

Fall 2014 Grant Awards

K-1 Robotics: The Wheels on the Bot Go Round and Round (\$1,123.90)

Sara Hunter and Ryan LaPlante (All ZCS Elementary Schools)

ZEF funding established ZCS' elementary robotics programs for grades 2-4, and this grant brings the curriculum to eager K-1 students. Robotics develops more than programming skills, and the Bee-Bot kits will ensure that our youngest students develop their problem solving, collaboration, critical thinking and mathematical skills.

TEACCH me Shoebox Tasks (\$1,240.00)

Jennifer Davis (ZCHS)

"Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication-Handicapped Children" is a program in which individual work stations teach skills to students with disabilities. Best practice indicates breaking large tasks into many smaller steps when working with students with disabilities, and these shoe-box sized activities will allow students to conquer tasks step-by-step on the path to independence.

Digital Spectrometry (\$5,123)

Cindy King and Steve Cripe (ZCHS)

ZCS is a leader in the state in testing in a number of science levels and adding advanced studies in spectrometry will effect 750 students. Used in biology, chemistry and physics, spectrometers will be used in copper analysis in AP chemistry, evidence in blood samples in forensics and photosynthesis pigments in biology.

Virtual Business (\$2,685)

Johnathan Grismore (ZCHS)

With ZCS moving to 1:1 laptop technology, Virtual Business will allow students to be hands-on and interactive with management, finance and retail course content. Students will be exposed to the start-up of a business, sending high school students to college or entrepreneurial endeavors with real-world experience.

The Makers Revolution (\$6,446)

Sara Hunter and Ryan LaPlante (All ZCS Elementary Schools)

This grant harnesses the creativity of DIY (Do It Yourself) and channels it through designing, inventing and tinkering to solve problems and improve or create new products. A Makers Space will be created in each elementary STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Lab with kits building on students' knowledge of electricity, design, and computer programming.

WeDo Robotics for Can-Do, 21st Century Learners (\$964.23)

Kara Benson (Boone Meadow)

21st century learners must be fluent in the skills of collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creativity. The additional Lego WeDo Robotics kits needed by Boone Meadow as a result of the school's

population growth will allow more students to actively participate in problem-solving, building, and programming robots in their STEM classes.

Let's Get Moving (\$6,800)

Jenny Froehle (All ZCS Elementary Schools)

ZCS is the only school in the metropolitan area without physical education teachers delivering wellness/fitness lessons to students at a time when national concerns about childhood fitness have never been greater. With this grant, ZCS elementary classroom teachers will be given the tools they need: detailed curriculum, an Artist in Residence, consulting, equipment assessment, and a partnership with IUPUI's School of Education with pre-service PE teachers to work in ZCS schools.

Sustaining Musical Growth: Digital Piano for ZWMS Choir (\$5,325)

Andy Kistner (ZWMS)

Nearly two-thirds of the student body of Zionsville West Middle School are touched by music, and the life span of the current piano at Z'West has run out. The new Yamaha digital piano will help develop vocal performance skills, aural abilities, and accompany musical literature.

Chickens and Children: Lessons for Life (\$2,495)

Brittany Moon (ZMS)

A motivator to regulate behavioral needs and create appropriate social interactions among students with disabilities and the typically developing peers who assist them, the ZMS chicken coop is an integral part of social and academic growth. Renovation of the coop will allow this essential program to continue by providing lessons in communication skills, self-regulation of behavior, functional math, motor and job readiness skills as students feed, collect eggs, maintain the coop and sell the eggs.