



2016 Grant Winners

In April, 2016, the Hallsville Education Foundation awarded \$39,514.86 for 19 grants to 40 teachers!!

***A Fresh Coat of Paint* - \$4,247.84 – All Campuses – Stacey Perkins, Rachel Crider, Emily Dunagan, Beth Green**

Our District uses an effective, but dated, curriculum to teach reading and spelling strategies to Dyslexic students in a pull-out, small-group setting. The curriculum (Multisensory Teaching Approach) was developed in the 1980s before technology was readily available in classrooms. Much like a 30-year old home, although structurally sound, needs periodic updating with a fresh coat of paint, our dyslexia program needs updating to include technology resources. We would like to bring our MTA curriculum program into the 21st century with the integration of iPads.

***LEGO and Let Your Imagination Soar* - \$2,410.90 – East Elementary – Becky Meitzen, Anna Pratt**

LEGO bricks are such simple toys, brightly colored, inviting children to come and play. To children, LEGO bricks are like magnets drawing them in to build, and create. While LEGO bricks provide children with an avenue for play, they also allow children's minds to soar with imagination. Children love being able to explore, construct, and build with LEGO bricks. The WeDo 2.0 sets will enable students to not only play and construct, but also to learn about science, technology, engineering and math in a way that will truly set in motion a love for science through hands-on learning. WeDo 2.0 will bring real-world learning into the hands of our second graders. It will give them a learning experience, while not only being fun and engaging, but will expose them to a direct hands-on approach that is different than anything they have experienced in the classroom. WeDo 2.0 will link directly with technology. We are enthusiastically hopeful this will blossom into a life-long passion for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).

***I³—I Code, I Connect, I Succeed* - \$3,859.90 – North Elementary, East Elementary, & Intermediate – Anda Juban**

It is my goal to help the students of HISD go beyond computer literacy by providing 21st century skills necessary for innovation. I plan to initiate this movement through the purchase of programmable robots. At an early age, students will learn to work collaboratively in a multi-step process to code robotics and use their natural ability and drive to construct, hypothesize, explore, experiment, evaluate, and draw conclusions.

***Making Reading Connections With Nexus* - \$2,721.30 – Junior High – Lisa King, Andrea Taylor, Taylor Miller, Jill Ward, Linda Chaplin, Wendy Edney, Vicki Russell, Lindsey Woods, Carolyn Cole**

Our grade level ELA team would like to "make reading connections" in our students served under special education, below grade level, at risk, ESL, dyslexia, or struggling with fluency and comprehension by providing sixteen Nexus 7 devices that can be accessed at least 3 days of the week for independent reading as a warm up. Although primarily in the co-teach reading classes, the devices would also be used during writing classes to conduct research for written projects. With Audible and text to speech features, students would also access material for literature circles, as well as our literature book online.

***There's an App for That!* - \$4,798.50 – Junior High — Rhonda House, Nancy Gilstrap, Ken Wall**

There's an App for That will allow our students to be on the cutting edge of technology usage in the classroom. These apps will help our students to become better readers and thinkers. We will be able to use these apps throughout the entire school year and other years to follow.

***All About that Bass* - \$3,339.60 – East Elementary – Kimberly Hendrix**

The bass line will come alive in the East Elementary music classroom as students play their new Contrabass Resonator Bars. The Contrabass Resonator Bar set will include an entire octave of bass bars and mallets which will allow more students the opportunity to play pieces in the music classroom at the same time. Students at East Elementary will be able to play and experience the beat in a whole new way with the addition of these instruments to our music classroom.

***Flavors Noodle Stack Chairs* - \$3,131.75 – Intermediate – Ann Edington**

Appropriate seating for students in a computer lab is almost as important as the computer. My project asks for the money to outfit two computer labs with Flavors Noodle Chairs. The chairs have a flexible back and a raised seat that allows the wiggly, active bodies of 4th and 5th grade students to move naturally without chair legs coming off the floor. The Noodle Chair has a patented suspension which allows the student to move in all directions without tilting the chair! The chair even requires the student to engage core muscles. What could be better—exercise while you are on the computer.

***Learning Alive Suite* - \$2,591.90 – East Elementary – Katie McBride, Blythe Martin**

The Learning Alive program will enable students to improve their reading and math skills through utilization of a computer equipped with a document camera, software, and cards that spring to life in 3D through the advanced technology of augmented reality.

***HIS Ukulele* - \$3,918.87 – Intermediate – Jennifer Puckett, Tina Cooper**

While our music programs in the elementary and intermediate settings offer our students a wide variety of musical experiences, learning ukulele will add another dimension to our program. Learning to play the ukulele will give students more confidence in learning string instruments as well as wind instruments. Although our district doesn't have an orchestral setting for students to participate in, learning a stringed instrument will encourage students to learn guitar, etc. which could carry over into our band programs in the capacity of jazz band. Even if students don't participate in band, learning an instrument is a hobby that can enrich a person's life and become a life-long hobby.

There's No Place Like Chrome! - \$4,720 – Junior High – Laura Adams, Karen Fleet, Schrundagale Griffith, Angela Scroggins, Tracey Fernandez, Hollyann Loden

Traditional teaching methods are no longer feasible in this 21st century, technology is necessary to engage our busy student's minds. Because students are comfortable with digital devices, this will enable our teachers to reach multiple learners within the classroom. Teachers will be able to motivate students in ways like never before. Learning will occur in real-time and with collaboration of both the teacher and the students' peers. With the use of the Chromebook and its educational applications, the learning environment will be digital, which will enable high level learning.

Expanding Comprehension One Book at a Time - \$267.05 – Junior High – Stacy Smith

At a young age, majority of students learn to read. As children grow up, they develop into young adults which read to learn. What about the struggling readers who despise reading? Who feel defeated because they read slowly or can't recall what they're reading? This interferes across all subjects and at all ages. By sixth grade, struggling readers feel defeated with their lack of ability to read. Adding Read 180 Xtra Advance books into the classroom will provide these defeated readers with twenty-four new book titles, two copies per title, and provide each student with an enhanced variety in the existing Read 180 library.

The Memory Project - \$450 – High School – Amanda Clements

Painting smiles across the world! The memory project is an opportunity for our students to connect with cultures around the globe by using their creativity. Our artists will be using their talents to create portraits of children in poverty that face many challenges. In return, we will get to witness a video of these children's faces as they light up from receiving these gifts.

Light Up Learning! - \$342.47 – North Elementary – Jennifer Gillaspie & Jerilyn Zackary

Light Up Learning with the use of artificial outdoor lighting! Many elementary students struggle with attention and focus issues in the classroom. The addition of Sky Panels in the reading intervention rooms would allow the at-risk readers to have better stamina as they read throughout the year.

A Projector in My Pocket — \$437.99 – Intermediate—Stacey Perkins

There are times that all students in our group need to be able to see the content of one iPad simultaneously. Whether I am using an iPad to illustrate part of the lesson, or a student needs to share something he/she has created, the entire group needs a way to see one iPad's content without having to crowd all of our heads around a 9-inch screen. My reading groups comprise up to 5 students, so a small, pocket-size projector would be ideal for mirroring the iPad onto a blank wall or screen.

Learning to Love Robotics - \$499.95 – North Elementary, East Elementary, Intermediate – Anda Juban

Learning to Love Robotics using Cubelets is an easy way to hook our kids on computer science! These easy to use/assemble blocks turn any child's imagination into robotic exploration. Building robots provide play-driven learning opportunities that explore design, engineering, and complex systems. Cubelets can be paired with Lego brick constructions to add levels of learning.

Do You Hear What I Hear? — \$470.46 – East Elementary—Kimberly Hendrix

This grant will allow the use of two choir microphones to be used during student performances. The addition of these microphones will allow large group performances to take full advantage of the gymnasium as a performance space.

Innovative Seating for the Individual Mind - \$486.38 – Intermediate—Rebecca Rawson

Keeping students engaged in lessons and activities is essential to the overall classroom success. The more senses a student can activate in their learning, the higher the attention threshold and retention rate. Alternative seating is one way to keep kids engaged in their lessons by providing a student specific seating arrangement which entices more sensations in each activity. The alternative seats provide ranges from sitting on the floor with cushions, Wobble Stools, traditional chairs, and traditional stools. By being able to offer different styles of seating throughout the classroom, I will be able to activate multiple senses so students can interact with the lesson in a more intense and focused way.

Standing to Learn: Our Brains are Active — \$422 – North Elementary—Sarah Nixon

Our class is a very active class. We are special needs combined with regular education. We do lots of moving, activity and brain compatible learning. Sitting in desks is hard for anyone! We would like to make some standing tables from bookshelves and wood to help our students be better learners and healthier.

Exploring, Extending, and Enjoying Guided Reading - \$398 – North Elementary—Sarah Nixon

Student use of iPads and Google documents to get their instructions for guided reading. I can differentiate the instructions, add links, videos, pictures, graphic organizers, etc. My class has special education students with regular education students and I have had visitors walk in my room and not know who the special education kids are because they look like they're doing what everyone else is doing, but their directions are on their level!!

In addition to the Grants to Teachers, the Hallsville Education Foundation awarded \$100 mini-grants to 35 teachers!!

High School

Jill Benefield
Debbie Duffee
Tammy Edwards
Roni Mills
Bobbie Robertson
Debbie Cline
Martha Dalby
Kathy Gaw
Sarah Odom
Amber Whitehead

Junior High

Patricia Bell
Heather Goodgion
Christina Hines
Gina Sartain
Vicki Russell
Nancy Gilstrap
Sonya Hagans
Brittani Motley
Sharon Sypert

Intermediate

Jennifer Puckett
Sharon Stone
Karen Porter
Michelle Thompson
Luciana Ziesemer

Little Cats

Carey Stapp

North Elementary

Janice McAntyre
Tami Rhoton
Sandy Wright
Amy Reeher
Emily Smith

East Elementary

Kasey Jones
Rhonda McKinney
Colleen Rushing
Wendy Littlejohn
Carolyn Pruitt



Total amount awarded during the Spring, 2016 grant process = \$43,014.86!