2023-2024 Grant Awards

1. **Motor Opportunities for Early Learning**. Purchased large motor equipment to provide appropriate gross motor activities to students from birth to age 5.
2. **Vision Screening**. We contributed toward the purchase of a SPOT vision screening tool that will be able to detect most vision concerns without the requirement that our birth – 5 year olds perform tasks to evaluate; the technology can evaluate independently. Correcting vision early can help prevent delays in development later.
3. **Inclusive and accessible playground**. Funds toward the development of a new playground at Somerset that will be equipped with ramps, adaptive equipment, and sensory play elements so that every student, regardless of their physical abilities, can fully participate in recreational activities.
4. **See a book, read a book**. Bookshelves for GEMS 1st grade classrooms that display books forward facing and at primary students’ eye level to better entice young readers to grab a book.
5. **Frogs and Toads at Garlough**. Funding to allow the entire 4th grade to participate in the musical ‘A Year with Frog and Toad’. This gives the students experience of performing in a real production at no cost to them and to provide a community event to the school, families and community.
6. **Maestro Market.** Supplies for a school wide behavior incentive program supporting the ARTS at Moreland. (Always Try, Respectful to myself and others, Taking Responsibility for my learning, and Safe and Healthy Choices.)
7. **Library Update**. Funds to purchase books, especially new and diverse books to improve the library collection at Moreland
8. **4th grade Capstone Play**. Funds for partnership with Stages Theatre Company to produce a high-quality capstone play as culmination of student education at Moreland’s Arts and Health Science Magnet School.
9. **Moreland reads!** Providing all Moreland educators and students with access to a wide variety of decodable readers. These books align to the phonics and phonemic sequence of learning to read based off the research of The Science of Reading.
10. **STEMS bins.** A STEM bin contains manipulatives that give students opportunity for hands-on, engaging, and open-ended learning. Bins, filled with the developmentally appropriate materials, will be in each classroom at Pilot Knob.
11. **Multilingual Library Books.** New-to-country students at Pilot Knob come with little English but are literate in their first language. Research shows that development of the first language skills has impact on students’ achievement, so we are funding the purchase of first language books.
12. **Kindness Retreat**. A unique gathering opportunity for 4th graders at Pilot Knob and Mendota to bolster their sense of belonging and connectedness while strengthening their abilities to collaborate with their soon to be classmates when they enter Friendly Hills.
13. **1st Grade Library.** New relevant, engaging, and current book titles to replace worn and old books and refresh the libraries at Mendota.
14. **Sensory Path.** A decal system that is designed to transform a school space, Mendota, into a child friendly, thematic, and safe area for movement. The paths help the mind and body communicate and promote cognitive development, emotional regulation, and inclusivity.
15. **Sanneh Soccer Camp.** A no cost camp opportunity for ISD197 students to participate in the Sanneh Foundation Soccer weeklong camp in August. Grades 1-4 are in the morning and grade 5-8 in the afternoon at Two Rivers.
16. **Math Corp Volunteer.** Funding to provide a Math Corp volunteer at Mendota, serving twenty-four K-3rd grade students for the entire school year.
17. **Class sets of Digital Pencils.** Pencils for Friendly Hills and Heritage students to use in reaching new media art requirements set by the MN state standards. The pens provide students with professional quality technology to encourage and motivate students with real-world experiences in digital drawing.
18. **Makerspace Math and Language Arts**. Supplies for Heritage students to create hands-on projects using skills learned in Intermediate Algebra and Linear Algebra such as Fake stained glass, string art, pizza comparison and wood puzzles. This grant also funds a one-year membership to “Storyboard That’ for students to create their own graphic novels.
19. **Math Team.** Funds to help the three math teams at Heritage with expenses.
20. **Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program at Heritage**. The goal of this program is to build relationships with the 5th grade participants and their 8th grade mentors. Connections made inspire improved student success and offer personalized support. Role models develop leadership and mentoring skills.
21. **PBIS.** Materials for a school wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support program at Heritage, a data driven program that helps students set goals for themselves both behaviorally and academically.
22. **Power Hour.** Weightlifting equipment to expand the before school Power Hour program at Heritage. This program promotes an active, healthy lifestyle and is available to all students who want to develop strength, burn off energy, build new connections and be leaders of their school.
23. **Rosetta Stone for Newcomer ELL.** Digital access for new-to-country English learners at Two Rivers that will help develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.
24. **Computer Science Classes Coding Spheres.** Purchased fifteen programmable Sphero BOLT robots for students at Two Rivers to learn another programming language code and app with the hope of sparking interest in programming.
25. **TRH Marine Team.** Funds to install fish tanks at Two Rivers. The marine team club will care and maintain the tanks.
26. **Work Skills Development.** Developing vocational skills for Branch Out students in the retail, restaurant, and manufacturing industries by using hands-on materials.
27. **Communication Applications.** Students in special education district-wide that require augmentative and alternative communication will benefit from the communication applications and the LAMP word application we purchased for the iPads that are loaned out to these students.
28. **OT Family Resource Lending Library.** Create an Occupational Therapy lending library for the district. These books will provide a resource to parents whose child has unique physical, social, emotional, or cognitive needs and desire to better understand those needs and diagnoses.
29. **Books for District Libraries.** Funds to purchase books for the libraries at all grade levels in the district. The focus will be to fill the gaps of needs and one of those needs is in first-language books, such as Spanish books for students whose first language is Spanish.
30. **Youth Enrichment Scholarships.** Financial aid for students participating in After-School Youth Enrichment Classes through district Community Education.
31. **Swerve Drive for Lightning Turtles Robotics Team.** Purchase of a high-quality robotic driving system to boost the competitiveness of the ISD197 team.