2016-2017 Grant Awards

**Essential Equipment for the Practical Application of Newtonian Mechanics**

**Janel Morris – Schivonne John, Tabatha Davis- Hillsboro High School**

Janel Morris, Schivonne John, and Tabatha Davis were awarded a $1,750.00 for a grant entitled “Essential Equipment for the Practical Application of Newtonian Mechanics”. Physics is an experimental science, and one of the most challenging courses offered to students; however, there are currently no physics lab materials available for on-level, pre-AP, or AP physics students to utilize hands-on investigation and discovery. Students must learn to accomplish specific tasks by designing and executing their own experiments. The materials requested would assist them in accomplishing these activities.

**Technology-Driven Response to Intervention in Secondary Mathematics**

**Melisa Springfield- Janel Morris – Hillsboro High School**

Melisa Springfield and Janel Morris were awarded $1,575.00 for a grant entitled “Technology-Driven Response to Intervention in Secondary Mathematics”.  IXL Learning enables students to acquire mathematical knowledge and skills, both in class and at home. It offers immediate feedback to incorrect responses, reinforces content vocabulary, shows step-by-step solutions with explanations, and provides opportunities for students to re-attempt skills until achieving content mastery. The Algebra I course includes more than 300 individual TEKS-aligned, self-paced lessons. Teachers can monitor student progress in real time, and access data reports that identify trends and prevalent misconceptions so that classroom instruction and modeling can be adjusted to meet specific learning needs. This program also gives students the opportunity to utilize BRIDGE (**BR**inging **I**nternet & **D**evices for **G**lobal **E**ducation) technology for educational purposes.

**Moore Magazines Please!!**

**Rebecca Moore – Hillsboro Elementary School**

Rebecca Moore was awarded $882.88 for a grant entitled “Moore Magazines Please!!”  Chromebooks would be utilized for many projects, specifically the class magazine project.  This is a project done with students addressing all of the nonfiction/expository skills that are taught throughout the school year in reading and writing. It also addresses many technology TEKS students need in second grade.

**Lights! Camera! Student News Coming Your Way**

**Carol Mabry – Ann Teel – Hillsboro Intermediate School**

Carol Mabry and Ann Teel were awarded $1,750.00 for a grant entitled “Lights! Camera! Students News Coming Your Way”.   We have been fortunate to experience live broadcasts each day since we moved into our building. Unfortunately, our media retrieval system is no longer available to our campus because it is obsolete. Last year we had to use our Public Address system for all announcements, as we searched for a better solution. After many attempts, we finally decided to go with a video broadcast that could be streamed to our teachers using their e-mail. We were able to produce two video broadcasts each week and on the other days we used the PA system. We were limited by what we could accomplish with the broadcasts because of available equipment. In order to produce and view the student news broadcast we will need to acquire additional audio/visual equipment.

**The Future is Flexible**

**Taylor Sanders – Hillsboro Elementary School**

Taylor Sanders was awarded $900.00.   for a grant entitled “The Future is Flexible”.   This grant will provide non-traditional student seating and desks.  Some students have difficulty being “still” as they work. These different chairs and lap desks will help student stay engaged and focused.

**NexGen Readers are Tomorrow’s Leaders**

**Michelle Steele – Erin Lobato – Hillsboro High School**

Michelle Steele and Erin Lobato were awarded $1,497.18 for a grant entitled “NexGen Readers are Tomorrow’s Leaders”.  The development of new, innovative technology coupled with the easy access of personal devices has changed the face of education today.  Information is instantaneously available at our fingertips - anytime, anywhere.  Currently our campus is initiating a 1 to 1 program that will ensure students have their own personal device at all times.  Developing a substantial collection of e-books will bring the library to each device in each home, and will allow for constant opportunities for reading positively reviewed, award winning novels.  This grant will assist in bridging the digital divide, and developing literacy skills while providing reading opportunities that would not otherwise be available.  Providing 24/7 access will assist in creating tomorrow's leaders through today's readers.

**Coding Our Way to Careers**

**Christine Robinson – Hillsboro Elementary School**

Christine Robinson was awarded $882.88 for a grant entitled “Coding Our Way to Careers”.  Computer and information technology positions in the workforce will require students to be exceptionally strong in all STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) areas. There is a need to develop in our students the technology skills, confidence, and desire to compete as leaders in our global society by providing them opportunities preparing them for successful futures. Learning computer programming through coding is an important step along that path. This grant proposes to spark students' interest in computer programming through coding applications and instruction so that students will seek out educational and career opportunities in the area of technology.

**Locked into Science**

**Jennifer Faulknor – Hillsboro High School**

Jennifer Faulknor was awarded $834.00 for a grant entitled “Locked into Science”.   Secondary science classes are seeking to purchase six Breakout Edu Kits.   The goal of this project is to increase student engagement, motivation, academic performance, collaboration, critical thinking and communication through the use of these innovative Breakout Edu game kits.  Students will play the game in teams competing to solve puzzles and unlocking locks related to the science content they are studying.  The project will be carried out spring 2017 and with future classes benefiting.

**Polishing our Chromies by Collaborating, Customizing, and Communicating**

**Malissa Hawkins – Danielle Spencer – Hillsboro Elementary School**

Malissa Hawkins and Danielle Spencer were awarded $1,750.00 for a grant entitled “Polishing our Chromies by Collaborating, Customizing and Communicating”.  This grant request is for 8 Dell Chromebooks with management systems to equip our classrooms with additional access to Google Classroom, as well as the Internet. Students now all have their own Google log-ins.  Google Classroom will be used to differentiate assignments for 71 students, to create digital portfolios, and to communicate with parents. Additional Chromebooks with Internet will be helpful when teaching our research and nonfiction TEKS and taking online assessments.

**Let’s Get Graphic**

**Cheryl Comer – Hillsboro Junior High**

Cheryl Comer was awarded $557.21 fora grant entitled “Let’s Get Graphic”.  This grant will address the needs of students who do not achieve success on the STAAR reading and math tests for grade level.  They struggle daily with vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension skills.  Finding books that struggling students “want” to read is difficult.  Struggling readers find graphic novels interesting.  These novels, in comic book form, are motivating, engaging, challenging and interesting.  The grant funds will be used to purchase more sets of graphic novels at lower reading levels with motivating content to increase fluency, comprehension, and foster a love of reading.

**EagleBots**

**Tammy Fry – Hillsboro Junior High School**

Tammy Fry was awarded $878.42 for a grant entitled “EagleBots”.  Robotics yield opportunities for students to apply science, engineering, and math concepts to develop solutions to real world problems.  In working with First Lego League teams, students are able to design, build and program LEGO MINDSTORMS based robots. The purpose of this grant is offering all students the opportunity to design and build robotics intended to serve a specific purpose.  Students with a higher interest will have the option of joining Robotics Club and building First League teams for competitions.

**Technology to the Reading Rescue!!**

**Laurie Lewis – Hillsboro Intermediate School**

Laurie Lewis was awarded $813.66 for a grant entitled “Technology to the Reading Rescue!!”  Technology provides powerful tools to help students.  The concrete, predictable cause-and-effect nature of technology is something that students understand and feel comfortable with while learning.  Readers need various avenues to cultivate an understanding and love of reading.   This grant application is for three Dell Chromebook touch screens to support struggling readers. While technology allows readers an innovative way to explore and to use educational reading apps and online books, struggling students need to expand their knowledge and skill into all components of reading. The use of appropriate technology can contribute to struggling students becoming more efficient, confident readers.

**See S.A.M. (Spanish, Art & Music) with the iPad**

**Daisy Abreu- Alma Cruz- Laurie Mc Donald – Hillsboro Intermediate School**

Daisy Abreu, Alma Cruz, and Laurie Mc Donald were awarded $1,580.67 for a grant entitled “See S.A.M. (Spanish, Art, & Music) with the iPad”.  Students' creativity is being redefined with each year that passes because technology keeps changing. We want the students to be ready for the future. iPads are powerful tools for creativity. They give us easier access to technology to create projects, lessons, do research and challenge critical thinking - all at the tip of our fingers. "See S.A.M. (Spanish, Art and Music) with the iPad" will allow Fine Arts/Specials classes to continue the use of technology in Specials classes; continue to teach students how to use technology as a learning tool in Fine Arts subjects

**Learning on the Move**

**Laura Moulder – Chris Smith – Hillsboro Junior High School**

Laura Moulder and Chris Smith were awarded $1569.00 for a grant entitled “Learning on the Move”. Research has shown that for struggling learners movement can help with focus and concentration.  The student workstations that will be purchased with these grant funds will allow students this movement during instruction while at the same time promoting flexibility in seating options.  Additionally, the workstations provide the students with individual space for their belongings and to work independently.

**Celebrating Science Mastery Through Stations**

**Crystal Buxkemper – Hillsboro Junior High School**

Crystal Buxkemper was awarded $900.00 for a grant entitled “Celebrating Science Mastery Through Stations“.   Kinesthetic learning happens when students are up and moving while learning. This is a learning style in which learning takes place by the students carrying out physical activities, rather than listening to a lecture or watching demonstrations. During science labs, students experience memorable learning while manipulating materials and supplies.  However, there cannot be labs every day. Another way to provide memorable, kinesthetic learning is through station work. When the content is presented in a special or unusual way, it becomes worth remembering and prolongs a lifelong love of learning science.

**NSPIRE-ing STEM**

**Laura Adams- Crystal Volcik-Amanda Slaten – Hillsboro Junior High School**

Laura Adams, Crystal Volcik, and Amanda Slaten were awarded$1,750.00  for a grant entitled “NSPIRE-ing STEM”. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators. Exposing students to STEM related curriculum will hopefully create a passion within them to peruse a job in a STEM related field.  STEM related curriculum offers hands-on activities for students and makes the math classroom more engaging!  The Innovator Hub allows the TI-Nspire CX to make programming and engineering design to the TI-Nspire, utilizing their built-in programming capabilities allowing students to learn basic coding and to build STEM projects.

**This is OSMO Fun!**

**Marion Ramos – Hillsboro Elementary School**

Marion Ramos was awarded $840.00 for a grant entitled “This IS OSMO Fun!”.  This grant application is for six Osmos for classroom and campus use to extend bilingual students' learning in all subjects. In addition, students will be engaged using the technology being provided.  The goal is that students will become independent in using Osmos and take ownership in their learning.  Students will be trained on appropriate use of the OSMOS.  It will be used for teaching small reading and math groups and for whole group instruction.

**Student Voice:  Turning Up the Volume**

**Katherine Polley – Hillsboro Junior High School**

Katherine Polley was awarded $842.64 for a grant entitled “Student Voice:  Turning Up the Volume”. Students in Digital Design are constantly working on audio/video production activities, researching projects, and completing various projects that require headphones and microphones.  Having a class set of good quality, durable headphones and microphones will allow for higher quality and a greater number of engaging projects for students.

**Keep Calm and Chrome**

**Dayna Marshall – Meagan Vaughn – Hillsboro Junior High School**

Dayna Marshall and Megan Vaughn were awarded $1,645.92 for a grant entitled “Keep Calm and Chrome”.  As students continue to use technology in the classroom, Google continues to become an integral part of learning.  Google Chromebooks are an essential part of any classroom. In the ELAR class, students can create, collaborate and communicate using all aspects of Google Chromebooks. However, in order for them to be effective; Chromebooks must be readily available in the classroom.  It is the goal to become a 1:1 campus so the students can be adequately prepared for not only high school, but the work world.