



North Penn School District Educational Foundation



**2025-2026
Funded Grants**

A Note from the Trustees:

For this year's grants, the North Penn School District Educational Foundation awarded 61 grants totaling over \$80,000. Grants like these not only enhance the curriculum but also provide a hands-on, innovative way for students to embrace and fully comprehend the lesson. When NPSD educators and staff apply for these grants, some think of how this experience will affect the student in the future. Science and technology grants allow students to understand theories at the next level of thinking. Other grants allow teachers to think about how this experience will benefit students socially and vocationally. We are sure that when you read through these grant descriptions, you will see how these experiences allow our students to develop into better students and citizens. Without you and your generosity, the NPSD students and staff would not have access to these amazing opportunities.

PA Trout in the Classroom

North Penn High School, *John Collier and Pat Dougherty*

PA Trout in the Classroom is a program that gives students hands-on, real-world experience raising trout. Throughout the experience, students collect data and analyze results to create a healthy environment for the fish, using knowledge they gained about water quality in the environmental science curriculum. This grant funded the purchase of equipment to house and monitor the trout which were released safely to local waterways at the end of the year.

Sixth Grade Strummers

Walton Farm Elementary, *Rebecca Pimble*

This grant established the innovative "Sixth Grade Strummers" program at Walton Farm Elementary School, providing high-quality instrumental music access to 100 sixth-grade students annually. The funding equipped the music classroom with 35 ukuleles, a storage rack, and a professional curriculum to develop fundamental musical literacy and fine motor skills. Crucially, the project includes UkeAssist Adaptive Chord Helpers to ensure an equitable learning environment, allowing all students, including those with physical challenges, to successfully play and perform. This investment guarantees that every student gains confidence and a valuable, lifelong musical skill before transitioning to middle school.

Floating Classroom Trip

North Penn High School, *John Collier, Pat Dougherty, Andrew Walton*

This grant funded a field trip for 45 students to the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy Floating Classroom program at Green Lane Park. The trip included environmental education experiences at Green Lane Park that tied into the environmental science curriculum. Each year students have attended, they have raved about this hands-on experience as a highlight of their environmental education coursework.

Fluxspace Trip

North Penn High School, *Nicole Garritt, Amy Amato*

Post-12 students were given the opportunity to explore Fluxspace for future career options. Fluxspace supports educators with innovative learning environments, hands-on STEM tools and programs, expert consulting, and professional development. Fluxspace is passionate about creating transformative learning environments and experiences that promote the skills necessary for students to thrive in the 21st-century.

DUI Informational Assembly

North Penn High School, *Kenneth Bui*

This grant funded a donation to the Trooper Branden Cisca Foundation as part of the Annual DUI Reenactment and Follow-Up Assembly. These are powerful events for the Senior Class of NPHS. The Follow-Up Assembly featured State Trooper Ross Greenwood, who shared an informational and compelling presentation about the real consequences of DUI through a story of friendship and decision-making.

Orchestra Students Learn to Tune

Bridle Path, Gwyn-Nor, Hatfield, Knapp, Kulp, Montgomery, Nash, North Wales, Oak Park, Walton Farm, and York Ave Elementary, Pennbrook and Pennfield Middle School, *Sonya Hoffman*

Students at NPSD elementary and middle schools learnt how to tune their own instruments using Snark clip-on tuners. Tuning instruments is the first step in any strings class or orchestra rehearsal, and learning how to tune one's instrument is an integral part of musicianship and music performance.

Indoor Recess Games

Knapp Elementary, *Brittany Jones*

This grant provided screen-free Indoor Recess Kits to all classrooms at Knapp Elementary School, reaching approximately 700 students in grades K-6. The kits include board games, building and STEM sets, and movement-based activities that encourage physical activity, creativity, and teamwork during indoor recess. Students can engage in active, cooperative, and screen-free play, supporting their social-emotional growth and improving focus in the classroom. This initiative ensures that every student has equitable access to fun, hands-on learning and social interaction, even when the weather keeps them indoors.

Peer Connections Mentorship Program

Knapp Elementary, Pennbrook Middle School, North Penn High School, *Kristy Johnson, Katie Grunmeier*

The Peer Connections Mentorship Program pairs high school leadership students with elementary and middle school peers to build confidence, social skills, and positive relationships. Mentorship sessions include team-building and problem-solving activities, fostering collaboration and real-world application of critical skills. The program also provides high school students with hands-on leadership experience while strengthening a school culture of empathy, respect, and community.



Cooking Class with Empanada Mama

Pennfield Middle School, *Jennifer Ainge*

Students in Spanish 1 and 2 at Pennfield got to take a fun empanada cooking class hosted by Kendall Bajek, owner of Empanada Mama in Doylestown. This gave students experience making their own empanadas while learning about the history of this cuisine and what it is like to be an entrepreneur.

Illuminating Creativity: Monochromatic Action Silhouettes

Pennfield Middle School, *Vanessa Ebert*

This grant provided Pennfield Middle School art students with classroom lightboxes, acrylic paint pens, and a new drying rack to enhance creative learning. These tools allowed students to accurately trace action poses, explore monochromatic color gradients, and safely preserve their paintings during the art-making process. The project strengthened students' understanding of movement, color value, and design. This investment will support hands-on, engaging art experiences for hundreds of North Penn students each year.

Earth Dome

Montgomery Elementary, Rachel Sherwood

This grant funded the installation of an immersive, large-scale model of the Earth designed to enrich students' understanding of geography and global awareness. While students currently have access to traditional globes, this larger model allows all learners to view and explore the planet in a more engaging, tangible way. Through interactive observation and discussion, students can strengthen their spatial awareness, expand their vocabulary, and gain a deeper appreciation for the world around them.

Monster Sewing Project

Gwyn-Nor and Gwynedd Square Elementary, Pennbrook and Penndale Middle School, Lauren Ewaniuk and Florence Wydra-Gat

The Monster Project program is a unique collaboration for ninth grade family and consumer science students and first graders at Gwyn Nor and Gwynedd Square. First graders get to use their own creative skills to color and design a monster. The patterns are then sent to Pennbrook and Penndale where the FCS majors use their pattern layout and sewing skills to make the monsters into small stuffies for the first graders.



EZY Rollers

York Avenue Elementary, Von Muller

EZY Rollers are fun, scooter-like vehicles powered by leg movement, promoting balance, coordination, and core strength. By adding this engaging equipment, students can develop key physical skills while increasing enthusiasm for movement and lifelong fitness. EZY Rollers offer an inclusive, noncompetitive activity that motivates all learners, regardless of skill level, to participate and move. This addition diversifies PE instruction, improves motor development, and supports North Penn School District's goals for student wellness and physical literacy.

Indoor Recess Supplies

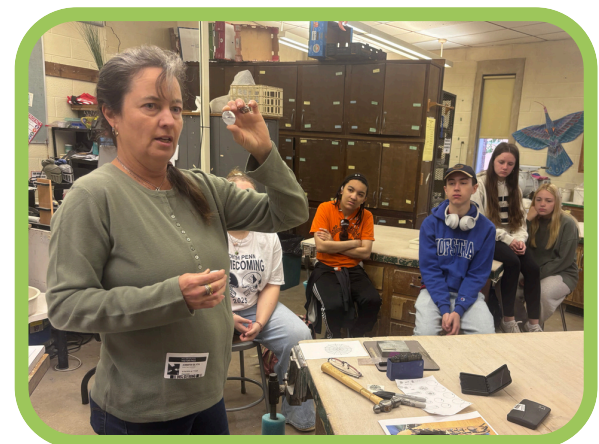
York Avenue Elementary, Lauren Kratz

This grant provided first graders at York Avenue supplies for indoor recess fun. Students can enjoy the opportunity to play games together without the use of technology. Options include building with learning blocks, playing together with cars and dolls, and learning how to play games together.

Metal Stamping with Professional Jewelry Artist

North Penn High School, Joanne Carrick

Professional jeweler and teaching artist, Jen Blythe, visited the 3D Art & Design classrooms at North Penn High School to lead a hands-on metal stamping workshop. Students in grades 10-12 learned how to design and create their own personalized, wearable metal art pieces such as keychains and jewelry. Through this experience, they gained exposure to professional jewelry techniques, deepened their understanding of 3D design, and explored art as a potential career path. The workshop enhanced both their technical skills and creative confidence.



Building Creativity: LEGO Printmaking in the Knapp Art Room **Knapp Elementary, *Laura Kozdra***

This grant provided Knapp Elementary students with LEGO bricks and baseplates to explore hands-on printmaking in art class. Students got to design, build, and experiment with textures and patterns, creating unique prints while developing skills in creativity, problem-solving, and spatial reasoning. The project connects art to STEM concepts and encourages collaboration, reflection, and iterative design. With durable, reusable materials, this program will engage students for years to come, inspiring innovation and joyful learning in the visual arts.



Innovating Ceramics: 3D Clay Printing for the 21st Century Studio **North Penn High School, *Maggie Horvath***

North Penn High School ceramics students are shaping the future... literally. With the addition of a new ceramic 3D printer (PotterBot 10 Pro), students can design and print with real clay, fusing traditional craftsmanship with cutting-edge technology. Each year, about 15-20 Ceramics 3 students will lead the charge in creating innovative 3D-printed works, while nearly 200 more will experience the printer in action and be inspired to push their creativity further. This project goes beyond standard educational goals to prepare every student for success through imagination, innovation, and hands-on discovery.

Using Anchoring Phenomena in the Science Classroom **Penndale Middle School, *Megan Duntzee***

This grant brought hands-on physics into the 8th-grade integrated Science classrooms at Penndale Middle School with the use of 20 Kollide games. This active, manipulative game serves as a high-interest anchoring phenomenon, allowing approximately 430 eighth grade science students to physically model and investigate the essential concepts of Forces and Motion, including a review of contact forces (Newton's Laws) and a new understanding of the underlying principles that govern non-contact forces, like magnetism. By engaging with this game, students can move beyond abstract concepts to directly observe and question how forces cause motion, enhancing their scientific inquiry skills and deepening their mastery of the new STEELS standards in a fun, collaborative way.

District-Wide Culture Clubs for Fifth and Sixth Graders **District-Wide, *David Yeum, Stephanie Levitt***

This grant allowed schools to pilot cultural clubs across the district for upper elementary school students. In the various cultural clubs, students celebrated the diverse world we live in by exploring different traditions, foods, music, and stories from various countries and backgrounds. The clubs are a fantastic way to foster global awareness, promote inclusivity, and give students a fun, hands-on space to learn about and appreciate the rich tapestry of our global community.



Engineering Projects in Community Service **North Penn High School, *Mike Boyer***

Students in the Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS) Club learned about the engineering design process while becoming civically engaged to improve the community. The club used their engineering skills to benefit the community at-large.

The Future is N.E.A.R. (Nanotechnology Education and Research) **North Penn High School, Mike Boyer**

The Future is N.E.A.R. (Nanotechnology Education and Research) is a STEM education research program that parallels the senior capstone course, Engineering Design and Development (EDD), of the North Penn High School Engineering Academy. With this grant, students have the necessary resources to work in design teams, utilizing a combination of creative problem-solving and the latest published research to improve the human condition by developing solutions to global energy, environmental, and healthcare issues that capitalize on the fundamentals of nanotechnology and the latest cutting-edge engineering research.

Gravity Well Demonstration **North Penn High School, James Bauman**

The Gravity Well allows students visiting the planetarium to understand how gravity works in a tactile sense. They can see why planets orbit the Sun in circular paths and why those paths are not perfect circles. Planetarium visitors can then use what they have learned from the Gravity Well to better understand how our solar system fits together.



English Learners Visit the Philadelphia Zoo **Pennbrook, Penndale, and Pennfield Middle School, North Penn High School, Jodie MacDonald, Daniel Ferrarello, Molly Hackman, Ryan Collins, Megan Jermain, Barbara Wall, Jeremy Wall, Deborah Bovell, Josephine Puglia-Robison, Patricia Bjerring**

English Learners at Pennbrook Middle School, Penndale Middle School, Pennfield Middle School, and NPHS attended a field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo. Students were taught about animals and their habitats before going on the field trip and were then able to practice their English communication skills while on the field trip. After the trip, students were given the opportunity to create a project or presentation in which they described what they learned about the zoo animals.

Pennbrook Art Club **Pennbrook Middle School, Anne Pearcey**

The Art Club at Pennbrook designed and created a wall mural celebrating the Lenape Tribe, the original inhabitants of the North Wales area. This project engaged approximately 40 students in grades 7-9, fostering creativity, collaboration, and cultural awareness. Through hands-on art-making and research, students explored the Lenape's deep connection to nature and local history. The completed mural will serve as a lasting visual tribute, educating the entire North Penn community about the region's Indigenous heritage while instilling pride and respect for cultural diversity.



Adapting and Developing Theatre **Northbridge, Olutobi Tella**

Students from Northbridge attended a rehearsal for the Philadelphia Theatre Company's production of Caesar, an adaptation of Julius Caesar, giving them the opportunity to observe the process of creating a theatrical piece. They got to attend a full performance of Caesar when it premiered during the Julius Caesar unit, allowing them a firsthand experience of how adaptation can change and amplify elements of a text.

Hatfield Mural Arts Project

Hatfield Elementary, *Catherine Munck*

The Hatfield Mural Arts Program is a collaborative art project that values the positive benefits that the visual arts bring to communities. Students in grades K-6 worked together with members of their school community to create and paint murals throughout the school. The mural project fostered community through collaboration as well as belonging and academic engagement through participation. Access to collaborative art projects benefits all and can truly help the positive growth of a school community.

All Aboard the ESL Express!

Kulp Elementary, *Becky Cucuzza, Nicole MacIntosh*

ESL students at Kulp Elementary got to take a trip to the New Hope Railroad. This trip provided an enriching, hands-on educational experience, supporting both academic growth and personal development while connecting classroom learning to real-world experiences.

North Penn Community Art Displays

District-Wide, *Jacqueline Giammarco and the K-12 Art Department*

The North Penn Community Art Displays showcase K-12 student artwork from North Penn schools in local community spaces. The community displays engage students in creating, preparing, and installing their artwork, with opportunities to rotate exhibits and expand to additional community partners in future years. Students gained hands-on experience in curation, presentation, and collaboration, while building pride in their creative work. Families and community members got to celebrate exhibit “launch” events, fostering connections and celebrating student achievement, strengthening school-community partnerships, and inspiring students to see their creativity beyond the classroom.



Capturing Every Story

Pennbrook Middle School, *Sarah Diehl, Julianne Lowenstein*

The Yearbook Club is all about capturing the spirit and stories of our school, from the big events to the everyday moments that make our community unique. With more than 30 creative student photographers serving a school of 760, Pennbrook was limited by only one shared camera. Grant funds purchased a new DSLR camera, giving more students the chance to learn hands-on photography skills, document school life, and bring fresh perspectives to our yearbook pages. This project boosted creativity, teamwork, and real-world media experience while helping students tell the diverse, dynamic story of the school like never before.

The Bridge Club

North Wales Elementary, *Shardae Jones*

The Bridge Club is an after-school group designed to support belonging, identity, and leadership among students of color at our school. Through diverse literature, art activities, discussion, and community-building experiences, students have a space where their voices and perspectives are celebrated. The club promotes North Penn's four E's by ensuring belonging, elevating learning, engaging community partnerships, and helping students exceed expectations. This grant provided funding for books, reflection journals, art supplies, and other materials for ongoing collaborative learning.

League of Nations

Hatfield Elementary, *Monisha Mukerji, Andrea Swan, Maile Erwin, Danielle Broadhurst, Danielle Deskiewicz, Cam Randleman*

This grant purchased international flags representing the students of Hatfield, that line the hallways of the building to make everyone feel welcome and included, regardless of their country of origin, culture, language, race, or ethnicity. Students and visitors alike recognize that they are members of a global community, with the knowledge and acceptance of people from all corners of the world.

The York Avenue Game Shelf

York Avenue Elementary, *Hannah Gendron*

The York Avenue Game Cart provides teachers with a meaningful, screen-free way to engage students during indoor recess. Instead of computer time, students have the opportunity to play a variety of hands-on games that promote collaboration, problem-solving, and critical thinking.

Visual Captioning

District-Wide, *Bob Gillmer*

This grant purchased Media Scribe, ensuring that students, parents, and residents who are hard of hearing or English language learners can fully engage with events in the NPHS Auditorium and ESC Conference Room A. Captions and translated text are automatically generated and displayed on-screen or accessible through companion devices, ensuring that important information is communicated clearly and accurately to all audiences. The unit supports multiple languages and offers seamless integration with video-on-demand libraries, enabling families to access translated and captioned content at their convenience.

Kindergarten Dramatic Play Centers

Nash Elementary, *Morgan Klein*

Dramatic play encourages children to think creatively and problem-solve. It allows them to explore different scenarios, consider multiple perspectives, and use their imagination to navigate complex situations. Through dramatic play, children practice and expand their vocabulary as they take on different roles and engage in conversation with peers. Dramatic play encourages children to role-play various emotions and situations, helping them understand and express their own feelings while also developing empathy for others. When children engage in dramatic play with others, they often encounter challenges that require them to work together to solve problems.

Kangaroo Club

York Avenue Elementary, *Von Muller*

The Kangaroo Club at York Avenue benefits all K-6 students. It is a jump rope program that encourages students to participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity while improving coordination. This grant enhanced the program by distributing wristbands to students who achieve different milestones for jump roping, as well as gifting them their own jump rope to encourage physical activity outside of school.

You Look Simply Radiant

North Penn High School, *John Collier, Patrick Dougherty, Wesley Hoffner*

The world of chemistry is often hard to visualize, but this grant takes the sub-microscopic world and makes it visible for our students. Through the use of a portable Geiger Counter, students will now be able to see the radiation around us every day.

Math LCD Boards for Everyday Use **Pennbrook Middle School, Erica Wittig**

Seventh grade math students got a classroom enhancement with 8-inch reusable LCD boards for problem-solving activities like Kahoot and daily warm-ups. These boards offer a sustainable solution with a click-to-erase feature and replaceable batteries, ensuring year-round use. Their compact size allows for easy storage and quick access, helping students consistently show their work as they prepare for the PSSA tests and build upon their test-taking skills.

Courtyard Beautification **Penndale Middle School, Christina Hazzard**

This grant enhanced the outdoor courtyard at Penndale Middle School. The space was transformed into a peaceful spot to decompress and an inviting outdoor space for classrooms to venture outside and learn.

Hands in Clay: Creating Storytelling Tiles Through Ceramics **Pennfield Middle School, Vanessa Ebert, Cari Taylor**

This project allowed students to explore the art of ceramics while connecting personal narratives and cultural storytelling to visual art. Through this unit, students designed and created their own clay tiles, embedding unique designs, symbols, and textures that reflect their identity and imagination.



The Next Act: Modernizing Theater and Media Production **Penndale Middle School, Mark Urmson**

This grant provided the PDTV Studio and Theater program with essential technology, including a 14-inch MacBook Pro, a Focusrite Scarlett 2i2 Studio audio interface, and a Panasonic AG-CX350 4K Camcorder. These tools enabled students to record high-quality video, capture professional-grade audio, and edit their productions using industry-standard technology. By modernizing the studio, this grant ensures that students gain hands-on experience with professional tools, fostering creativity, technical skills, and real-world learning opportunities.

Book Vending Machine **Gwyn-Nor Elementary, Melissa Lestrangle**

This grant purchased a book vending machine for the front lobby of Gwyn-Nor. This provided students with the opportunity to read in a fun and creative way while building their libraries at home. The vending machine utilizes golden tokens aligned to the school PBIS statements, promoting positive student interactions and behaviors.

Yoga Club **Bridle Path Elementary, Heather Calarco**

Bridle Path now offers a yoga practice to 4th, 5th, and 6th graders after school. Taught through an inclusive and trauma-informed lens, students can experience new and different ways to stretch, breathe, and meditate with yoga and SEL practices. The goal is to help students learn strategies to better self-regulate as they navigate their physical and mental growth. "Shanti, Shanti, Shanti", Peace within, with each other, and with the universe.

Hydroponics in the Classroom

Gwynedd Square Elementary, *Derek Fickert*

Hydroponics presents an excellent opportunity for students to explore the technology involved in indoor agriculture. Through the utilization of this grant, students engaged in practical learning experiences focused on sowing and harvesting crops in an indoor environment. This enabled them to appreciate the feasibility of cultivating plants, even in apartment or urban settings. The crops produced will serve dual purposes: enhancing the school's indoor and outdoor environments while also providing the community with a space to harvest produce from the school garden.

Help our Unified Teams Look Unified!

North Penn High School, *Sue Ahart, Andrea Dasch, Kerry Byrnes, Jimmy Groff*

The purchase of Unified Sports jackets helps to promote these Special Olympics groups by creating an inclusive look for all students involved. Anyone walking the hallways can recognize that those wearing these jackets are involved in unified activities. These jackets help to keep all athletes and partners warm and able to compete at their peak performance, leaving their competition in the dust.

Reading Super Bowl

All Elementaries, North Penn High School, *Tracy Cliver and Cheryl Neubert*

The Reading Super Bowl is a district-wide event where North Penn football players go out to all 13 elementary schools. The student athletes serve as role models for literacy while reading to over 6,000 of our elementary school students. The day is filled with excitement from both sides as we join together in celebration of reading!

The Kindness Collection: Crafting Connection, One Bead at a Time

Pennbrook Middle School, *Rachel Perry*

The Kindness Collection provided jewelry-making supplies for middle school students in a special education classroom, enabling them to create meaningful gifts for others. This project promotes fine motor skill development, social-emotional growth, and academic skills like planning and writing. Students designed and shared their creations as acts of gratitude, fostering a stronger sense of unity and empathy within the classroom and school community.

Display Cases for Environmental Science

North Penn High School, *Patrick Dougherty*

This grant purchased cases for display in environmental science classrooms to help students identify native species. This helps students recognize the biodiversity typically found in this area. These display cases help students see actual samples in person rather than on a screen.

Hands-On Environmental Science Learning Experience at Pennypack

North Penn High School, *Patrick Dougherty*

The Pennypack Trust is a private, non-profit land conservancy located in Huntingdon Valley that encompasses over 800 acres of protected meadows, woodlands, and floodplain forests. This partnership between NPHS and PERT offered students learning opportunities that they would not get otherwise. Students were able to get hands-on experience from experts in multiple fields of Environmental Science.

Night of Jazz

District-Wide, *Scott Blanke, Dave DiValentino, Charlie DiCarne, Bob Kennedy, Tim Jernigan, Allison Kershner, Jordan Faikish*

The annual Night of Jazz is an evening for all seven North Penn Jazz groups (Bridle Path/Knapp, Gwynedd Square/Inglewood, Pennfield, Penndale, Pennbrook, and NPHS; 150-175 total students) to come together and celebrate the great tradition of jazz in the district. The evening provides an opportunity for the performers and their families to hear each of the North Penn Jazz Ensembles in one venue. Each year, the Night of Jazz features a different guest jazz artist who spends rehearsal and clinic time with each group and performs one selection with each group at the culminating concert.

Studio Artist Demos

North Penn High School, *Joanne Carrick*

NP alum and local artists showcased a variety of art-making techniques to help students understand different processes and career paths within the visual arts. As part of the photography curriculum, students engaged with photographer Steve Boyle to explore both creative and technical uses of flash, along with insights into photography careers. Glass artist Andrew Leventhal introduced students to glass blowing and torch techniques, while also discussing his work in making scientific glass and selling art at craft shows. Sculptor Nate Aderman demonstrated a mold-making process and shared his experience creating custom 3D trophies through his business.



Symbols of a Nation: From the Constitution to the Coins

All Middle Schools and North Penn High School, *Josephine Puglia-Robison, Lauren Michener, Deb Bovell, Christie Keown, Jeremy Wall, Karen Diehl, Molly Hackman, Jodie MacDonald, Daniel Ferrarello, Barbara Wall*

Students who are new to our country got to expand their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, its historical context, and its influence on American government and society through interactive exhibits at the National Constitution Center. By visiting the U.S. Mint, students observed the coin-making process and explored the federal government's role in currency production and economic stability. The experience allowed students to reflect on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, as well as the impact of historical decisions on modern civic life.

Light Console for Pennfield Theater

Pennfield Middle School, *Pennfield Music Staff*

Ensuring that the arts maintain a positive influence in education requires us to equip our students with modern technology and technical arts education. One of the leading technologies in modern theater is the use of state-of-the-art lighting. This project funded the purchase of a new light board with the necessary components to run a fully functional theater and music program.

Coding and Biotechnology

Pennbrook Middle School, *Andrew Hollstein, Diana Rickert*

In the world of tomorrow, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) will be critical in providing food for the global population. Students were challenged with developing a closed autonomous system that will control a watering system to help plants grow, but also efficiently maintain the water supply as to not waste water. Students researched, designed, and developed not only the system that waters the plants, but the code that operates the system.

Coral Reef Exploration and Conservation

North Penn High School, *Daniel Krueger*

This grant funded the addition of live marine organisms and microorganisms to a saltwater aquarium designed and built by North Penn High School marine science students. The living reef system serves as a hands-on educational tool, allowing students to study coral reef ecology, biodiversity, and conservation in real time. By transforming the classroom into a living lab, this project deepened student engagement and supported key science standards through authentic, inquiry-based learning.

Midnight on the Water- Bringing Folk to StringsFest

District-Wide, *Kaylee Santanello and the NPSD Orchestra Department*

This grant funded a unique educational collaboration between North Penn School District string students and the professional folk trio Midnight on the Water. Students rehearsed and performed a specially commissioned piece alongside the trio at the annual North Penn Strings Festival. The project enhanced student musicianship, introduced folk traditions, and provided a rare opportunity to learn from and perform with professional artists.

Creating Calming Corners for Emotional Wellness

Knapp Elementary, *Amanda Blocklinger*

Calming corners at Knapp Elementary help students manage their emotions in a safe and supportive space. These quiet areas give kids the chance to take a break, reflect on their feelings, and use tools to calm down. This helps reduce classroom disruptions and supports a positive learning environment. By encouraging self-regulation, calming corners also build students' confidence and emotional awareness.

Project F.I.S.H. (Future Investigations in Saltwater Habitats)

North Penn High School, *Shane Misuro*

Project F.I.S.H. is diving into action at North Penn High School! This grant brought vibrant marine fish into our student-run aquariums, giving Marine Science students the opportunity to study behavior, biology, and ecosystems in real-time. With every tank they maintained, students gained valuable skills in marine care, environmental science, and scientific research.

Fight Global Warming

Pennbrook Middle School, *Christine Merola, Lauren Calamia*

This grant encouraged eighth grade students to try to save the planet. With the Global Warming board game, students got to come up with solutions to various environmental challenges to try to limit and even reduce their impact on the planet. Using the skills they gained from the game, they created their own solutions to a real-life environmental issue, allowing them to learn to be great stewards of this planet that we call home.

Advanced Level 3D Printing and Design

Pennfield Middle School, *Jeff Testa, Scott Thompson*

Students at Pennfield Middle School got to use Quad filament 3D printers to create dynamic models that can show part designation through the use of color. Designs were researched and developed by the students and then created using a 3D printer.