


GRANT A WISH
2019-2020 EPSF Classroom Grant Program- EMS Wishes

School	Grant Name	Description	Requestor	Grade	Amount
Elkhorn Middle School	<u>Teaching Through the Arts: Middle School Drama Production</u>	Middle school is an opportunity to find interests and learn through experience. Many children need an activity that makes them feel connected to their school. The theatre production that has been offered at EMS the last eight years has included several different avenues for students to be engaged and involved; not just an acting experience. At EMS, we run a very professional production with students interviewing for crew chief positions. Each chief must also be able to lead a group of peers to make the best production possible. This production benefits the district by engaging students who may otherwise not be involved. This also promotes higher-order and abstract thought processes as well as career based speaking, listening and critical problem solving skills. Research demonstrates that students involved in performing arts have better attendance and perform better academically and socially. We believe the play production is needed in the Elkhorn district at the middle school level and have been so thankful of the Foundation for their continued support of our students. Performing arts opportunities create opportunities for team building, research, speaking/performing, but also create a place for the community to participate and see the hard work students accomplish at their school through the final performance.	Brenda Smrdel	6th-8th	\$1,500
Elkhorn Middle School	<u>Middle School Author Visit</u>	Information about Gratz's work: Alan Gratz is author of a number of novels for young readers. His first novel, Samurai Shortstop, was named one of the American Library Association's Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults. His second novel, Something Rotten, was an ALA Quick Pick for Young Adult Readers. His first middle grade novel, The Brooklyn Nine, was one of the ALA's Top Ten Sports Books for Youth and Top Ten Historical Books for Youth, and his middle grade Holocaust novel Prisoner B-3087 was one of YALSA's Best Fiction for Young Readers and has won eight state awards. He is also the author of the YA thriller Code of Honor, a YALSA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers, the middle grade historical thriller Projekt 1065, and the League of Seven trilogy. Alan's 2017 novel Refugee has spent more than half a year on the New York Times bestseller list, and has received numerous awards, including the Sydney Taylor Book Award, the National Jewish Book Award, the Cybils Middle Grade Fiction Award, a Charlotte Huck Award Honor, and a Malka Penn Award for Human Rights Honor. Refugee was also a Global Read Aloud Book for 2018. Grenade, Alan's most recent book, about the Battle of Okinawa, debuted at number three on the the New York Times bestseller list.	Julie Hartman	6th-8th	\$2,000
Elkhorn Middle School	<u>Voracious Readers Gotta Read</u>	Voracious readers just gotta read! As the HALE reading groups grow with the addition of another middle school, HALE is looking forward to purchasing much needed replacement books and new titles to stock its shelves. The current HALE books, which have been shared for many years by all four middle school buildings are in literal pages and just can't keep being rebound. With not only the hopes of replacements for the classic units, but for new titles of books as well, the much needed literature will keep the HALE reading program supported as the fifth middle school opens. It is always a challenge to pair HALE programs with the regular classroom curriculum with having enough materials for the growing population in the district. The new books, classics and currents alike, will reinforce the love of reading and text growth with our most top readers in the Elkhorn schools. Finding a good book is to some like finding a good friend, so please help continue this friendship of reading for our Elkhorn HALE student population.	Laura Thoreen	6th-8th	\$1,000
TOTAL WISHES					\$4,500