over math skills at home in meaningful ways.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Dooley Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Thuy-Vi Figueroa

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** Reflecting & Sharing Our Stories: Classroom Library Project

**Project Summary:** Despite the need for quality, diverse, and current classroom libraries to promote literacy for our students, classroom libraries are not funded by our district. For many students, especially those in poverty, their only book access is in the classroom and the school library. If we want to truly promote literacy, students need high-interest, quality literature to choose from in their classroom. If we want to promote empathy, that literature needs to reflect the diverse backgrounds our students come from and expose them to the stories of others.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Dooley Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Amber Pirillo

Amount Requested: \$585

Project Name: Coding Club

**Project Summary:** I am starting a young elementary coding club for students grades K-3 after school one day a week. I also plan to bring this Coding Club into the kindergarten grade level to provide enrichment during big centers and classroom instruction. Many of our students will never have a chance to explore robotics and programing and this Coding Club is a great opportunity for my students to use problem solving skills in a new and fun way. We will be focusing on the fundamentals of coding and robotics, by going unplugged. The robots I am starting with involve no computers while allowing students to directly see how their imagination and sequencing is an introduction to programing and building robotics.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Frankford Middle School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Candy Waller

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Operation: Empowering Readers

**Project Summary:** In order to provide independence for our students who struggle with reading comprehension due to dyslexia or another reading disability, as well as our English language learners, our campus is proposing the use of the C-Pen Exam Reader. The C-Pen Exam Reader is a small portable device that reads text out loud with a human-like digital voice. Students plug headphones into the C-Pen to hear the text read aloud. These pens will provide students who have reading difficulties with the independence to complete assignments and take assessments knowing that they can read and understand the questions. Students will not have to leave their peers in the classroom to go to another location to have someone read the material to them.; ; We are asking for 6 C-Pens due to the expense of the C-Pen Exam Reader and the maximum grant amount allowed.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Frankford Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Karyn Wynne

Amount Requested: \$1100

Project Name: Friday Night Books Buddies and Bites

**Project Summary:** An afterschool Friday Study time called "Books, Buddies and Bites" is for students who are struggling to pass one or more of their core subjects. "Books, Buddies and Bites" provides students with an additional time to get caught up on work and to be retaught by a student mentors. Each student signed up to attend is put with a student volunteer from NJHS, NHS and AVID. These student volunteers earn hours and help to tutor the students who are their to finish work.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Haggard Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Melissa Parker

Amount Requested: \$1300

Project Name: Oh the Places You'll Go!

**Project Summary:** I teach students with Autism and other developmental disabilities who participate in life skills and social skills classes. My students require special equipment and materials to support their learning in a classroom setting. I need to purchase/make additional social skills and life skills materials to prepare students to perform activities that occur in everyday life. Activities like making lists of ingredients and going to a grocery store to purchase items needed to cook simple meals. They need to learn about expectations and how to navigate going to social events like, going to a movie theater or going to out to eat at restaurants with their family or friends. They also need to learn and practice personal hygiene routines. Most importantly, they need to learn social skills, interpersonal skills and ways to self regulate their emotions, so they know how to get along with a various people in a variety of situations. Generalizations of these behaviors, functional skills and routines is vital for successful integration of the student and their families into their community.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Haggard Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Karyn Unterbug

Amount Requested: \$350

**Project Name:** Tech Tools for Increased Language and Communication

**Project Summary:** Deaf Education students are limited by their ability to communicate with the hearing world because they depend on sign language, hearing amplification, FM system, or a mixture of these three. Technology today has elevated students' ability to connect in the school setting. Benefits of using technology with the deaf and hard of hearing population include communication in mainstream classes with hearing peers, remote language learning, student collaboration, interactive language, knowledge retention, and individual learning.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Haun Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Meghan Baldwin

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Inclusive Playground

**Project Summary:** My project is to allow for all students at our school (both able bodied and physically disabled) to interact on the playground during outdoor recess times. Currently there is no adaptive equipment for disabled students to engage on, so they are left out of outdoor fun. The installation of adaptive playground equipment allows for students to interact together as children should.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Head Start

Teacher/Librarian: Kristi Vest

Amount Requested: \$475

Project Name: Pre-Kers are Writers, Too!

**Project Summary:** Every student has a story to tell, and Pre-K kids are no different. I want to provide a variety of materials to encourage my students to tell their stories, and to show them writing can be fun! To equip my students with the skills they need to become writers, I also need to provide engaging activities to strengthen fine motor skills to make writing easier. Many are unable to make the vertical, horizontal, and diagonal strokes needed to create letters. I must provide activities for these students to build up their fine motor skills, learn the correct pencil grip, and how to make the strokes necessary to write letters in order for them to be successful, not just in school, but in life. ; Through bookmaking, I can focus on the writing skills students need while they creatively express themselves and tell their individual stories.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hedgcoxe Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Sarah Manthey

Amount Requested: \$700

Project Name: Challenge Island

**Project Summary:** This is an at school field trip would allow our kindergarten students to work through a challenge in the classroom that would be entirely guided by them. This allows students to be given a challenge and use STEAM and their peers to solve the challenge. One of Challenge Islands focus areas is engineering and that is a unit in our curriculum. Please see the video below for a better understanding. ; ;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8NKhVz0Ud4&feature=youtu.be>



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Hendrick Middle School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Kelly Aguirre

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Sensory Solutions 3.0

**Project Summary:** My campus serves students in two centralized programs, one for students with significant autism and the other for students with; emotional disturbances. My campus also educates several students with intellectual disabilities and visual impairments. The benefits of inclusion for these students range from increased social interactions, peer role models for academic instruction, social and behavior skills, increased access to general education curriculum, and an acceptance of individual differences. Most or all students in special education have identified sensory needs, in addition to their significant emotional needs. This in turn affects their ability to focus in class due to over or under-stimulation. Being proactive and managing stimulation levels for these students will maximize student's potential for future success. My student's sensory needs could be well managed with the addition of sensory items. By providing students with access; to these items within the general education setting, they do not have to leave the classroom and miss instruction. Teachers are able to positively impact students school day and close the opportunity gap by providing skills and tools to help students independently self regulate. By empowering students, educators can positively impact their present and future relationships, academic achievement, and adulthood in an inclusive society.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hendrick Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Kimberly Durall

Amount Requested: \$700

Project Name: Literacy Leaders Writing Club

**Project Summary:** Students in the seventh grade are tested in reading and writing. Unfortunately, all of that preparation can be confusing for students that success is whether or not they make a certain score. Literacy Leaders Writing Club allows students to engage in meaningful literacy experiences that will enable them to utilize skills necessary to be successful on their STAAR score, but will also allow them to experience how strong literacy skills can impact their local school community. The Literacy Leaders will choose a title for a book club experience, engage in writing responses with peers and teachers and create a student chosen/created publication for school wide distribution about their experiences. The book club choices are diverse in topic as well as level to meet the needs of a variety of learners. The Literacy Leaders Writing Club will serve as a tool for intervention as well as enrichment.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hendrick Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Joy Prather

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: #BookMe Graphic Novels

**Project Summary:** #BookMe is a program idea started by librarians in Round Rock. It involves targeting students that are reluctant readers and having one on one surveys, conferences, and interviews to create tailored lists of recommended books in hopes of inspiring a love of reading in these students. Since one of the main types of books reluctant readers are attracted to are graphic novels, the focus would be on putting those books in their lists. In addition to this program, we are creating a graphic novels club to have a place to talk about comics and anime and to attract students interested in that genre, helping them create their own comics and delve even further into reading. Graphic novels are also a tremendous help for special ed students and ESL students since they have the pictures and lesser text to guide them. Lastly, since this is such a popular genre, the acquisition of more graphic novels will ultimately benefit the entire school since all of our students are constantly asking for these books.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hickey Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Leah Rhodaback

Amount Requested: \$864

Project Name: Can you FEEL it?

**Project Summary:** In the ELC (Experiential Learning Classroom) setting students learn through play and experiencing their environment. Students in the ELC do best in a sensory rich classroom. Many students seek out sensory input and would benefit from tactile materials. Offering a variety of sensory solutions would encourage visual regard, communication/choice making skills, and many other prerequisite skills needed for daily living. Providing these materials would also allow for the opportunity for our students to self regulate disruptive behaviors and create a sensory rich classroom. This grant would support sensory solutions to students with eligibilities ranging from autism, intellectual disabilities, other health impairments, visual and speech impairments.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hickey Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Dung Tran

Amount Requested: \$1400

**Project Name:** Social Emotional Learning: Every Voice Counts

**Project Summary:** Students need social and emotional skills to manage their emotional responses to life events and to participate appropriately in everyday social interactions. Teachers can empower their classrooms through research based techniques and engaging activities when delivering Social Emotional Learning lessons. This project will teach students how to use tools for self-regulation of emotions and techniques to control one's sense of well-being. Tools from our calm down box will be implemented alongside a set of literacy library that will enhance students' understanding of becoming responsible and respectful part of a community. A Qball Microphone will be used as a talking stick to complement the project by engaging all students while making them feel heard and important. They will be able to maintain healthy relationships and take care of themselves each day while feeling a sense of inclusion as their voices are heard and know that they are important and count!



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hightower Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Annissa Cosentino

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Library Flexible/Collaborative Seating Furniture

**Project Summary:** Our elementary library is in need of new furniture that fosters flexibility and collaboration. Presently, we have bulky wooden tables and chairs that do not lend themselves to the collaboration necessary for makerspace or 21st century learning.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Hightower Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Marina Shteyn

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Teach Town Basics

**Project Summary:** My campus serves students in Centralized Structured and Campus Self Contained Classrooms. Students in these classrooms have severe disabilities like autism, speech impairment, intellectual disabilities, and emotional disturbances. For many years, our students have benefited from the computer program Teach Town provided by the district. The program provides meaningful instruction that is based on the principals of Applied Behavior Analysis. Beginning October, Teach Town will no longer be available for our students. All of our students have been making great progress over the years using this program. They have been learning how to work with the program independently, developing their listening, academic, social-emotional, functional, and cognitive skills. The lessons can be aligned to Common Core standards and students' IEP goals. The program automatically adapts to the level of each student, which allows students to be successful and continue building on their strengths. Student data is recorded and organized, allowing teachers to monitor student progress. Teach Town is such a wonderful addition to structured self-contained classrooms! It brings more variety to our educational environment while building essential life skills. We would love to continue utilizing the program in 2019-2020 school year!



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Huffman Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Callie Anthony

Amount Requested: \$580

Project Name: World Peace Game

**Project Summary:** The World Peace game is an interactive game played over a number of weeks that puts a group of students into problem solving situations based on real world crises. Students serve different roles on a collaborative team such as Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, and Secretary treasurer of four fictitious nations. Students also form a "United Nations", "World Bank", and "Arms Dealer". The object of the game is for students to work together to solve these crises and achieve "world peace". This is achieved solely through student inquiry; building on their communication skills, problem solving skills, and knowledge of the world around them.; I attended a master class put on by the World Peace Game Foundation Founder John Hunter. I am now certified to facilitate the World Peace Game. I am applying for this grant to fund the building of the game board.; I would also like to look into offering the game as a choice summer school class. If this came to fruition, it would effect many more children and campuses.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Huffman Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Joo Cha

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Social Emotional Learning: IB Calm

**Project Summary:** We are a Title 1 Transformational campus comprised of students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. Many are at-risk and undergo various childhood adversities such as poverty and trauma. Hence, many of them experience anxiety and stress and have a difficult time regulating their emotions on a daily basis. IB Calm will be a place where the students can come to self-regulate, be safe, find motivation and transfer the skills learned in the room to the classroom. It will provide an opportunity to relax, take a break from others and refocus. Meeting the student's social emotional needs will lead to improvements in the following areas: academic achievement, relationships, positive behavior, motivation and focus. When children are motivated, responsible, and focused, they are more able to persist in hard tasks and respond to good teaching.; Our goal is to empower every child to live out their given potential and become responsible and productive individuals in society.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Huffman Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Chi-fong Teng

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: The Crazy Rich Chinese Culture (Chinese Club)

Project Summary: The Chinese club will provide students the opportunity to explore the different perspectives of Chinese culture via authentic learning experience. The objective is to introduce students to Mandarin and Chinese culture in a fun and exciting way in order to broaden students' perspectives on the world around them.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Hughston Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Linda Martin

Amount Requested: \$220

**Project Name:** Improving Social and Emotional Learning Through Everyday Speech

**Project Summary:** Social and emotional learning is an important facet in developing a student's overall well being. Beyond academics, students need the appropriate tools to foster good relationships and emotionally grow. The research-based Everyday Speech program will provide video lessons, no-prep activities, web games, and step-by-step curriculum to enhance our students' social and emotional skills. The students will learn many strategies, including problem solving, communication, and self regulation. This facilitates a more positive learning environment. With these strengthen skills, students will be able to collaborate with their peers and utilize these skills in all aspects of life, both in their elementary years and as life-long skills.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Isaacs Early Childhood School

Teacher/Librarian: Sandi Yarbrough

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Foundational Social Emotional Learning Toolkits

**Project Summary:** We serve around 500 students each year with 45% economically disadvantaged and 32% that qualify for special education. Prekindergarten is the only grade level with formal Texas Guidelines addressing Social and Emotional Development. It is the first domain and is broken down into four components which are self concept skills, self regulation skills, relationships with others, and social awareness. We would like to support that learning by providing each class social emotional toolkits. Our social emotional curriculum helps children develop social emotional skills to be successful in school and in life. We help kids understand their brain, learn how to cope in difficult situations, and empower them to be their strongest and brightest selves.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Jackson Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Karen Gournay

Amount Requested: \$911

Project Name: Decodable Books for Struggling Readers

**Project Summary:** As a teacher who works with students who either are identified with dyslexia or students who struggle with letter and sound knowledge, I have struggled to find decodable books for extra practice in a specific sound skill. This grant would provide our school with the opportunity to purchase decodable books for use with our Kinder-3rd grade students to target specific letter and sound combinations when needed.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Jackson Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Amy Kincaid

Amount Requested: \$800

**Project Name:** The Masked Writer: Using Mentor Texts as Springboards for Personal Narrative Writing

**Project Summary:** High quality personal narrative mentor books will be ordered based on their use of language and how relatable the characters and scenarios are to everyday life. The librarian will read these mentor texts as models of quality personal narrative writing during library time with third-fifth grade classes. Each lesson will have a different targeted focus (character's feelings, etc.) Then each week, the librarian will display 4-5 student papers on the library windows that showcase that show quality implementation of that week's Targeted Writing Skill. Next to each paper are photographs of the corresponding students wearing virtual (animal) augmented reality masks. So the kids and teachers in the school have a chance to guess: Who are the 'masked writers' for the week? This means they will have to pay special attention to the meaning of the personal narrative and the 'voice' used by the mystery student. This puts a positive light on examples that show the targeted writing skill. This contest idea is based on Fox's The Masked Singer TV show, but is a library-based masked writer contest. Winners who are displayed and winners with correct guesses will receive an extra book check out coupon.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Jackson Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Connie Matthews

Amount Requested: \$934

Project Name: First LEGO Team Mindstorms EV3 Kits

**Project Summary:** As the two coaches for LEGO Robotics on our campus, we have noticed increased interest from students to participate in the First LEGO League. Since our team currently works with one robot, not all students have a personalized experience of learning how to design a program which accomplishes specific tasks. The kids design and program the robot to complete certain tasks/missions on a field with the main robot. Having only one robot hinders our students from having an equitable experience of learning how to design a program and build to accomplish specific tasks. An additional two core kits (motors, CPU) and an expansion set (more LEGO building pieces) make it possible for all students to have differentiated learning experiences. This way, each group of students would have a robot to program during our allotted time.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Jasper High School

Teacher/Librarian: Adriane Anderson

Amount Requested: \$1000

**Project Name:** No Strings Attached: Interactive Soft Sculpture Puppets

**Project Summary:** Students will learn how to construct, sew, and create patterns of soft sculptures in the form of a performance puppet. The students will design their own characters, create a sewing pattern, and put together a movable puppet that will be performed in class. With the use of our green screen and create a 3-5 minute short with their puppet to learn video editing, lighting, sound design. These will not be the average sock puppet but a more substantial soft sculpture similar to Muppets.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Jasper High School

Teacher/Librarian: Kathryn Piatt

Amount Requested: \$300

Project Name: An Abundance of Books

**Project Summary:** My goal with this project is to add high-interest books to my classroom library. SSR is a daily occurrence, but it can be frustrating for students when they feel their options are limited. I would love the opportunity to ensure that I am providing options that reach as many of my students as possible. My focus with this grant will be not just to gather high-interest books, but to increase the multiculturalism of my library. It is important to me that my students, who are from every background imaginable, to read books where they can see themselves, their family, or their friends reflected within the text. Not only will books from a range of places and by a range of authors provide this for my students, it will also help others learn about different places, groups, ideas, and beliefs. I have much belief in creating an accepting and tolerant environment, and while it seems simple, having texts that reflect our world matters.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Jasper High School

Teacher/Librarian: Sara Stevens

Amount Requested: \$1060

Project Name: Mammal Planters for Your Health

**Project Summary:** The funds would go towards purchasing various ceramics supplies, potting soil and pothos plants. The idea is to create mammal heads as a design for a planter that will then be used to house a pothos plant. This will enable the students to use Social Emotional Learning to learn how to care for a living plant and how this benefits the environment and their health, while being able to admire their functional art piece.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Mathews Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Laurel Hagen

Amount Requested: \$1470

Project Name: Motor/Sensory Lab

**Project Summary:** A motor/sensory lab creates a safe, unrestrained space for students to build confidence in their ability to explore the world around them. The lab will increase attention, promote social interaction, improve coordination/motor development and help students manage the tactile, visual and auditory input from their environment.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: McCall Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: James Fossier

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: QBall - Increase Classroom Participation

Project Summary: I would like to obtain a Qball for grade levels 3-5 to increase student engagement. A Qball is a lightweight ball that is designed to be tossed to students in the classroom. It has a built-in microphone that allows students responses to be heard by their peers as well as teachers. The QBall creates an automatic sense of engagement and fosters rich conversation within the classroom.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: McMillen High School

Teacher/Librarian: Sarah Carter

Amount Requested: \$914

Project Name: SSR for Struggling Readers

**Project Summary:** SSR for Struggling Readers will provide high school readers who currently read at a 1st to 4th grade reading level an opportunity to choose novels in their English and Academic Literacy classrooms that are age and reading level appropriate. Students will have an opportunity to choose from a wide variety of well written, engaging, and challenging novels that will help them to increase their reading levels and nurture a love for reading.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: McMillen High School

Teacher/Librarian: Ingrid Goslin

Amount Requested: \$1000

Project Name: Increasing Vocabulary In The Classroom

**Project Summary:** Many students arrive to us with gaps in their vocabulary. Vocabulary touches every aspect of a students' development as academically literate learners, strongly influencing their reading writing and conversation proficiency. Many teachers aim to increase students' vocabulary through reading and dictionary use. However, that's not enough. Large amount of reading does not effectively increase vocabulary, students need multiple exposure to different form of a new word in order to retain it. While dictionaries provide definitions of a word, thesauri allows students to study the word. Exposure to synonyms, antonyms and idioms allows us to reach our ESL, ELL and SPED population at their level. Definition alone will fail when students do not have the ability to infer meaning from context clues, so providing thesauri will help to decrease that gap. I hope to purchase fifteen thesauri for each English classroom on campus so that every two students in the classroom has use of one thesaurus.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** McMillen High School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Maria Mata-Gonzalez

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** SELebrating Choices

**Project Summary:** At McMillen, we strongly believe in building relationships among faculty and students. Students are often referred to the office for negative behavior but what about for positive behavior? Through this initiative, students receive "referrals" for making smart choices. ; It can be as simple as helping a fellow classmate, assisting with activities around campus or helping clean up after lunch. We want our students to know that their smart moves do not go unseen and can even be rewarded. This is a project we would like to pilot starting with our English department on our campus. As the initiative grows, more faculty members will participate. ; Teachers may give positive referrals when they see students doing good deeds. Those students who receive the positive referrals may receive a small prize from their teacher as a reward for making smart choices. These students will then have their names placed in a drawing each nine weeks for a bigger prize. To encourage teacher participation, teachers who turn in positive referrals will have their names placed in a drawing each nine weeks for a grand prize as well. Our ultimate goal is to show students they are celebrated for doing good.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: McMillen High School

Teacher/Librarian: Meredith Smith

Amount Requested: \$550

Project Name: Creative Writing Club

Project Summary: The Creative Writing Club will be open to students who want to improve their writing skills through interaction with others, mentorship, and exercises to stimulate creativity.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Meadows Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Dallas Gutierrez

Amount Requested: \$560

Project Name: Creating the Foundation for Science Innovators

**Project Summary:** Bring excitement and foundational learning to Title I students! The Perot Museum will send a group of museum instructors to visit all 4th grade students in their classrooms and conduct a hands-on engaging lesson called "Mineral Mystery!" Mineral Mystery is a new exhibit where students will examine different physical properties of minerals. They will become mineralogist for the day, using some of the same tools to test the physical characteristics and determine the identity of minerals. ; ; This hands-on opportunity for students to learn more about the physical properties of different minerals and become a real scientist for a day will be something they remember and enjoy. It will also lay a solid foundation for their education in science and prepare them for 5th grade.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Meadows Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Ellen Nagoski

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** Hear our Voices: Speaking and Listening Centers for School and Home

**Project Summary:** Let's fill third grade with hands-on listening and speaking centers that focus on intentional language skills that can be practiced both at school and at home! Not only will these new centers help with parent engagement, but they will promote academic skills and discussion topics that align with the third grade TEKS and ELPS. Therefore, they will help our students improve their language levels on the Telpas Test. With these new learning materials, we will differentiate individual language goals throughout the year while making learning engaging and meaningful!





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Meadows Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Aleli Nucum-Jones

Amount Requested: \$494

Project Name: Read, Rethink, Recreate!

**Project Summary:** Everyday, we aim to instill in our children the love of reading, and teach critical and problem-solving skills. These literacy kits are aimed at achieving this goal. They include texts and hands-on building materials that will allow students to recreate, rethink and reconfigure story settings, as well as replicate famous inventions. The kits will provide another dimension to reading and offer opportunities for personal learning, peer collaboration, and reflection. and inventions. Students in all grade levels will benefit from these kits, but specifically our Special Education students who need scaffolding, visuals and hands-on materials to enhance their learning.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Meadows Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Ellyn Reese-Fautsch

Amount Requested: \$1499

Project Name: Kinesthetic Classroom

**Project Summary:** Our Transformational School faces a myriad of challenges each year requiring staff to provide creative, effective solutions to challenging situations that appear in our classrooms. These range from off task behavior to emotional dysregulation which can severely disrupt the learning environment. The goal of this grant is to promote a kinesthetic classroom to address the unique sensory needs of all the students on our campus.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Memorial Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Janie Enriquez

Amount Requested: \$525

Project Name: Raz-Kids Plus

**Project Summary:** Raz-Plus is a learning platform that combines small-group instruction with technology-enabled resources for personalized reading practice. All resources are accessible online and available in printable, projectable, and digital formats to strengthen the connection between what is being taught and what students independently practice.; Raz-Plus has standards-aligned reading instruction.; Teachers can personalize reading practice with leveled books and reading resources available in printable, projectable, online, and mobile formats.; It helps build comprehension skills and strategies with lesson plans, activity sheets, and quizzes that accompany each leveled book.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Memorial Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Jennifer Erp

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Transforming Behavior One Student at a Time

Project Summary: We are instituting a schoolwide positive behavior support system and we are looking for funds to purchase tangibles for our school "store", where students can cash in their points for prizes. Our students are earning points for displaying positive behaviors in all areas and we want to reward them for these excellent choices.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Memorial Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Rebecca Finley

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Ixl in Kindergarten

**Project Summary:** We are asking for another source of technology to use with our kindergarten students. Ixl is an online program that allows students to practice various needed skills for our MAP assessments. Just like MAP, ixl presents questions in a multiple choice format where it is read to the students so that they can become accustomed to the testing format, helping us get a more accurate result when they take the MAP assessment. Ixl breaks down math and reading subject areas into targeted skill sets that directly align with our state standards. For the teachers, the site provides an analytics center that shows specific skills that a student needs to work on, directly aligned with MAP RIT data.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Memorial Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Kelli Hill

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Bilingual AAC and Social Communication Supports at Recess

Project Summary: Our proposal is to fund the placement of outdoor, bilingual picture communication boards and visual supports so that all students, including students with language disorders and students that are second language learners, can increase their social communication opportunities during recess.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Mendenhall Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Martha Feist

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: SMART Club

**Project Summary:** SMART Club is an after school program that will meet twice a week to provide our students with new experiences in science, math, fine arts, recreation, and technology. Our SMART Club classes will offer activities aimed at providing enriching experiences that build on individual interest and extend learning beyond the classroom. Students will choose two classes each semester from over fifty choices offered by all campus professional staff and UT Dallas college students. Students will not only take away new experiences but also utilize their social, emotional, and academic skills to become resourceful and responsible lifelong learners through activities such as coding, printmaking, healthy cooking, music composition, and soccer. Students will highlight their projects and skills during our fall and spring family events.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Mendenhall Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Veronica Harrell

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: My Very Own Book

**Project Summary:** I desire for students to have access to books at home. This program will allow all elementary students in the school the opportunity to earn a book to take home every 9 weeks. This project will promote reading with positive incentives and teacher motivation throughout the program.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Mendenhall Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Cassandra Karl

Amount Requested: \$300

Project Name: Speech Therapy Literacy Enhancement

Project Summary: As one of the speech language pathologists on my campus, I would like to promote literacy skills within my therapy. To do this, I hope to incorporate more literacy activities including: letter-sound knowledge activities, story read-alouds with book companions, and story retell activities with visual and/or manipulative supports.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Murphy Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Laura Mullen

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Healing Reads

**Project Summary:** In order to help students who are suffering from anxiety and stress, we are going to use this grant to build a library of books for the nurse's and counselor's offices. Currently, students have nothing to read except for professional journals and find themselves just sitting in chairs with nothing to occupy their minds except for their own worries. Instead of relieving anxiety and stress, this can cause it to build making it harder for students to return to class. By having access to a ready source of current fiction and non-fiction books in both offices, students would have an avenue to calm their minds, meet their emotional needs, and get back into a mental state that will allow them to return to class. Just ten minutes of reading in a safe environment is enough to alleviate the stress and anxiety that most students feel.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Otto Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Zarinah Hayes

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** Graphic Novels Grow English Learners' Literacy

**Project Summary:** Research has indicated that graphic novels (both fiction and non-fiction) can help facilitate English Learners' language acquisition by enabling English Learners to understand figurative language, help them explore topics that are culturally-relevant and age appropriate, and help English Learners decode cultural norms. In addition, graphic novels hold high-interest for ELs due to the combination of text and graphics and can help ELs build on key reading strategies such as predicting, inferencing, and summarizing.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Pearson Early Childhood School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Fanny Heninger

**Amount Requested:** \$3000

**Project Name:** Family Engagement

**Project Summary:** The goal is to increase family involvement for the activities provided by Regional Day School Program through access to transportation mileage reimbursement or Go-Link passes(train/uber), enabling our families that live at or under the poverty level to participate and be involved. Parent-Teacher relationships make an impact on a child's education. Plano Regional Day School Program for the Deaf provides services to 476 deaf and hard of hearing students in Collin County, from birth to 22. Each year, we offer our families opportunities to learn and grow, ; including: -; 16 sign classes ; -Information Fair -; -5K fun/Run ; -Spring Show ; -"Math Counts" practices and competitions; -Speech Contests ; ; In addition to : ; -School ARD meetings, Open Houses and other school events.; ; Parental involvement in Deaf Children's Education Programs is vital towards the acquisition of language, early reading and social-emotional development. Families falling at or under the poverty levels are at risk in not attending educational and recreational activities, they miss out on vital information that may help their child as well as opportunities to rejoice in their child's overall development. The funding would go towards mileage reimbursement; pre-paid gas vouchers or Go-Link (Dart plus Uber rides) passes for those requesting help in transportation.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Plano East Senior High School

Teacher/Librarian: Tommy Guynes

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Community Connections

**Project Summary:** Community Connections will sponsor a penpal program connected with area senior living communities, professional luncheons with employers, and classroom presentations by local business leaders/parents related to specific careers. The three methods of career exploration will target key demographics with the aspiration of sparking interests toward community service and specific in-demand employment areas. Community Connections will connect students with members of the business community and senior adults with career fields aligned with student interests. Our students will benefit from the career experiences of adults in our city. Sharing stories through a penpal letter campaign with senior adults, classroom presentations, and small group luncheons will provide opportunities for mentoring and career discovery.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Plano East Senior High School

Teacher/Librarian: Quynh-Hoa Hoang

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** C-Pen Access for Oral Administration Accommodations for Students with Disabilities and Dyslexia

**Project Summary:** Plano East currently serves 223 students under the 504 program. Within this group, 84 students are dyslexic in addition to other students who have been identified as being visually impaired or having a reading deficiency. This is the primary population of students that has a need for oral administration of testing throughout the school year. Because reading impacts our students across every content area, the need for reading assistance is imperative to their academic success. Oral testing administration is the major support needed for this population of students; however, the ability to ensure that our students receive the necessary support in accordance to their 504 accommodations is difficult due to the lack of resources and staffing. In order to meet the specifications of their 504 plan, the availability of the C-pen for our students who require the oral administration of tests would help to ensure their accommodations are being met to the best of our ability.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Plano Senior High School

Teacher/Librarian: Elizabeth Carson

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Plano of the APES

**Project Summary:** In AP Environmental Science (APES), students become landscape architects hired to design and install an environmentally beneficial, native plant landscape on campus with the goal of increasing biodiversity and soil health, reducing resource use and erosion, and regulating and purifying storm water runoff on campus. The project design spans the entire first semester and incorporates all topics and materials dealing with ecology, conservation, and natural resource management with a focus on restoring the Blackland Prairie. Each group will carry out a series of benchmarks consisting of hands on labs and activities throughout the semester. The end product is a landscape architectural concept design, including landscape architectural diagrams and models, and a presentation pitch. The winning design will be implemented throughout the spring semester. The winning team will act as project coordinators (landscape designers) and oversee the planting and creation of the landscape.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Plano Senior High School

Teacher/Librarian: Jerri Freeman

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: The Family & Community Services Project

**Project Summary:** Our Family & Community Services students would like to create a more positive school environment by bringing some color, some cheer, and a sense of community and family to our campus. We would like to focus on various "sad" spots; large areas of blank or empty wall space, disorganized mismatched bulletin boards, unkept gardens and memorial spaces, and doorways/hallways that lead to various classrooms that are either not marked or mismarked. We would like to paint inspiring messages and pictures on bathroom stalls, walls, and over mirrors; add color and murals to large blank spaces down hallways, decorate teacher doorways and workspace, and create a more welcoming, more inviting atmosphere throughout the common areas on campus. Along with our interior, students would like to add details outside such as "Friendship Benches", "Kindness Rocks" gardens, and "Wellness Areas" for yoga, meditation, and outdoor learning experiences. Overall, we are hoping that through the use of our approved grant, we would be able to purchase the many supplies needed for these various projects; thus bringing more positivity and cheerful attributes to our campus while inspiring a sense of togetherness and unity.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Plano Senior High School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Christopher Tran

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Evolution/Jazz Orchestra

**Project Summary:** Orchestral string students are generally trained in the classical tradition - firmly rooted in the tradition of Western classical music. In many aspects, this pedagogical approach serves students well in terms of teaching musicality, style, and performance practice that is applicable to music careers and building an appreciation for classical music. In a first-of-its-kind collaboration, this "Jazz Orchestra" ensemble hopes to build upon the alternative styles explored in the previously established "Evolution Orchestra" by combining string players with a jazz band to provide all of these students an opportunity to experience music in a completely different way - in order to supplement, not replace, their high quality string classical education. This is a completely new field in the realm of public music education, one that these talented students (and their humble directors) are taking in stride. For practical considerations, amplification is a required and necessary component for string players to be heard in this setting. Purchasing high quality microphones and other live sound equipment will be a permanent and significant investment in allowing current and future students to be successful in this combined ensemble.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Rasor Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Kimberly Krumwiede-Wilcox

Amount Requested: \$332

Project Name: SEL- Calm Down Tool boxes

**Project Summary:** I would like each area in the school to have a "tool box" (basket) containing the same tools that students can select when they need to take a break because they are having a strong emotion. It is important the students are trained and know how to use the calm down tools. If the tools are the same the students can be shown on morning announcements how to use them correctly.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Renner Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Jennifer Beall

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Building a Science Library

**Project Summary:** My hope is to build a library of both fiction and non-fiction books that correlate with our science TEKS to build libraries in the science classrooms in my school. I want to show students that reading isn't just an "English-Language Arts" subject and that reading is something used in all classes. When talking with the district Instructional Specialist for Reading, Jennifer Ramby, she loved that as a Science Teacher I was sharing my personal reading goals and discussing reading with my science classes. I want to foster a love of reading for my students by providing options of books in the Science subject area.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Rice Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Janice Henderson

Amount Requested: \$1425

Project Name: Independence For Students with Disabilities

**Project Summary:** Many dyslexic students and other struggling readers receive oral administration of tests and quizzes. A teacher reads the entire test or part of it to each student according to accommodations through CMIT, 504, or IEP plans. Some students feel embarrassed by this and opt not to have the test read to them. Other students only want portions of the test read aloud. A new type of technology is available called a C-Pen which has the capability of reading the test or passages in a book to an individual student. They are compact, rechargeable, and connect to earbuds for individual students. The C-Pen allows students to work independently and at their own pace while meeting the needed accommodation for an individual student.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Robinson Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Eleonora Frigerio

Amount Requested: \$500

Project Name: Expansion of Spanish classroom library

**Project Summary:** I would like to expand my book library in my Spanish language middle school classroom. While students are learning a new language, it is recommended that they read a variety of books in the language they are learning. Having a classroom library enables my students to build reading stamina and enjoyment, to see vocabulary and grammar in context, to acquire vocabulary and cohesive elements. I will have a book club where students will collaboratively read books in the target language that are appropriate to their proficiency level.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Robinson Middle School

**Teacher/Librarian:** Larissa Lowrance

**Amount Requested:** \$1500

**Project Name:** Diverse Books for Classroom Libraries

**Project Summary:** My campus has a diverse population, and in my English department, we value reading time and putting the right book in a kid's hands so that they can develop a love of reading and build fundamental skills. To do this, we need to individualize our book recommendations to find a text that connects with a student where they can see themselves reflected in the texts they read. I hope to buy books that have characters and authors from different cultures, different socio-economic status, different family structures, and different giftedness. Our data from our Campus Needs Assessment shows that we had a high percentage of some of our subgroups performing lower than other subgroups. I believe that by engaging these students in a text where they can see themselves, they can build the stamina of reading, the inferencing strategies, the vocabulary, and the writing structure that will help them grow as learners and, in turn, create a more equitable spread of growth in our standardized test data.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Robinson Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Jordan Zimmerman

Amount Requested: \$175

**Project Name:** Community Building Through Board Games in Advisory

**Project Summary:** Playing board games allows students to interact with one another in order to build rapport and create a warm, welcoming, classroom community. Students in my Advisory class have one day a week when they are able to play games that are not technologically based so that they can authentically communicate and build a community face-to-face. In order to achieve the goal of creating a classroom community, various board games are needed so that students can interact with each other and not just with a screen. This project will also improve students' positive interactions and behaviors with others, which will contribute to their social-emotional learning in the classroom and beyond.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Schell Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Cody McGregor

Amount Requested: \$400

Project Name: Which Book Tastes Best?

**Project Summary:** Have you ever wondered why students or your own children gravitate towards the same genre of book? How many times have you asked a student or your child why they always want to read xyz book? Their answer is usually the same. "I just like it." Have you questioned that maybe they are drawn to the same book because they do not know what else is out there? With the idea of the "Which Book Tastes Better?" project, students will be able to sample books from all genres to get a well-rounded understanding of the different kinds of literature available. Students will be guided through different "tastings" of tables where they can discover new and old books alike to jumpstart their reading for their fifth grade year.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Shepard Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Victoria Suarez

Amount Requested: \$750

**Project Name:** Ukuleles for Building Community in the Classroom Through Singing

**Project Summary:** Our campus has a diverse population of students who would benefit from playing ukuleles. They would be able to learn about song structure, the use of certain chords to build a song, and would write their own songs at the end of 5th grade. Ukuleles are an accessible way for students to be successful with a musical instrument. I have used a system of stickers on the fretboard and have found it very helpful with students at my old school in Richardson ISD. Students could learn about the history of the ukulele, how it ties in with Hawaiian culture, how it was once a silly fad, but has now become more recognized for its musical versatility. Having a class set of ukuleles would help students be more engaged in music class, feel successful in their music-making, and have fun as they learn more about songwriting and performing. Singing together builds and enhances the culture of community in our Music Classroom and in our school.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Sigler Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Valerie Murtaugh

**Amount Requested:** \$1050

**Project Name:** Own Your Zone

**Project Summary:** In a diverse community with 81% of our students qualifying as economically disadvantaged, we are mindful that many children walk through our doors each day in need of basic necessities like food and clothing. Approximately one third of our student population is affected by challenges with emotional dysregulation in their daily lives such as outbursts, verbal aggression, or physical aggression. Although our school has become a safe haven where students feel at home and secure, many lack the skills to monitor and regulate their emotions in times of stress or uncertainty. Our role as educators transitions from academic instructors to mentors who help students maneuver through daily personal and social situations. Being a Plano Level 3 school, we know that we have to fulfill our students' basic needs before any learning can take place. Acknowledging this, our campus has adopted Zones of Regulation to help our students consciously regulate their emotions and actions leading to increased control. Students are able to explore calming techniques and tools to help them move between zones gain independence. This grant will provide a campus collection of sensory, fidget, stability, and therapy tools staff members may checkout to support students as they move between zones.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Sigler Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Kari Tolle

**Amount Requested:** \$1483

**Project Name:** In the News

**Project Summary:** Our campus has a diverse population of approximately 500 students with 80% economically disadvantaged and 40% English Language Learners. These children come to school with unique socio-economic, academic, and cultural needs. These factors contribute to limited life experience which can hinder comprehension and academic success. Studies indicate that nonfiction represents the majority of reading and writing done by adults. As we prepare students for the future, it is imperative that they are introduced to a variety of nonfiction texts that is both engaging and rich in content. While the district provides nonfiction texts for third and fifth-grade students through Time for Kids magazines, our fourth-grade students, as well as those needing differentiated instruction in fifth grade, would benefit from quality nonfiction and connected texts to bridge gaps and provide interesting articles to help strengthen critical thinking skills. These periodicals would also give students modeled texts for writing development. Digital access to these magazines gives all learners access to rich literature through Spanish translation, highlighted text-to-speech capability, and differentiated reading material presented at multiple Lexile levels.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Skaggs Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Lisa Hamid

Amount Requested: \$550

Project Name: Beautify with Bees and Butterflies

Project Summary: ELL students will create a butterfly garden in which they will learn about the life cycle and importance of having host and nectar plants in order for butterflies to survive.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Skaggs Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Molly Payton

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Adaptive Playground

**Project Summary:** Our campus currently houses 20 children in need of adaptive playground equipment. Currently at recess time, our students are able to sit next to the playground or maybe stand on playground but not really interact with all of the features. We promise all of our parents that their child will be able to participate with their general education peers to the maximum extent appropriate, and we would really love for that to have much more meaning behind that. Studies have shown an increased health benefit to students being able to move and play outside. This project would have an indescribable impact on our school and surrounding community. We would love to have a place where all students could play together in the least restrictive environment.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Stinson Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Loretta Bradshaw

Amount Requested: \$1393

Project Name: Changing Art-titudes

**Project Summary:** This project will provide a full-day field trip to the Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park for 120 third grade students and 12 chaperones (admittance fees and bus transportation) including the Art in the Garden exhibit and Butterfly House tour, which provides another layer of engaging, innovative, personalized and supportive learning outside of our campus.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Stinson Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Hillary Leverton

**Amount Requested:** \$800

**Project Name:** Singers and Leaders of Tomorrow

**Project Summary:** The North Texas Children's Choir provides elementary- aged children of North Texas a choral musical experience that exceeds the daily classroom setting. This is achieved by selecting challenging repertoire and performing in a professional venue with a professional guest conductor. Children come from 20 different schools throughout North Texas. All singers audition and rehearse with their school director and attend three area rehearsals. They rehearse as a full choir at the Eisemann Center in Richardson, Texas on the Friday before the Saturday performance. The final rehearsal and performance are held the following day at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas.; Seeds of beauty, culture, and joy are sown in the hearts of children as they sing music from around the world. With 20 different schools and over 200 children singing annually at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, the dream comes alive for these children.; Throughout the years, over 4,500 children have taken part in this audition process and festival concert. It provides children with a challenge and a chance to grow musically, socially as they meet new friends, and emotionally as hearing older choirs/ensembles helps to visualize their future in music.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

**Campus:** Stinson Elementary

**Teacher/Librarian:** Christina Prenzi

**Amount Requested:** \$450

**Project Name:** Girls Rock - Carry Forward

**Project Summary:** We have a social skills program on our campus called, Girl's Rock. It's a social skills curriculum that encourages friendship, social etiquette, and community. The girls in this class range from autism, ADHD to emotional disturbances. There is currently a group of girls that have gone on to middle school and our team would like to follow along their journey post elementary school. We would like to set up seasonal gatherings to continue the social skills work, in a generalized and new environment. The girls would have the opportunity to meet up and catch up, generalize the skills taught in elementary, and keep that sense of community in their lives. Our plan is to "carry forward" the Girls Rock program into middle school and high school; creating some stability, continued social skills work, and sense of continuity in their lives.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Thomas Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Sharon Bishop

Amount Requested: \$1500

Project Name: Little Free Libraries

**Project Summary:** As educators we understand that access to books and the encouragement of the habit of reading are two important gifts we can give our students. In an effort to give our students many ways to access books we would like to add two Little Free Libraries to our school. One library will be focused on books for our Prekindergarten through second grade students and the other library will be more focused on books for our older students third grade through fifth grade. Students will be allowed to access these libraries freely borrowing and sharing books of their choosing.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Vines High School

Teacher/Librarian: Sherri Eppler

Amount Requested: \$211

Project Name: Where in the World

**Project Summary:** Access to world atlases plays a crucial role in helping students visualize where in the world the content of the lesson is located. This project will put an atlas in the hands of every AP Human Geography student during class, making it easier for students to understand the spatial patterns of the topics covered and to learn the location of countries and geographic features of the world.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Vines High School

Teacher/Librarian: Yi-Te Hsieh

Amount Requested: \$405

Project Name: Rocking With Algebra Buddies

**Project Summary:** To help students prepare for the Algebra 1 EOC. ; We will identify about 25 algebra 1 students who may need some extra help getting ready for the upcoming Algebra 1 EOC. Each student will be paired with a peer from Honors Algebra 2 or Honors Pre-Calculus class for weekly one-on-one peer tutoring during Study Hall. Students may choose to attend either on Mondays and Wednesdays or on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 7 weeks starting the week after spring break. During the tutoring session, each trained tutor will guide the tutee through various algebra 1 concepts and help him/her practice the released EOC problems.; We plan to provide snacks for the tutors and tutees during each tutoring session to encourage participation. Both the tutors and tutees who participated and engaged in 5 or more sessions will be rewarded with an ice cream sandwich. At the end of the program, a pizza party will be thrown to all those who participated and engaged in 8 or more sessions.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Vines High School

Teacher/Librarian: Deborah Schmittou

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** A Kaleidoscope Collection: Affirming Diversity in the Library

**Project Summary:** As the diversity of our school and community rapidly grows, the library collection that serves our students and staff should also. Improving and expanding the selection that we offer our school family will promote a culture of community that is respectful of differences, enabling them to see themselves in our library collection, while bridging the gap between our students from diverse backgrounds.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

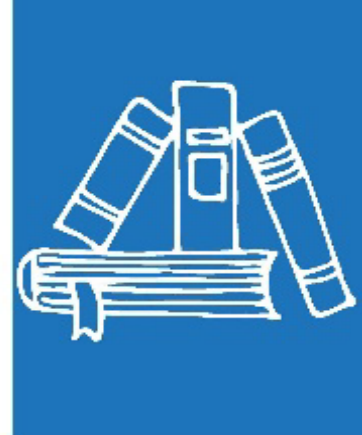
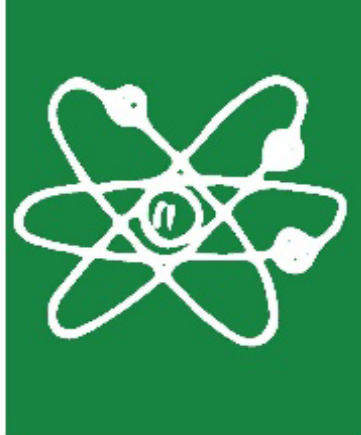
Campus: Vines High School

Teacher/Librarian: Kenneth Sierra

Amount Requested: \$1500

**Project Name:** Software Program, Membean, will benefit all ELLs vocabulary in reading, writing and speaking

**Project Summary:** Membean.com is a web-based software program created by Portland, Oregon based company that uses multimodal engagement to effectively improve vocabulary. The software uses researched evidence based instructional techniques to make meaningful, everyday connections to English vocabulary. With grade levels from fifth through twelfth represented, all English Language Learners, regardless of current language acquisition, greatly benefits from this program. Additionally, student's learning is completely self-paced allowing students-Newcomers to Advanced High - to achieve mastery of English language. The program also adapts to the individual learning styles and adjusts to keep the students constantly engaged without overly redundant work.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Weatherford Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Alexander Kirton

Amount Requested: \$1150

Project Name: Weatherford Specials Team SEL Project

**Project Summary:** This project aims to bridge the gap in behavior challenges among the very diverse population at our school by equipping Specials team with tools that will be consistently applied in support of district pillar, SEL, and our local school goals. The Specials team will provide a coordinated approach with the goal of improving our student's ability to self-regulate their emotions. Our process will involve setting up a calm-down zone, and creating a google sheets form that will track all cool-down zone activity. The form will track the name of the student, whether they decided to come to the cool-down zone or if they were sent by a teacher, the cause of the conflict, which method they use to self-regulate, and was the student able to return to class. Our goal is to identify effective patterns and methods in order to improve our methodology and strategies for students who are showing disruptive behaviors and providing opportunities and tools for them to self regulate. Below is a list of the district's social emotional goals and how each activity/resource requested in this grant addresses each goal. Self-Awareness Listening to My Body My Magic Breath: Finding Calm Through Mindful Breathing Self-Management Mindful Kids: 50



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Weatherford Elementary

Teacher/Librarian: Jeremy Robertson

Amount Requested: \$1182

Project Name: Depth and Complexity

**Project Summary:** The materials I am requesting will be used in our school's planning protocol to help differentiate for our quintile 1 and quintile 2 students. In general, differentiation for our higher achieving students is difficult for teachers, and this has shown in our school's accountability ratings. The JTaylor materials requested within this grant will provide almost limitless possibilities for probing deeper into content. This will help all students to grow dramatically, and also will provide growth for our higher quintile students which again has been a difficulty in recent years. Additionally, these items can be used with learners of all levels and linguistic backgrounds to promote more complex thinking skills and sentence structure.



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Williams High School

Teacher/Librarian: Ramy Mahmoud

Amount Requested: \$1490

Project Name: Experiencing a World of Wonder

**Project Summary:** So much of our understanding of the world around us comes from our previous experiences. Although many kids in our district are lucky; to be exposed to a variety of engaging moments, many on our campus are not granted these luxuries. In science, one cannot appreciate; the amazing scope it plays in our world without first seeing these components in action. With your help, we'd like to give every 9th grade; student on our campus the chance to find their own passion and connections to science by visiting the Perot Museum of Nature and; Science. We had the honor of receiving a grant 3 years ago (2 years ago, our grant proposal was unfortunately not selected) and then again last year. What we; realized was, not only had most of our kids never been to a museum, but many of our kids had never even been downtown. To see these; teenagers transform into little, gitty children as they stood in awe of the incredible exhibits brought tears to my eyes, and we'd so; desperately like the opportunity to see that through the lens of our new 9th grade class.





# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Williams High School

Teacher/Librarian: Amanda Miller

Amount Requested: \$1415

Project Name: Forensics Fun for Everyone!

**Project Summary:** CSI, anyone? In order for students to truly appreciate and engage with science, it is important to create real-world, practical applications of the material taught in class. In Biology, one of the most enriching applications is through the world of forensics. Our team will create a Forensics 101 program where students will apply their knowledge of DNA and protein synthesis to create a DNA Fingerprint using gel electrophoresis. Then they'll use that fingerprint to crack a "whodunit" case involving teacher suspects across the whole campus!



# GRANTS TO EDUCATORS

A Program of the Plano ISD Education Foundation

Campus: Wilson Middle School

Teacher/Librarian: Kaitlyn Middleton

Amount Requested: \$1450

**Project Name:** RISE Program (Reaching Independence through Student Engagement)

**Project Summary:** On our campus, we have two self-contained classrooms with diverse student populations of varying cognitive abilities, behavioral needs, and academic strengths and weaknesses in which we are able to provide an individualized targeted and intensive program. ; Early in the school year, our team defined the Four Core Values that are the most beneficial for the students in which we serve. One of the four goals is to foster student independence, and thus the idea for RISE was created.; RISE or Reaching Independence through Student Engagement, will be set-up like an apartment to provide opportunities for experiential learning for all of the students on our campus with varying abilities. RISE will be a life skills and social skills classroom in which students will be exposed to daily functional routines (i.e. cleaning, cooking, and organizing), improve their communication skills (i.e. self-regulating and socializing), and life readiness skills (i.e. future employment and living).