

Arrowhead PTA Student Enrichment Committee News, November 2022
By Shannon Young, Committee Chair

During the first two months of the 2022-2023 school year, the PTA Student Enrichment Committee has received a diverse set of 15 grant requests from teachers and staff. These grants positively impact a wide variety of Arrowhead students, allow teachers and staff to experiment with innovative teaching strategies, and help reintroduce pre-COVID school celebrations. PTA is so proud to support these endeavors!

School-wide Impact Grants

- **Library Materials**
 - **Books to Support Focus Themes:** Arrowhead's librarian, Ms. Alleman, received a grant to fill specific gaps in our library collection. This year, Arrowhead is highlighting monthly themes throughout the school to have a unifying focus. Themes range from Social Emotional (SEL) topics such as Identity and Empathy to Social Studies topics such as Native American Heritage, Immigration and Families, and Civil Rights History. Each month's theme connects to our SAP and MTSS goals: racial and educational justice and helping every student succeed and for every teacher to know how to help their students. Ms. Alleman will work with individual teachers at all grade levels to identify titles to obtain.
 - **Globe:** Ms. Alleman purchased a relief globe to develop awareness of geography and climate in her literacy lessons. This globe offers a physical, tactile tool to compliment the library's existing 2-D paper maps and Google Earth tools.
 - **Bee-bots Coding Tools:** A classroom set of six Bee-bots, small bee-shaped programmable robots, will be purchased to supplement the two owned by Arrowhead's library. This set will be available for all school use to complement coding literacy. The coding with bee-bots is simple, but helps younger children understand the concepts of algorithms, debugging, etc. The bee-bots can be used with older and younger buddy classrooms, as motivation or reward for end-of unit, and for learning and planning bigger coding projects.
- **Arrowhead Green Team**
 - Paraeducator Katie Miller requested tools to create a student clean up team. These students go out a few times a week (weather permitting) and pick up trash, prune blackberry bushes, and tend to Arrowhead's nature trail. Tools purchased include garden globes, buckets, garden shears, and trash grabbers.
- **Multisensory Literacy Materials**
 - Ms. Li requested multisensory literacy materials that promote deeper learning for kindergarteners and students receiving reading intervention in Grades 1-5. Part of the grant is to create multisensory literacy station materials. They include hands-on Science of Reading activities that are engaging and easy for classroom teachers to implement. Sound and letter tactile cards will also be purchased. When students learn with these cards, they can actually feel the letter which helps them remember the handwriting formation and letter sound. Each primary classroom teacher and support staff will receive a set of tactile cards.

Grade-wide Impact Grants

- **Kindergarten**
 - **Writing Wizard App:** This app reinforces letter formation and can be used during independent work time. The app allows for errorless learning and can provide additional practice for students after learning the letter in class. There are pdf print-outs to go along with apps so students can practice letter formation on paper as well. Students will have another medium to help them learn letter formation.
- **1st Grade Field Trips**
 - **Pumpkin Patch:** Students visited a local pumpkin patch to celebrate fall and gain background knowledge to support their class gardening project. This trip has traditionally been a way to celebrate the beginning of first grade at Arrowhead and is returning for the first time since the pandemic
 - **Hibulb Cultural Center:** Students visited the Hibulb Cultural Center. This project ties in a museum visit, promotes Native American heritage understanding, supports tribes in our region, and aligns with Arrowhead's social studies standards with time immemorial curriculum on OSPI.
- **3rd Grade Field Trip**
 - **Salmon Hatchery:** Three classes will visit the Salmon Hatchery in Issaquah to support classroom learning.
- **3rd and 4th Grade Field Trip**
 - **Swan Trails Farm:** Students explore the 12-acre corn maze, a scale model of Washington, engaging them in the geography and history of Washington. Students also study the life cycle of a plant and employ SEL/cooperative learning and problem solving.
- **4th and 5th Grades**
 - **Schedulers:** Every student will receive a planner to learn how to organize the day, week, and month. These time management skills will help with the transition to Middle School with multiple classes and teachers.

Class Impact Projects

- **Ms. O'Connor's 2nd Grade** class received
 - **Math games** to establish a daily math buddy game. Each partnership has a box of games, and students are paired long-term through teacher observation of compatibility and skill level. This allows for effective behavior management and differentiation of instruction. Entertaining games are important for student motivation and to reach a variety of skill levels.
 - **STEM building toys** to increase classroom supply to meet high student demand and eliminate a rotation schedule for students to share limited materials.
- **Ms. Western's split 3/4 class** received
 - **Multiplication flash cards** to expose first time third graders to new math concepts and strengthen 4th graders' existing multiplication knowledge.
 - **Synonym dictionaries** for each group table to grow student comprehension of vocabular words and their synonyms for stronger reading comprehension.

Access to synonym dictionaries shall be beneficial to student writing especially in finding more description language and stronger verbs.

- **Ms. Wolfe's 3rd class** received the literacy materials Making Words, a lesson series that offers friendly, hands-on, manipulative activities that guide teachers in teaching the development of words--from phonemic awareness to spelling and Generation Genius, a K-8 teaching resource that brings school math and science standards to life through fun hands-on experiment with paired with lesson plans.
- **Mr. Wolfe 4th Grade class** received youth lacrosse supplies to introduce students to the sport and increase physical activity and teamwork during lunch/afternoon recess.