Foundation Accolade Parade Delivers Supersized Checks

The Hillsboro ISD Education Foundation Directors, HISD school trustees, superintendent, HHS Band members, and Education Foundation donors boarded the big yellow bus decked with the “Accolade Parade and Foundation Banners” to deliver supersized checks and a balloon bouquet to the winners in the third round of teacher grants on January 23.

The nearly 2000 students of Hillsboro Independent School District will reap the benefits of the grants now and for years to come. The 19 checks presented this year ranged from $270 to $1,500 for a total of about $19,000 to enhance learning in math, science, fine arts, language arts and sport medicine.

Donations - large or small- from across the community have been received to allow the foundation to soliciate grant applications. These grant applications are a written to achieve educational excellence in our schools. The grants are for materials at a level beyond reach of the limited state funding and school-property tax capacity.

**Franklin Elementary School:**

 Kristi Abrego and Kandy Faris, pre K teachers, were awarded a grant titled, *“Got App’s?”* This grant will be used to purchase 8 cases, 6 headphones, 2 power pack bundles, 4 LeapPad starter bundles & App Center, 2 LeapPad reading & math bundles with software and App Center, 2 read & write bundles with software for App Center, and 2 AC adapters. This discovery through play has been shown to lead to significant growth in children’s intellectual and social development, both of which are critical to their future academic success.

Ayari Favela and Felipe Barragan, pre K teachers, were awarded a grant titled, *“Kiddos Learning Pad”. This grant will be used to purchase 8 cases, 6 headphones, 2 power pack bundles, 4 LeapPad starter bundles for App Center, 2 LeapPad reading & math bundles with software for App Center, 2 read & write bundles with software for App Center and 2 AC adapters. This will lead to significant growth in children’s intellectual and social development, both of which are critical to their future academic success*.

**Hillsboro Elementary:**

Kimberly Hollan, first grade teacher, was awarded grant titled *“iTouch and iSucceed”. This grant will be used to purchase 3 black 8G iPod Touches, and 3 Speck CandyShell Grip for iPod Touch (4th Gen.). Students will be able to practice skills independently from teacher assistance, and be able to receive immediate feedback through the activities on these applications.*

Crystal Buxkemper and Kristi Darnell, Kindergarten teachers, were awarded a grant titled, *“Terrific Tutorials with Technology”.* This grant will be used to purchase an Asus-Eee Pad Transformer Tablet, a ZAGG-InvisibleSHIELD for Asus, a Targus-Truss Leather Case of Asus, and Android Educational Application downloads. The purpose is to use another form of tutorial medium that will spark the interest of struggling students.

Amanda Haley, first grade teacher, was awarded a grant titled *“Jump on Board with a Mimio-board!”. This grant will be used to purchase a MimioTeach. This will allow all of the different learning styles: visual, tactile, verbal, auditory, or kinesthetic, to be accessed at once, and therefore, improve student success.*

J. Brooke Arellano, music teacher and Daisy Abreu, gifted and talented/Art teacher, were awarded a grant titled, *“Live in the Music Room”.* This grant will be used to purchase a RiteAV-SVGA Monitor Cable with 3.5mm Audio-5, an ELMO CO-10 Document Camera, an Acme LCD LED Projector Office Home Classroom Theatre Computer Laptop Video and a Technology Workstand: AV Cart 2095EZR. This will provide students with live rich performances and cultural experiences.

**Hillsboro Junior High:**

Laura Morris, seventh grade Math teacher, was awarded a grant titled, “Mimio for the Memory!” This grant will be used to purchase a MimioTeach Interactive System. This interactive resource is a great tool that will help reach many aspects in the area of competitive technology.

Debbie Baker, Angel Andrews, Heather Landrum and Patty Leek, Jr. High Reading and English Language Art teachers, were awarded a grant titled, *“It’s All In A Name”.* This grant will be used to purchase books for the Hillsboro Junior High School Library, which will actively interest and engage students in reading activities at the secondary level.

**Hillsboro High School:**

John Robertson, Athletic trainer and Ed Option teacher, and Marcus Schulz, P. E. and Health teacher, were awarded a grant titled, *“Saving Lives Through Education”*! This grant will be used to purchase an Ambu Bag Valve Resuscitator, CPR Savers Mask Kit, Basic Buddy Convenience Pack and Basic Buddy AED Training Package. By obtaining these manikins, our students will have access to resources that will benefit their education, and potentially save a human life.

John Robertson was a grant, titled, *“Joint Models-Joining Anatomy to Academics”.* This grant will be used to purchase a wrist and hand model, a basic elbow model, a flexible cervical vertebra column and a foot and ankle model. Students will have access to items that are tangible, life-like, and life-size.

Midge Gauntt, Special Ed Life Skills teacher, was awarded a grant titled *“Wii Can Do It”. This grant will be used to purchase Wii sports games, Wild Earth African Safari, Cooking Mama, Endless Ocean, Wii Play: Motion, Yoga, Core Subject learning games, Wii Fit Plus with Wii Balance Board w/battery pack, Wii Console w/Mario Kart3 Remotes/Nunchuk controllers, charging station, Dance Dance Revolution Dance Mat, uDraw w/uDraw Studio and Sponge Bob games. Having this stimulus in the classroom will allow students to have “hands on” experiences with social interactions, problem solving, hand/dyd coordination, physical interaction and communication.*

Karen King, Theatre/Drama teacher, was awarded a grant titled, *“The Cutting Edge”.* This grant will be used to purchase a Skill 15-Amp 10” Table Saw, 2-Gallon Fastening Air Compressor, a set of hand power tools, drill, sander, saw, and light, a Kobalt 3-Drawer Work Bench and 4 Task-Force 26” Steel Sawhorses. Through the purchase of state-of-the art building tools, students will learn the immediacy of using math everyday to safely and correctly construct sets.

Deborah Buxkemper, Science teacher, was awarded a grant titled, *“A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words”.* This grant will be used to purchase 5 Flip UltraHD Video Cameras, 5 Flip Video Tripods and 5 Flip Video Power Adapters. Video lessons coordinated by staff would allow customized instruction for a wide variety of students.

Jennifer Faulknor, Science teacher, was awarded a grant titled *“Get Your Game On.” The purpose of this grant is to purchase 36 educational learning games which would engage students in learning the rigorous and extensive biology content. These materials would be used in biology classes and tutorials. Students review concepts taught in class while having fun playing a variety of different types of games.*

**Hillsboro Intermediate School:**

Jo Hayes, fifth grade Science, and Laurie Lewis, fifth grade reading/science, were awarded a grant titled, *“’The Earth’ Up Close and Personal”.* This grant will be used to purchase a Blue Planet Rotating Illuminated Seasonal Globe. This tool will address the promotion of critical thinking in all subject areas and demonstrate exemplary performance, which will allow scores to rise in Earth and Space Science.

Pam Hamilton, Gifted and Talented/Art teacher, was awarded a grant titled *“Pottery Plus.” This grant will be used to purchase an Amaco-Brent Slab Roller Mini SRC. This grant gives our students new and unique opportunities in working with clay in the art classroom. Through the use of their creativity and problem-solving skills in this project, student success in other academic areas, as well as social skills, will improve.*

Pam Hamilton and Daisy Abreu, were awarded a grant titled, *“Move Over and Let the Kids Drive…Their Learning!”* This grant will be used to purchase 4-Dell Inspiron Netbooks Model Mini 1012. This grant fosters innovative practices by encouraging and inspiring our students to study and learn in a multifaceted, complex and realistic highway of authentic learning.

Jessica Lee, Special Ed Life Skills and Resource teacher and Tiffany Mercer, third/fourth grade Social Studies teacher, were awarded a titled *“’Sense’sational Sensorimotor Kits.” This grant will be used to purchase a multi-sensory kit and activities’ achievement products. This grant focuses on the creation of a multi-sensory kit that will help teachers adapt instruction and activities for students with a variety of sensory needs. It will also offer suggestions and alternatives for teachers to help their students sense the world around them in the way that they learn best.*

Jessica Lee was awarded a grant titled *“H.O.T, Boxes”. This grant will be used to purchase Basic Curriculum Tasks, Pre-Academic Tasks, Motivational Tasks, Pre-Vocational Tasks, and Coordination Tasks. The goal of each task is to build the student’s work ethic and independent skills.*

Each of the awards will support instructional initiative during the remainder of 2011-12 and 2012-13 school years.

While these activities will directly benefit students currently enrolled in these schools and programs, most of the grants entail resources that are durable, benefitting students for years to come.

The foundation is delighted and proud to serve as a catalyst for educational innovation.

To obtain more information on the foundation or if you are interested in making a donation, call Katharine Matthys at 254-582-8585 or go to the Hillsboro ISD website- www.hillsboroisd.org, click Community and click Education Foundation home page.

Print the sponsor donor package, complete the form and return to the address listed.

Your investment in the foundation will directly benefit the students and teachers of HISD.