



## South Washington County Schools

Keith Jacobus, Ph.D., Superintendent

### District Service Center

7362 E. Point Douglas Rd. S.

Cottage Grove, MN 55016

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### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Members of the School Board  
Keith Jacobus, Superintendent

FROM: Jodi Witte, District Grant Coordinator

DATE: March 30, 2017

TOPIC/PURPOSE OF REPORT: Grant Awards and Grant Application Submissions

REFERENCE TO POLICY/STRATEGIC PLAN: Personalization and Climate and Culture for Students

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION: Approve Grant Awards and Application Submissions

DATE FOR BOARD ACTION: April 6, 2017

### REPORT

#### **The Education MN Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Grant Awards**

Diane Bezdicek of Hillside Elementary School received a grant to purchase Tower Gardens for grades 4 and 5. Students will be engaged in hands-on learning in foundational science and math skills while growing their own vegetables using aeroponic technology. They will experience the full farm-to-table process and taste the vegetables at salad parties. Grant Award: \$3,000

Dawn Blankenship at Crestview and NFSI received a grant to train and certify pre-k, kindergarten, and special education teachers on executive functioning (EF) skills. These skills enable students to pay attention, self-control, delay gratification, and have cognitive flexibility. The staff will also receive training on strategies and interventions to improve EF skills. The certified teachers will utilize the MN Executive Functional Scale (MEFS) as part of their regular assessment cycle to help staff better understand a student's strengths, weaknesses, and needs. Grant Award: \$3,000

**Total Grant Awards: \$6,000**

#### **Mark A. Pursley (MAP) Foundation Grant Award**

MAP provides grants for the early identification of depression and suicide depression. PHS received a grant to support the Check & Connect program. The funds will support mentor/mentee gatherings and a team building retreat.

**Grant Award: \$2,700**



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### University of MN Confucius Institute Grant Award

The Chinese language and culture program in District 833 continue to receive a \$10,000 grant on an annually basis from the Hanban in China. Grant funding covers monthly curriculum and program development meetings for the 3 teachers plus conferences and workshops. It also covers supplies, materials, and performances to support the cultural component in classrooms and schools.

**Grant Award: \$10,000**

### MN Department of Education Grant Award

Oltman Middle School will be part of MDE's cohort 13 School-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS). This 2-year training and support program is valued at \$35,000.

**Grant Award: access to PBIS training and support**

### Prairie Care Child & Family Fund Grant Application

The three high schools worked collaboratively to submit a mental health grant for the Resiliency Project to support emotional self-regulation and positive youth development. The *Resiliency Project* will 1) develop curriculum that integrates mindfulness, movement, and social-emotional practices; 2) train teachers and staff; 3) implement curriculum into the school day that promotes self-care and emotional regulation; and 4) promote mental health and wellbeing through a high school and employee wellness campaign. Grant funds would cover contracted services, extended hours, conferences, and campaign materials.

**Grant Request: \$13,350**

### 3M Giving Grant Application

Community Education was invited by 3M Giving to submit a grant for #CESkoolie – *Access for All*. CE will offer six pop-up educational programs by targeted higher-needs schools via #CESkoolie, their renovated and repurposed school bus. Students will work with local artists to paint the Skoolie bus, MAD Science on STEM projects, and the YMCA and Parks and Recreation on fitness/wellness activities. The project fosters inclusivity and builds CE capacity to better meet the needs of underserved families. The grant would cover food, paint, and materials.

**Grant Request: \$5,000**