

SCEF APPROVES MORE THAN \$57,000 IN GRANTS

We are awarding a total of \$57, 208.08 in grants for this school year. We are proud to be able to support these grants with funds raised by our very generous community. These grants will reach a large population of students in the South Country School District.

KIDS 3D PRINT CLUB

Amanda Zambito

South Country Library

\$1,734.83

The Print Club is a program that teaches kids in grades 3-5 the fundamentals and practical applications of 3D printing. Participants will use Chromebooks to design 3D models on Tinkercad software. The grant funds the purchase of 8 Chromebooks, 8 wireless mouse extensions and 1 16GB flash drive. The projects will be printed on the library's 3D printer.

THE MAGIC OF SCIENCE

Trish Barkewicz

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$895.00

This grant supports a school assembly program in which scientific principals are demonstrated in magic tricks. There will be two assemblies at a total cost of \$895.00. The program will be delivered by Mobile ED Company. Chemistry, light, magnetism, optical illusions and physic principals will be demonstrated during the assemblies. It is believed that the programs will boost interest in the schools STEM lab.

LONG ISLAND AQUATIC LIFE

Lauren Kleban, Kristen Christie, Vanessa Gordon, Jeni McCarthy

Frank P. Long Intermediate School (Rooms 8, 10 14 & 15)

\$2,441.90

Fourth grade students will take a field trip to the Long Island Aquarium to study aquatic life while engaged in interactive displays and programs. They will gain information on the different animals that live in the water around us and will also attend a program titled "Survival of the Fittest." The grant pays the entry fee for 50 students (\$875.00) and a bus for transport (\$345.95)

PLAY AWAY TO READING SUCCESS

Vanessa Gordon

Frank P. Long Intermediate School

\$1,979.71

Audiobooks will peak student interest in reading and help student readers progress their skills. Teachers view the audiobooks as a hands-on interactive learning experience. The grant writer suggests that the books help increase interest in reading for reluctant readers. Students also develop a stronger sense of technology through the use of the Playaway books. The grant pays for the purchase of 29 new titles.

WORK-BASED LEARNING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Kelly Scotti

Bellport High School

\$2,000.00

This grant will pay for bus trips and admission to a variety of career centers for students enrolled in the work-based learning program. Students will examine careers for their post-graduate days. Locations include Bayport Flower House, One Stop Employment Agency, DOL Job fair and more.

PLAY AWAY TO READING SUCCESS

Tracy Behl

Verne W. Critz Elementary School

\$1,919.72

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FLEXIBLE SEATING FOR ACTIVE LEARNERS

Tracy Behl, Jill DeRosa

Verne W. Critz Elementary School

\$1,000.00

Wobble stools, surf floor desks and stability balls, will help some students focus more while they learn. This new furniture will add variety and choice to the classroom. The classroom already has the option of the one standing desk, which has proven to be a successful choice for some students. The grant supplies funds for the purchase of 18 surf floor desks, 10 wobble chairs and 6 stability ball mobile chairs.

BUILD ME UP

Gina Benzie

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$599.47

This project is designed to create a learning bridge between Ms. Benzie's first grade classroom and the school's STEM lab. The grant pays for the purchase of science and engineering supplies that students will use to construct objects using pipes, swivel joints, sockets and more.

SKYDOME PLANETARIUM

Gina Benzie

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$1,095.00

A visiting planetarium will come to Kreamer Street Elementary School with a special lesson on the solar system. Students will learn the identity of each planet and will be introduced to Greek mythological characters to see how these heroes can be found in the night sky. The grant pays for this assembly program which will spend a full day at the building and be visited by every classroom.

WE ARE IN CHARGE!

Gina Benzie

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$1,995.00

This project is a sexual abuse prevention program that includes learning sessions for students and adults. It is offered by The Crime Victim Center in coordination with Parents for Megan's Law. Students will participate in a program that teaches empowerment and body autonomy through an explanation of boundaries, good touches and bad touches. They will also discuss the importance of not keeping secrets, the empowerment of saying "NO" and when they should approach a trusted adult. The program will be presented by the staff members from Parents for Megan's Law. This program is called "You're in Charge." A similar evening program will be presented for parents and adults.

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING: MICROLOAN PROGRAM

Andrew Burdris

Bellport High School

\$2,000.00

Ninth grade Global History and Geography students, as a part of their study of the interaction between humans and their environment, will conduct a project in association with the global anti- poverty organization www.kiva.org. Students, in groups, will complete a problem-based learning (PBL) experience in which they act as a grant review committee that is tasked with choosing which country has the greatest challenges presented by its geography. Students will present their findings in class and choose a recipient to receive an actual microloan, using grant funds awarded by SCEF. An event in the BHS Library will be held in which outside judges will determine which of the groups will be chosen to win an additional grant for the borrower. This is the second year that SCEF has funded this project. The nature of the project requires 2-3 years of funding before the program is self- sustaining.

LEARNING ABOUT THE ECOLOGICAL ISSUES FACING FIRE ISLAND AND LONG ISLAND BY FIELD EXPERIENCE

Amanda McCauley, Charles Valentine

Bellport High School (9th and 10th grade Intensive AIS program)

\$1,109.09

The grant will pay for bus and boat transportation to Fire Island and lunch for 34 students. They will take a ranger-led tour of Sunken Forest and Sailors Haven and explore its flora and fauna to deepen their understanding of the issues of climate change and water pollution. They will also assess the impact humans are having on Fire Island and Long Island.

AFRICAN HORIZONS

Stefani Nolde and Michelle Procida

Brookhaven Elementary School (Multicultural Subcommittee of the Shared Decision Making Team)

\$1,570.00

The grant will pay for two performances by Paula Yaa McCoy-Franklin in assemblies to explore traditions of West Africa with African costumes, dances and songs, to foster an appreciation of African communities and their history and culture. Classroom activities include writing and illustrations to show how the performance impacted students. All will be displayed during Black History Month.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD AT THE SHUBERT THEATER

Kristen Fehr-Thompson

Bellport High School

\$1,950.00

Fifty 9th grade students will be able to see a staged performance of a book they are reading in class. The experience will make it possible to understand, analyze and evaluate two different presentations and will help students gain an interest in the performing arts/theater.

POETRY ALIVE!

Colleen Oates-Robesch

Bellport High School Librarian

\$990.00

Up to 1200 students will attend a series of three high-energy assembly shows presented by Poetry Alive, a poem-performance troupe that performs poems and draws on audience participation. ESL and ELA teachers are invited to participate in pre-assembly and post-assembly lessons. The troupe will select poems that reflect the experiences and interests of our students. Students will be discuss the performances in their English classes.

DANCING CLASSROOMS

Alicia Ulberg

Frank P. Long Intermediate School

\$2,000.00

Students in each 5th grade class will have the opportunity to “take a trip around the world” by learning about the various cultures, music and dance. A Dancing Classroom artist will teach the students to build their social awareness, confidence, self-esteem, team work and respect for others through the movement of ballroom dancing in a ten-week session, with two 40-minute sessions each week.

VISIBLE THINKING

Aimee Volk

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$124.87

The grant will pay for blank journals and writing materials for 12 children to use each day in 15-20-minute periods, in writing prompt and free write activities.

TOOLS FOR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS TO ENSURE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Aimee Iuliucci

Bellport High School Center of Excellence

\$2,000.00

Twenty students in the Center of Excellence will visit area colleges, attend financial aid workshops, participate in team building activities and attend college workshops specific to English Language Learners. The grant will pay for most of the bus transportation costs for 7 college and career trips. (\$2,000 out of \$2,463.48 of total cost.)

SEA LIFE ECOSYSTEM EXPLORATION

Aimee Volk

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$1,914.62

The grant will pay for 2 buses and the cost of admission for 100 students to the Long Island Aquarium which includes a two-hour trip on the Atlantis Explorer down the Peconic River into Flanders Bay. The students will discover various ecosystems and habitats that surround Long Island and will analyze the adaptations of animals in diverse environments. The opportunity for hands-on interactive educational programs and workshops with an emphasis on science is not available within the school building.

LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD WITH PLAYAWAYS

Alyce Smith

5th grade inclusion students, Frank P. Long Intermediate School

\$1,519.81

The grant will make it possible to purchase 19 Playaway books for children to use in the classroom. The pre-loaded audiobooks make it possible for each child to choose his own mode of learning which increases the confidence level of the readers and encourages them to discuss the books with other students in class and in a Book Club.

WIRELESS MICROPHONE AND SPEAKER – HIGHER LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

Mary Pettit

Frank P. Long Intermediate School

\$540.00

The grant will provide a wireless microphone clipped to the shirt or worn around the neck, and 4 speakers placed around the room, as well as a handheld microphone for the students to use. It is estimated that students sitting at the back of the room may miss 30% of what the teacher says. It is also estimated that 12.5% of students aged 6 to 19 have permanent damage to their hearing from excessive exposure to noise.

INTERACTIVE STEM KITS TO MOTIVATE, EXCITE AND INSPIRE STUDENTS TO LOVE SCIENCE

William Pettit

Verne W. Critz Elementary School

\$809.92

This grant will pay for 10 STEM kits and additional supplies. The kits make it possible to teach using hands-on methods with manipulatives. The kits will be utilized in small groups in a center type learning, giving students the opportunity to work together collaboratively.

FIELD TRIPS FOR ENL STUDENTS TO NEW YORK CITY AND TO A LOCAL FARM

Stephanie Factor

Bellport High School

\$2,000.00

The grant will make it possible to take two trips, one for Transitional/Expanding/Commanding Students to the NYC Tenement Museum to learn about the struggles of Irish immigrants, and one for Entering/Emerging Students to Wickham's Farm to pick apples and pumpkins and experience the fall season in a new country.

“WE ARE SOUTH COUNTRY”

Suzette Emma-Fandale and Barbara Gallagher – for all district students

\$2,000.00

The grant will pay visiting artist Nicole Franz to spend 4 days with the students, and will pay for panels and materials for making and hanging collages. Students throughout the district will have the opportunity to work alongside a practicing artist. They will then create self-portraits and other art using a variety of techniques. Students from all buildings will exhibit their artwork in a final exhibit and reception in March.

CREATING A TOWER GARDEN

Jill DeRosa

Verne W. Critz Elementary School, second grade

\$1,568.00

The grant will provide a School Seeds Program which will support the building of a Tower Garden (a vertical aeroponic gardening system designed for both indoor and outdoor growing) and the curriculum to go with it. The students will work together to construct the Tower Garden and will gather information about different ways to grow food. It will foster an understanding of the importance of healthy eating skills and teamwork.

ARTIST RESIDENCY TIFFANY CHI FOR A WEEK-LONG ARTIST RESIDENCY

Lealand Eve Richard

Verne W. Critz Elementary School

\$2000.00

Hong Kong artist Tiffany Chi will have a one week residency at VWC. She will work with each of the 19 sections of art classes, bringing samples of her art work with paper craft and cut-paper collage. She will lead the children in activities tailored to each grade level, to create colorful and dimensional illustrations. Art teacher Lealand Richard will work with the children in subsequent art classes. The project will be documented and videotaped and the children will be introduced to opportunities for careers in the arts.

LIFE SKILLS/AUTISM FIELD TRIPS

Jane Quatrala and Justin White (Life Skills teachers), Jackie Oliva and Krista Albrecht (Autism teachers)

Bellport High School

\$1,880.42

The grant will pay for travel and program costs for visits by the students to 5 sites on Long Island where they will experience work tasks (clean the kitchen and set the tables for the day at Café Castello), learn about math (making purchases at the Lewin Apple Farm), observe the daily operations of a business (at Bayport Flower House), keeping scores and making a list of shoe sizes (at Bowl Long Island), participate in an environmental activity (at Coastal Steward Marine Education Program) and have fun.

COMMUNITY: HOW TO MAKE A PIZZA

Deidre Wittman, Katherine Frankie, Michelle Drucker

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$420.00

Seventy kindergarten students will walk with their teachers through Bellport Village to Café Castello where they will learn about the family owned small business. All students will work with an adult chef who will walk each of them through the steps to make personal pizza.

GRAFFITI WORKSHOP AND STREET ART WALKING TOUR

Devin Auricchio

Bellport High School

\$1,905.87

Upper level art students will participate in a Graffiti Workshop and Street Art Walking Tour presented by Brooklyn Unplugged Tours. A New York City street artist will introduce students to street painting techniques and theories, and see a live demonstration of basic spray paint techniques and theories and give a live demonstration of basic spray paint techniques. The students will then collaborate to create large pieces of group art (10 students per piece) to practice the skills they have learned. The students will tour the exhibition called the Bushwick Collective and learn about the culture and lifestyle of today's urban artists, and will discover the different styles and forms of the trade. The grant will also pay for spray paint caps/nozzles so that the students can continue to use the materials learned about during the workshop.

EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF JOB TRAINING

Krista Albrecht

Bellport High School

\$1944.90

Students in the 8:1:3 program (aged 17-21 with moderate to severe disabilities) are currently involved in job and vocational training in the local community, transported by an in-district minibus. This grant would make it possible to expand the bus transportation to Patchogue, Sayville and Shirley, make placements possible at Patchogue Bowling Alley, Kohl's, Patchogue-Medford Library, Patchogue Theater, Sayville Movie Theater, Applebee's, and other restaurants. The grant would provide 18 days of out-of- district placements.

PICK A READING PARTNER

Kreamer Street Elementary PTA, Heather Talmage

\$500.00

The grant would fund this year's program, conducted annually by the Kreamer St. Elementary School PTA. Its goal is to involve students, families and teachers in informative and entertaining themed reading activities both in and out of school. Students are asked to read with an adult every day to strengthen their reading skills and the adult/child relationship. The grant would pay for performers for the school's assemblies and family night to dramatize the program's theme, "A Kingdom of Reading Where Books Rule." It would also cover the decorations and activities for Family Fun Night.

PLAYAWAYS READING ADVENTURE

Lisa Nabi

Frank P. Long Intermediate School

\$1,000.53

The grant will pay for 21 pre-loaded Playaway books for children which will help improve reading fluency, increase the choice of books, and motivate disinterested readers. Students will note on a classroom poster when they use an audio book, and rate their experience with 1 to 5 stars. They will be encouraged to write an article about audio books for the school newspaper.

"HANSEL AND GRETEL"

Theresa Tietjen

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$1894.84

Seventy-five kindergarten students will have the opportunity to see a live performance of "Hansel and Gretel" at Theatre Three in Port Jefferson. The grant will pay transportation for each student and the theater tickets.

PERSONAL HEROES: A BOOK AND SHOW

Suzette Emma-Fandale

Bellport High School

\$1,997.97

The grant would make it possible for students to work with practicing photographer/BHS alumnus Stephen Molina Contreras on a yearlong project to create a book/show around the theme "Personal Heroes." Students will each respond to an open call for work and through artist visits, educational materials pertaining to the medium of photography, and with critiques. They will be challenged to examine their surroundings and experiences critically and to select whom they would photograph. Their images will be exhibited in a group show in Bellport in April. The photographs will be documented in a book, giving them the opportunity to have their work published.

WOODWORKERS CLUB

Peter Cisek (retired teacher)

Frank P. Long Intermediate School

\$1,200.00

The grant will fund approximately 80 students in grades four and five in the Woodworkers Club where they will be guided in making various projects (building bird houses, bird feeders, book holders, flower pot holders and bat houses). Mr. Cisek will cut and prepare the wooden kits for the four participating classrooms. Working on these projects improves the students' skills in taking measurements, following detailed instructions and completing projects they can be proud of and take home.

"COOK AROUND THE WORLD" NATIONAL COOKING COMPETITION SPONSORED BY WALT DISNEY RESORTS – APRIL 2020

Camille Masem and Elizabeth Malandro

(Culinary Arts Program in Bellport High School)

\$1,000.00

Students will compete in the April 2020 competition "Cooking for an International Audience" sponsored by Walt Disney Resorts. They will also attend (with other students from the four regions of the world) a workshop with Disney Executive Chefs to learn from a top "Celebrity Chef." This grant will pay for three nights of hotel accommodations, three day Disney passes and dinner for each student. There are plans for additional student fund raisers.

ANIMAL EXPERIENCE ON A WORKING FARM

Debra Stevenson

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$2,063.18

The grant would make it possible to take first graders on a tour of the County Farm in Yaphank to learn about the history of the farm and about the care of sheep, goats, chickens and cows.

READERS READ EVERYWHERE

Deirdre Whittmann

Kreamer Street Elementary School

\$118.43

This grant is to fund canvas book bags for a class of 16 kindergarten children. These book bags will be used to send home books on a daily basis. It is the hope of the teacher that the children will learn organizational skills and that their excitement for reading will grow. This is a project that will encourage a school/home connection.

WIZARDS FUN

Ashley Sagastino, Megan Huber, Melissa Satterley, Tracy Behl, Special Education teachers

Verne W. Critz School

\$1,525.00

The Harlem Wizards Trick-Hoops Assembly Program will reinforce concepts like teamwork, respect, hard work, exercise and kindness with a one-man fun, interactive show in the gym, all-purpose room or stage at Verne W. Critz School. Students will write or draw about how the program impacted their lives. Wizards fun will be documented in the district's newspaper.