

Everett Public Schools Foundation Classroom Grant Information for 2014-2015

The Everett Public Schools Foundation is proud to announce the award of 47 Classroom Grants for the 2014-2015 school year. We awarded grants ranging in amount from \$190 to \$1,000 for a total of over \$35,000, an increase of \$7,000 over last year. More than 12,000 students will be impacted with innovative grants encompassing literacy support, science enhancement, family reading nights, writing programs, technology in the classroom and many other academic and arts enrichment programs.

We are proud to continue the growth of the Classroom Grant program and thank all of those in the community who provide financial support to make this wonderful initiative happen each year!

Please join us in congratulating the following teachers and certificated staff members who are recipients this year:

CRC – Early Learning:

- Kelly Marks – “All Pencils and Scissors Are Not Created Equal”
-Not all students come to kindergarten with the necessary experience and skills to successfully use scissors and pencils. Our grant is for the purchase of small golf-sized pencils, pencil grips and adaptive scissors. These are standard tools all kindergarteners need to guarantee feelings of accomplishment with their emerging fine motor skills.

Cascade High School:

- Lauri Cappello and Mark Staley – “Using Video and Audio Recording Technology for Assessment in the Performing Arts”
-The music program at Cascade High School would like to find a way to improve students’ learning with everything from basic skills to final performances and concerts. The students will use audio/visual technology in classroom to improve their performance and self-evaluation through recording devices purchased with grant money. The teacher will create audio/visual files that students will be able to access and reflect on their performance as well as create a plan for how to improve.
- Deborah Frickey – “Students teaching Students: From the Greenhouse to the Table”
- A small group of students will teach their classmates how to grow food to be harvested and used in classroom cooking projects. Knowledge will be passed on from year to year, creating our very own “food cycle”.
- Jack McCleod and Brian Cherniak – “Vertical Hydroponics: The Living Green Wall”
-Sustainability and community service are goals of Cascade High School’s Environmental Science classes. Students are building vertical gardens and aquaponics systems from raw materials while Leadership students are planning a community garden to include these systems. Students need a professionally designed hydroponics system (“living green wall”) to incorporate in their studies.

Cedar Wood Elementary:

- Mark Smith, Katelyn Pancake-Boal, – “E-book Circulation at Cedar Wood Elementary”
-This grant will provide the development of an e-book circulation at Cedar Wood Elementary School. These e-books can be downloaded to computers. Students who do not have the necessary devices at home can check out Nooks and download e-books at school or from home.

Eisenhower Middle School:

- Hedy Schlaht – “iPad: Breaking through the Communication Barrier”
-The iPad and switch adapter is a way to break through communication barriers for non-verbal students as well as students with communication disorders. The iPad is commonly being used as a voice output device using applications for communication. Therefore, it will increase the chances for the student to communicate their needs, wants and ideas to others. This will give the student more equal opportunities for success within the educational, occupational and social settings.

Emerson Elementary

- Kailani Tibayan, Lindsay Olson, Alissa Andersson, Jill Vandermeer-Romero, and John Pappas – “Raising Raz Readers”
-Raz Kids provides students with hundreds of books via the internet to work on reading fluency and comprehension at home or school using any technological device. This program provides feedback to students, parents, and teachers to improve home to school communication.
- Lauren Opsal, Candy Wilson, Beverly Wellen, Kailee Vanderwerff – “Hatching Readers”
-Reading Eggs online reading program makes learning to read interesting and engaging for kids, with great reading games and activities. The reading eggs program focuses on a core reading curriculum of phonics and sight words using skills and strategies essential for sustained reading success. It completely supports what children learn at school and will help to improve children’s literacy results.
- Vicky North – “Lights! Camera! Action!, Creating Writers and Good Citizens through Digital Storytelling”
-Acknowledging a need, then calling for action through public service videos; communicating a book review; elaborating personal narratives; telling epic stories of science and engineering projects created in the classroom are just a few of the ways digital storytelling can support student engagement and success. The equipment and materials requested in the grant will allow students to build their 21st century skills of collaboration, innovation, and leadership.

Everett High School

- Cheryl Carlson, Melanya Materne, Heather Hoffman and Kristin Price – “Innovative Vocabulary Enrichment: A Common Core Necessity”
-As we have begun our Common Core implementation, we have observed that one area that could use more rigorous development is the vocabulary foundation of our students. A creative and innovative solution would be the inclusion of a Common Core Enriched Vocabulary Workshop text that would be vertically aligned between grades 10 and 11. By giving our students practice and application with word structure, questioning strategies, context, and analogies, this workshop prepares our students for college and careers.
- Maria Thompson and Kate Cain – “Reading for All Levels”
-Reading A-Z accompanied by Razkids would allow students access to fiction and nonfiction reading at many levels allowing all Life Skills students to participate.
- Jeniffer Pitharoulis – “AP Language Class Reads”
-In alignment with the district’s goal of increasing the number of AP classes offered and the number of students enrolled in AP courses, Everett High School is running an AP Language and Composition course for the first time this year. Because there are few materials to support this course, the journalistic account by Barbara Demick, Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea, would be a key resource to engage kids in nonfiction rhetorical text, provide whole-class discussion opportunities, and prepare students for the upcoming AP Language and Composition Exam in May.
- Ben Zupke, Nancy Flowers, Amy Colburn, Addie Smith, Andrew Sudkamp, Brad Kernan, Cindy McIntyre, Nicole Carter, Scott Sandwick, and Zach Bass – “GradeCam”
-GradeCam has an intuitive, easy-to-use interface that allows educators to:
 1. *Grade multiple-choice assignments with any web or document camera*
 2. *Transfer score into any electronic gradebook*
 3. *Share assessments with other educators in real-time*
 4. *Give students immediate personal feedback*
 5. *Lin questions to state standards and generate standards based reports.*

Forest View Elementary:

- Deb Strong and Brandy Schroeder – “A Classroom Environment of Numeracy”
-This project will support the development of an environment that is rich in mathematical opportunities for children. Students will engage in guided mathematics that require them to use manipulatives, compute, compare, question, estimate, solve problems, converse and write about their thinking processes. Differentiation across the grade level and small groups will create opportunities for all to learn to be flexible thinkers and engage in rigorous mathematics while developing a positive attitude and growth mindset to be able to adapt to the emerging needs of a changing world.

Gateway Middle School:

- Susan Hines-Elzinga – “Taking Solids to Liquids Through Encaustic Sculpture”
-This will be an exciting hands-on experience for students incorporating concepts of science along with art design. Creating sculptural forms with various materials and methods, then applying hot melted wax will give the students a sense of intertwining relationships of materials thus making connections across the core curriculum.

Hawthorne Elementary:

- Darren Larama – “3D Design and Printing Club”
-I want to start a 3D design and manufacturing club at Hawthorne Elementary. This club will learn how to design products in 3D using the free 3D design resource and lessons found at www.tinkercad.com. Students will learn how to design in 3D, how to evaluate their designs, and how to design with a purpose. The grant will provide for the purchase of 15 + spools of PLA filament and other supplies that our 3D printer needs.
- Judi Caudle – “Help! I Can’t Remember! Training working memory in Kindergarten students”
-This 8-week action research project is designed to address a need identified in our School Improvement Plan; to support and improve the “working memory” of the students we serve. Hawthorne Elementary Kindergarten teachers will incorporate new shared reading activities to enrich classroom literacy experiences and extend the capacity of each child’s working memory.
- Kimberly Demetre and Celia O’Connor-Weaver – “All 5th Grade: ‘Ukulele Program: The Magic ‘Ukulele”
-This grant provides for a classroom set of ‘ukuleles (25) for the entire 5th grade at Hawthorne. Students will learn to play three chord ‘ukulele songs and to accompany singing. Research has shown a variety of benefits from playing instruments including: increased brain function, improved fine motor skills, self-confidence, and a greater creativity and problem solving skills. We have a 28% Marshall Islander population in our Title 1 High Poverty Elementary school. The ‘ukulele will connect to our cultural population that we serve as well as all other cultures.
- Pat Collins, Liz Trujilo and Kelly Jewell – “Developing a Passion for Reading Informational Text”
-We want to continue to build excitement and passion for reading with our fourth and fifth grade students! Helping our students to become inspired independent readers is the greatest gift we can give them. With this grant, we will update our classroom libraries with informational books to meet the current interests and reading levels of our students. Through our family reading night, we will connect with our students’ families to help facilitate reading at home.

Jackson Elementary:

- Molly Allen – “Ready to Read!”
-Our students who struggle to read in second and third grade frequently cannot find appropriate books at their reading level. Classroom libraries do not always have enough titles at lower levels to meet this need. ‘First Book’ is a program that offers books at deeply discounted prices for Title I schools. This grant would provide 250 books for our lowest readers to enjoy during independent reading time and at home when reading to a parent.

Jefferson Elementary:

- LaVonne Peterson and Mica Harasek – “Knee-deep in History Novels”
-Third graders dive into history through a rich study of civil rights while reading the nonfiction book Martin Luther King Jr. Fourth graders join the Gold Rush Era in the historical fiction book Aurore of the Yukon.
- Justin Haney – “Library Literacy Lunches (L3)”
-Second grade students will join a weekly lunch time reading group in the library with the librarian. We’ll read a book together (librarian and students) then follow-up with a quick reading comprehension quiz to check for understanding. All of the books will be brand-new nonfiction library books on a wide variety of topics directly tied to STEM, Common Core, and our district science units. After reading each week, the books will be available for checkout for the reading club members, then they” be available for all library users.

James Monroe Elementary:

- Bridget Mooney – “Speech Buddies, tackling Persistent Sound Errors for a Lifetime Change”
-Speech Buddies, innovative-therapeutic tools, are being implemented to treat persistent-sound errors with students at James Monroe Elementary. Decreased time in speech therapy means increased time participating in the classroom curriculum. Speech-Language Pathologists dedicated to best-practice while helping students achieve standard in Speaking and Listening, a Common Core Standard, and in becoming clear and effective communicators for a lifetime.
- Marea Preus – “Wood, Paper and Construction Toy Workshop”
-Toymaker and inventor Rick Hartman will visit Kindergarten classes to conduct a 90-minute, hands-on workshop that directly supports and extends the science curriculum. During this workshop, students will use simple and safe woodworking tools to build a variety of toys that demonstrate important scientific concepts studied in the classroom.
- Debi Doyle – “Future of Flight’s Gliding in to Innovation/Boeing Career Tours”
-Participation in The Future of Flight’s Gliding into Innovation Program allows students an opportunity to work in teams to design a glider. The students will learn engineering design method, the forces of flight, how to test ideas, teamwork, and presentation skills. Along with class sessions facilitated by an industry engineer, the students will have one class session at the Future of Flight Museum. Separately the students will take a field trip to Boeing to tour the facility and learn about the career paths of various employees at Boeing.
- Barney Peterson – “First Lego League Robotics Team – Everett 7”
-This is the initial year for James Monroe Elementary to have Lego Robotics Team preparing for competition. Participants are 4th and 5th graders who spend (at minimum) 1 hour per week after school to plan and create the required parts for the First Lego League Robotics competition. The materials purchased for our school by the District are sufficient for only a team of 10 students. We want to purchase one more robot so that another ten students will learn skills and strategies using the Engineering Design process to extend science practices introduced in class.
- Emily Brunswick-Nelson – “Integration of Social Studies and Language Arts to Promote Collaboration and High Order Thinking”
-By integrating social studies and language arts education, students have the opportunity to delve into a deeper understanding of history through literature circles and close reading. This grant encompasses acquiring materials that will engage students to read nonfiction as well as fiction literature as they explore the early time periods of U.S. colonization, revolution, and slavery.

Madison Elementary:

- Kaye Lysen and Dr. David O'Neill – "Hawaiian Delight: Ukuleles for More Kids"
-My goal is to complete a class set of ukuleles so that we can build on what we accomplished last year. Students Kindergarten through 5th Grade will learn basic chords to common songs, rounds, and curriculum-related modifications to these songs. They will accompany themselves while singing. Later, they will create and perform their own for each other in class. They will also perform for their parents at their Music Shares and for the community of senior citizens at Forest View Transitional Health Center in the spring. Through these ukuleles, I hope to inspire a love for music and enrich the lives of my students by creating a joy and passion that will make a difference in their lives for many years.
- Tracy Allen and Heather Ferrel – "Diving Deeper with C.I.A."
-It is our intention to enhance our current reading literacy program for third, fourth, and fifth-graders by using the materials and book in the C.I.A. program. The program focuses on student engagement as a core strategy to generate ideas and build an atmosphere of accountability and motivation.
- Amy Rounds, Julie Smith and Wendy Beaudry – "Creating Common Core Readers Through Fluency."
-The focus for the second grade team this year is increasing fluency in our ELL and below grade level readers. One way we plan to accomplish this is by creating access to quality, high interest literature by allowing students to listen and follow along to modeled reading through a listening center in the classroom as literacy rotation. Books will be rotated and listening centers will be shared and accessible to the first grade students.

North Middle School:

- Daniel Natividad – "Student Homework Club for English Language Learner Students"
-North Middle School's goal for the 2014-2015 school year is to continue the weekly English Language Learner after school Homework Club program. Recruiting non-English speaking parents as Natural Leaders, and collaborating with staff, tutors and volunteers, the purpose of Homework Club is to increase attendance, homework completion and grades among our English Language Learners.
- Callie Berg, Diane Bissell, and Jeff Blood – "Moving Minds"
-By replacing classroom chairs with stability balls, our team hopes to see multiple gains and rewards for our students. Some of the rewards for using exercise balls in the classroom are simply this: happy, focused, and productive kids. Sitting on the exercise balls increases blood circulation up and down the spinal column and to the brain. This increased circulation in turn oxygenates the blood the brain receives and therefore results in more brain activation, on task behavior, opportunity for movement and improved academic performance.
- Craig Cummings, Cynthia Gaub, Deb Bodeau – "The Second Annual Evening of the Arts"
-The First Annual Evening of the Arts was a HUGE success and we are doing it again! The North Middle School will host an Evening of the Arts to feature the literary, fine and performing arts programs at our school. This event will bring our community together for a classy evening gathering, to celebrate and award students for their hard work in the arts. The community event will include live musical and dramatic performances, a gallery display of traditional and technology inspired visual arts, roving poets, and community resource tables.

Penny Creek Elementary:

- Wanda Hill – "Hearing is Differentiation"
-As we differentiate instruction for our students we need to use any and all tools available to assess and meet the students at their level. Only then can we begin to move forward and have our students really learn. Students feel truly motivated when they feel successful. Using MobyMax with our new headphones will level the playing field for our students who struggle as well as for our students who are highly capable.
- Kim Woodrum - "Washington State Visitor Centers"
-Through the integration of Reading, Writing and Social Studies, students will learn about Washington State and the role of visitor centers within a state. Students will simulate the creation of a visitor's center for tourists to their Washington State Region.

Sequoia High School and Home School Alternative:

- Nancy Bertholet, Jennifer Heman, Jack Roy and Kim Christie – “Leading the Way Forward: The Next Chapter of a Success Story”
-As Sequoia prepares to turn the page onto the next chapter of Imprints Magazine, (its unique variation of a yearbook that features student work from across the curriculum and a Yearbook on DVD) students from the school’s new Leadership class will plan a central role in an ongoing success story which is a point of pride for our school’s community. Sequoia High School’s students like to think outside of the box and try new and innovative approaches to learning. This project is a reflection of the Sequoia spirit.

Silver Lake Elementary:

- Cora Bunker, Nichola Elston, and Jennifer Russell – “IXL subscriptions”
-This year we are looking for more ways to integrate technology into our 4th grade classrooms in hopes of making learning more engaging, accessible, relevant, and individualized. A grade-level subscription to www.ixl.com, will allow our students to practice specific and targeted Common Core aligned math and reading skills both at school and at home. Additionally, IXL provides teachers with immediate feedback which will allow us to target students’ academic needs.
- Kathie Gilbert, Cerra Sand, Kelly Ihrig, Dodie Greaves – “Engaging Literacy Instruction to meet Common Core English Language Arts Standards”
-First Grade teachers will develop integrated, engaging, and rigorous learning experiences to ensure that students meet Common Core English Language Arts standards by taking full advantage of the innovative aspects of the LeapFrog LeapPad Learning Tablets, from foundational skills to high level rigorous thinking skills.
- Taneal Carlson – “Listening Stations”
-The listening station consists of a book on CD along with 6 paper books. The listening station will be used as a small group reading station. The listening station is requested to enhance student’s engagement, reading fluency, reading comprehension, reading expression, reading accuracy, and vocabulary.
- Melissa Martinez, Tina McGran, Kathleen Tinsley & Margaret Shipe – “Reading is “Egg”cellent!”
-We want to excite our students to read by providing differentiated, one-on-one lessons using the Reading Eggs program. This program focuses on essential reading skills and strategies which are critical for sustained reading success. Students will have weekly opportunities to work on their individual progression on our new Chromebooks, classroom computers, iPads and they can access the program at home too. They will earn Golden Eggs as the complete learning activities to reward and motivate them as they master reading skills!

View Ridge Elementary:

- Amy Socha – “Tools for Life: Study Skills for Spelling”
-Study skills are not easy to teach to students with autism. There are a lot of flashy apps and online games for learning spelling, but they don’t teach strategies so the students can learn new words in any setting. With this grant, I would like to purchase Spellmasters for my classroom. This low tech spelling tool is amazing!
- Sandy Brodahl, Gloria Diana-Rigby – “Keyboarding Made Fun with Type to Learn 4”
*-Our grant proposal will provide the students of View Ridge Elementary School with a highly motivating and age appropriate instructional keyboarding program called **Type to Learn 4**. This software is web based and allows for keyboarding practice both at school and at home with effective assessment tools and options to modify the instruction as needed embedded within the program. It includes practice sessions and fun games that involve historical facts from countries around the world as well as famous individuals from multiple cultures throughout time.*

Whittier Elementary:

- Marci Ameluxen – “Sensory Supports to Enhance Learning for a Diverse Populations”
-Children in the general education classroom including those with special needs very often have difficulty organizing and responding appropriately to the multitude of sensory information that is entering their system. Consequent behaviors including hyperactivity, poor attention, low arousal/energy, emotional outbursts, or inappropriate social interactions make it very difficult for the child and other children near that child to learn. Providing these children with the appropriate adaptive equipment to help meet their sensory needs will frequently help them to be ready to learn.
- Jocelyn Sievers-Bailey – “Storyworks works for all!”
-Storyworks is a teaching resource packed with nonfiction, fiction, plays, paired texts, debates and basic grammar. Storyworks is a kid friendly publication that makes learning fun!
- Lindsay Buff and Joan Hills – “Robotics in the Elementary School”
-We need to bring Robotics and Engineering to the Elementary School level. In order to do this, we will develop a Robotics Team and Robotics Club at Whittier Elementary School. These groups will work together to build a robot and program it to do specific challenges. This work requires students to use all of the 21st Century Skills (Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, and Communication). Students are challenged to collaborate to make a plan, design their robot, test their design, and then use critical thinking and problem solving skills to make adjustments to their design. These are also the steps of the Engineering Design Process. Students will be engaged in self-directed, hands-on learning through the entire process. This experiential learning gives students real world experience and will prepare students for high school and beyond.
- Melinda Zacky, Kristi Gerla, Dakota Laughbon, and Elisabeth Hull – “Hatching Readers”
-Reading Eggs online reading program makes learning to read interesting and engaging for students. With great reading games and activities the Reading Eggs program focuses on core reading curriculum essential for sustained reading success.

Woodside Elementary:

- Tracy Webber, Cassandra White and Jen Meeuwssen– “Rock Star Reading Night”
-We will be educating and providing families with tools and strategies to help emergent kindergarten and first grade readers at home. We are anticipating over 200 families this year!
- Joan Litzkow and Debbie Wrobel “CSI: Chromebook Searchers Investigate”
-What is happening to the oysters and starfish of Puget Sound? Woodside students will put their research skills to the test as they research what is happening to the pH level of Puget Sound and how this is affecting our oyster and starfish population. But, the research doesn’t stop there. This is just one of the many worldwide problems Woodside library students will be investigating. This grant will enable Woodside students to be the research scientists I know they can be. Each student team will utilize and improve their tech skills to determine what the problem is, what is causing the problem and what the possible solutions are.

For more information on how you can help support students in the Everett School District, please give the Everett Public Schools Foundation a call at 425 385-4693 or visit our website at www.epsfoundation.org