

THE LINDALE ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
Supporting a Tradition of Excellence

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PRESS RELEASE

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### **Lindale ISD Education Foundation Awards more than \$29,000 in Classroom Grants**

The Lindale ISD Education Foundation has awarded \$29,938.62 to Lindale ISD teachers. The money will be used to purchase new and innovative tools for classrooms. Funds provided by the Foundation will directly benefit students in the Lindale Independent School District and will make a positive difference for them.

“The Lindale ISD is an outstanding school district with amazing, hard-working teachers,” said Gay Pyland, President of the Lindale ISD Education Foundation. “The Education Foundation’s goal is to support these teachers by funding their creative and innovative needs in the classroom. Together, with our individual donors, businesses and community, we support not only the teachers, but we also give our students an added advantage to their education.”

The teachers are notified that they are awarded their grants and receive funds by a surprise Grant Patrol through school hallways. The Lindale High School Star Steppers, cheerleaders, mascot, donors, administrators and volunteers loudly parade through the campuses, giving away money for several innovative projects.

“This is the best time of the year for the Lindale Education Foundation,” said Courtney Sanguinetti, Executive Director of the Lindale ISD Education Foundation. “Our board members and volunteers work extremely hard throughout the year to raise enough funds to be able to give like we do. To see it all pay off with the excitement of the students and teachers is definitely our reward. We are so thankful for the teachers who applied for these new learning tools and we are excited to see them in action.”

The Lindale ISD Education Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) organization that provides funds for classroom projects and programs not funded or under-funded by the district’s operating budget. The foundation is supported through donations from individuals, businesses and corporations.

The Education Foundation began awarding grants in November 2009. Since the first grant cycle, the Foundation has awarded \$465,110.14 to LISD classrooms for hundreds of projects.

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Grant applications are submitted to the foundation by LISD teachers and aides for projects or programs that go above the day-to-day curriculum and offer students an enriched and unique learning experience. Projects selected for funding are rated on a number of criteria including the innovation of the project.

“We are so thankful for our donors and the Lindale community who make all of this possible,” said Sanguinetti. “These students deserve a chance to excel beyond the classroom and the projects funded by the Education Foundation help to do just that. Our teachers’ dedication to our kids and school district is what makes LISD one of the best.”

**Spring 2024 projects receiving funds include:**

**Education Foundation grant for [\\$5,917.18](#) to fund “Straight to the Laptop.”**

**The purpose of this grant is to provide laptops to speech and debate students. Laptops are necessary for speech and debate competitions. UIL competitions have added internet access to the debate events and students use an extensive online database for other events. The laptops give students the ability to create unique research and to fact check the argument of others.**

**Grant by Rory McKenzie and JP Fugler**

**Education Foundation grant for [\\$1,363.50](#) to fund “Literacy Lab: Supporting Diversity in the Science Classroom.”**

**The purpose of this grant is to provide diverse TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) specific texts into the hands of our future scientists and engineers to enhance the scope of study in the 4th grade science classroom and to align to the interests of the reading classroom. These selections will increase student engagement, adding depth and detail.**

**Grant by Susan LeJeune**

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**Education Foundation grant for \$4,105.66 to fund “Wings of Eagles: Soar with Sensory.”**

**The purpose of this grant is to update and equip the district Life Skills department’s sensory rooms, at each Lindale ISD campus, to serve the diverse needs of students. Sensory rooms have proven to be effective in promoting self-regulation, reducing stress, and enhancing focus, leading to improved academic performance.**

**Grant by Candice Munoz, Amy Burks, Connie Wilson, Kristin LedsomeTerri Thomas, Megan Ledsome**

**Education Foundation grant for \$4,708.19 to fund “EagleClipse.”**

**The purpose of this grant is to provide the district with safe solar viewing glasses (“eclipse glasses”), educational resources, photo props, books, and more to make this day extra special for all of our students, teachers, and staff. All campuses will get to safely view the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, an awe-inspiring celestial event.**

**Grant by Jennifer Lane and Tracie Rand**

**Education Foundation grant for \$3,970.50 to fund “Setting the Scene with Visual Media.”**

**This grant will provide K-12 students participating in fine arts with a more technological experience. The Foundation is funding a short throw projector for the Lindale ISD Performing Arts Center. Fine Arts use technology to make their acting more believable, their dancing more powerful, and their songs more immersive. Using projections will eliminate the need for elaborate backdrops and costly set elements.**

**Grant by Kari McKenzie**

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**Education Foundation grant for \$719.76 to fund “Create.Communicate.Cope.”**

**The purpose of this grant is to provide sand trays to be used in grades PK-6th. Sand trays are an effective combination of play and art that helps students express themselves both verbally and non-verbally. They will be useful for students who struggle with a range of issues. Sand trays are a good tool to use in trauma-informed care of students.**

**Grant by Cherri Straus, Summer French, Brandi Harry, Julie Surratt, Sunny Murphy**

**Education Foundation grant for \$4,000 to fund “Feeding Lindale ISD.”**

**Lindale ISD has a program called the Backpack Program. This program feeds more than 100 students in need of food on the weekends. However, the district is running short on funds and was on the verge of having to cancel the program. The Lindale ISD Education Foundation stepped in and has funded the program so it continues serving Lindale students in need.**

**Grant by Christy Clouse**

**Education Foundation grant for \$5,099.83 to fund “Communication for All.”**

**The Lindale ISD Education Foundation funded an emergency grant to help English Second Language students overcome language obstacles, making learning more accessible and inclusive. The Timekettle Language Translator Earbuds are cutting-edge technology that help students have access to real-time translation. The earbuds allow Emergent Bilingual students to have the same opportunities and instruction as students who are fluent in English. The earbuds have over 90 different languages to choose from. It can be used in any classroom setting by any student, faculty or staff. The earbuds connect to an iOS device through Bluetooth. Lindale ISD has students who speak up to 11 different languages, including Spanish, Russian, Polish, Japanese, and Korean. More than 20 students who are new to the United States have enrolled at Lindale ISD for the 2023-2024 school year.**

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