

2016-17 APPROVED FLEF GRANTS

School/ District	Grant Title	Brief Description	Approved
WAS	iPads: Providing Educational and Motivating Learning Opportunities	Access to iPads in the classroom would allow us to utilize applications that are designed to promote and provide practice with fundamental skills, in a variety of different ways. iPads will allow our students to access the curriculum in fun and exciting ways, and contribute to their learning in a classroom in new ways. A wide range of applications are now available, improving behavioral, academic, and organizational skills.	\$1,824
WAS	Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk CT	Throughout November and December, teachers provide instruction addressing plant and animal observation and the diversity of life in different habitats. Together, the classes would like to visit the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, CT to experience the underwater habitats they will learn about in the Animal Habitats Science unit.	\$1,235
CRS	Thanks 4 the Feedback	Thanks for the Feedback is a professional resource that explains why receiving feedback is so crucial yet so challenging, offering a simple framework and powerful tools to help teachers provide students with meaningful and effective feedback. To be implemented via a guided inquiry book club with sharing during faculty and team meetings.	\$550
CRS	Empowering 21st Century Learners	A model of instruction and assessment will be introduced based on a combination of cognitive skills (skills students will need to succeed academically), and conative skills (skills students will need to succeed interpersonally), necessary for the 21st century.	\$6,500
CRS	Beyond Book Smart: Executive Functioning	Longstanding research clearly shows the correlation between Executive Function (the skillset of self-control, organization, planning, task initiation and completion, and cognitive flexibility) and future success. EF is a better predictor of success than IQ or SES. EF training will focus on helping students manage goals and time, set goals with tangible and intangible success criteria, balance tactical and strategic goals, utilize time and manage workload efficiently, and work independently.	\$1,200
CRS HMR WAS	Historical Clay Vessels	3rd Grade students will create a functional clay vessel indicative of a specific time period and culture, based on student interest and research. Students in SLD and CAPS will create an accommodated or modified clay vessel version with collaborative support from occupational therapy, speech and paraeducators.	\$3,172
CRS	Small Shapes Desks with White Dry Erase Tops	Whiteboard tables support a number of pedagogical practices including collaborative learning, group discussion and small teacher-led group teaching. These tables allow children and teachers to be creative with learning. The break apart version supports group or independent work. Students are able to quickly show their work and transfer their answers through the teaching of concept development.	\$4,249
District	Soar into STEM with Flybrix Kits!	This grant seeks to implement Flybrix drone kits into the Discovery Program in the elementary schools and the STEM lab at FAMS. "Flybrix Kits let you easily build any drone you dream up using LEGO® bricks. After you master the basics, you'll be ready to experiment with your own designs. Flybrix is specifically designed to challenge everybody – from grade school to grad school."	\$1,868
CRS HMR WAS	From Consumer to Creator: Enrichment iPad 4 minis	This grant proposes an educational shift in the ways in which students utilize iPad technology. It provides experiences for them to advance from passively consuming information on the iPad to actively creating with it, challenging students to critically think about and present information while reflecting on their learning, using 21st century methods.	\$6,499
CRS HMR WAS	Osmo Technology	Osmo is a powerful technology tool, consisting of a base and a red reflector that are used with an iPad. The reflector enables the iPad to read the environment in front of it. Powered by Artificial Intelligence, the reflector brings real-life actions and movements into the digital world on the iPad. Curiosity Corner students currently engage in physics, spatial reasoning, and language activities using Osmo technology.	\$870
CRS	iPad mini 4 32gb	This grant will provide upgraded iPads, iPad covers, and money towards apps and audiobooks to replace the iPads provided to our classes over 5 years ago. The iPads have become an integral part of our teaching, and its apps afford another avenue to differentiate and individualize instruction for our students. We wish to upgrade our equipment and expand topics in Science and Social Studies.	\$5,123
CRS	K Imagination Playground add on sets	This grant will build upon the set of Imagination Playground Blocks granted across the District last year. Imagination Playground offers add on sets to enhance the creativity of the children in their design process. Angles, Curves, and Connectors sets would be offered to extend creations and stretch imaginations.	\$7,578
CRS	2017 AOTA Annual Conference & Centennial Celebration	The District's two OTs would like to attend the 2017 American Occupational Therapy Association conference. The sessions will target areas such as working with students with special needs in schools, using technology, improving handwriting and much more. Attendance at this conference will help us to continue to provide the most current and best practice models of therapy for our students.	\$1,876

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CRS HMR WAS	Museum of Mathematics Field Trip	The Museum of Mathematics' exhibits, gallery and programs will stimulate inquiry, spark curiosity, and reveal the wonders of mathematics. MoMath has innovative exhibits that engage folks from 105 to 5 years old, with a special emphasis on activities for Grades 4-8. Our students will have a private educator-led, hands-on session and then exploration time including an opportunity to visit the Robotic Exhibit.	\$5,520
HMR	Circus Around the World Residency	HMR has a continued school goal to incorporate culture and diversity into our daily instruction. The intent of Circus Around the World is to have an expert come and be immersed in a residency with our students and teachers that exposes them to an appreciation of culture through multiple curricular areas.	\$6,175
HMR	Math Station Materials	These non-consumable math station materials will increase differentiation in the First grade classrooms. Students learn best when provided with small group or one-to-one instruction. These materials support that method and strengthen the students' understanding of mathematical concepts.	\$1,189
HMR	Orff Ensemble Instruments	The Orff Schulwerk approach is one of several developmental approaches used in music education. It combines singing, movement, speech and instrumental playing into music lessons. Bells, glockenspiels, metallophones, xylophones and drums are used. Adding these high quality and varied musical instruments to our music program will allow more students to experience ensemble playing.	\$3,208
CRS HMR WAS	Sounds Like Fun	This 90 minute, in-school field trip will transform the classrooms into living laboratories! Kids become scientists and learn by doing the actual experiments. The programs are totally hands-on and completely participatory by each child. This grant would provide a program which aligns with our science unit on sound: Sounds Like Fun - Learn about the different types of sound. Discover what sounds actually are. Make sound travel through different media. Build your very own car drum. Make salt dance and water fly!	\$1,314
FAMS	iPADs in PE	The iPADs will be used to incorporate more technology into Physical Education (student laptops aren't allowed in the gym). Using various apps, students can use iPADs to help utilize and keep track of their fitness and performance skills. They can be a useful tool to help show students how to perform specific skills.	\$6,499
FAMS	FAMS Rock	This project is a continuation of the highly successful program funded by the FLEF for the last ten years. Teachers will coach rock bands made up of strictly FAMS students. The program will run from December 2016 through April 2017, culminating in a concert during which the students perform in a non-competitive environment.	\$1,200
FAMS	iPODs for Google Cardboard	FAMS owns 30 Google Cardboard Virtual Reality kits. In order to maximize efficiency and students' experience, we are asking to purchase 30 iPods. Google Cardboards allows students to experience virtual field trips to places which would otherwise require travel. In 6th Grade Social Studies, students can visit ancient ruin sites. In 7th Grade Science, students were able to travel to the Galapagos Islands to research the species that Darwin observed. Last year, students participated in this experience by using the Google Cardboard and teacher cell phones, which limited the whole class participation to only 1-2 students at a time. Whole class participation will allow all students to have a similar experience and enhance student engagement and discussion.	\$6,338
FAMS	New FAMS Live Interview Set	This grant will improve the quality of the set used for interviews in the FAMS TV studio. As part of the 8th Grade curriculum, students perform daily live broadcasts to the school and public. Our broadcast has an interview segment, designed to give students experience conducting live interviews with teachers, students and community members. This green screen set will dramatically improve the quality of our interview segment, which will, in turn improve the experience of the FAMS Live TV broadcast.	\$2,208
FAMS	Library Collaborative Space	The Library/Media Center is the hub of any middle school and FAMS is no different. An active center for information research, independent study and thirst for knowledge, the Library/Media Center is integrated with the needs of our curriculum. However, the current space lacks an area where students can work collaboratively and engage in creative and critical thinking projects. To this end, we would like to redefine the current Library classroom as a collaborative facility, where students can use the research they have gathered to communicate and collaborate on a project or design. The space would continue as a training and collaboration space for colleagues, coaches, and administration to develop and hone their teaching methodologies. The space would consist of moveable, comfortable furniture to support collaboration including small white board tables on wheels and cushioned seats on wheels. Televisions on opposite walls will display student projects and work.	\$11,337

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FAMS	MPR Stage Lights	This grant would provide the funds to replace the existing light system in the MPR with a much more efficient system. Our current light package is over 20 years old and has been repaired several times in the last decade. Currently, only 70% of the lights are functional and even these can't be repaired within the current infrastructure. Additionally most of the lights have dimmed over the years, making it difficult to properly light up assemblies, concerts, and other functions we host throughout the year.	\$26,800
DISTRICT	Building Learning Communities	This grant would fund the participation of three District STEM staff members at the Building Learning Communities conference in Boston this coming summer (July 26-28, 2017). "Join us in Boston, along with educators from more than 25 countries, to share in the joy and adventure of exploring practical innovation in learning. Led by Alan November, the BLC program is selected from among the very best educators, developers, and thinkers in the world." (BLC/November Learning website)	\$5,634
DISTRICT	Kindergarten Orientation Bags	Each year, the District welcomes our newest school community members at Kindergarten Orientation. This grant continues a program generously funded by FLEF for several years to make this transition as smooth as possible and prepare parents of our incoming K classes. Kindergarten Orientation Take Home Bags include a book to read aloud to our incoming Kindergarteners and an exciting family game to promote early literacy skills as families begin building the important bridge between home and school.	\$1,738
WAS	Faith Ringgold Skype Session	Author/illustrator Faith Ringgold is offering a new virtual visit to the classroom via Skype. The program is designed for a group of 40 students and contains an inspiring collection of digital materials by and about Ms. Ringgold.	\$500
WAS	Let's Get Reading	Providing a classroom library rich with books in various genres, content, writing styles and formats is pivotal to ensuring a love of reading in students. This grant will provide funds to purchase 4 magazine subscriptions and over 100 books, offering classroom reading materials that will increase the students' desire to read more regularly and introduce them to various styles of literature.	\$335
WAS	Wifi Digital Camera	This grant would fund a new Wifi digital camera to support connections with other classrooms and parents through twitter. Posts will show what the children are doing during the day, special events, and field trips. The classroom's iPods and iPads are getting old and don't have the quality pictures desired. At the end of the year, a DVD would be made for each student.	\$400
WAS	Kidney-Shaped Dry-Erase Tables	Whiteboard tables support a number of pedagogical practices including collaborative learning, group discussion and small, teacher led instruction. They allow children to be creative with learning, providing a place to display work for peers and teachers. Best of all, with the swipe of an eraser, students can modify their work and discover what happens when changes occur. The tables build student confidence and help to get them excited to learn and explore.	\$373
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WAS	Turtle Back Zoo Field Trip	The SLD program teaches the District's Science curriculum through whole group instruction. Because there are three grade levels included in the primary and the intermediate self-contained classes, unit lessons rotate among each grade's curriculum. November's and December's lessons focus on Grade 2/3 Biological Evolution, including plants and animal observation and the diversity of life in different habitats. A visit to the Turtle Back Zoo would support that instruction by allowing the students to experience a simulation of animals' natural habitats.	\$463
WAS	Poster Maker Materials	This grant would fund materials for the Poster Maker that was generously granted last year. Specifically, additional poster ink cartridges are needed. The Poster Maker has proven to be a success, enhancing the production of rubrics, classroom rules, graphic organizers, and bulletin boards. It has further assisted school organizations such as the PTA to support activities and advertise school events.	\$473
WAS	Imagination at Play	Play-based experiences are critical to help students build skills in many essential developmental areas including cognitive, social-emotional and physical growth. Our Kindergarten Social Studies curriculum incorporates character education and global citizenship education. It is critical for learners to become exposed to responsible roles in our community such as Police Officers, Firefighters, Restaurant Owners, Doctors, Mail Carriers, and Astronauts. These dress-up materials will enhance the Dramatic Play Center in the teacher's classroom.	\$401
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WAS	Mindfulness in the Classroom	In an effort to bring an increase of students' awareness of their own bodies and minds and help with decompression strategies (after recess or when stressed/upset), each grade level would be provided with a Tibetan singing bowl. The inspiration for the grant came from a Mindfulness workshop attended last year and the success another school district reported with this method.	\$175
CRS	Classroom Instruments	Last year, FLEF graciously funded the purchase of contrabass instruments and conga drums for use by an Orff Ensemble group made up of 5th graders. It was a great success. The Music program now has almost enough barred instruments for each class to use during instruction; 3 glockenspiels and some rhythmic instruments are still needed. Additionally, the grant would cover a ukulele, which many music classes have added to their program.	\$474
CRS	Scholastic Storyworks	This grant would provide each student with the opportunity to participate in the reading activities of the Storyworks issues, which will help to encourage a life-long love of reading and literature.	\$449
CRS	Markerboard Activity Table	Whiteboard tables allow children to be creative. In the Guidance office, this table will allow for collaboration between the counselor and students during counselor sessions. Students are able to express and explore different social situations through drawing and written expression.	\$236
CRS	Storybooks for Snacktime	<i>"There are many little ways to enlarge your world. Love of books is the best of all."</i> - Jacqueline Kennedy One "little way" to enlarge students' worlds is to purchase storybooks for snack time in the Resource room. These books hone reading skills such as predicting, making connections, vocabulary building and questioning.	\$389
CRS	iPad Apps for Kids	The grant would fund the purchase of an iTunes gift card to acquire additional and updated Apps for our iPads that were graciously funded by FLEF in 2012. iPads are frequently used with our students to engage, reinforce, assess and modify lessons. The iPad Apps will be used in daily lessons during reading, writing and math to afford students a more positive learning experience.	\$499
CRS	Community Based Instruction for Students with Autism Bowling	Students with Autism learn life skills within the classroom environment and then generalize the skills in the community. During this outing, students will work on math skills while they pay for their bowling games and later pay for their lunch. They will also work on skills such as locating the restroom and safety. Motor skills will be targeted as the kids bowl. Social skills will be targeted during communications with one another and staff at the bowling alley and restaurant.	\$225
CRS	Community Based Instruction for Students with Autism ShopRite	Students with Autism learn life skills within the classroom environment and then generalize the skills in the community. During the first outing, students will purchase snack items for the classroom and items to prepare a light lunch for their parents the following day. On the second outing, students will purchase items to host a reception after the 5th grade celebration and have lunch at a restaurant. Students will work on: reading skills using shopping lists; math skills paying for food and counting out items; behavioral skills while in the store and restaurant; and motor skills navigating a shopping cart.	\$450
CRS	Community Based Instruction for Students with Autism Paramus Park Mall	Students with Autism learn life skills within the classroom environment and then generalize the skills in the community. During this outing, students will purchase a holiday gift for a family member and eat lunch in the food court. To address parent concern about difficulty shopping with/for their children, students will also try on clothing and make a purchase for themselves. Math, behavioral, safety, language, and overall life skills will all be practiced and strengthened.	\$500
CRS	Community Based Instruction for Students with Autism Skyzone	Students with Autism learn life skills within the classroom environment and then generalize the skills in the community. During this outing, students will participate in an hour long jump session, developing leisure skill as well as increasing stamina. Students will work on math skills by paying, behavioral skills by following instruction and tolerating a loud environment, location and safety skills, motor skills by jumping, and social skills with their peers and Skyzone staff.	\$225
CRS	Scenes for Communication and Social Skills	Students with Autism and those with other language deficits benefit from repeated practice targeting appropriate communication through multi-disciplinary approaches. Apple iPad and Visual Scene Displays have proven to be successful visual tools in Speech and Language therapy. VSDs are "contextual rich images represented as pictures, photographs, line drawings, or images. (Wilkinson & Henning, 2009)" Language concepts such as vocabulary, utterance expansion, and social skills can be taught using these displays. Two scene based applications, <i>Snap Scene</i> and <i>Go Talk NOW</i> would be funded to support teaching communication skills.	\$260
CRS	Kindergarten Math Centers	This grant would fund centers for our Math program. After attending a workshop with our Math staff developer and reviewing last year's assessment data, we developed ideas to increase instruction in areas that need more attention. These centers will help extend our Math in Focus curriculum to include more comprehensive instruction in number bands, tens frames, and early addition and subtraction.	\$411

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CRS	MORE - Starfall Subscription renewal	The activities available through this subscription (previously funded by FLEF) will engage the children in letter, sound, and beginning math skill practice. This website also offers rhyming, beginning reader practice and songs, and a variety of science and social studies activities.	\$270
CRS	Kindergarten Sight Word Centers	Over the past several years, we have been working to create a Sight Word program that meets the needs of our young learners. This grant will provide the children with a variety of mediums to practice and learn sight words. Hands-on learning materials will help students develop a stronger grasp of recognizing and reading their words and also to begin to transfer these words into their writing.	\$497
CRS	Study.com	Study.com will supplement lessons in Social Studies, Science, and Language Arts through interactive learning. The facility uses expert instructors and great animators to bring concepts to life in short, 5-8 minute video lessons. There are over 15,000 videos that will engage students and help them quickly understand challenging concepts by visualizing the subject matter. The application can be used in a teacher-directed lesson or as an independent activity, with assessments for each. Study.com was piloted in 5th grade last year through a trial subscription.	\$480
CRS	Dock iT iPad Station	Utilizing iPad docking stations, we can create learning centers within our classrooms. These docking stations feature aluminum construction, multi-axis technology and 180 degree rotational viewing. The Powerstand will allow our students to use our iPads hands-free, while charging. Students can adjust the height of the stand to allow for comfortable viewing and manipulation while accessing applications to further instruction and learning. Docking stations will allow for specific working areas and movement within the classroom.	\$342
CRS	Books Aplenty, Books Galore!	This grant will infuse our classroom library with newer titles (fiction and nonfiction texts, graphics novels, and high interest, low level and chapter books) to meet the range of interests and reading levels of our students. These new books will give students the opportunity to choose independent reading books that pique their interest while applying comprehension strategies.	\$450
CRS	Flexible Seating	Best practices show that flexible seating has immediate benefits for students, increasing their attention and focus. NeoRok stools rock and tilt. Adding 5 Neo Rock stools will enhance our existing portfolio, which includes regular desks, whiteboard desks, U-shaped tables, regular chairs, non-rocking stools, and floor seating with pillows.	\$482
CRS	Think Fun!	This grant would provide children with educational games to further develop STEM skills and foster creative thinking. These games will stimulate brain development in logic, visual/spatial, math, language, focus and reasoning skills, preparing children to be 21st century thinkers. Additionally, the games allow for group play, which encourages students to work together, problem solve, and see other children's perspectives.	\$494
HMR	New K Apps	When each Kindergarten classroom received 5 iPads, we were fortunate to also receive funds to buy apps. Today, those apps are antiquated; new apps are far superior in both student engagement and content. New apps would benefit and service both general and special education students.	\$400
HMR	Language Arts Multisensory Materials	An important modality to increase student engagement and retention of information is using hands-on activities. Kinesthetic learning connects conceptual learning to physical movement. For example, wikki sticks help students to build words and highlighting tape helps student to identify word families in stories. Other materials would include play sand, play doh, dowels, magnetic letters, stamps, and pipe cleaners.	\$451
FAMS	Help Our Garden Grow!	The Garden complements and enhances the 7th grade life science curriculum on plants, cells, reproduction, genetics, ecosystems, and biodiversity. Students will see how plants reproduce, how genetic factors and local conditions affect growth, how plants use energy through photosynthesis, and what is required to grow plants. Students will learn about their own digestion and healthy eating. They will also contribute to the biodiversity around them and be responsible for garden care.	\$500
FAMS	Egyptian Papyrus for Art Integration in Social Studies	Prehistoric and ancient art is analyzed by Grade 6 Social Studies students to discover what life was like thousands of years ago. FLEF has generously supported this enrichment program for many years and we hope that support will continue. This year, authentic papyrus paper would be provided to students to illustrate newly learning information about ancient Egypt.	\$144
TOTAL			\$134,194