

Fall 2012 Grant Awards

Elementary Robotics--Realizing Our Potential (\$6494.94)

Christine Squier and Dan Layton (Eagle and PVE)

This elementary robotics grant will enhance STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) offering for all Zionsville elementary school students. The grant will help purchase six Lego Education WeDo robotics construction sets that will be used at each school on a rotating basis. The program will begin in the classroom and will culminate with opportunities for elementary students to compete in a First Lego League (FLL) Robotics competition.

One Book/One School: Igniting STEM through Historical Heroes (\$3,377.54)

Sara Hunter and Kathy Roy (Union)

This One Book/One School effort brings together STEM and Literacy, allowing teachers to implement the Common Core Standards and incorporating more non-fiction into the classroom. The grant will fund copies of Ben & Me by Robert Lawson for all 3rd and 4th grade students and Now & Ben by Gene Barretta for students in kindergarten through 2nd grade. The project will culminate in a family night with performer Hank Fincken.

Taking a Tiny Look: Advanced Studies in Compound Microscopy (\$6,000)

Lori Bing and Cindy King (ZCHS)

The main objective of this project is to allow every student in ZCHS Advanced Life Sciences classes to utilize advanced compound microscopy in laboratory exercises. ZCS is a leader in the state by offering classes in Advanced Placement (AP) Biology, Advanced Genetics and Biotechnology, Advanced Forensic Science, and Advanced Anatomy and Physiology. Two hundred and fifty students will benefit from use of the 12 microscopes each year.

One Book/One School at Stonegate Elementary (\$2,581.69)

Allison Spillman (Stonegate)

With the entire student body of Stonegate (675 students) reading Beverly Cleary's classic, *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, a community of readers will be built. Students will also participate in cross-curricular events including mapping the characters' route; studying the natural sciences of habitats, nutrition and behavior of mice; and engage in discussions about how those with differences can still become friends.

Racing to the Future with STEM (\$642.36)

Ryan LaPlante (Stonegate)

The new STEM state requirements mandate that fourth graders need to design and create a moving system and measure its motion. This grant provides Balloon Cars and Zoom Air Car activities that will help students to discover forces, motion, transfer of energy, friction, drag and thrust.

PVE Reads! (\$4,500)

Donna Frecker and Jodi Burns (PVE)

The 750 students and families of Pleasant View Elementary will have a shared experience reading a surprise classic children's novel. The multidisciplinary approach will touch on the book's rich themes, but also spread across art, music, STEM, and physical education. A PVE Reads Family night with a bake-off, building K'Nex Ferris Wheels, and a guest speaker will cap off the project.

3D Printer for use in Prototyping, Art and CAD Design (\$3,233)

Matt Mulholland (ZCHS)

High school students in Physics, Robotics, AP Computer Science and Introduction to 3D Art classes will benefit from a 3D printer for use in prototyping and design. The integration of computer programming with machine codes, physics with design and mechanics, and art with industrial design showcase the STEM-based curriculum required by the state. This 3D printer is also an industry standard, giving ZCS students real-world experience.

Engineering the Future with First Grade (\$1,434.15)

Ryan LaPlante (Stonegate)

With the change in state standards, STEM is now required in every grade. First graders at Stonegate will learn naturally through play with Lego's Early Simple Machines Pack. Guided investigation helps students learn about energy, buoyancy and balance.

Electrify Your Strings (\$2,500)

Kathleen Swayze (ZMS)

World-renowned electric violinist and Emmy award-winning composer, Mark Wood, will present and intensive rock and roll workshop for string students in grades 3 through 12. After the workshops, Wood will perform with ZCS students in a concert for the community. This grant is intended to increase interest in the string program at all levels, but also to showcase the talent in Zionsville music departments to others outside the school system.

Flocabulary: Hip-Hop in the Classroom (\$1,200)

Stacey Behrens, Kristy Eisenman and Missy Stringham (ZWMS)

We all know that if you can put something to music, you can remember it. Flocabulary is an online learning platform that delivers educational hip-hop songs and videos to students. The program includes hundreds of songs for language arts, math, science, and social studies. This extension tool for teachers is a fun way present concepts, gauge comprehension, review information, and provide evaluation of several core subjects.

Matt Bellace, PhD: "A Better High" (\$2,700)

Greg Hall (ZCHS)

Drug and alcohol avoidance is a key social skill for adolescent's educational success. Matt Bellace, PhD, is a Clinical Neuropsychologist, stand-up comedian, and speaker to over 150 high schools and universities annually. This grant will bring Bellace to present to both ZCHS students and their parents, and the community.