

GRANT A WISH

2020-2021 EPSF Classroom Grant Program- Multi School Wish Request

School	Grant Name	Description	Request or	Grade	Amount
All District	<u>AAC Team-Speech Therapy</u>	The AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) Team, is a group of district Speech-Language Pathologists that are working to create a library of devices for our students who are non-verbal or have multiple disabilities. These devices, toys, switches, and adapters will be used to help these specific students with communication in the classroom. These toys will help teach cause and effect and help integrate social development with peers.	Taylor Boosalis	ALL	\$1,787
All Elementary Schools	<u>Battle of the Books</u>	Battle of the Books is a competitive reading incentive program sponsored by the Elkhorn Public Schools for fourth and fifth grade students in all Elkhorn elementary schools. Students work together in 4-person teams to read and answer questions about 24 books from a preselected list of quality children's literature. The program has been in existence for over 20 years. During the 2019-2020 school year, there were 119 teams for a total of 476 fourth and fifth grade students participating in Battle. To accommodate adding a new elementary school next year, we need more books to have enough so that our students have enough time to read the books before they are sent on to the next school. We are asking for money to help us purchase books. These books will be shared between all 12 elementary schools during the 2020-2021 school year and beyond. Battle of the Books is an important program as it provides a structure for recreational reading as well as motivating students through the academic competition in a team atmosphere. Over the years, we have seen many students develop confidence in their abilities to read fluently and to remember details of what they have read. Students are proud of their accomplishments and many of them form the habit of reading for enjoyment. Through this program, students are exposed to titles and genres they may not have previously considered.	Robyn Dallegge	4th & 5th	\$3,544
All Middle Schools	<u>Kyler Erickson Presentation</u>	Kyler Erickson has an amazing message that he shares with schools. Kyler is a current ESPN Analyst, Speaker and Suicide Prevention Director. He is a former UNO basketball player and Millard South High School graduate. While at Millard South, Kyler experienced a school shooting. Following that event, Kyler had PTSD like symptoms that had a significant impact on his life. Kyler ended up getting help and now travels the country sharing his story and message. Kyler's message to his audience is "You're Important. You're Loved. "You have a Purpose". Kyler hits on mental health but talks a lot about treating others with kindness, overcoming obstacles and reaching out for support when needed. There is a large emphasis on having empathy for others which is something we want all students to strive for. Kyler is charismatic, funny, very engaging, and just has a great overall message that connects with students. Kyler has spoken at many local school districts including Gretna, Millard, Waverly and Bennington to name a few. Kyler did an evening event at Grandview in the spring of 18' as well which provided excellent feedback from our staff, students and families that attended. Kyler travels all over the country and just recently spent time on the West coast presenting to several school districts. All four middle school counselors and building principals are supportive of Kyler coming to present at our buildings and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to have all students hear his message.	Kyle Peterson	6th-8th	\$2,500
All Middle Schools	<u>RESPECT Anti-Bullying Presentation</u>	RESPECT is a local organization that focuses on helping students navigate important topics such as bullying. RESPECT has been a continuous part of our anti-bullying message to our middle school students in Elkhorn. When RESPECT comes out to our schools they perform a 30 minute play on bullying. The program we would like RESPECT to perform is called "Scraps" and focuses on social bullying, the bullying that can occur within friendships or when relationships are used to hurt other people. Students learn how to identify these bullying behaviors and how to respond as the target or bystander. During the talk-back session, students have the opportunity to practice techniques to stop and prevent bullying during a fun and safe role-play. Understanding how to respond in these situations is very beneficial for students as they navigate middle school and peer relationships which can be complex and difficult for some. Students being able to role-play and practice these techniques is helpful so they have the tools to de-escalate situations at school so the focus can remain on student learning. We would love the opportunity to bring RESPECT back into our buildings so students can hear this message.	Kyle Peterson	6th	\$1,580
TOTAL WISHES					\$9,411