

2024-25 Teacher Grants

\$51,285.20



Grant Title: Learning Trade Skills

School Site: Lincoln Alternative Academy

Grant Writer: George Horton, Principal & Teacher

Amount: \$3,912.96

Funding supports the start-up of a Shop Club that would help Lincoln Academy students learn basic trade skills that can increase their workforce readiness within the community. The Shop Club will teach students basic carpentry, electric, plumbing and masonry skills.

Grant Title: VEX Go Robotics

School Site: Sangre Ridge Elementary

Grant Writer: Hannah Vaughn

Amount: \$3,695

Elementary students can dive deeper into state standards for computer science and engineering, providing them with a foundation for entering Stillwater's award-winning robotics program in our secondary schools.

Grant Title: Orff Instruments Exploration

School Site: Will Roger Elementary School

Grant Writer: Ashlynn Canler, Music Teacher

Amount: \$3,177

Funding provides mallet Orff instruments for the general music classroom. These instruments will enhance the musical experience for students by fostering creativity, improving musical skills, and enriching classroom instruction. With a focus on engagement and hands-on learning, these instruments will allow students to develop essential skills such as rhythm, pitch, and teamwork.

Grant Title: Let's Get Engaged: Building a resource library to equip teachers with tools for student engagement and achievement

School Site: Skyline Elementary School

Grant Writer: Angela Braggs, Instructional Coach

Amount: \$3,172.40

Grant allows Skyline to purchase books and teaching tools that would be used to implement specific

Kagan cooperative learning structures. These tools would also help the instructional and behavioral coaches within our school better serve new and veteran teachers in school wide professional development initiatives as well as teachers' personal growth plans.

Grant Title: Enhancing Student Learning through BAL-A-VIS-X

School Site: Districtwide

Grant Writer: Emily Deason with Mika Lucas, Leslie McSpadden, Brooke Brunken

Amount: \$ 2,413.14

BAL-A-VIS-X is a multi-sensory program that benefits students of all ages and abilities, particularly those with trauma, behavioral, or learning challenges. By providing access to BAL-A-VIS-X in every school, we aim to improve student outcomes, enhance classroom engagement, and create a more supportive learning environment for all.

Grant Title: Seeing the Classroom Through New Eyes - Tech-Enabled Coaching

School Site: Stillwater High School

Grant Writer: Traci Richardson

Amount: \$ 2,411.00

Swivl Robots and Reflectivity will enhance the instructional coaching program at SHS. By providing teachers with more opportunities for coaching and reflection, the project will support professional development and improve instructional practices. This data-driven approach will help teachers identify areas for improvement, and tailor their instruction to meet individual needs.

Grant Title: Cruising the Community with Early Childhood

School Site: Skyline Early Childhood

Grant Writer: Charla Balfanz and Andrea DaPron

Amount: \$ 2,199.99

The youngest Stillwater Public School students living with developmental delays will have access to a 6-seat buggy to be able to safely explore and cruise around in their community. Early Childhood learners will have the opportunity for daily walking experiences that will enhance their learning all year long.

Grant Title: Percussive Performance and Protection - More Than “Just Another Drum”

School Site: Stillwater High School

Grant Writer: Kevin Zamborsky, Director of Bands

Amount: \$2,008.74 (partial)

Funds will be used to expand percussion inventory and help secure instruments while traveling. New instruments will add a variety of timbral colors to the ensemble.

Grant Title: Read with Me

School Site: Westwood Elementary

Grant Writer: Anne Kuhbander and Kathryn Anderson

Amount: \$2,000

Non-native English speaking students can read along with a print book paired with its English language audio-integrated counterpart. Multilingual, audio book sets will promote literacy skills through various means: native language practice, independent English reading practice, family involvement, and increased student motivation. consisting of a native language.

Grant Title: Storytelling Through Sound

School Site: Highland Park Elementary School

Grant Writer: Courtney Parks, Library Media Specialist & Cindy Caraway, Certified Academic Language Therapist

Amount: \$2,000 (partial)

This dual-format approach of Wonder Books (physical books with an integrated audiobook feature) and Playaways (MP3 players) is particularly beneficial for students with characteristics of dyslexia, as it supports language decoding, acquisition to higher levels of vocabulary, improves fluency, and fosters a love for reading.

Grant Title: Calming Corners

School Site: Skyline Elementary

Grant Writer: LeAnne Hutchins & Amanda Morrison

Amount: \$ 1,904.05

A calming corner is a designated space in the classroom that promotes mindfulness and self-regulation. It serves as a space for students to develop inner resilience by incorporating various calming strategies. Each classroom in Skyline will receive tools to create a calming corner in the classroom that allows students to take time to self-regulate when feeling stressed or overwhelmed at school.

Grant Title: Mutes for Brass

School Site: Stillwater Junior High School

Grant Writer: Megan Perkins

Amount: \$1,732.39

New Brass mutes give the SJHS band program the freedom to play quality literature that will challenge and enrich the lives of our band students.

Grant Title: Pathways to Literacy: Part Two

School Site: Will Roger Elementary School

Grant Writer: Ginger Billman, Reading Interventionist

Amount: \$1,535.52 (funded at 60%)

Pathways to Literacy Part One grant enabled our school to have sets of 36 different decodable titles K-2nd reading level. Part Two will add sets of 68 different decodable titles 1st-4th grade reading levels. This library will be essential for every teacher planning small group instruction.

Grant Title: Blueprint for Success: Large Scale Printing

School Site: Stillwater Junior High School

Grant Writer: Rebecca Palmatary

Amount: \$1,823.00

The HP DesignJet T630 Inkjet printer will be utilized in innovative and creative ways to support various programs and activities, particularly in design, engineering, and prototyping for STEM classrooms, and the aviation, robotics and TSA programs.

Grant Title: Bridging the Reading Barrier: Providing Headphones to Foster Inclusive Literacy Development and Curriculum Access for Diverse Learning Needs

School Site: Stillwater Middle School

Grant Writer: Summer Montgomery

Amount: \$1,349.55

Incorporating headphones in the classroom introduces a level of flexibility, inclusion, and technological advancement that reshapes traditional learning, making it more effective and student-centered.

Grant Title: Playaways: Keeping Literature Accessible to all Students

School Site: Sangre Ridge Elementary

Grant Writer: Morganne Clyburn

Amount: \$1,250

Providing audiobooks to readers that may not otherwise have access to them supports reluctant or struggling readers as they interact with book titles they may not otherwise read on their own, aiding in reading and fluency skills.

Grant Title: Pickleball for PE

School Site: Will Rogers Elementary

Grant Writer: Jerad Warlick

Amount: \$1,049.67

Pickleball is an inclusive sport that is easy to learn, requires minimal equipment, and can be adapted to varying skill levels. It encourages both physical activity and teamwork, while also offering opportunities for individual development. Providing pickleball items will introduce children PreK through 5th grade to this rapidly expanding recreational activity.

Grant Title: Tune into Learning: Headphones for Little Learners

School Site: Skyline Elementary School

Grant Writer: Jennifer Crosthwait, April Snethen, Allyson Wampler (Kindergarten Team)

Amount: \$1,000

We strive to create an engaging and equitable learning environment for every student. In today's digital age, technology plays an essential role in education, providing students with personalized learning experiences that cater to their individual needs. Funding provides quality headphones for each student, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to fully engage with digital learning platforms without distractions.

Grant Title: Regulation Before Expectation: Supporting Early Language Development Through Sensory Play

School Site: Skyline Elementary

Grant Writer: Kami Linneman

Amount: \$742.61

Funding provides a library of sensory activities to be used to enhance early language development through sensory play. Sensory library will benefit all students currently receiving Speech/language therapy (approximately 70 PK-5) as well as other students currently receiving SPED services.

Grant Title: Exploring Our Senses with Manipulatives and Sensory Bin Activities

School Site: Sangre Ridge Elementary

Grant Writer: Paige Schwandt, PreK Teacher (for entire Prek Team)

Amount: \$737.24

Students are always excited to explore their senses and get their hands messy whenever possible. In a Pre-K classroom, we use the sensory bin every day during center time. Having reusable materials that can be washed and sanitized would help minimize the spread of germs in the classroom, especially during sick season.

Grant Title: Fraction Frenzy

School Site: Richmond Elementary

Grant Writer: Karen Diaz

Amount: \$719.94

The visual and tactile nature of fraction tiles allows struggling students to make connections to fraction relationships that are often very abstract. Tiles will help students see the relationship between different fractions and better understand operations with fractions.

Grant Title: Communication is Power

School Site: Stillwater High School

Grant Writer: Rachelle Joyce

Amount: \$683.85

Items help meet the communication needs of many of the most challenged communicators in high school. These students have any combination of visual, hearing, and orthopedic impairments. The grant funds communication devices that are durable and specially designed for students with visual and orthopedic impairments. They both provide tactile feedback and special positioning to help the students access the multiple buttons.

Grant Title: Building a Diverse Library of Interest-Level Books

School Site: Stillwater Middle School

Grant Writer: Buruuj Tunsill

Amount: \$675.84

By investing in a diverse selection of physical books, we can unlock the doors to literacy and ignite a passion for reading that lasts a lifetime. As students with exceptionalities grow older, the reading gap tends to widen compared to their general education peers. Due to their specific needs, we are focusing on steering away from technology and engaging students with physical books that are interesting and engaging.

Grant Title: Integrated Classroom STEM and Literacy Box

School Site: Will Rogers Elementary

Grant Writer: Karen Holman

Amount: \$617.33

Funding for S.T.E.M.-related materials for the development of classroom centers with an additional focus on literacy; allowing students to engage in various activities to both enhance the curriculum and foster excitement in learning.

Grant Title: Sparking Curiosity Through Light!

School Site: Sangre Ridge Elementary

Grant Writer: Mary Beth Talley (for all PreK classrooms)

Amount: \$561.56

Light table items to support students in their fine motor skills, hand eye coordination, oral language skills, math concepts, letter identification, problem solving, and more.

Grant Title: Sensational Sensory Informed Classroom

School Site: Will Rogers Elementary

Grant Writer: Linse DeCamp

Amount: \$533.94

Funds will not only help students with sensory needs, but also all other students in the classroom

by limiting disruptions and time taken away from instruction to redirect students who struggle with self regulation. This project can have a monumental impact on all learners in the classroom.

Grant Title: Right Fit Books

School Site: Will Rogers Elementary School

Grant Writer: Karyn Spencer

Amount: \$527.52

Funding for Hi-Lo books for students engaged in the Take Flight Curriculum. This allows students to choose from book topics that they see their peers reading but at their own appropriate reading level, creating excitement, motivation, and building confidence.

Grant Title: Breaking Brains

School Site: Stillwater High School

Grant Writer: Kelsie Tate, Special Education

Amount: \$514.62

Engaging puzzles will serve as an effective way to provide mental breaks between class workloads, fostering a balance of relaxation and cognitive stimulation. By incorporating these brain teasers an environment is fostered that promotes both learning and personal growth, helping students to recharge and refocus.

Grant Title: Focusing on Learning with MICROSCOPES

School Site: Richmond Elementary

Grant Writer: DeeDee Liebenau

Amount: \$510.45

Offering young students' opportunities to complete hands-on activities using microscopes shows them that science is not limited to the pages of textbooks. Rather, it is an active pursuit of knowledge and discovery.

Grant Title: Connection is the Key to Communication

School Site: Skyline Elementary School

Grant Writer: Dia McGowen, Speech/Language Intervention

Amount: \$510

Many students face mobility and communication issues that impact their ability to fully engage with traditional learning materials, making this grant particularly crucial for ensuring inclusive education. Grant items include adaptive technology toys and multi-sensory learning materials that will create an accessible and engaging learning environment for all students.

Grant Title: PreK Science

School Site: Sangre Ridge Elementary

Grant Writer: Kelsie King (for all PreK classrooms)

Amount: \$482.91

Giving students appropriate resources and opportunities to investigate the world will motivate more children to become interested in the world of STEM. Providing specific items for Pre-K students to explore science and make connections to the world around them will help them better understand these concepts later in their academic career.

Grant Title: Closing the Gap

School Site: Skyline Elementary

Grant Writer: Rachel Horschler

Amount: \$463.01

Funding aims to integrate play-based learning activities that emphasize the practical application of life skills within the framework of math, science, and reading for early elementary special education students; creating a rich learning environment that supports cognitive development and encourages emotional expression.

Grant Title: The Book Thief

School Site: Stillwater High School

Grant Writer: Hope Shepard

Amount: \$445.80

Additional copies of The Book Thief so each student can check out a book. Putting a book in the hands of a student is an invaluable investment and will help prepare them not only for future AP exams, but also for collegiate level reading and evaluation.

Grant Title: Transportation SPED Manipulatives

School Site: Districtwide - Transportation

Grant Writer: Teresa Bennet

Amount: \$400.00

Provides manipulatives, sensory items, and support objects for special needs students while being transported to and from school.

Grant Title: Intaglio, A Whole New World of Printmaking

School Site: Stillwater Junior High School, Art

Grant Writer: Kristen Swank

Amount: \$394

Provides two small embossing machines that are perfect to use as economical printing presses, in addition to a classroom set of awls for scratching the design into the Plexiglas.

Grant Title: When You Hear This Sounds...Turn the Page

School Site: Skyline Elementary

Grant Writer: April Snethen

Amount: \$368.01

A listening center provides an avenue for students to explore the world of books! Three Yoto Mini Players with headphones, cases for the players and cards on which to transfer the audio

books will create a listening center where the students will independently choose a book and listen along with the story.

Grant Title: Dog Days at Lincoln

School Site: Lincoln Academy

Grant Writer: Kris Fowler

Amount: \$340.00

Stillwater Humane Society and Lincoln Academy partner to assign shelter dogs to Lincoln Academy classrooms where students train them in basic commands and socialization. Funding provides new dog crates, dog beds, and chew toys for the students to use as they work with dogs in hopes of seeing them adopted.

Grant Title: Enhancing STEM Education for Students with Special Needs

School Site: Stillwater Middle School

Grant Writer: Leah Dollar

Amount: \$327.83

LEGO® Education BricQ Motion Essential Sets offer a hands-on, engaging approach to STEM learning that is particularly well-suited for students with special needs. By providing students with the opportunity to explore and experiment with robotics through these sets, we can increase accessibility and develop essential skills in STEM education.

Grant Title: Hydroponics Growing System

School Site: Lincoln Academy

Grant Writer: Scott Peterman

Amount: \$325.94

The hydroponic plant growing system enhances the Lincoln Academy Garden Club. The new growing system is a different way of growing plants that can be inside the building and be used year round for students.

Grant Title: Maximizing Success Through Rhythm

School Site: Westwood Elementary

Grant Writer: Amanda Welch

Amount: \$312.00

Funding aims to connect students with each other, their learning, and to disengage stress through the use of rhythmic materials. This often includes an activity to help students organize through rhythm to prepare for learning. Throughout the day lessons stop and another rhythm activity begins to ensure organization and optimal learning are supported.

Grant Title: Rhythm Activities

School Site: Sangre Ridge Elementary

Grant Writer: Krystal Johnson

Amount: \$312.00

Funding aims to connect students with each other, their learning, and to disengage stress through the use of rhythmic materials. This often includes an activity to help students organize through rhythm to prepare for learning. Throughout the day lessons stop and another rhythm activity begins to ensure organization and optimal learning are supported.

Grant Title: Before School Stretching and Conscious Breathing

School Site: Richmond Elementary

Grant Writer: Grace Anne Fath

Amount: \$273.50

Opportunity for students to have a few minutes in the morning to focus and center before starting the school day. This method is a positive strategy focusing on providing a calm, peaceful space in which students can practice awareness.

Grant Title: Math is Everywhere

School Site: Skyline Elementary

Grant Writer: Tammatha Wells, Special Education

Amount: \$250

Children learn in many different ways, whether it is through tactile learning, visual learning, kinesthetics, auditory learning, or a combination. This grant equips classrooms with technology, books, manipulatives, and music about math.

Grant Title: Equine Education

School Site: Stillwater High School

Grant Writer: Bailey Kliever, Ag Teacher

Amount: \$169.95 + in-kind donation

Project funds materials to accurately teach students about the Equine Industry and the equipment/tack used for these students to properly learn how to use the tack and equipment used in equine science.

Grant Title: A Break from Books

School Site: Stillwater Junior High School

Grant Writer: Anastasia Mendoza

Amount: \$78.75

9th grade English language arts students get a break from the heavy reading of literature to have a little fun with their peers in the classroom while still benefiting from many valuable skills that board games can provide.