



ELEMENTARY LEARNING FOUNDATION GRANTS

Awarded to **Jefferson School**

2000-2020

Year	Title	Description
2020	Mud Kitchen	A mud kitchen at Jefferson would allow for daily opportunities for our children to interact with nature, while allowing for creative expression, strengthening fine motor development, and encouraging social-emotional and language development as children work together collaboratively. Mud is a great medium to teach our early learners about math and science by comparing and measuring. Children can increase their language development by describing their mud creations and describing the way the mud feels in their hands. Social emotional development is encouraged by sharing, taking turns and manipulating materials in the kitchen. And children are encouraged to explore and get messy! We also plan to reach out to the maintenance department of District 64, Village of Niles and City of Park Ridge in search of tree rings/slices to create a walking trail as well as tree stumps to be used as natural “chairs” for children and staff.
2019	Full STEAM Ahead: Learning via LEGOS	Full STEAM Ahead: Learning via LEGOS is an innovative project that will allow the youngest learners of District 64 the opportunity for hands-on coding and STEAM experiences through play with LEGOS. Preschool-age children learn by doing: intentional teaching leads to exponential learning. This grant will provide hands-on learning through play reinforcing sequencing, looping, cause and effect, and coding, while providing opportunities for observing, experimenting, investigating, studying force and motion, balance, spatial awareness and more.
2018	Jefferson School Physical Education Equipment For Gross Motor Development	Jefferson School has recently implemented a physical education program for all of its 3 year-old, 4 year-old, and special needs classrooms. This grant will allow them to purchase portable volleyball nets and large trainer volleyballs that will introduce students to motor activities involving throwing and catching over nets. This new curriculum also teaches students the up-and-down throwing of the ball over the nets, tracking of a ball in the air, concentration to watch and retrieve as it falls, and the joy exhibited and confidence gained when these basic motor skills are performed and mastered.
2017	<i>Outdoor Learning Environment</i>	This project allows Jefferson School to incorporate an existing, underutilized courtyard space into everyday learning by creating an outdoor learning environment filled with native plant species, Pocket Greenhouses, and Window Nest Boxes. This grant supports the Creative Curriculum used at Jefferson School and will help support intentional learning by getting students outdoors and actively observing their surroundings.
2015	Promoting STEM Education in Preschool	Provides developmentally appropriate materials to foster Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education for all preschool students. The materials will promote hands-on STEM activities that our preschool students would not otherwise have and encourage our students to think outside of the box.
2014	Jefferson Garden: A Place to Learn and Grow	Implements a therapeutic/educational gardening program by using nature to enhance play, cognitive learning, and social, emotional, and physical experiences using a multisensory approach. Gardening expertise provided by the Chicago Botanic Garden.
	<i>Social-Emotional Learning</i>	Sponsors community workshops on parenting emotionally intelligent children, led by Ed Dunkelblau, clinical psychologist and nationally known speaker on social-emotional intelligence, humor, and health.
2013	Prop Boxes	This grant is for purchasing Prop Boxes – play materials grouped by themes – to spark creativity and enhance imaginative play.
2011	Pre-School Communication	This grant will allow staff at Jefferson to purchase iPads to enhance communication and education for preschoolers while also

		teaching parents and families about appropriate applications for their children. A variety of available applications will help accelerate speech skills and language acquisition for preschoolers at Jefferson.
	YogaKids	This grant will allow students at Jefferson to participate in yoga with an experienced YogaKids instructor. The students will learn breathing techniques, yoga poses, games, activities, relaxation and visualization that will enhance their learning potential and daily life skills. YogaKids classes will support Jefferson's creative curriculum by addressing four areas of development – physical, language, social-emotional and cognitive development.
2010	Study Island	In partnership with District 64, funds from this grant will be used to purchase a one-year subscription of a web-based instructional program - Study Island. This program will be used to assess and provide differentiated instruction in the key areas of reading and math. All students in District 64 in third through eighth grade will have access to this program at school and at home.
2009	Mad Science Workshop	Mad Science Workshop is a unique, hands on, minds on, age-appropriate learning experience for pre-school students. All workshops are interactive and introduce students to a basic science topic. These workshops will work with the thematic units through fun, interactive, hands on science activities.
	Physical Activity and Learning	Enhancing learning, memory, attention, and alertness through the use of specific physical activities drawn from such disciplines as yoga, Brain Gym, and development sequence. Students will incorporate specific movements twice a day. Additionally activities designed to enhance cardiovascular endurance and create brain/body connection as well as modifications to PE curriculum which will focus on endurance and postural strength. The effectiveness of these activities will be assessed through existing data collection.
	Rainbow Therapy	An organization that works with trained, registered therapy dogs that assist people, children and individuals with special needs. Bimonthly visits will allow them to work with children and assist with children's social skills. specialized obedience skills, dog tricks, dog care and grooming tips. All of which will be used to motivate the children to teach their own goals.
2009	Smart Music	A music practice and assessment tool that will revolutionize the way students practice. Smart Music generates professional sounding accompaniments that help students learn how individual parts fit into context of composition, making practice more productive, enlightening, and enjoyable. It includes a built in assessment feature that provides students with immediate feedback.
	Social Skills Video	Filming students with autism demonstrating appropriate behavior and then having them watch themselves on film. Viewed in a natural setting within a familiar environment. Production and editing will be an interactive process with STRIVE students, staff, and regular education students (Best Buddies, peer models).
2008	Art Exhibit	Funding from this grant will allow forty works of art to be displayed in a new community exhibition at Le Peep restaurant. This project will create a sense of pride in our students, our community, and will also provide opportunities for children to learn and grow in the visual arts.
	Story Bus	Funding from this grant will purchase a literacy program consisting of curriculum, professional development material, and two visits from the Story Bus. The visits give the students hands on experience with activities that make literature come alive.
2007	Follett's Reading Program Services	This service will allow Lexile data to be added to our present library holdings.
	Handwriting Without Tears	This nationally recognized program instructs preschoolers in a multi-sensory, hands on method of early handwriting that is researched based.
	Project RIDE	Project RIDE is a software program and resource of supplemental materials to help educators and school teams address academic and behavioral challenges such as completing schoolwork, aggression, noncompliance, bullying, and other high frequency

		behavior and academic problems.
	<i>Starlab II</i>	Starlab, the much loved, blow up planetarium that can be set up in any classroom. Students enter the bubble then stars, planets, and constellations are projected onto the ceiling. This system allows teachers to instruct students on the night sky in the light of day. This is the second one funded by ELF for the district.
2006	Boardmaker	A communication tool to help reach special needs students with varying abilities. It will allow each child to gain basic vocabulary knowledge and progress to the skills needed to achieve pre-literacy skills. The project will help facilitate communication and enhance the teacher-student relationship.
	<i>Gretchen Courtney</i>	A workshop to assist the District 64 Curriculum Department to work with the staff to improve writing instruction and reading comprehension skill development throughout the district.
	Home Visits for Preschool Students	Teachers will conduct home visits for special needs preschool children to observe the child in the home setting and to demonstrate to the parents strategies taught at school.
	<i>Sue Ellen Fried</i>	Further advancing the District's initiative to create a culture of civil behavior. International speaker, Sue Ellen Fried, specializing in bullying and conflict resolution will be returning to conduct a 2 1/2 day Train the Trainer Session with social workers and teachers from across the district. It will serve as a comprehensive plan to change the culture of our schools and community and to help students, staff and parents better understand and resolve conflict.
2005	<i>"Think Time" Math Problem Solving Manipulatives</i>	Funding from this grant will be used to purchase manipulatives used during Wednesday's "Think Time" so children can solve academic and non-academic problems.
	<i>Creating a Culture of Civil Behavior</i>	Funds from this grant were used to bring speaker to Roosevelt School. SuEllen Fried has spoken extensively and co-authored two books on bullying prevention. She presented to Roosevelt's students, Roosevelt's staff and district-wide lunch supervisors. In addition an interactive district-wide parents presentation was held.
2005	ELF mini-lab	Funding from this grant was used to purchase an ELF mini-lab featuring computer tables, chairs and four computer programs with a continuum of learning objectives specifically geared to meet the needs of 180 preschool students with developmental delays.
	<i>Scholastic Reading Counts!</i>	This grant will purchase a computerized reading program that supplies quizzes to test comprehension and vocabulary from books that students have chosen to read.
	<i>The Lindamood Auditory Conceptualization Test</i>	This grant will allow for the purchase of an assessment tool designed to identify children who have insufficient phonemic awareness, a key predictor of how well children will learn to read in the early years of school.
	<i>The Mind That's Mine Program Kits and Student Books for CFC</i>	This grant purchase a program designed to help students discover how their minds work and what they can do to make their minds work better.
2004	<i>Critical Friends Staff Development</i>	This grant will provide a professional development program for District teachers that facilitates collaborative teaching practices and the sharing of best practices.
	<i>Finger fun Kits for Occupational Therapy</i>	Money from this grant will be used to purchase lending library kits for home and classroom to improve students' fine motor skills.
	<i>North Cook Consortium for Grant-Writing</i>	Funds from this grant will be used to support a consortium that will enable District 64 to join with 25 other districts in securing grant funds for Language Arts and Math initiatives.
2003	<i>Edutrac Web-Based Physical Education Assessment Software</i>	The purpose of this project is to utilize the Edutrac Software to allow PE teachers across the district to have individualized student physical fitness assessments. Students will set fitness goals and record them easily using this software.

	<i>Teaching Character Issues Workshop</i>	The purpose of this project is to bring Jim Garbarino, a nationally known author on the subject of bullying, civil behavior and teaching character issues in the classroom to the district to educate teachers/administrators in a staff development and parents at a workshop.
2001	<i>Science Unit Libraries</i>	This project will fund the purchase of quality non-fiction books to enhance the District's science curriculum. Through reading, students are able to grow in their understanding of science concepts introduced through hands-on experience. The books selected will be at a range of reading levels to support the District's goal of differentiated instruction.
	<i>The Bereaved Child</i>	This grant will fund workshops for staff at specific grade levels K-8 to assist them in working with a child dealing with grief or loss. The Good Mourning Program, part of Rainbow Hospice, will lead the sessions.
2000	<i>Starlab I</i>	Starlab is a portable teaching environment that can be moved from building to building. It consists of an inflatable dome, projector, and related projecting materials. Use of the StarLab will allow teachers to address seven of the Illinois State learning objectives in science. Unit modules can be purchased to cover Mythology, Earth Mapping, Weather, Plate Tectonics, Ocean Currents, and Cell Biology. It will primarily be used in third and sixth grade, although some available modules could be used to enhance the middle school curriculum.