

**2026-2027 EPSF Classroom Grant Program - Fire Ridge Elementary School Grants**

School	Grant Name	Description	Requestor	Grade	Amount
Fire Ridge Elementary	<u>Costumes &amp; Items for Turk and Runt: A Thanksgiving Comedy</u>	<p>Every third-grade student at Fire Ridge Elementary will benefit from the requested costumes and materials. For more than 10 years, our third graders have performed this Thanksgiving book as a readers' theater turned play. Each year, students thrive as they memorize lines, rehearse actions, collaborate with peers, and work together toward a final performance.</p> <p>This project directly supports Nebraska State Standards in listening and speaking, allowing students to practice these essential skills in a fun, engaging, and meaningful way. While some students are able to provide their own costumes, we currently have only a limited number available. This grant would allow us to provide every child with a costume, helping to build confidence, excitement, and a sense of belonging for all performers.</p> <p>We also recognize that not all students experience success in traditional academic settings; however, many shine in the performing arts. This opportunity allows those students to build confidence, develop a positive self-image, and experience success in a different—and equally valuable—way.</p> <p>This Thanksgiving performance has become a cherished Fire Ridge family tradition, bringing students, staff, and families together for many years. With your support, we can continue this meaningful experience and ensure that every child feels included, confident, and proud to take the stage.</p>	Katie Niver	FR / 3	\$ 145.31
Fire Ridge Elementary	<u>Year subscription to Everyday Speech</u>	<p>We are requesting an Everyday Speech subscription to provide support for students throughout Fire Ridge Elementary. As a comprehensive social learning platform, Everyday Speech utilizes evidence-based video modeling and interactive activities to strengthen social and emotional communication. Everyday Speech supports a wide range of neurodiverse and neurotypical students. By providing instant access to hundreds of curated modules—covering self-regulation, emotional recognition, problem solving, and nonverbal communication—the platform allows educators to deliver high-quality, "zero-prep" interventions. This resource will serve students currently receiving speech-language services as well as those supported by the Student Assistance Team (SAT), and students participating in Circle of Friends groups.</p>	Jackie Burkland	FR / K-5	\$ 499.99
Fire Ridge Elementary	<u>Audiobooks and Interactive Books for Fire Ridge</u>	<p>The purpose of this grant is to add audiobooks and interactive books to the library for students at Fire Ridge Elementary. Since school started on August 12, 2025, the Playaway collection has been circulated 743 times and the Vox collection has been circulated 515 times at Fire Ridge. Audiobooks continue to rise in popularity among students. Lightbox books allow students to read a variety of nonfiction and curricular topics on their own devices. The Lightbox books can be read by an infinite number of students simultaneously. The goal of this grant is to continue adding highly engaging audiobooks and interactive books to the library to keep students reading.</p>	Melissa Lightle	FR / K-5	\$ 1,986.46
Fire Ridge Elementary	<u>KaiBot Robots</u>	<p>The purpose of this classroom grant is to purchase a classroom pack of KaiBots for Fire Ridge Elementary. KaiBots are unlike any other robots available for students because they are hybrid robots that blend tactile learning with digital learning. Students can watch their physical robot navigate through digital worlds. For beginning learners, students can use the robots screen free with maze blocks, called KaiTiles, and coding cards. Students receive instant feedback from the robot about their coding skills if they use the wrong action card in their code. The robots provide feedback through sound, light, and movement. As students advance their skills, they can combine the tactile learning with apps and websites. Students can interact with their robot by building mazes online and coding their physical robots to navigate the online maze with code cards or digital blocks. The KaiBots are collaborative because students can build mazes online for other students to navigate with code. The robots use sites and apps that measure students' learning and can identify concepts that are challenging which helps guide teaching and learning. They can also engage in coding competitions to see who can successfully code their robot through a maze in the quickest amount of time which makes them perfect for an after-school technology club. KaiBot Education integrates physical and digital realms to teach coding and robotics. It uses an innovative combination of coding cards, coding languages, and tactile learning tools.</p>	Melissa Lightle	FR / K-5	\$ 2,016.00
<b>TOTAL FIRE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM GRANTS</b>					<b>\$ 4,647.76</b>