

Mini-Grants Awarded

May 2005

Gordon Swan, Coldwater High School

Mr. Swan will be purchasing calculus model sets to help students visualize a three dash dimensional solid so then they can perform the necessary mathematical steps.

Kat Gray, Legg Middle School

Ms. Gray will be purchasing kiln furniture which is made up of shelves and piers that allow the kiln to be loaded to capacity. Ceramics are a cost effective way to meet the sculpture benchmark in the art curriculum standards. Having this kiln furniture makes ceramics feasible in class.

Lynda Chan, All Elementary Schools

Mrs. Chan will be purchasing materials from the programs, "Future Problem Solving" and "Interact". These programs encourage divergent and critical thinking as well as problem solving in a real world setting. Gifted and talented children are often very astute in academic work but understanding and implementing problem solving is often very difficult for them. These programs teach and reinforce problem solving but will also enhance and compliment the gifted and talented curriculum and tie in the existing materials.

Linda Myers, Girard & Jefferson Elementary Schools

Ms. Myers will be purchasing a Bully Proofing Project to address the problems of violence and teasing which lead to students feeling fearful and alienated in their school environment and with diminished capacity to concentrate and learn.

P. Van Zuilen, L. Renshaw, C. Hasen, S. Ellis, Lakeland & Larsen Elementary Schools (\$500 for two grants)

These teachers will be purchasing four web cams and other materials needed to be used in their classrooms for communication between the buildings. This will increase the students' computer fluency, communication skills, public speaking skills, and an increased awareness in technology.

Mary Kinnee, Lincoln Elementary School

Ms. Kinnee will be purchasing word cards and books to be used with school aged children of parents who attend ESL classes. She will use the materials to work with the children on word recognition and comprehension. Currently Ms. Kinnee volunteers to work with these children while their parents attend the ESL classes.

Susan Merkle, Max Larsen Elementary School

Ms. Merkle will be purchasing the items necessary to hatch chicken, duck and geese eggs in a forced air incubator. Students will understand the process of science as indicated by the Coldwater Community Schools grade three essential content, #1.

Suzy Gonzales, Jefferson Elementary School

Ms. Gonzales will be purchasing materials to enhance the physical science curriculum; this includes electricity, simple circuits, and simple machines.

Denise Sawyer, Max Larsen Elementary School

Ms. Sawyer will use this grant money to publish the first annual "Max Larsen Anthology of Poems" book. Students will have participated in a poetry unit of study in their classroom. At the end of the unit students would have the option to pick their favorite poem to be published in the book.

Awarded 2006

David Sherfield, Legg Middle School

Mr. Sherfield is awarded \$100.00 to support the Token Economy program he already has in place, at his own expense. All of his students earn a wage for their test scores, participation and cooperation. However, they can also lose their money through poor choices. The program not only provides immediate tangible motivation, but provides opportunities to introduce and explore new ideas of the real world and work.

Krista Searls, Jefferson Elementary School

Ms. Searls is awarded \$250.00 to purchase 4 LeapPads and at least 5 different programs for the LeapPads. The small hand-held computers will be used at a center every day for 15-20 minutes periods by each child in the class during the 90-minute language arts block. Ms. Searls plans on adding to this program by personally purchasing headphones for each computer and additional programs.

Sherry Bean, Legg Middle School

Mrs. Bean is awarded \$250.00 to purchase multi-cultural enrichment material which will help students gain a better understanding of cultural diversity as well as enhancing our curriculum standards and benchmarks.

Lynda Chan, all elementary schools

Mrs. Chan is awarded \$196.00. Mrs. Chan will be purchasing materials from the programs, "Interact". This program encourages divergent and critical thinking as well as problem solving in a real world setting. Gifted and talented children are often very astute in academic work but understanding and implementing problem solving is often very difficult for them. These programs teach and reinforce problem solving but will also enhance and compliment the gifted and talented curriculum and tie in the existing materials. Based on the phenomenal success of the Interact programs purchased last year, Mrs. Chan will purchase 3 additional Interact programs to use during the 2006-2007 school year with all of the A.P. students.

Pam Van Zuilen, Lisa Renshaw, Ila Schroll/Dibert, Lakeland Elementary School

These 4th and 4th grade teachers will be awarded 2 mini-grants at \$250.00 each to enhance instruction through the use of United Streaming (a website with video clips pertinent to curricular area). These teachers will be able to enrich classroom experiences, meet the needs of visual learners, integrate United Streaming with Powerpoint to create instructional tools.

Steve Ellis, Max Larsen Elementary School

Mr. Ellis is awarded \$220.00 to purchase the Adobe Production Studio. This software will change recorded sound into a visual image the class can see on a screen. Production Studio will enable the students to "see" the sound waves and wavelength of their own voice, watch and hear as their voice is changes in pitch and amplitude. Student performance on the MEAP, AIMS and unit tests will improve.

Raeanne Renner, Jefferson Elementary School

Ms. Renner is awarded \$200.00 to purchase materials to enhance student's involvement in science experiments and labs. The expected student outcome will be the student's enthusiasm about science and recalling scientific information on future assessments.

John Howk, Jefferson Elementary School

Mr. Howk is awarded \$250.00 to purchase a digital video camera to incorporate digital video into the classroom. The students will learn and possess the expertise to record and edit video and audio content.

Cathy Gleis, Lincoln Elementary School

Ms. Gleis is awarded \$250.00 to purchase a mobile reading/writing center. This mobile unit will be used during literacy instruction to practice their developing reading skills, writer's workshop and a plethora of direct instruction (whole group) and indirect (small group) learning experiences.

Awarded Spring 2007

Jodi L. Ford – Franklin High School, CEYW \$489.93

Jodi will purchase 35 text books, 35 workbooks and 1 teacher text of Mommy I'm Hungry: Good Eating for Little Ones. The goal of this grant request is to help these young mothers raise healthy children. The specific focus will be on helping them make better food choices for themselves and for their children through the study of a text entitled, Mommy I'm Hungry: Good Eating for Little Ones. This text is written specifically for young parents in a reader-friendly style from Morning Glory Press who is the top publisher of resources for pregnant and parenting teens. It emphasizes the importance of the Basic Food Groups.

Cathy Gleib – Lincoln Elementary School, \$488.74

Cathy will be purchasing a Bilingual Rug -- 8'4" X 11'8"

The learning components in the bright, bold design of this carpet help children build early cognitive and language skills. The 18 inner squares help children learn shape, color and word discrimination in both English and Spanish. The outer edge features the Spanish alphabet. Provides seating for up to 30 children during circle-time activities.

Mary Farwell – Legg Middle School, \$500.00

Mary will be purchasing 2 sets of Canadian Province/Territory Books and 25 copies each of Kids Discover Magazines – Explorers, Caribbean & Mexico. Students will use these materials to prepare travel brochures. They will also complete group projects such as creating a newspaper and travel log. All of these materials will give us tools to use as we work to integrate critical thinking skills, social studies objectives and the basic skills of reading and writing. These materials will be shared by all sixth grade students.

Ann Smoker – Lincoln Elementary School, \$221.00

Ann will be using this money to purchase food, utensils and equipment for the program "Kids Café." This program enables students to make interesting and healthy foods. Students are required to follow recipes that are theme and literature based. These activities benefit students through the development of fine motor skills, increased self-confidence, learning about good nutrition, as well to develop math and language skills.

Awarded Fall 2007

Neva Lounds – Max Larsen

Neva and her class of 25 students will travel to Pokagon 3 times to compare seasons and discover many miracles of nature. They will learn about glaciers and how our area was formed on the fall trip. In the winter they will cover signs of animals using tracks and then take a hike on snowshoes following those signs. In the spring they will learn about reptiles and amphibians, also tying the three trips together by hiking to Hell's Point.

Jeff Bailey – Coldwater High School

Jeff will purchase an audio mixing board, a noise canceling headset/microphone, a digital camera with video recording and Adobe Premiere Elements software. These tools will enable the students to record pod casts of children's books that could be made available to children in the school district to download off of a website. The video capabilities would be used in his English classes to film and edit the scripts they write as a part of a literature unit. The films would be shared as part of a film festival held in the spring. The tools would be made available to other teachers in the English Department as part of a multi-media cart.

Mary Jo Spurlock – Franklin High School

Mary Jo will purchase books for the library at Franklin High School that are appropriate for their age level and interesting to read. Having books that will appeal to the population at Franklin High School will not only encourage independent reading but also the joy of reading.

Kelli Redman – Lincoln Elementary

Kelli will purchase a portable listening center for her classroom. The class can hear the stories on CD, hearing the narrator model expression and fluency.

Mary Farwell – Legg Middle School

Mary will use the grant to purchase a data projector. This will enable the teachers at Legg Middle School to project a power point presentation or video from United Streaming on to a wall or screen. Mary will personally donate the rest of the cost for the data projector as they are quite expensive. The projector will be housed in the library for all teachers at LMS to use.

Neva Lounds – Max Larsen Elementary School

Neva will use the grant money to pay for transportation to and from Maple Lawn Nursing Home in the winter. This is a project that Neva has done for many years; the children each adopt a grandparent for the school year. The elderly residents of Maple Lawn are living history books and the students learn the value of making the quality of someone's life a little better.

Awarded Fall 2008

Neva Lounds – Max Larsen

Neva and her class of 25 students will travel to Pokagon 3 times to compare seasons and discover many miracles of nature. They will learn about glaciers and how our area was formed on the fall trip. In the winter they will cover signs of animals using tracks and then take a hike on snowshoes following those signs. In the spring they will learn about reptiles and amphibians, also tying the three trips together by hiking to Hell's Point.

Mechelle Schneider – Legg Middle School

Mechelle will purchase a classroom set of Sidney Finkel's book *Sevek and the Holocaust – The Boy Who Refused to Die*. This project will address many state benchmarks and school improvement goals; historical literature RNT.08.02, information text RCM.08.01, historical expository, journal biography or simulated memoir WGN.08.02, listening & viewing LPR.08.06, LPR.08.03, RNT.08.03, rising falling action, conflict, credibility of narrator, RNT.08.01 metacognition, RCM.08.01 connecting persons to literature. Mechelle has received an additional grant which will pay to bring Sidney Finkel to Coldwater to tell his story.

Susan Merkle – Max Larsen Elementary School

Susan will enhance the new Michigan curriculum content expectations by providing an assembly for all third grade students at Max Larsen and Lincoln Elementary. Storyteller Jane Murray will come to tell the stories of the Anishinabeg, Michigan's First People. Storytelling is a fantastic tool that can generate interest in history, geography, social studies and mythology. Storytelling stimulates curiosity and develops listening skills. It is the traditional way of the Anishinabeg, the Woodland Indians of Michigan.

Dawn Leno – All Elementary Schools

Dawn's grant will provide the money to bring an enriching "Traveling Exhibit" for our students in grades K-5 in all four elementary buildings. Students will be captivated by the emotion in the paintings of Vincent Van Gogh. This large exhibit will be showcased in each building for a period of five days. Classroom activities about Vincent Van Gogh and his paintings and his contributions of art to the world will be presented to all students before, during and after the planned exhibit timeframe. Student outcomes will include participation in "Van Gogh Studios" where they will create their own artwork imitating Van Gogh's style. Students can earn "Art Bucks" from working well in their studios to earn a chance to shop for art supplies they may take home for their own personal use.

Awarded Winter 2011- 12

Lori Hanson – Franklin High School

Ms. Hanson will purchase “the Beyond Question - the student response system” which will allow students to immediately interact and answer proposed questions. This system will allow the teacher to understand a classrooms aptitude immediately, as well as let the less inclined to participate regularly.

Anna Demlow – Legg Middle School

Ms. Demlow will read Mr. Finkel’s book *Sevek and the Holocaust – The Boy Who Refused to Die.* and the foundation grant will bring Mr. Sidney Finkel to Coldwater for a presentation. Michelle Schneider will bring her class from Franklin for the presentation as well.