



THE MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

TEACHER GRANT PROGRAM

2013 – 2014 Teacher Grants

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Clear Springs Elementary School

Lego Mindstorm Robots for Tots

Lead Teacher/Staff: Andy Lundheim

Summary: This grant funds the purchase of LEGO Mindstorm robotic kits. Students, working as a team, will be able to create working robots that complete simple missions. These developmentally appropriate missions will be designed by the first grade team with the help of online resources. The opportunity to build and program robots during the regular school day, offered to all first grade students, is a unique and innovative idea giving all students the opportunity to be excited about and learn science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Awarded \$1500

We Can Build It! Yes! Girls Can!

Lead Teacher/Staff: Ursula Speedling

Summary: The intent of this grant focuses on the need in society for more women in STEM fields. The funds will purchase visual thinking puzzles and games which will be available for all students in the classroom, and shared with other teachers as well. Students will have free time, as well as formal lessons integrating experiences in designing, creating and building into math, science and even language arts. The hope is that the student's visual skills will improve and that they will become more confident in their attitudes towards building and engineering.

Awarded \$1000

Excelsior Elementary School

APPLYing Technology to Encourage the Discouraged Learner

Lead Teacher/Staff: Connie Keefe and Lisa Myer

Summary: This grant funds the purchase of iPods, applications and Nooks used for the special education resource room and social worker's office for group and individual instruction. The intent of the grant is to be able to use iPads to teach social skills, academics (especially math and reading), communication, fine motor skills, organizational skills, note taking, and vocabulary and language acquisition. The Nooks will be used by students whose growth potential isn't being met in the traditional way of teaching. Nooks will help encourage reading, and teachers can put high interest books in at individual reading levels.

Awarded \$1,562

Family Culture Fest

Lead Teacher/Staff: James Nunn

Summary: The purpose of the Family Culture Fest is to encourage exploration of cultures found throughout the world and nurtures children to become "Global Citizens". Every student at Excelsior is impacted by this grant through classroom participation in physical education cultural athletics, an all school assembly of performing artists, and a daily world awareness activity. In addition to the weeklong school day activities, the Family Culture Fest evening event allows families to participate as either ambassadors of different countries and cultures or as explorers who carry a passport and "travel" from booth to booth learning from the ambassadors.

Awarded: \$1,000 from the Minnetonka Alumni Association Fine Arts Endowment Fund

Pingpang Qiu

Lead Teacher/Staff: Jie Gao-Tao & Sani O'Brien

Summary: Píngpāng qiú (乒乓球) is the official name for the sport of table tennis in China. Table tennis, or ping pong as we refer to it, is the national sport of China. As a Chinese Immersion school Excelsior works to incorporate different cultures, especially Chinese. This grant will pay for Ping Pong tables for the immersion and traditional students to use and will not only educate them in this popular past time but it will also provide alternative sources of exercise to promote good health for every student. These Ping Pong tables will be used on our new playground in the fall and spring but we can also bring them indoors during the winter and incorporate them into the PE curriculum.

Awarded \$1,800 from the Nick Duff Multicultural Fund

Scrabble is Elementary

Lead Teacher/Staff: Tim Ketel

Summary: The purpose of this grant is to start a competitive school Scrabble Club, which would give students a meaningful context for studying and applying knowledge of words and language. Initially, interested 4th and 5th graders would meet on a regular basis, learning the basics of Scrabble and working up to advanced competitive strategies, playing by tournament rules, and competing against local schools and in tournaments.

Awarded \$1021

Through the NOOKing Glass**Lead Teacher/Staff: Shane Weber**

Summary: This grant will provide the NOOKs to complete reading group sets for a classroom, which will then be shared with other second grade classrooms. These are used in guided reading groups—students can read at their own level and then discuss as a group. The future of reading is electronic, and this gives them a chance to use the technology now.

Awarded \$397

Groveland Elementary School**Community and Culture****Lead Teacher/Staff: Jen Santamaria**

Summary: The intent of this grant is to integrate culture and community within the Spanish Immersion program. Students will be exposed to global citizenship and cultural activities outside of their own cultural realms, including art, music, and professionals from other cultures who speak Spanish. Throughout the academic year, K-5 learners will participate in four cultural events, followed by an in-class discussion with the presenters. Proposed events are: Quarter 1: Mexican Mariachi; Quarter 2: Teatro del Pueblo; Quarter 3: Leo y Lara, Ecuadorian music; Quarter 4: Spanish speaking professional Soccer player appearance from the Minnesota Stars.

Awarded \$1,130 from the MPSF and \$1,050 from the Nick Duff Multicultural Fund

Compressed Air equal STEM fun**Lead Teacher/Staff: Brent Frank and 5th Grade Team**

Summary: This grant is for the purchase of a new air compressor. Students will work in groups of three to design a water rocket that travels the longest distance under the limitations of 60 PSI. This will be the culminating STEM challenge after a rigorous investigation of the forces involved in launching a rocket.

The scientific method investigation provides students with the tools to design their own rocket. This compressor will provide the needed punch!

Awarded \$300

Groveland's Young Authors' Conference**Lead Teacher/Staff: Jennifer Hahn**

Summary: The intent of this grant is to inspire students' passion for writing and offer opportunities for students to write in an interactive way with effective role models. Breakout sessions are led by high school teachers, community members, playwrights, musicians and media specialists. Students will choose their sessions based on interests, passions, readiness, and goals as writers, allowing them to take risks and think creatively. Students will have an opportunity to discover ideas rather than focus on specific content. The grant provides funding for 4th and 5th graders, but 3rd graders or students from another elementary school may be added as well and/or sessions may be videotaped to be used at other schools around the district.

Awarded: \$1,000

Making a Difference**Lead Teacher/Staff: Sara Lovelace**

Summary: It is important to teach children to give of themselves. Senior citizens have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share and students can learn from interacting with them. Throughout the school year students will make decorative items such as frames, placemats, cards, and art projects to brighten the senior citizen community. The students will plan and implement ideas for crafts that will be given to the seniors. Students will be able to interact with seniors—reading to them, singing, reciting poetry, etc. This grant will fund the supplies needed to make the crafts for the seniors.

Awarded \$200 from the Youth Citizenship Development Fund

Making School an Even Playing Field for the Nonverbal Child**Lead Teacher/Staff: Kelly Kautz & Colleen Small**

Summary: This grant will fund the purchase of iPads and apps to help facilitate communication for the nonverbal child. Students with disabilities that affect their oral and written communications have more challenges in a school day than many can possibly imagine. Connecting them with a simple yet effective technology for communication and utilizing other apps that support the cognitive, social and emotional health of special needs children produce amazing results.

Awarded \$2,100

Minnewashta Elementary School**Active Seating for Kindergarten Students****Lead Teacher/Staff: Rebekah Wunderlich**

Summary: The purpose of this project is to help Minnewashta's youngest students with their ability to focus in the classroom. Young children need to be able to move in order to focus in the classroom. Stability cushions and Hokki Stools for active sitting will allow students to move, while still remaining focused and maintaining their personal space. The stability cushions can be used on the floor or while sitting in chairs and the Hokki Stools will be used for students during center time.

Awarded \$795

Backpack Books**Lead Teacher/Staff: Sue Anderson**

Summary: Catching students' enthusiasm for reading is critical at the stage when they are moving from learning to read to reading to learn. Offering students the opportunity to choose from current literature options to read for enjoyment will hopefully encourage their desire to be lifelong readers. Children will choose a leveled book to read at home. When they are finished reading and completing the coordinated activity they return the book to school and choose another book at their level. As their reading progresses they move to the next level. This program is a quick and easy way to enhance the guided reading program already in place in the classroom.

Awarded \$500

Interactive Spanish Books Non-Fiction Content**Lead Teacher/Staff: Sofia Cerritos**

Summary: The objective of this grant is to provide students and teachers with a set of interactive e-books that can improve Spanish using non-fiction books. The content allows students to read at their own pace, practicing each word as many times as they need. Each book also comes with a glossary and interactive activities such as quizzes and word work. These e-books can be accessed either at school or at home and can have multiple users on a single book. The result of incorporating the interactive Spanish content is to foster independent Spanish reading and research for each student.

Awarded: \$300

iPads in the Elementary Classroom**Lead teacher/Staff: Amanda Zamilpa and Lacy Hladky**

Summary: These grants will fund the purchase of iPad technology which will be used multiple times during the school day in an elementary classroom setting. Staff will work with students to set up individual profiles allowing students to save their progress/work. Staff will be able to review student content and provide individualized instruction, as needed, to reach learner outcomes. In addition to individual work, the iPads will also be used for collaborative efforts with a small group or partners, thereby enhancing 21st century learning as a research and production tool.

Each grant awarded: \$1,060 for a total of \$2,120

Scenic Heights Elementary School**Chinese Drum Dancing****Lead Teacher/Staff: Mary Renz**

Summary: All third grade students will learn to dance while playing Red Chinese Drums. Third Grade students from the English as well as the Chinese Immersion classes will work with Gao Hong in a two week residency, learning dancing and drumming from an expert. At the conclusion of the residency, all Scenic Heights students will attend an assembly where Gao Hong and the third graders will perform for the entire school.

Awarded \$1,000 from the MPSF and \$1,000 from the Nick Duff Multicultural Fund

Helping Struggling Readers Take Off with the Leveled Literacy Intervention System**Lead Teacher/Staff: Michele Abel**

Summary: LLI serves those students who need support to achieve grade-level competency through explicit instruction in reading, writing and word work combined with opportunities for increased language modeling and oral language development. This grant funds a LLI system of leveled books that provide enough support and challenge for the reader so that he/she can be successful and make steps toward grade-level goals. Students will work in small groups and will engage them in daily reading, helping them to become confident competent readers.

Awarded: \$1460.00

Hokki Stools – ACTIVE Sitting for ACTIVE Learning!**Lead Teacher/Staff: Lori Anderson**

Summary: This grant is kid tested and teacher approved. The Hokki is an ergonomic stool that transforms stationary sitting into an activity, ideal for brainstorming sessions and other active sitting environments. The convex base allows for movement in all directions, which is critical to student development as physical movement both increases well-being and encourages the physical and intellectual maturing process. When given the opportunity to use the stools, students sustain longer independent work time and produce higher quality work. It allows as much movement as needed while keeping an intense focus on their work. The movement that is facilitated in these stools is enough to meet the needs of active kids, promotes safety and prevents distraction to their neighbors.

Awarded: \$660**Just Add Water! An Innovative Approach to Teaching Science with help from the Minnetonka High School Honors Chemistry Students!****Lead Teacher/Staff: Katie Tuthill**

Summary: This grant provides opportunities for elementary students to share ideas and work collaboratively with their peers. Through the use of interactive technology, high school students will be able to take questions generated by the elementary students and create I-movies or Showmes on their I-pads and then have the elementary students watch them. Students will also have the opportunity to dialogue back and forth using a discussion board to further their content knowledge and create a more personal experience in which students can interact in “live time.” This grant will not only enhance student learning for elementary students, it will also strengthen the overall content knowledge and skills of the honors high school students as well.

Awarded: \$734**SMART Thinking! Wiggle All You Want!****Lead Teacher/Staff: Michele Abel**

Summary: Students will be able to utilize ‘active’ learning stools while they work on their reading skills. HOKKI stools will allow students who are unable to sit still for extended periods of time the freedom to move and wiggle; without distracting each other. For many students who require movement, this will enable them to focus more and stay on task, which will help with their reading success.

Awarded \$660**Social Networking – Elementary Style! The Playground is Cool BUT Playing Legos With Your Teacher During Recess May Be COOLER!****Lead Teacher/Staff: Katie Tuthill**

Summary: The purpose of this grant is to provide games and activities to be used as a recess option for small groups of students. Outside recess is great for many, but for some, it is challenging socially. Kids will be able to stay indoors some days and make connections with peers while playing games or Legos. This will provide students with an alternative place to connect and socialize with peers, develop new friendships and work on social skills if applicable. Students will have opportunities to make new and lasting friendships.

Awarded \$730

Welcome to InventZania (Formerly Inventing Rocks)**Lead Teacher/Staff: Kim Diekmann**

Summary: This project is an interactive curriculum, designed to teach 21st Century and STEM learning skills: innovation, collaboration, creativity, engineering, critical thinking, entrepreneurship, leadership, investigation, and independent thinking. It takes students through the real life process of inventing and bringing their product to market. It will culminate in an Inventzania Fair where the students will be able to showcase their inventions.

Awarded \$1000**Joint Elementary Schools Grant****Literature Circle Books for English Literacy Teachers****Lead Teacher/Staff: Tarah Cummings**

Summary: This project will give students access to high quality literature in a collaborative, teacher facilitated environment. This grant will pay for books that will be accessible to all students in grades 3-5 in the Spanish and Chinese immersion programs. Some of the benefits of literature circles are: they allow teachers to teach many facets of comprehension, students are encouraged to learn from one another, they are motivated naturally, and discussion can be promoted more effectively than whole groups.

Awarded \$3,330**Minnetonka Elementary Musicals Program****Lead Teacher/Staff: Trent Boyum**

Summary: This grant will pay for the licensing fees for the Elementary Musicals. The program defines arts innovation by offering our young actors the opportunity to participate in an expansive and professionally produced show. Students work on presentation skills such as speaking loudly and using expression in their voice and body. Lessons learned through theater in dedication, leadership, and self-confidence will be important throughout their life. This program gives our elementary students the opportunity to collaborate with local theatre professionals who share their theatrical knowledge and share the results with their friends and families.

Awarded \$2,000 from MPSF and \$2,000 from the Minnetonka Alumni Association Fine Arts Endowment Fund**Creativity Counts****Lead Teacher/Staff: Amy O'Neill and Joy Curran High Potential at Excelsior and Minnewashta**

Summary: Funds from this grant will allow a group of students who are passionate about creativity, to attend a day long Creativity Festival. Conference attendees would commit to continued creative development during the school year with follow up lunch/recess meetings. Students would also be expected to help guide their peers through in class creativity exercises several times in similar activities to what they experienced at the conference. The teachers will provide follow up reflection and application opportunities and develop a pilot CREATIVITY COUNTS on site experience (1-2 hours) for spring of 2014. This would include a variety of thinking exercises, collaborative problem solving such as Destination Imagination type problems, and possible mentor presentations.

Awarded \$800

All Schools

Instructional Support Bins

Lead Teacher/Staff: Dawn Torine

Summary: Occupational Therapists in the Minnetonka Public Schools provide related service support for students receiving special education services and are regularly approached by general education teachers for ideas and resources to support student learning. This grant allows for collaboration between general and special educators. The Occupational Therapist's expertise regarding sensory motor processing originates the idea and the implementation and Instructional Support Bin utilization in classrooms will be by general educators. Instructional Support Bin items are commonly available tools that are not commonly found in classrooms. Instructional Support Bins meld with the *Spark* concepts presented to the District regarding the benefit and necessity of movement and sensory motor processing with learning and also support Universal Design for Learning.

Awarded: \$3,000

Minnetonka Middle School East

Top 20 Training

Lead Teacher/Staff: Dawn Bruesehoff, Tara Kamann, Deb Zachman, Liz McAllister, Matt Lichty, Lindsay Rosati

Summary: This grant will help to fund Top 20 Training, which is a nationally recognized program providing training and materials to help youth and adults develop their potential and make a positive difference in the quality of their lives, relationships, and experiences. Lessons will be implemented in advisory classes and focus on developing intra-personal and interpersonal life skills focusing on emotional stamina and resilience. These skills will transfer to the daily lives and school experience for staff and students at MME.

Awarded \$3000

Minnetonka Middle School West

Grant #8: Audio Recording Devices for Reading Support Options

Lead Teacher/Staff: David M. Olson

Summary: This grant is for the purchase of digital audio recording devices for use with Reading Skills students and any other students who may benefit. Some of the students in Reading Skills have a fluency rate that makes keeping up on assignments and homework difficult. Digital audio recording devices can be used in multiple ways to support these students: they can be checked out and used for at home assignments, listening to in class presentations that were missed, recording Reader's Theater, or taking tests orally.

Awarded \$500

Data Probe Hubs for Real Time Science (iPad Supported)**Lead Teacher/Staff: Sara Hunt**

Summary: This grant is for the purchase of one set of data hub probes used to collect real time data from labs. These probes are new and different in that they group several probes together (12-15) which makes the device more useful and cost effective. With the real time data, students will have opportunities to analyze their data, change hypotheses and test further. Students will receive the real world experience of modifying and adjusting on their feet. This not only fosters rich science discussion and interpretation, but also supports 21 century fluencies and allows classes to become even more real world focused. The data hub provides for many different uses for every area and level of science. This real time data collection will provide another learning experience that will get kids excited about science and bring in another level of analyzing data and thinking critically.

Awarded \$4,000**Hand Chimes (Suzuki “Tone Chimes”)****Lead Teacher/Staff: Carol Carlson**

Summary: This grant funds the purchase of Suzuki Tone Chimes that will be used by the 8th grade classroom music students and future 7th and 8th grade music students at MMW. Students will experience a hands on musical experience that will increase understanding of rhythm, melody, harmony, and musical texture. Through the study of Tone Chimes, students will realize the importance of collaboration to ensure a successful end product. The culminating activity of the experience will be a live performance for the community.

Awarded: \$1832 from the Minnetonka Alumni Association Fine Arts Endowment Fund**Leadership Matters – 7 Cs of Leadership****Lead Teacher/Staff: Mary Benson**

Summary: This grant will fund a speaker on the 7 Cs of leadership for the Minnetonka Middle School West Student Government. Leadership skills are essential in today’s ever changing world. Students will be taught the 7 Cs; Communication, Collaboration, Coaching, Change, Conflict, Creativity, and Courage. Having students engaged in these leadership qualities at an earlier age will positively affect the student body, school environment and greater community more deeply.

Awarded \$1,000 from the Youth Citizenship Development Fund**Minnesota Video Conferencing Lesson and History Player****Lead Teacher/Staff: Mary Benson**

Summary: This grant will pay for History Players and Video Conferencing from the Minnesota History Museum and will be a very hands on and interactive approach for our students. Interactive programs provide another way to bring history alive in the classroom instead of the traditional textbook. These programs will help to inspire and inform students, while developing their critical thinking skills and fostering a lifelong love of learning. The History Players bring the past to life for students and video conferencing provides a two-way conversation between students and the history educator.

Awarded \$2,350**Peer Mediation****Lead Teacher/Staff: Mary Benson**

Summary: There continues to be a focus on anti-bullying, anti-harassment, and increasing good citizenship within Minnetonka schools. Additionally, our schools want to model and encourage students to take more responsibility for their actions. This grant will pay for training student leaders and other

interested students in conflict management, consensus building, and peer mediation procedures. Students will develop a process of mediation to be used with students who have real and/or perceived difference of opinion or who are being disrespectful. Students will hear issues, offer suggestions, and monitor agreed upon actions.

Awarded \$1,000 from the Youth Citizenship Development Fund

Social Skills to Go

Lead Teacher/Staff: Kat Scotting and Kathleen Leismann

Summary: Purchasing iPads will allow staff to create a mobile social class, which will reach special education students at their key levels. This technology will allow teachers to reach more students through a medium that is peer appropriate and trendy for learning. Students will have the opportunity to engage in fun ways with apps designed for specific social work groups. iPads provide a secure place for students to practice their social skills and thinking, and allows teachers to monitor their engagements and provide immediate reinforcement opportunities.

Awarded \$1750

Therapy Dogs for Anxious Students

Lead Teacher/Staff: Kat Scotting and Paula Erbisch

Summary: We live in a fast paced world with students being exposed to information coming at them from all angles. For some, this is difficult, and more kids are coming to school with anxiety, which affects them educationally, socially, and emotionally. Allowing a therapy dog come to school and the students being able to spend time with it, will provide them an outlet and “calm” to their school week. This grant will allow a licensed therapy dog to come into MMW, have students spend time with it, and give struggling students comfort and support.

Awarded \$500

Minnetonka High School

All the World's a Stage

Lead Teacher/Staff: Maggie Pistner

Summary: This grant will affect teachers in the all grades of the English Department including, general level English classes, ALP, Honors, AP & IB courses. In addition, teachers of debate, theatre, yearbook and journalism will also be included. The goal is to supplement current curriculum with guest performers. These artists may compliment curriculum by teaching related subject matter such as teaching students dance steps from the 20's to correspond to reading The Great Gatsby, or, these artists may bring text alive by acting out scenes from a play.

Awarded \$1,000 from the MPSF and \$1,000 from the Minnetonka Alumni Association

The Atomsmith Classroom for High School Chemistry**Lead Teacher/Staff: Timothy Kokesh**

Summary: The Atomsmith Classroom software is a powerful program that allows students to create and view simulations of complex atomic and molecular behavior. The software is highly innovative and enables all students to see how unseeable atoms behave. The abstract becomes more concrete, and students begin to develop a deeper understanding of the behavior of the particles that all matter is made of. Students are able to bring abstract concepts to a more concrete visual interpretation. At present (through a Foundation grant several years ago), the program is installed in two classrooms that service approximately 300 students. This grant would expand our current license effectively impacting all (approximately 800) students who are enrolled in chemistry at MHS.

Awarded \$3,200

Collaborative Mural and Installation Series**Lead Teacher/Staff: Melanie Mozingo**

Summary: The purpose of this grant is to create a more welcoming environment to the main entrance of MHS. The intent is to create a series of large acrylic painted murals on the masonite that leads up the stairs of the main entry way. The second part of the beautification project would include a hanging installation in the rotunda. The project will be created entirely by IB visual arts students, NAHS and Art Club members. This project would affect the entire school population (2800 students, teachers and support staff) and all visitors due to the visibility in the main entry way.

Awarded \$800 from the Minnetonka Alumni Association

iPad Photography**Lead Teacher/Staff: Melanie Mozingo**

Summary: The intent of this grant is to purchase the fish eye and wide angle attachable iPad/iPhone lenses to use within all levels of photography and IB visual arts courses. These specific lens attachments allow students to shoot more unique viewpoints than previously explored. Students will use iPads/iPhones to record and document their work and use a variety of applications (apps) to edit their photos and share with their class. Collaborative iPad projects are another innovation that is used in creating formative and summative assessments based on the art elements and principles, portraiture and landscape/cityscape projects in which both the fish eye and wide angle lenses will be used.

Awarded: \$283

MHS Legacy Project: Phase 2**Lead Teacher/Staff: Laurie Lokar**

Summary: The Minnetonka School District mission, ". . . is to ensure that all students envision and pursue their highest aspirations while serving the greater good". The Legacy Project is taking serving and leadership development to the next level as students lead their entire class in choosing causes and implementing projects during their four years at MHS. Students create goals and outcomes, working together with outside entities to benefit greater communities. This grant will fund fees for speakers and freshman/sophomore leadership development.

Awarded \$1,500 from the Youth Citizenship Development Fund

Parallels in the Cultural and Biological/Genetic History of Native Americans**Lead Teacher/Staff: Dawn Norton**

Summary: MHS biology students will complete learning activities related to genetic studies and blood type evolution as related to Native American geographical migration to the Americas. MHS biology students and Excelsior Elementary students will each additionally attend a 1-day residency program with artist Peter Phippin, which is being paid for by this grant, to learn about the cultural history of human migration as related to historical/artifactual flutes via his lessons/performance with flutes from around the world and from different historical eras.

Awarded \$600 from MPSF and \$1,400 from the Nick Duff Multicultural Fund**Pursuit of Passion: Nonfiction Science Resource Library****Lead Teacher/Staff: Kelly Kangas**

Summary: This grant will pay for non-fiction books for an independent reading project with a science focus. They will be assigned an independent reading project, where they will choose their own text, write a paper, and give a presentation on it, giving the students an opportunity to be self-directed in their learning. The texts will be non-typical and will combine science with literature.

Awarded \$140**Radioactive Boy Scout: Incorporating Literacy into Physical Science****Lead Teacher/Staff: Patricia Price**

Summary: With the transition from middle school to high school science, many general level science students struggle to make real world connections with the content of the physical science course and the world that surrounds them. Textbooks alone do not provide intriguing details that spark students' interest in scientific concepts. In addition, the new Minnesota State Standards require that students be reading informational texts outside of textbooks in both social studies and science. This grant will pay for the nonfiction novel, *Radioactive Boy Scout: the Frightening True Story of a Wiz Kid and His Homemade Nuclear Reactor*, to be incorporated into the Physical Science G curriculum.

Awarded \$1,953**Software Upgrade For CNC Router****Lead Teacher/Staff: Nick Bahr**

Summary: The purpose of this grant is to upgrade the current software used on the CNC router. The software will be used to complete student projects, build and create projects for school organizations and for possible theater stage props. With the software upgrade, students will have the opportunity to use the software to create projects that have been impossible up to this point, and will allow them to create extremely intricate and complex projects.

Awarded \$745**Student Government Grant Proposal****Lead Teacher/Staff: Terri Ellis**

Summary: This grant will support the Student Government at MHS. 'Stud Gov' helps create a positive atmosphere and school spirit by organizing Homecoming, Veterans' Day, Heartweek, and Prom. These projects create school pride and some raise money for families in the community in need. This funding will help to implement these and other Student Government Activities.

Awarded \$2000 from a Bentson Foundation Donation

Wacom Cintiq Digital Tablets**Lead Teacher/Staff: Tim Moen**

Summary: The funds received from this grant will help launch a new Digital Drawing Class at MHS, as well as be used in the popular Cartooning 1, 2, &3 classes. This technology is used in top colleges and industries of animation, advertising, video game design and graphic design, and will open countless doorways for students in 21st century learning and career options. It is cutting edge in art, entertainment and education. The Wacom table allows greater possibilities in converting 2-dimensional work into 3-D visual medium, with many applications and possibilities.

Awarded \$6000**Minnetonka Community Education/Early Childhood and Family Education****Literary Support for Creative Curriculum Study Starters****Lead Teacher/Staff: Mary Babcock**

Summary: This grant will fund the purchase of 40 books that will be used to supplement Creative Curriculum Study Starters to build and enhance MCEC's fiction and non-fiction library. These books are suggested resources through the Creative Curriculum that our program has adopted. The selected books will be rich in vocabulary, which research has shown is a predictor of reading success and will be used in preschool classrooms. The books, along with the rest of the curriculum, help students to direct learning, explore solutions, problem solve, question, and celebrate learning.

Awarded \$800