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## JC Schools Foundation Announces Selection of 2024 Spring Grant Recipients

The JC Schools Foundation today announced that it has awarded more than \$25,000 in grants to 18 different educational programs in the district. The Foundation awarded grants to teachers at the elementary, middle, and high school levels for projects and/or equipment to support students in math, literacy and reading, leadership development, and more.

Check presentations to each teacher or building principal were made on March 13th.

**CAPITAL CITY HIGH SCHOOL** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by the Michelle Ruth Memorial Fund in the amount of \$418.23. This grant was awarded to Lauren Gilbert for graphing calculators.

The funded graphing calculators will allow all students to have up-to-date calculators to increase their success on classroom assessments and the End-of-Course Exam (EOC). The awarded teacher will share the graphing calculators across the math department.

**JEFFERSON CITY ACADEMIC CENTER** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by Hitachi Energy in the amount of \$1,500. This grant was awarded to Corina Henderson for science materials.

The grant will provide a science lab set, digital scale, and other science materials for a physical science classroom for JCAC first-year students.

**MOREAU HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by Jon & Melissa Hensley in the amount of \$500. This grant was awarded to Alecia Trusty for early literacy materials.

Every student in this year's kindergarten class will receive a one-of-a-kind published book, which will provide each student with a book that celebrates them as an author and illustrator and highlights their hard work during the writing process.

**NORTH ELEMENTARY** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$493.75. This grant was awarded to Peggy Schnipper for new math strategies.

Implementing Building Thinking Classrooms is a strategy for teaching math concepts and skills. Students will work on small, non-permanent vertical surfaces to solve thinking tasks that raise the depth of knowledge level of the problem.

**PIONEER TRAIL ELEMENTARY** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$489.88. This grant was awarded to Ashley McCollum for incorporating literacy in physical education.

Physical education classes will be provided with "Books and Beanbags," giving ample opportunities to bring literacy into physical activity and movement. The books will help reinforce health objectives within the curriculum while teaching key concepts and words in kid-friendly language.

**PIONEER TRAIL ELEMENTARY** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$500. This grant was awarded to Mazie Osmanl for language translator sets.

This grant will support the purchase of language translation earbud sets that automatically translate the content a teacher teaches in English into the student's native language for deeper understanding and learning.

**PIONEER TRAIL ELEMENTARY** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$415. This grant was awarded to Ivory Shikles for weighted vests and lap pads.

This grant would include purchasing weighted sensory compression vests and weighted lap pads for students with anxiety, processing disorders, ADHD, and autism. The weighted materials will improve time spent off-task, processing, and responding speed and management consistency.

**SOUTHWEST EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$324. This grant was awarded to Anne Brennecke for Chromebooks.

This grant will provide a computer station where children can learn to use a mouse and play with a keyboard through educational games. Exposure to technology skills at a young age will prepare them to use Chromebooks throughout the district in future grades..

**SOUTHWEST EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$445.00. This grant was awarded to Lisa Wieberg for functional communication system.

The grant will provide hands-on materials and books for the monthly theme to help children gain interest in reading and learning. The materials will be in conjunction with PECs (Picture Exchange Communications System), low-tech communication boards, and communication apps to help children learn vocabulary, follow directions, request, answer basic questions, and increase play skills.

**SOUTHWEST EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER** received a TEACHER GRANT funded by Karen & Rick Thom in the amount of \$500. This grant was awarded to Lisa Maloney for early literacy resources.

The awarded Toniebox is an imagination-building, screen-free digital listening experience where students can listen to stories being read to them by storybook characters. Through their stories and songs, these characters teach about different languages, diverse parts of the world, rhymes, songs, health and fitness, social-emotional, and early literacy development.

**CAPITAL CITY HIGH SCHOOL** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by Bobbie Howard Memorial Fund in the amount of \$560. This grant was awarded to Tony Miriani & Adrienne Bonnett for noise-canceling headphones.

The grant will provide a book vending machine to be purchased and filled with high-interest reading materials for the Callaway Hills student body. The use of the machine will increase independent reading in their school community. Students will earn coins in various ways, such as reading more, school attendance, etc, to use at the machine.

**CALLAWAY HILLS ELEMENTARY** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by Major Saver '23 & Dorothy Williams Memorial Fund in the amount of \$5,000. This grant was awarded to Jennifer Wilson for a book vending machine.

Implementing noise-canceling headphones ensures that all students, regardless of their sensory processing abilities, can participate and enjoy the excitement of school events and activities. Providing the headphones will create an inclusive environment where individuals with sensory sensitivities, such as those with autism and ADHD, can enjoy themselves comfortably.

**MILLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by the Julie Finley Memorial Fund and Foundation Gala funds in the amount of \$1,500. This grant was awarded to Gabrielle Wittenberger for transportation expenses.

This grant will assist with the transportation services to bring elementary students to visit the Miller Center to see the theatrical production of the book *Charlotte's Web* by Truman State University students. The opportunity will allow students to "read" a book by watching a theatrical performance.

**JEFFERSON CITY HIGH SCHOOL** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$2,514. This grant was awarded to Danielle Snow for Art Department Cameras.

This grant will allow purchasing six Canon EOS 4000D cameras for a photography class that still needs to be equipped with cameras. The cameras will enable the students to stop using cellular devices and learn through the lenses of new functioning cameras.

**JEFFERSON CITY HIGH SCHOOL** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by classmates of the Jefferson City High School Class of 1973 in the amount of \$3,081.88. This grant was awarded to Jordan Hart, Kristen Wick, Deanne Fisher, & Julie Bryan for a poster printer.

The grant will fund a poster printer for multifaceted use in JCHS Speech, Drama, and Debate classes. The printer will allow students to create effective and engaging anchor charts, enhance students' understanding and engagement with the curriculum, and cut down the current visual aid production costs per student.

**LEWIS & CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by Foundation Gala funds in the amount of \$5,000. This grant was awarded to Andrew Marjamaa, Leann Meyer, Kristen Ferguson, Rhonda Allen, & Crystal Duryea for a new sound system.

The funded sound system will modernize outdated technology and expose new technology to student learning. The provided sound equipment will amplify speakers' voices and reach more students, staff, and the public.

**MOREAU HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRANT** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by Jon & Melissa Hensley in the amount of \$1,000. This grant was awarded to Jessica Yates for a washer and dryer.

The grant will provide funds to purchase a washer and dryer so that students can clean their clothes, which eliminates hygiene concerns and helps build self-esteem at school.

**THOMAS JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL GRANT** received a SCHOOL GRANT funded by Bobbie Howard Memorial Fund in the amount of \$779.94. This grant was awarded to Kelsey Hile for exercise bikes.

By integrating innovative technology from stationary bikes, students can set daily achievement goals and track their progress: speed, calorie burn, distance traveled, average heart rate, etc. The class will analyze the data the bikes collect and use successes to reinforce positive, healthy lifestyle choices in all students' lives.

Every year, teachers can request a grant of up to \$500 for their classrooms, and schools can request a grant of up to \$5,000 to benefit the entire school. The school principal first approves and signs off on the grant applications before sending the application to the JC Schools Foundation. From there, the JC Schools Foundation Programs Committee meets to review the grant applications and select which applications to fund. Many grant applications requested funds for individual classroom needs, and many applications were also

literacy-based. The JC Schools Foundation utilizes donations from individuals, businesses, and corporations to fund its grant programs. The Foundation's grant program is primarily funded through individual memorial funds that the Foundation manages.

The JC Schools Foundation's mission is to build endowments to perpetuate funds for excellence in education, involve the community in support of quality education, and obtain contributions to facilitate student achievement. If you are interested in supporting the Foundation's grant processes with a gift, please contact Peyton Leary at 659-3549.