

2020-2021 FUNDED GRANTS



**NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

A Note from the Trustees:

For this year's grants the North Penn School District Educational Foundation awarded 14 grants totaling \$67,242. Grants like these not only enhance the curriculum, but provide a hands-on and 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.

Global Virtual Speaker Series

North Penn High School, *Dave Hall and Bob McCreary*

North Penn students went on a virtual tour to meet students their age in South Africa, Costa Rica, and the Dominican Republic. They also got to visit with former and current inmates while learning about criminal justice. This grant brought the world to a sociology class through a virtual environment.

Mystery Science

Inglewood Elementary School, *Terri Klein and Brynn Hoffman*

Fifty-six fourth grade students at Inglewood benefitted from a year-long membership to Mystery Science, an online science program that is perfect for remote learning. Students will learn elementary science through engaging videos that start with a question and allow opportunities for discussion and further questions. Every lesson concludes with a hands-on activity that can be done at home or in the classroom.

NPTV Studio

North Penn High School, *Bob Gillmer*

The NPSD Educational Foundation provided a professional-grade news studio for the students in the Broadcasting and Video Production classes. This 40-foot wrap-around set and news desk incorporates state-of-the-art graphics in every story, allowing students to produce newscasts and programs in a professional environment.



STEM



Science



Human Services



Technology



Mathematics



**English Language
Development**



Reading/Writing



Other



Social Studies



Guidance



**Technology Education
and Engineering**



Music and Arts

Building Math and STEM Skills While Remaining Socially Distant



Extended School Care- All Elementary Schools, *Marjorie Scott*

The Extended School Care Program used this grant to purchase single-player games and logic puzzles which the children in the program could use during the COVID-19 pandemic. This allowed program participants to remain engaged and active when social distancing was required. These games and activities allowed students to reinforce critical thinking skills, build creative approaches to problem solving, and improve spatial abilities.

How is our Water Kept Clean?



North Penn High School, *John Collier*

Didn't I hear once that when I drink water, those same molecules used to be dinosaur pee? Isn't last week's shower next week's drinking water? How does that work? This grant showed North Penn students how groundwater gets filtered, and how our drinking water gets processed through the use of a great model. That model was then used in AP environmental science classes, as well as with elementary-aged students around the district.

Stories by Language Learners



North Penn High School, *Cara Lewis, Lauren Michener, Jodie MacDonald, Molly Hackman*

The NPHS English language development department used Book Creator to help language learners improve their writing and speaking skills with an innovative app. The students created different types of books, from content-related projects to personal narratives and memoirs. At the end of the year, teachers selected a few of the best books to be printed and bound for future students to enjoy.

Engineering Projects in Community Service Research Endeavors



North Penn High School, *Mike Boyer*

This grant purchased Elmo cameras, which became an integral part of the teaching equipment, supporting approximately 500 NPHS technology & engineering education students annually. Students of all learning styles and abilities benefitted from greater access to resources and live lessons that enhanced and improved their educational experiences.

**EITC + YOUR BUSINESS + NPSD + OUR STUDENTS
= A WINNING COMBINATION**

The NPSD Educational Foundation has been approved by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) as an Educational Improvement Organization (EIO), meaning that our organization can accept Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC makes it affordable for you to contribute to the education of Pennsylvania's children and make a footprint in our community.

Screening and Follow-Up Activities of the Movie "Like"

NPSD Middle Schools and North Penn High School, *Lauri Schofield*

With social isolation and core changes, safe and responsible social media use is a healthy way of staying connected. By viewing the documentary "Like", students and staff heard the effects of social media and the unhealthy relationships they may have. Secondary students can use this to make choices to change or reinforce the healthiest use of social media.

Cake Decorating

Penndale Middle School, *Florence Wydra-Gat*

Students participated in STEAM learning and career exploration while baking and decorating cupcakes using various techniques taught by their Family and Consumer Sciences teacher. Each student used a cupcake decorating set, as well as their own supplies to use math and science in baking and making icing. They also used their fine motor skills with a variety of icing tips to create a design of their choice.

StringKnights' Virtual Performance Aids

Pennbrook and Pennfield Middle Schools, *David Pimentel*

This grant purchased and distributed advanced musical performance technical aids that were used with students' chromebooks to provide students with the ability to create a quality musical performance. The students got to record their musical performances with USB condenser microphones that were used in live performances as well as pre-recorded presentations.

Books about Race and Ethnicity for Elementary Students

Knapp Elementary School, *Amanda Blocklinger*

This grant helped the diverse population of 580 students at Knapp by giving educators age-appropriate, diverse literature that allows underrepresented students to see themselves in stories. The diverse literature packs included lesson plans to help Knapp staff guide and facilitate conversations about race within the classroom. The project allows all students to see new perspectives and helps foster empathy and acceptance for others who may appear different than them.

PA Shakespeare Festival: Virtual WillPower Tour and Theatre Workshops



NPSD Middle Schools and North Penn High School, *Andrea Lee Roney*

The PA Shakespeare Festival: WillPower Tour has visited NPHS five times in the last fifteen years, bringing a live, 85-minute version of Shakespeare plays performed by professional actors to NPSD middle and high school students with accompanying workshops in performance and analysis. This year the production went virtual, which provided access to more students in the North Penn School District, and enhanced virtual learning.

Robotics Club



NPSD Middle Schools, North Penn High School, Northbridge, *Frank Torrente*

The North Penn Robotics Club competed in For Inspiration in Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics challenges. These challenges enhanced the students' STEM skills as they got the opportunity to learn directly from industry engineers. Skills that the students learned include: matching metals, assembling robots, programming, electrical wiring, and applying pneumatic. The funds from this grant were used to purchase supplies used for these challenges.

Document Cameras to Enhance STEM/Engineering Education for Lab-Based Classes



North Penn High School, *Curt Reichwein*

This grant purchased Elmo cameras, which became an integral part of the teaching equipment, supporting approximately 500 NPHS technology & engineering education students annually. Students of all learning styles and abilities benefitted from greater access to resources and live lessons that enhanced and improved their educational experiences.

THE NPSD EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION & THE NP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

In 2012, the NPSD Educational Foundation, in conjunction with NPSD administration launched the North Penn Alumni Association as a committee of the Foundation. The association's mission is to encourage networking and communication among North Penn School District alumni and to help maintain and enhance the legacy of North Penn schools for future generations. We hope to see more graduates join us for NPSD and Foundation events, attend reunions, and stay informed on the happenings of the district.

We see that NPHS graduates do great things, but what is the most amazing is the pride one takes in saying they are a graduate of North Penn High School. Whether a member of the Class of 2021, or someone who is celebrating their 50th reunion, alumni see North Penn High School as a place that helped to shape them into whom they are today. We are confident that with the support of the community and the 40,000+ NPHS graduates, the North Penn Alumni Association will leave a lasting effect on our students and the North Penn school district. For more information, please visit www.northpennalumni.org.