

Huron Valley Educational Foundation

2004/2005 Grant Awards Summaries

Recycling From Food to Flowers by Tyna Smith, Oxbow, Brooks, Spring Mills and Baker Elementary Schools

Kindergartners will compost breakfast and lunch food leftovers, leaves, and dirt in plastic containers with the help of a few worms. Students will read, observe, take pictures and write about the process. The new “dirt” will be used to plant flower seeds for Mother’s Day gifts.

Urban Planning by Richard Lauzon, Highland Middle School

The 7th grade Information Technology class studies several aspects of urban planning and its environmental impact using SimTown software. With the addition of the grant funded *Community Construction Kit* software students will gain a better understanding of the relationships between people and the environment. Students will construct 3D paper models of buildings and towns they design.

Weather Monitoring by Shelly Gustafson, Highland Middle School

Today’s students will inherit problems related to the effect of human activities on weather patterns and climates. Using new *Weather Monitoring equipment*; students will record, graph and predict daily weather. They will forecast long-range weather and develop an understanding of weather patterns. Portions of the movie “Day After Tomorrow” and the lessons learned from the *Weather Monitor* will be used to discuss the scientific claims made in the movie. *Dr. Robert & Marie McCauley Memorial Grant*

“Water World— The Reality” by Rachael Postle, Harbor High School

Students at Harbor High School will construct a pond on school grounds while gaining knowledge of aquatic ecology, money management, landscape design, basic mechanical knowledge, and hard labor. Students will have the opportunity to observe and study an aquatic ecosystem and will be able to alter the ecosystem and see the consequences in future projects.

Cross-Curricular T-Shirts by James Jenkins and Kim Behen, Harbor High School

Through grant funds students in the Harbor High School Entrepreneurship class will purchase T-shirts and sweats. Students will then combine their talents to develop a small business which will design, hand paint and/or airbrush the clothing to sell. Students will experience what is required to make a small business successful such as; creativity, budgeting, invoices, spreadsheets, inventory control and advertising. *Barbara Gavitt Memorial Grant*

Kindergarten Literature Program, by Diane Senk, Country Oaks Elementary

Ms. Senk will incorporate Dr. Elizabeth Sulzby’s Kindergarten Literature Program into her extended day kindergarten class with the purchase of 20 different books, 4 copies of each book. Research proves that repeated reading of carefully selected texts followed by classroom discussion and providing time for children to “read and write” at their own emergent level is a powerful tool to motivate students to be successful readers. *Ruth Lockwood Memorial Grant*

Grow it! At Spring Mills! By Michelle Iaconelli, Spring Mills Elementary

A Grow Lab Indoor Garden and Root View Farm will provide hands-on activities for first grade students to gain knowledge of plants and their growth patterns. Students will measure, graph, explore, observe and write about plants. Students will research plant information and compare to their real world data. *Fanning/Howey Associates Honorary Grant.*

Peace Education by Teresa Morelli-Sobczak, Muir Middle School

Conflict Resolution In American History books and the video “Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.” will be purchased with grant funds as part of the Peace Education Foundation Program which intertwines social and emotional skills with core academic areas. Special needs students will participate in a variety of activities such as role-playing, discussions, written compositions based on real-life experiences and applying historical experiences to current situations. *AG Edwards Honorary Grant.*

Get Caught Reading by Hilary Grant, Highland Middle School

The “Get Caught Reading Program” is a nation-wide campaign to motivate students to read and develop a love and appreciation of reading. It has earned the support of First Lady Laura Bush, the U.S. Congress, Robin Williams, Sammy Sosa, as well as Clifford the Big Red Dog, Donald Duck and the Rugrats- all whom have been “caught reading” their favorite books and magazines for print ads and posters. This HVEF grant will provide funding for photographic posters to be made and displayed at the school of HVS administration, teachers and community leaders who have been “caught reading.”

MEAN Girls by Jennifer Mah, Highland Middle School

Sixth through eighth grade girls will see the *Mean Girls* youth theater production which focuses attention and initiates discussion of girl bullying. The presentation will provide students with strategies that will help them effectively handle bullying situations, give students insight into roles of bullies, victims and bystanders and how to choose healthy relationships.

Courtyard Garden by Judith Levitt, Milford High School

A Courtyard garden will be developed at Milford High School with the help of grant funds. The garden will include a pond, benches, trellis archways and plants donated by local merchants. Students and staff will work together to clean, plant, build garden furniture, create wall art and sculptures and maintain the completed garden. *Barbara Gavitt Memorial Grant*

Adventures with Global Positioning Satellites by Joe Coraci, Highland Middle School

Last year, with the help of a HVEF grant three, students enjoyed exploring GPS activities. One lesson was videotaped and submitted to the Presidential Excellence Award for Teaching Mathematics and was considered one of the top six in the State of Michigan. Each lesson was excellent and well received by students. Three additional GPS units will be purchased to allow less wait time for students and make it possible to complete additional educational activities. *Barton Malow Honorary Grant.*

The Truth About Band Music by Kristin Blanchard, White Lake Middle School

The encyclopedia collection of Teaching Music Through Performance in Band, Teaching Music Through Performance in Beginning Band, and Teaching Music Through Performing Marches, with accompanying volumes of CD recordings will be purchased to allow students to hear high level bands performing works that are at the young band level. Each volume will include historical information about the composer, history of the works and score studies.

Jammin by Maryann Lambrecht, Muir Middle School

Grant funds will make it possible to purchase rhythmic instruments from musically diverse cultures to help students to create, read and understand complex rhythmic ideas. Using the new instruments, students will create rhythmic compositions. The compositions will then be used to enhance a choral performance of multi-cultural literature.

Choral Commission by Joan Baert and Sean Jackman Oak Valley MS, White Lake MS and Lakeland High School

A choral work will be commissioned from Sherri Porterfield, a nationally known composer of choral literature for developing choirs. Ms. Porterfield will engage students in on-line dialog about the process of composition: how she chooses text, how the text inspires the music, and considerations for each voice part. Students will then complete classroom composition projects. Performances of a commissioned work will build awareness of the choral program. *Thomas Ormandy Memorial Grant.*

Computer Library Circulation System by Joan Huellmantel, Baker Elementary

Each week over 100 books in the Book-in-a-Bag classroom literacy program circulate in and out of Joan's classroom. The successful program creates a strong literacy link between home and school. An automated library circulation system will be purchased with grant funds and allow more books to circulate, reduce student and teacher time spent on checking in and out books and will enable students to independently access their account, and return and check out new books.

Literacy Bags by Jennifer Lachapelle, Oxbow Elementary

Students will take home bags that contain a variety of books for the students to read on their own and with their family. Students will then do activities related to the book themes, ranging from writing in a journal to creating a collage.

Flora and Fauna by Michelle Kokowicz and Nancy Daviskiba, Johnson Elementary

To enhance the experience of Johnson Elementary's native grassland, pond, butterfly, woodland and wetland habitats, expository books for each grade level will be purchased. The expository texts relating to the plants, their history and importance, medicinal uses and so on will be used to extend learning from the classroom to the outdoor habitats.

Cadence Creates Communities by Don Hogaboom and Heather Schultz, Oak Valley and White Lake Middle School

Mr. James Fitzpatrick, the Lakeland High School Percussion Instructor, will be commissioned to write a Drum Cadence for a combined Oak Valley and White Lake Middle Schools program. Mr. Fitzpatrick will work with the students on the cadence and the combined bands will debut the piece at the Milford 4th of July parade. *Nettie Nelson Memorial Grant.*

Orff Play by Sara Steed-Leto, Lakewood Elementary

Students at Lakewood Elementary will have the opportunity to put on an Orff play with the purchase of two Soprano Xylophones. Students will be able to play contrasting parts together in a larger ensemble.

Building a Literacy Library by Jennifer Freeman, Special Education Teacher, Milford High School

Previously, cognitively impaired students at the secondary level were unable to utilize the school library because there were very few reading materials available which they were able to read independently or with support. This grant will enable the purchase of non-fiction high interest/appropriate reading level books for these students. The books will be used in several different classes such as Functional English, Basic Science, US History, Civics, Communications, Daily Living Skills and Mathematics

Gear-Up by Elizabeth Dunn, Highland Middle School

The addition of an in-line skating program has encouraged students to become more physically fit through this and other lifetime fitness sports. Previously, HVEF grants funds allowed for the purchase of helmets. This year's on-going grant will enable the purchase of 30 sets of protective gear (knee, elbow, and wrist pads).

Learn to Read, Read to Learn by Marti Love, Highland Middle School

The very successful REWARDS Program (Reading Excellence: Word Attack and Rate Development Strategies) services struggling general education and special education students. With new supplemental materials such as an Audio Card Reader, headphones and microphones students will see, hear, and read words as well as learn at their own pace.