

Huron Valley Education Foundation 2006 Grant Summaries

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRANTS

VIRTUAL SCIENCE LAB 2 (Lori Beach/Highland Elementary)

Using Highland's current video production cart and the newly purchased SMART Board, the 3rd grade will take a "virtual" online field trip to COSI Columbus Hands-on Science Center. Students will actually work with "Simple Machines" kits real-time while being virtually guided by instructors from COSI. This exposes the kids to both science and the latest in interactive technology as opposed to a traditional field trip.

WE BOTH READ BOOKS (Debbie David/Country Oaks Elementary)

First graders will utilize these unique book sets that have been written for both parents and children to read in tandem. Students will work with their parents on retelling and comprehension skills. Each time a page is turned there is reading side for the parent (with more content and information) followed with a child-friendly page for the student to read – opening the door for a new reading and sharing experience. *In Honor of Isabel Sellon*

ORFFISTRATIONS (Diane Gelfund/Highland Elementary)

The vocal music classes at Highland Elementary will be adding the bass xylophone to their Orff Ensemble. It is the biggest and lowest sounding instrument of the ensemble. It will allow all students to actively play music simultaneously, perform harmonies, match dynamic levels or play when other students are singing.

"WHAT'S UP" IN THE COMMUNITY (Sharon Hengtgen, Karen Howells, Jim Izzo, Bob Lacey, Kimberly Rose/Brooks Elementary)

Social skills of students with autism taught in one environment, often do not transfer to other environments. This project has these students practice appropriate social skills in the community with the assistance of the Brooks Leader's Today Club (5th grade trained volunteers). Students will go on monthly outings, integrating general education and special education students into the community, addressing disability awareness, life skills, self-help skills, personal conduct and responsibility, as well as cooperation and leadership.

OTHER R's: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE (Karen Howells, Sue Stevens/Brooks Elementary)

We have become a "throw-away" society! Students and staff at Brooks would become aware of ways they can help and be part of a solution. Mini lessons, poster projects and scientific experiments about creating and maintaining a safe and clean environment would be offered to all classes K-5. Student involvement and pride in their school and community would be enhanced in progress toward being conscientious conservationists.

GROWING READERS (Lois Kelly/Brooks Elementary)

The Kindergarten class will be introduced to a reader workshop program called Growing Readers. This has been chosen to compliment a writing program that is already in place. Growing Readers provides a variety of books at DRA reading levels; the children will use self-selected materials to read daily - practicing early print strategies and reinforcing lessons from guided reading groups.

MOTOR MOMS AND DADS (Megan McQuillan/Apollo Elementary/PAL Preschool)

Before a child can learn, brain research shows there must be visual motor integration, as well as fine and gross motor skills. Motor Moms and Dads will train parents to work with PAL preschool, special needs students through motor skills stations. Stations are designed to enhance children's bi-lateral motor skills, balance and coordination. Funding will include volunteer training materials (video and manual) as well as necessary program equipment.

HYDROPONIC GROWING (Philip H. Schmidlin/Spring Mills Elementary)

5th grade students learn how to grow vital, healthful food without soil or insect problems using a nutritionally balanced solution. The class will construct a simple but effective Hydroponic Garden greenhouse using plastic tubs and tubing (students from Rudy Cender's technology class at Lakeland High will assist). The class will then test and balance a correct pH of plant food daily, record and monitor observations and progress of garden growth. *Dr. Robert & Marie McCauley Memorial Grant*

BOYS WHO READ ROCK! (Sandy Schubert/Highland Elementary)

It is vital to get boys reading and loving books, but to get boys interested in reading...young boys need to have books designed just for them! They need books that provide high-interest topics, language they understand and colorful designs. A series of newly released books entitled Boys Rock! provides just that. Some of the titles that will now be in Highland's media center: "Spider Life", "Making Comic Books" and "Smoke Jumpers".

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRANTS

BACKYARD WEATHER (Rodney Bradsher/Muir Middle)

Students become scientists and orators: building a weather station, collecting and interpreting data, and reporting findings. They will check the weather daily, report observations and record findings in a database. After ten weeks, they will create spreadsheets examining the data trends, create graphs for visual communication, prepare an oral and slide presentation. This project also incorporates a SERVICE LEARNING APPROACH as students will upload weather data to the Internet for community member access.

SAUDI CULTRUE TRUNK (Sara M. Darnell/Oak Valley Middle)

HVEF grant money will be used to create a trunk filled with artifacts from Saudi Arabia for teachers in Huron Valley to utilize to enhance their teachings of Saudi Arabia and the Middle East - bringing the geography, culture and people alive for students. Planned trunk objects to include: clothing, music, pottery, books, newspapers, magazines, food and religious items. *Thomas Ormandy Memorial Grant*

PROJECT GREEN (Shelley Gustafson/Highland Middle)

The Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (GREEN) project will help 8th graders at Highland MS conduct water testing of the Huron River Watershed. A problem will be identified, test results will be analyzed and students will develop an environmental public awareness campaign based on their findings. Students realize importance of protecting rivers and other vital community water resources.

WHY TRY Project (Pat Hinzy/White Lake Middle)

The WHY TRY program was created to motivate students to "overcome their challenges and improve outcomes in the areas of truancy, behavior and academics". It teaches social and emotional principles in a clear, straightforward manner utilizing visuals, music, and physical activities to encompass major learning styles. The project will focus on the 7th grade Skills for Success students (students who have had a difficult transition to middle school).

MEET COMPOSER SAM HAZO (Donald Hogaboom, Heather Schultz/Oak Valley, White Lake Middle)

White Lake and Oak Valley bands will be learning from one of today's hottest conductor/composers of middle school music, Samuel Hazo. WLMS and OVMS students have performed his music and relate to what he writes. Mr. Hazo, along with students from Eastern Michigan University's music program, will spend a full day working with students on music, writing techniques, and in master class mini-lessons building a community of musicians.

LIFETOWN (Andrea Moore/Muir Middle)

The CI Basic Classrooms at Muir will attend the Ferber Kaufman Lifetown Center in West Bloomfield. This is an indoor city for students with special needs. They will practice and reinforce important life skills in real life situations in this safe environment. The city has: a library, recreation center, Sav-On Drugstore, Henry Ford Medical Center, Huntington Bank, Beauty/Barber shop, theater, pet shop, and a friendship workshop and pedestrian/driver safety program. *Barbara Gavitt Memorial Grant*

ELECTRICITY & MAGNETISM (Natalie Moore, Mandy Printz/White Lake Middle)

7th grade science students gain knowledge of how fuel cell and battery operated energy sources work, impact everyday life and the future. They will learn about matter, forms of electricity, and how energy can be transferred. To do this, students will complete various hands-on activities and labs. They will see an electrical charge build and transfer through a Van de Graaff Generator. They will build circuits, electromagnets, motors using batteries, switches and buzzers.

HIGH SCHOOL GRANTS

BIG SISTERS MENTORSHIP (Anna Davis/Harbor High with Lakewood Elementary)

A mentorship program will match high school females at Harbor High with a small group of 5th grade girls at Lakewood Elementary. Group activities will then be scheduled several times during the school year focusing on problem solving and social/communication skills. The high school students will provide guidance and leadership for the younger students while improving their own collaborative skills. *In Memory of Kathryn Meagher*

TORINO RESTORATION (Eric Hincka/Milford High)

With grant money, students in the MHS Automotive Program will perform a thorough teardown and rebuild of a 1971 Ford Torino (donated to the program spring 2006). This will aid students in learning how cars operate and how to repair them, as well as pique interest and pride in the skills of students often less recognized. Eventually, the vehicle might be driven in parades, car shows, etc. as a promotional product for the Auto Program and MHS. *In Memory of Robert A. Smith*

EMPTY BOWLS/HERITAGE FESTIVAL (Daniel Ignagni/Lakeland High)

Empty Bowls (www.emptybowls.net) is a program to provide support for organizations that fight hunger, holding events around the world. With grant money, students in the Pottery class will first explore another (Chinese) culture, then create professional-quality ceramic bowls in Chinese style (hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques) to be sold at the Huron Valley Heritage Festival with proceeds being donated to the Food Bank of Oakland County. *In Honor of Women In Business, Highland Business Association*

SPANISH ART AND HUMANITIES (Catherine Longcore/Milford High)

An important piece of advanced foreign language study is conveying culture behind language. Spanish IV classes study various Spanish artists (ie: Greco, Goya, Picasso, Dali), hear guest speakers from the history department and retired teacher Dan Parrish, to deepen their understanding artists and culture. Students then see authentic pieces at the DIA, culmination of studies synthesizing humanities: language, history, art.

MLK DAY (Isaac Perry/Lakeland High)

Last year, the HVS community celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day for the first time with the Main Street March. This year, the Huron Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Day Committee is going to use HVEF grant money to help focus toward more student-centered, multi-faceted events having a broader impact. This would include an essay and speech competition at middle and high school levels, and art-based competition at the elementary school level.

VEX 4 HVS (Megan Rumble, Rudy Cender, Lori Gleason/Milford, Lakeland High)

VEX kits enhance high school technology programs, allowing students to explore coordination of mechanical systems, use of electronic sensors, and programming methods to produce working robots with a wide variety of functions with and without remote control. The HVEF grant will fund kits for Lakeland's advanced technology program, Milford's advanced programming class, and the HOT robotics team to prototype their ideas for the FIRST robot.

CD RECORDING PROJECT (Paul Schreiber/Milford High)

This grant will be put toward the purchase of the Tascam CDRW402 recorder that has the capacity to record and burn CD's (as it has a dual CD deck). The project focus is to record various band performances, rehearsals, and allow students to hear performances as a teaching/learning tool. It culminates by creating a CD for each student highlighting their year of performances. It could also be utilized by the choirs and possibly Center for Performing Arts.

SCHOOL STORE (Richard Tannous, Harbor High)

The Economics class at Harbor will create and run a school store. The educational outcome will be practical knowledge in economics: purchasing, inventory control, pricing, orders, and marketing. It will encourage sense of community within the student body. This idea was created, developed, prepared and implemented through student driven meetings, division of job duties into committees (including the student-drafted HVEF grant proposal).

COMMUNITY/OTHER GRANTS

INDEPENDENT in the BIG PICTURE (Christine Lamb/Skills Center)

The Skills Center is for cognitively and physically impaired adult students; it houses a program called SMART (Students Mastering Adult Responsibilities Together). The center's nonverbal and non-reading students often respond well to pictures. This project will use a camera and printer to create communication pictures helping students to shop, improve hygiene and prepare for independent work. For example, students will use a shopping list comprised of pictures to grocery shop or will use a picture checklist to complete personal hygiene tasks.

DRUM ME A STORY (Wendy Willihnganz/Huron Valley Council for The Arts)

HVCA intends to bring a live theater performance to the second grade student population of HVS that will provide education and entertainment. Wild Swan Children's Theater's artist Ryan Edward uses music song and storytelling to present "Drum Me A Story". Students learn alternative means of communication using sight, sound, props, lighting, motion and emotion. The daytime productions also allows limited seating to local nursing home residents.