



Fostering Bright Futures

Recipients  
Spring 2023  
IEF Teacher Mini Grants

### **Sensory Items for Autistic Support Room**

Teacher: Elizabeth Adams, Prospect Park School Grades 1, 2, 4

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

Assist with social emotional wellbeing of children; allowing them to use taught coping strategies for regulation which will increase availability to learn and time on task.

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### **Middle School Supply Station**

Teacher: Elizabeth Becker, Norwood School Grades 6 – 8

Team Members: Colleen Blankley, Kirstyn Carey

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

By providing supplies, we cut down on distractions and increase the time in the classroom learning and being on task. This project is responding to the socio-economic needs facing our community.

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### **Mikva/Soapbox Project**

Teacher: Jason Bowen, All Elementary Schools Grade 8

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

The funds will be used to enhance student advocacy opportunities inside and outside the classroom. The grant money will be used to incentivize student participation through prize money awarded to winners in each community school.

Currently, the IEA donates \$300 money to the top 3 winners of district-wide contest. We would like to increase that pool of money available and/or expand the prize money to more students. Additionally, we would like funds to support the overall production of the evening and to pay for food/beverage after the event.

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### **Bucky's Cafeteria Treasure Chest (PBIS Incentive)**

Teacher: Emily Catanese, Tinicum School Grades 1- 8

Funds Awarded: \$300

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

PBIS is a Tier 1 intervention that is used in all of the Interboro Schools. These funds would allow our PBIS team to reward students for displaying positive behavior in an area where the data shows are the most problematic in our school. Students were polled to see what types of prizes they would like to earn. This grant would go directly toward those items. Tinicum Students are already used to earning Buc Notes from academic classes, so this intervention would tie in to our PBIS reward system.

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### **Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS) Reward Funds**

Teacher: Stephanie D'Alonzo, Glenolden School Grades 1 - 8

Team Members: Miesja Cubito, Lorraine Lonergan, Christopher Stubbe

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

PBIS emphasizes five inter-related elements: equity, systems, data, practices, and outcomes. It is a proactive approach to student behavior and greatly enhances students' school experience.

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### **Basic Needs Closet**

Teacher: Rachel Flicker, Norwood School Grades 1 – 8

Team Member: Kathleen McCullen

Funds Awarded: \$300

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

Providing these items to lacking students will increase their ability to access the curriculum by covering basic needs.

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### **PBIS Rewards**

Teacher: Rachel Flicker, Norwood School Grades 1 – 8

Team Members: Heather Egan, Rosemary Haley, Tara Vaughn

Funds Awarded: \$300

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

These funds will motivate students to demonstrate behavioral expectations to earn reward tokens.

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### **Mini Bass Amps for Practice and Jamming**

Teacher: Daniel Friel, High School Grades 9 – 12

Team Member: Christina Douglass

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

These funds will better allow interested students to pursue bass guitar and allow students to form mini class bands.

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### **Podcasting Unit / Portable Podcasting Kit**

Teacher: Andrew Herrmann, High School Grades 9 – 12

Funds Awarded: \$450

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

I believe that this portable podcasting kit can be a nice way to give students experiences with new technologies, give teachers another tool for assessment, and potentially allow learners to branch out creatively in the medium of podcasting (which has a wide-spectrum of types and sub-genres).

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### **PPE and AED Trainers**

Teacher: William Lavery, High School Grades 9 -12

Team Member: Renee Barrett

Funds Awarded: \$440

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

The AED training devices undergo wear and tear and are fragile by supplying 2 new devices we can complement the ISD supplies and materials. By supplying breathing barriers, we will be able to effectively practice CPR as we learn to live with airborne viruses such as COVID and Flu

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### **Entrepreneur Club**

Teacher: Daniel McGrath and Christi Laky, Prospect Park School Grades 6- 8

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

We are seeking \$500 in seed funding to establish a school store as the cornerstone of our entrepreneur club. This initiative will complement the weekly financial literacy lessons in social studies for grades 6-8. The school store will serve as a practical application of the concepts learned in the classroom. In addition to the store, the club will organize a series of innovative fundraisers with the primary objective of raising funds. These fundraisers will provide students with hands-on experience in planning, executing, and managing events while generating financial resources. To further enhance students' understanding of investing, we will incorporate a stock market simulation game. Through this activity, students will gain valuable experience in investing, with a specific focus on diversification. This will help them grasp key investment concepts and develop informed decision-making skills. All proceeds generated from the school store and fundraisers will be allocated for two purposes: reinvesting in the club's activities and initiatives, and making positive contributions to the Prospect Park School community. By investing in the club, we aim to sustain its growth and provide even more opportunities for students to learn, innovate, and contribute to their school community.

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### **Enhancing Recreational and Lifelong Leisure Program**

Teacher: John McLaughlin, Norwood School Grades 1- 8

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

Below are units that can be enhanced with this grant proposal with either equipment or by making the community district connection.

Bowling Unit - This year we went on a class trip to the MacDade Bowling Lanes. I would like to continue to make that connection and enhance their skill level with resources we could use at the school.

Golf Unit - In the spring, we collaborated with First Tee who came in and gave our students a presentation on the etiquette of golf and how to swing a golf club. Students had a blast. It was so much fun we created a field day station named "Angry Birds." A community district connection would be to take our students to a golf course, such as Putt Putt.

Baggo Toss/Frisbee Throwing - We are very fortunate with the amount of equipment but always looking to enhance what we have.

Biking - This is a wish list unit, but would love to adopt a bike safety unit and actually teach our students on how to ride a bike appropriately.

Rock Climbing - The last unit and a great unit to make a community connection would be training the students on a rock climbing wall that is more advanced than the ones in our gymnasium.

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### **Monthly Themed Lessons & Sensory Materials**

Teacher: Julia Pickett, Kindergarten Academy

Funds Awarded: \$500

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

Having these funds will help enhance the multi-sensory approach to learning that I strongly believe in and allow students to participate and learn in a comfortable, safe, and unique way.

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### **Flexible Seating for a Deskless Classroom**

Teacher: Jessica Vazquez, High School Grades 9 – 12

Funds Awarded: \$450

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

These funds would help to support my endeavors in continuing to provide a deskless classroom for my students. Having piloted this approach with my students this year, I have seen a huge shift in their behaviors and level of engagement. We are able to easily incorporate so much more movement (through games, small group learning activities, storytelling and acting, and more). Students seem much more comfortable and ready to learn each day because they have more ownership of the physical space in the room and are able to choose what works best for them as individual learners. This has really helped to create a sense of community within the classroom and with these funds, I will be able to expand upon this even further. Our newly adopted Spanish curriculum is storytelling-based and having flexible seating options pairs extremely well with this approach because the physical barriers of desks are removed and students are much more open to participating aloud, providing story suggestions, acting out movements that correlate to the vocabulary, etc.

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### **3D Molecular Designs Models**

Teacher: Nicole Werner, High School Grades 9 – 12

Team Member: Renee Barrett

Funds Awarded: \$435

#### **How will these funds help you deliver an innovative approach to teaching in your classroom or supporting the current district curriculum?**

3D molecular models provide hands on learning for all students, regardless of their instructional level. Students are able to explore models of biological processes the promote questions, conversation, and collaboration. Using models allows students to make deeper connections to topics that are traditionally difficult to understand. Students have a difficult time understanding cellular processes because they aren't something that they can see with the naked eye. Modeling is at the heart of implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards.

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