

Education Foundation Grants 2012

Dena Arnold, Lee High School

Amount: \$804 for “Racing Toward Physics Success”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase a race track, cars, and launcher. The primary objective is to increase student interest in physics and engineering design, leading to more student involvement and increased test scores, especially within the lower performing subpopulations.

Harry Barber, Carver Elementary

Amount: \$3,000 for “Cross Curricular Imaginations”

Description: This project will show an exhibit displaying the art of ancient Egypt, connecting how the ancient Egyptians communicated through using symbols and pictures. It will coordinate with the reading and writing curriculum, and the students will create a story of an achievement in their life through art. The students will learn about art history and how ancient Egyptians contributed to our world.

Alan Boudreaux, Harlem Elementary

Amount: \$1,000 for “Reading Like a Rock Star!”

Description: Project goal is to enhance students’ reading development and comprehension across curriculum with updated resources. Students will learn to make connections among subject areas, literature, graphics, and other elements of books. Through the use of updated literature, students will learn the basic fundamentals of reading such as reading from left to right and top to bottom.

Dustin Burcham, Horace Mann Junior

Amount: \$984 for “Photosynthesis with Vernier”

Description: This project will allow students to take an abstract concept and see the moving parts of photosynthesis. Students will use Vernier probes to introduce, support, and reinforce knowledge about photosynthesis in a laboratory setting.

Sam Cannariato, Peter E. Hyland Center

Amount: \$900 for “Constructing Lifelong Readers”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase a variety of books ranging in difficulty to provide students with access to reading-level appropriate long fiction. By assigning individual students appropriate-level books to read on their own, the confidence of the reader can be raised as well as strengthening their reading and writing abilities.

Susan Cannariato, Goose Creek Memorial High School

Amount: \$700 for “Choose Your Own Post-apocalyptic Adventure”

Description: This post-apocalyptic project will allow students to compare a variety of texts on the same topic, while also preparing for challenging Advanced Placement essays. The final project will allow them to demonstrate their combination of the project ideas in their own choice of a creative format while applying it to a local situation.

Anissa Cantin, Cedar Bayou Junior

Amount: \$1,000 for “Read with a Bear”

Description: Cedar Bayou's National Junior Honors Society and its leaders will spend an afternoon on the campus of one of our feeder elementary schools. The students will create a reading chart to take home as well as a prepared kit for their parents with tips and pointers to inspire reading over the summer.

David Clarke, Gentry Junior

Amount: \$3,164.05 for “Increasing ACTIVITY in the Classroom”

Description: Grant funds will purchase ActivExpressions, a component of the Promethean ActivBoard. For the social skills class, these ActivExpressions will make any lesson interactive, entertaining, and most importantly, relevant. It will give students a chance to participate in ways that fit their comfort level.

Stephanie Cottle, Sterling High School

Amount: \$2,659 for “ActivExpression V2”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase the ActivExpression V2 which is designed to promote full-class participation and engagement through lessons while allowing for real-time assessment of student progress.

Debbie Crow, Lamar Elementary

Amount: \$3,000 for “Paws on the News”

Description: The grant will purchase a Thinkpad notebook, five digital cameras, and Adobe Photoshop. This will allow a variety of students a chance to be creative using technology and fine arts. It will provide a risk-free environment for the non-English speaker as he or she becomes familiar with the school environment, thereby assisting in relieving anxiety the student may be experiencing; providing an open door for language development.

Randy Cunningham, Austin Elementary

Amount: \$775 for “Bye-Bye to Bullying”

Description: Project will create videos that can be broadcast over the school-wide, in-house video system. The student-created videos will give the students the opportunity to see peers, teachers, and even principals displaying anti-bullying skills and behaviors.

Leslie Cushman, Lee High School

Amount: \$368.37 for “French Computer Games”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase Eggspert Wireless System, a set of six extra wireless student buttons and a set of three PowerPoint CD Rom systems for game shows. Students will play video games to supplement the traditional teaching style and will be able to create games. Students will improve their knowledge base in French measured through assessments such as exams and participation grades.

Peter Cushman, Baytown Junior

Amount: \$2,940.05 for “Developing 21st Century Classrooms and Curriculum”

Description: This project will benefit the students, school, and curriculum through Promethean technologies. With the purchase of an interactive whiteboard, the students will benefit through

the integration of technologies that will be used throughout their educational career, including universities, and on to industries.

Abby Davis, Alamo Elementary

Amount: \$1,170 for “Readers Today, Tomorrow, and Always”

Description: This grant will provide the students with a variety of literature that will improve reading levels. Guided reading books will be purchased for second-graders which include topics that integrate science and social studies.

Sharon Dones, Alamo Elementary

Amount: \$1,300 for “E-Reading To Success”

Description: This grant will aid in purchasing four reading devices to help students become independent readers who enjoy reading. The ultimate goal of this project is to increase reading levels by 80 percent or higher during the first year of the program.

Kim Eneks, Lamar Elementary

Amount: \$1,598 for “Building Vocabulary in the Classroom”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase vocabulary workshop materials. Students will be provided a grade-level vocabulary workbook entitled “Vocabulary Workshop” for the fall and spring semesters. Students will learn synonyms, antonyms, and parts of speech for each word. This activity will help prepare students for questions they will see on the STAAR, as well as broaden their vocabulary bank.

Tammy Felder, Bowie Elementary

Amount: \$918 for “Junie B., A Wimpy Kid, Flat Stanley: What Character Are You?”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase chapter books. During literature circles students will work in small groups to discuss literature or expository text in depth. The discussion is guided by students’ response to what they have read and is a way for students to engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to text.

Jo Ann Fenley, Crockett Elementary

Amount: \$658.99 for “Reader's Theatre Living History Trunk”

Description: With the purchase of a classroom set of historic period costumes, along with literary, historical, and informational scripts and plays, students will have a different way to improve reading skills by listening, speaking, moving around, and learning teamwork and social skills.

Natalie Fikac, Bowie Elementary

Amount: \$1,500 for “Courageous Conversations About Race: Teaching Preteen Students about Diversity and Culture Through Art and Multimedia”

Description: Through weekly meetings with the fifth grade students and an exploration of their race and culture, students will develop a deeper sense of themselves and those around them. By using the facilitators manual of “Courageous Conversations About Race,” students will be led to a better understanding of their own cultures, others cultures, and the meaning of equity and diversity.

Amanda Gagneux, IMPACT Early College High School

Amount: \$2,900 for “Making chemistry interactive with the integration of MimioTeach interactive system”

Description: Grant funds will purchase teaching tools that allow students to be directly involved in the lesson. Lessons can be created so the students get up and participate by working problems, playing games related to the content, and can be quickly assessed for understanding.

Amber Garnica, Austin Elementary

Amount: \$1,950.45 for “Furthering the Home School Connection in Reading to Increase Student Achievement”

Description: Project will increase parents’ involvement and understanding of how students learn to read by sending weekly newsletters that coincide with their child’s specific reading level. This will not only aid in increasing student achievement, but also furthering the home/school connection by giving parents the knowledge they need to assist in the students’ success.

Lynnette Garrie, Horace Mann Junior

Amount: \$817.50 for “Real Jobs”

Description: With the purchase of books about different jobs in society, this project will help students be able to read more nonfiction and at the same time make it practical for them. It will allow for the students to find interesting material, and also help our district prepare students for their future by introducing them to many job opportunities and the use of technology.

Ashley George, San Jacinto Elementary

Amount: \$2,500 for “Kindles in the Classroom”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase Kindle eReaders that students will be able to check out during independent reading. Students will be able to select books on their reading level. The Kindle’s features will allow students to do the following: listen to a text and follow along, and automatically save their spot in the text.

Barbara Gutierrez-Rezal, Sterling High School

Amount: \$600 for “International Celebration”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase items for simulated travel to other countries. This project will be a one day long activity where all student body (English and/or history classes) will be invited to come and experience traveling to 10 individual booths. Students will gain knowledge about historical and cultural information as they visit country to country where a representative of that country will be sharing personal experiences and answering students questions.

Sharen Hales, Highlands Elementary

Amount: \$3,000 for “Project Promethean”

Description: Grant funds will provide a Promethean board for a special needs class and a regular student class. While all students will benefit and be ready for junior high, the special needs students will have an opportunity to have differentiated lessons through software and technology lessons.

Kendra Harwell, Highlands Junior

Amount: \$750 for “READ 180 Xtra REAL JOBS”

Description: With the purchase of the Read 180, students will learn about real-life job opportunities through books that can be a gateway to the students selecting future careers, give them hope for the future, and a reason to be successful in school. The Read 180 is a program designed to be the intervention for below-level readers

Janice Heinleine, Alamo Elementary

Amount: \$1,599.65 for “The Beat Goes On”

Description: Grand funds will purchase Orff instruments that are recommended by music educators all over the world. The addition of Orff instruments to the music classroom will provide students with the opportunity to experience exciting, active music making. The Orff teaching process addresses the learning styles of auditory, visual and hands-on learners, with the emphasis on making music more fun and exciting.

Kenneth Hentges, Lee High School

Amount: \$2,100 for “Out With the Old, In with the New”

Description: The grant will purchase the eInstruction CPS Spark and eInstruction Mobi. For students, it will show them the correct answer to a question, without showing the class which student gave what response. The use of the e-instruction allows all of the students to interact with the lesson being presented. For the students who attempt to hide in the room by not answering the Socratic Questions that are asked, the e-instruction forces students to pay attention and make a decision; thus, students are being made to be interactive with the class.

Sandra Hurtado, Walker Elementary

Amount: \$1,865 for “Achieving with Reading in a Bilingual Classroom”

Description: Grant funds will purchase Spanish books to start a well balanced literacy library for the new bilingual program and the students. It will contain a custom made collection of classic books, big books, and Reader’s Theater books to facilitate students’ vocabulary development, fluency, and comprehension in reading.

Deborah Jahnke, Highlands Elementary

Amount: \$435 for “Scholastic News Magazine”

Description: Grant funds will provide Scholastic News Magazine to each student, which will supply opportunities for writing practice with activities that require logical arguments, analysis, and research. This will support the district goal of providing a well-balanced reading program for all students and specifically addresses the language needs of the Hispanic and economically disadvantaged subpopulation.

Jennifer Jones, Sterling High School

Amount: \$537 for “GeoReading”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase novels and spirals. The teacher will hide award-winning young adult novels and logbooks in certain locations. Through clues from staff, when a student finds a novel, he will sign the logbook. Students will build reading fluency through having a higher access to books, build vocabulary by reading more often for pleasure, and will increase social skills through adventurous "treasure seeking" and discussion of reading material.

Diana Karns, Carver Elementary

Amount: \$585 for “Rock Star Reading with a Beat!”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase music CDs, DVDs, and print materials. This is a program that uses music and movement to get the best learning outcomes possible by simultaneously using as many of the students’ senses as they can when practicing. The program will provide a rich experience as children learn each letter of the alphabet and give a positive experience while learning the shape and sound each letter makes.

Kimberly Kelley, Horace Mann Junior

Amount: \$1,439.60 for “Lights, Camera, Science!”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase eight Kodak camcorders. This project will allow students to facilitate their own learning through creation of curriculum-based movies to present to their peers. This project will let the students be the teachers and utilizes 21st century technology to raise student interest.

Carol Labonte, Highlands Junior

Amount: \$2,500 for “Classroom Performance System”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase CPS pulse clickers, a system that will allow all students to participate on equal grounds within the classroom. Students will use the "clickers" to communicate assessments, homework and classwork while maintaining privacy.

John Langlois, Lee High School

Amount: \$2,659 for “World History Interactive”

Description: The grant will be used to purchase the Promethean ActivExpressions system. The system allows students to text or type in responses from their desk to questions or prompts projected from the Promethean board in the front of the class or on the devices themselves. It is innovative because of the immediate feedback component and the success of this technology can be measured through course pacing.

Linda LeDay, Harlem Elementary

Amount: \$2,000 for “Plant a Seed, Watch It Grow”

Description: Project will provide 22 fourth grade students with an educational tool that will link classroom lessons to interests about the natural world. Students and staff will assemble a green house to grow vegetables. The students will then create a garden newsletter, take pictures, and conduct garden tours.

Richard Lewis, Goose Creek Memorial High School

Amount: \$2,800 for “Smart Music”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase technology laptops, sounds system, and licenses. This project will be used in band competitions as well as an aid for students to practice their individual parts in the marching or concert band selections. The ability to offer this software will allow our students the opportunity to use focused, guided practice on a more regular basis.

Melissa Mansker, Highlands Junior

Amount: \$2,900 for “Student Learning at the Tip of a Finger”

Description: Grant funds will provide three different teaching tools, each having a specific purpose while also working with the other. Hands-on, collaborative learning, along with the ability to have multiple students participating in lessons simultaneously will be provided.

Ashley Mehrens, IMPACT Early College High School

Amount: \$2,726.25 for “Literary Magazine”

Description: Funds will be used to pay for copies of student publications in the Goose Creek print shop. Students will submit works of creative writing to a student-led editorial staff. These students will go through the editorial process, as well as the creation of a magazine and eventually have the finished product distributed to English classrooms.

Rex Miller, Stuart Career Center

Amount: \$3,000 for “Dry Aged Beef”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase a glass door display freezer with a minimum of five drying racks. This freezer will allow the meat to remain at a constant temperature of which is crucial for the aging process. The glass doors will allow students to observe the process and maintain records without affecting the temperature of the meat, resulting in further learning.

Kathryn Nelson, De Zavala Elementary

Amount: \$2,800 for “Motivating Student Learning Through Promethean ActivBoard Technology”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase a Promethean ActivBoard, which allows for immediate feedback for teachers through various activities and a short throw projector. Lessons and activities will be enhanced with the ActivBoard by using available websites for whole group reading, i.e., Tumblebooks and BookFlix. Also, interactive writing time would be made more interesting and visual for students.

Evah Leigh Primeaux, Austin Elementary

Amount: \$2,042.71 for “Hands on Science Materials Enhancement Grant”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase science supplies. Hands-on science learning and inquiry is an effective measure to assist us in trying to close the gaps and lead to a higher level of understanding of science concepts. The grant will enable the science department to decrease the number of classes having to share materials and allow the students more time to use the materials as they develop new concepts.

Purnima Rahlon, Cedar Bayou Junior

Amount: \$1,000 for “Dyslexia”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase audio books, DVDs, MP3 players, and a microphone. The materials will serve as the endorsing program that prepares teachers for reading and/or programs that specialize in preparing teachers to work with students who have reading difficulties and disabilities. With these prep materials, the impact of reading difficulties, including dyslexia, will be lessened, and many more students will receive the instruction and support they need to reach their potential.

Regina Rogers, Highlands Junior

Amount: \$2,660 for “21st Century Approach to Learning in the HJS Library”

Description: Grant funds will be used to purchase a set of 32 ActivExpressions learner response systems for the library. The response systems will allow the librarian to collaborate with teachers to develop lessons to present to students that will encourage engagement and track their progress.

Maria Rosas, Hopper Primary

Amount: \$2,161.21 for “Kindergarten Says No To The “Summer Slide”

Description: Grants will provide materials to prevent the loss of readiness skills over the summer. Students will be given the opportunity to strengthen their early literacy skills and build language development with the guidance and support of their parents throughout the summer.

Adrienne Schoppe, IMPACT Early College High School

Amount: \$600 for “Increasing Effectiveness of AVID Tutorials”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase five TI-84 Plus Silver Edition Graphing Calculators to be used during the weekly, student driven, AVID tutorials. The students tutor each other through challenging questions that come up in their content area classes and college courses.

Rick Schutz, Highlands Elementary

Amount: \$1,000 for “Lights! Action! Camera! Readers' Theatre in the ELA Classroom”

Description: Grant funds will be used to purchase costumes, masks, scripts, props, and a teacher book. These materials will be used to promote a love for reading through performing. The Readers' Theatre will allow the teacher to access scripts that will enhance and maximize reading.

Scott Sickle, Sterling High School

Amount: \$3,285 for “Algebra Touch and Tablet-based Instruction”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase six Apple iPad 2 tablets. The newer technology tablets and apps can be a motivating factor for many of these students. The new technology makes it fun and exciting for a lot of students. The majority of the apps that will be used are highly interactive, helping students to understand the abstract concepts of algebra.

Perla Sifuentes, Walker Elementary

Amount: \$2,514.95 for “Fostering Literacy Development in the Bilingual Classroom”

Description: Grant funds will be used to purchase materials that are important to the balanced literacy program in the classroom. This will provide funds for leveled readers, alphabet big books, and Reader’s Theater books.

Gail Spears, Austin Elementary

Amount: \$1,400 for “Using Technology to Engage all Students”

Description: Grant funds will be used to purchase 28 ActivExpression V2 voting pods, an ActivHub, and an ActivSlate 60 A5 graphics tablet with ActivPen 50. Engagement of students will be known immediately as all of the clickers will need to be used before a discussion of the correct answer to questions is started by the teacher.

Laura Stauffer, Ashbel Smith Elementary

Amount: \$1,135 for “Learning Vocabulary Through Visuals and Technology”

Description: An ActiView document camera and ActivSlate electronic tablet will assist in facilitating instruction for deaf and hard of hearing students in the areas of math and science.

Students will demonstrate an improvement in areas such as addition and subtraction, measurement, identifying fractions, and identifying lines of symmetry.

Amy Stoner, Lee High School

Amount: \$2,747 for “eInstruction Collaborative Learning Classroom Makeover”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase eInstruction Touchboard Interactive Whiteboard. Students will be able to annotate and manipulate materials in a way that many never have before to give them a deeper level of interaction with lesson content. It will keep all students, but especially the at-risk students, actively engaged through the use of this innovative collaborative learning technology.

Janet Tello, Harlem Elementary

Amount: \$1,000 for “Guidance within My Hands Library”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase youth books and materials. The project goal is to decrease counseling and office referrals by at least 15 percent over the course of the year. The guidance books provided will reinforce positive character traits and problem solving skills.

Adrienne Tesar, Travis Elementary

Amount: \$600 for “Guided Reading Closing the GAP”

Description: The grant money will provide more materials to help staff implement a strong Guided Reading Program. The program’s goal is to establish a larger variety of leveled guided readers with a broader vocabulary usage and a wider range of topics. These readers will be used both in school for instruction and at home for student practice.

Rebecca Turner, San Jacinto Elementary

Amount: \$250 for “Flipping for Good Speech!”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase flip cameras and DVDs. The teaching tools will help model correct speech production, demonstrate appropriate social skills in given situations, assist students in preparation for oral reports/presentations in the classroom, assist students with fluency disorders (stuttering) to monitor speech skills, assist students with voice disorders to monitor voice skills, and encourage students with limited verbal output to increase sentence lengths in conversation.

Sergio Valdes, Carver Elementary

Amount: \$1,200 for “Rocking with Technology”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase a Promethean ActivBoard. This project will integrate the use of technology in the classroom. It will enhance teaching strategies and methodologies in the areas of mathematics and science, with the ultimate goal of increasing the passing rate to 90 to 100 percent.

Melissa Vandiver, Lamar Elementary

Amount: \$1,598 for “Communicating with Kids”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase two Lenovo ThinkPads. The students will be using the tablets for communication. If communication abilities improve, the students will not only talk to the teachers, but talk to each other as well. If by the end of the school year, even one student can communicate his or her needs, the tablets will be a success.

Judy Wells, Ashbel Smith Elementary

Amount: \$2,925 for “Let's Play: Creating a Language Foundation through Play-based Strategies”

Description: With the grant funds, toys, books, puppets, and games will be purchased to help improve children with hearing impairments. The materials will be used to introduce and practice new vocabulary.

Michelle Williams, Highlands Junior

Amount: \$2,825.25 for “Incorporating Promethian Activ Expressions Units in class”

Description: Funds will be used to purchase ActivSlate graphics tablet, ActivHub, and voting pod. This project incorporates any test or response questions where a written answer is given. District curriculum will be used to go along with the technology. It will be used to create activities, games, and opportunities for the regular classroom as well as tutorial groups.