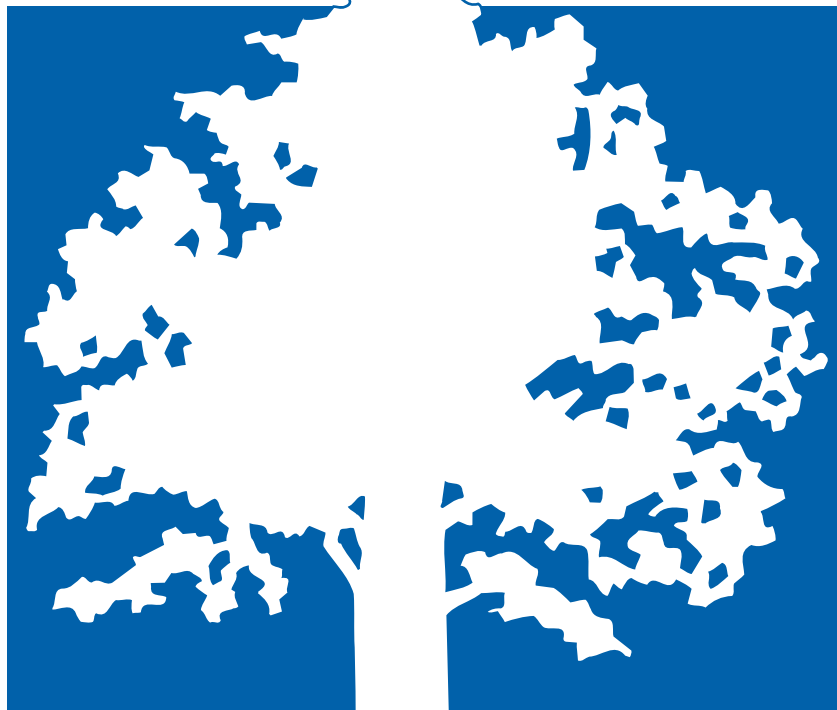


Grant Programs

Funded April 2020 – February 2021

EDUCATION MINNESOTA
FOUNDATION



for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

affiliated with



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

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Table of contents

- About the Education Minnesota Foundation.....1
- Classroom-Focused Grants.....2
 - Second-Year Classroom Grants*.....4
- Professional Development Grants.....5
 - Classroom Teachers*.....5
 - Education Support Professionals*.....5
 - Higher Education Faculty*.....6
- Bruce Vento Science Educator Grants.....7
- IMPACT Grants.....8
 - IMPACT Second-Year Grants*.....9
- National Board Certified Teachers Scholarships.....9

About the Education Minnesota Foundation

Since 1992, the Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning has awarded more than 1,900 grants and scholarships totaling over \$5.4 million to educators and nonprofit organizations that work to improve public education in Minnesota. The Foundation is primarily funded through dues from Education Minnesota members, and only those members may apply for a grant or scholarship.

Decisions about grants and scholarships are made by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation—teachers and support professionals who are Education Minnesota members. The Foundation's day-to-day activities are carried out by the Foundation Director and Foundation Assistant.

www.edmnfoundation.org

Classroom-Focused Grants

Classroom-Focused Grants are intended for licensed personnel who work with students and wish to improve their practice and student achievement. Preference is given to projects that address the needs of diverse students or students at risk of failure, involve partnerships, have measurable or observable outcomes, and are replicable. These grants are awarded once per school year.

Kristi Groth

Education Minnesota-Adrian

Reading Well with ELL

\$2,992.22

This grant aims to create an English Language Learners (ELL) Library, specifically for K-5 ELL students at Adrian Elementary School. The funds will be used to purchase a variety of books from booksource for all grade levels. The students will be able to check out books each week to take home and read. During recent Parent-Teacher conferences, there was a frequent request for the availability and need of reading materials for their child to read at home. By increasing the access to reading materials, I hope to see greater gains in all academic areas, specifically in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency and comprehension.

Karen Huberty

Dakota County United Educators

Quarantweet-Connecting Through Nature

\$1,000.00

This project is for my 6th grade students who found the joy in the outdoors, the ones who need a bit of joy in their makeshift home classrooms. A bird feeder they can look out and see each day while they are working in their bedrooms, and think of our class. This grant will provide bird feeder kits and a starter bag of birdseed for 175 of my middle school Language Arts students.

Tamara Isfeld

Education Minnesota Yellow Medicine East

Inside the Circle

\$3,000.00

This project aims to create a painted complex design on a wooden circle with precise measuring/cutting tools, to create a deeper understanding of the importance of a circle in a variety of cultures and to work on precise geometry measurements. This project will bring together skills acquired in math, industrial tech, social studies and art. The focus will be on 7 & 8th grade students.

Amelia Kappers

Rochester Education Association

Blooming at home

\$1,095.00

This project aims to support students at home learning by providing them with artificial flowers and supplies required to create arrangements at home. Distance learning students spend so much of their day on a screen and this project's purpose is to enable them to learn and practice hands-on skills while at home by physically working with the flowers without requiring a lot of screen time. I hope to achieve student proficiency and participation in floral arranging with students actually working with flowers instead of a simulated software.

Rachel Moorhouse

Education Minnesota – Willmar

Makers Going to Make

\$2,974.00

I am proposing funding to assist in the launching of a makerspace program in my elementary school. This is my first year in our STEM/Art classroom and makerspace is something I want to grow in order to best suit our student's needs. Currently, our buildings makerspace is limited to small consumable items, but it is my dream to grow this into a living-breathing classroom. A classroom that students can step away from the everyday learning to become engineers and use their creativity to watch their creations come to life.

Britt Olean

Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota

School-Wide Character Building

\$3,000.00

This project will focus on developing students' social and emotional skills and community building activities. Each month, students will focus on a different character trait. Each trait will have lessons, activities and brain break ideas for teachers to implement that month in the classroom. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a building-wide activity to demonstrate or practice the highlighted character trait for the month. The project will create a program that can be replicated each year.

Lisa Perkins

Education Minnesota – Freshwater Education District

A Hot and Healthy Breakfast

\$2,541.16

With current stressors surrounding students today, we are working diligently to provide students with an environment to optimize their learning experience. We are asking to partner with you to provide students a nutritious breakfast in order to promote the benefits of positive eating habits and understand the impacts healthy food consumption contributes to a student's behavior and mood.

Travis Stewart

North St Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale Education Association

PLTW Design and Modeling

\$3,000

My proposal incorporates the PLTW Design and Modeling Unit. This unit allows students to use 3D computer Design, 3D Printing collaborative work and design thinking to create therapeutic toys for students with Cerebral Palsy. The PLTW Design and Modeling Project requires the free TinkerCad software (3D design software), 3D Printers both of which are ways to teach the skills of designers, engineers, and skilled manufacturers. These tools will help kids understand the needs of their future employers and engage them in this open-ended project where students' creativity and ambition are the only limits. The 3D printers are integral in this design process to allow students to empathize with the needs of students with physical disabilities and make toys that are fun and engaging as well as therapeutic.

Deborah Wallert

Southwest-West Central Service Cooperatives Certified Staff Association

Improving Reading Comprehension with Deaf Students

\$3,000

I am looking for ways to help mainstreamed Deaf students learn to read and write in English. The program “Fingerspelling Our Way” has data that shows significant improvement in Reading ability in the test groups of Deaf children. The program was developed based on the 1:1 relationship that fingerspelling has to English Orthography which is not the case with actual American Sign Language. The system involves detection and manipulation of sub-lexical units, which provides a way to develop a sense of phonology in Deaf students.

Katie Zuehlke

Annandale Education Association

Small World Play

\$3,000

Small World Play will invite kindergarten students and teachers to use small storytelling manipulatives to role-play, model, and create stories. This experience will provide opportunities for kindergartners to share feelings about the uncertainty in our current world, improve their vocabulary, and express themselves in a creative, developmentally appropriate way.

Second-Year Classroom Grants

Classroom-Focused Grant recipients may apply for a second year of funding to extend their project.

Karen A. Brettingen

Education Minnesota – Ricori

Read Every Day (RED) School-to-Home Book Bags

\$3,000.00

Karen Huberty

Dakota County United Educators

Nanda-gikendan (Seek to Learn)

\$3,000.00

Stephen Szczodroski

Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota

Outdoor Adventures for At-Risk Youth

\$3,000.00

Sara Xavier

Education Minnesota Fillmore Central

Expressions in Clay: Feeling the Coronavirus 2020

\$3,000.00

Pang Yang

Education Minnesota-Osseo

The Untold Narrative 2

\$3,000.00

Lori Young

Albany Federation of Teachers, Local 1993

Promoting Family and Consumer Science: Filling the Pipeline

\$3,000.00

Katie Zuehlke

Annandale Education Association

Cruising with Comprehension and Fluency

\$3,000.00

Professional Development Grants

Professional Development Grants are intended to provide education support professionals (ESPs), higher education faculty of colleges and universities, and teachers with opportunities to take the lead in acquiring and sharing new skills and knowledge. These skills might include new instructional tactics, use of technology, or working with parents. These grants are awarded twice per school year—once in the fall, and again in the spring.

Classroom Teachers

Jamie Anderson

Robbinsdale Federation of Teachers
Early Intervention Fidelity Coach Training
\$1,100.00

Jessica Cook

Duluth Federation of Teachers
ASCD Conference
\$1,500.00

Jill Gordon

Marshall Education Association
Basic Orton-Gillingham Training Institute
\$1,500.00

Karen Huberty

Dakota County United Educators
Group member: Maureen Bechard
(Dakota County United Educators)
Stuck in the Middle: Educating
Our Middle Level Learners
\$3,000.00

Karen Huberty

Dakota County United Educators
Group member: Maureen Bechard
(Dakota County United Educators)
Advocating for Mental Health
\$3,000.00

Michelle Munkholm

Saint Paul Federation of Educators
Cultivating Resilience in Educators
\$1,500.00

Daniel Struck

Mounds View Education Association
Group members: Christine Cyr, Ariana Lynch, Janette
Michalski, Kathryn Scannell, Taylor Toellner
Racial Justice in Focus
\$9,000.00

Education Support Professionals

Cayenne Dupay

Saint Paul
2020 RID Region I Interpreter Conference
\$150.00

Jennifer Kehler

Lakeville Education Assistants Federation
Orton Gillingham Training
\$1,000.00

Higher Education Faculty

Anna Gryczman

MSCF – Century College

Global Nursing

\$3,000.00

Michele Jersak

MSCF – Century College

Applying the Brain Gut Connection in

Educating the Whole Student

\$3,000.00

Hok Kim

MSCF – Blue Earth Area

Effective Communications and

Human Relations Training

\$1,795.00

Tina LeBrun

MSCF – South Central

National Farm Management Conference

\$3,000.00

Jen Ouellette-Schramm

MSCF-Riverland Community College

IDI Qualifying Seminar

\$1,600.00

Denise Reeser

MSCF – South Central

Advocating for Farmer Success

\$2,340.00

Erica Stene-Winkler

MSCF-Anoka Technical College

College Counseling Mindfulness Training

\$2,740.00

Bruce Vento Science Educator Grants

Established by his colleagues, friends, and staff, the Bruce Vento Science Educator Grant supports educators who teach science as part of their day and want to acquire and share new skills and knowledge; this grant may also fund equipment or materials needed in science classrooms. Congressman Vento believed in supporting students and teachers and highly valued his role as an educator in shaping his world view. These grants were awarded twice during the 2019-2020 school year—once in the fall, and again in the spring; and once during the 2020-2021 school year.

Leah Bloemendaal

Education Minnesota - Freshwater Education District
Science Exploration through Dissection

\$1,488.75

Molly Carbonneau

Luverne Education Association
Science Steam Lab

\$1,016.32

John Fox

Education Minnesota – Freshwater Education District
Study of Sound Waves through Music Technology

\$1,500.00

Josh Hendrickx

Education Minnesota – Freshwater Education District
Bee Hives and a Greenhouse

\$1,500.00

Nicole Hosek

Dakota County United Educators
Integration Technology into the Classroom

\$1,200.00

Robin Knutson

Education Minnesota Brainerd
Science and Engineering Practices in Action (SEPA)

\$780.00

Karen Schulte

Southwest-West Central Service Cooperatives
Certified Staff Association

Picture Perfect STEM

\$1,499.00

Katie Zuehlke

Annandale Education Association
Fresh Air Fridays

\$1,500.00

Katie Zuehlke

Annandale Education Association
The Push Pull Challenge

\$1,500.00

IMPACT Grants

The Education Minnesota Foundation seeks to encourage and support broad-based efforts to inject meaningful, long-lasting change in the policies and practices that shape teaching and learning through the IMPACT Grant. Education Minnesota members team up with nonprofits who are agents in driving systemic change, and together they create innovative program designs and projects with the intent of positively impacting the learning experiences of Minnesota students. These grants are awarded once per school year.

John Nachtsheim

White Bear Lake Teachers' Association

Parent-Teacher Home Visit Project

\$15,000.00

The proposal will allow educators in White Bear Lake Area Schools to build stronger relationships and communication with families while reinforcing relationships with our students. The Parent Teachers Home Visit Project (PTHV) is an “outside the box” approach used to build greater understanding and awareness between teachers, students and families, eliminating any assumptions we may have about one another. By encouraging teachers to visit with families outside of the school walls, we are establishing dialogue on who a family and student “really” is, sharing who we “really” are as educators in order to create a stronger, lasting, and more intimate relationship. In addition, we will better meet the individual and unique needs of each student as well as create a more trusting relationship between family and school. The PTHV Project aligns with many of the goals of our district’s strategic plan including: empowering students to design their own future, appreciating the diversity of our school community, establishing and maintaining strong relationships between teachers and families.

Beth Popalisky

Anoka-Hennepin Education Minnesota

Educator Development through S.E.E.D. (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity)

\$15,000.00

The Anoka-Hennepin District is the largest in the state and includes schools with a wide range of diversity (our most diverse school is 83.95% non-white (district terminology) and our least diverse is 7.25% non-white (district terminology) and most schools well in between these extremes). Ninety-seven percent of our teaching staff and ABE/EC FE staff are white. As such, it is important for our staff and our students to have staff that are well trained in working effectively with and meeting the needs of all of our students. The National SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) project trains facilitators to offer a nine month cohort that includes reading and discussing books and other media, hearing speakers, and participating in activities that help participants gain a deeper understanding of and ability to work more effectively with traditionally marginalized students. We would like to continue and expand the SEED professional development opportunity that the district has historically supported.

IMPACT Second-Year Grants

IMPACT Grant recipients may apply for a second year of funding to extend their project.

Andrea Wilson Vazquez

Education Minnesota-Intermediate School District 287

MNCodes: Expanding Access to Computer Science

\$15,000.00

National Board Certified Teachers Scholarships

The process to become a National Board Certified Teacher is demanding and complex. For members willing to commit to the process, the Education Minnesota Foundation offers scholarships to help offset the costs. Thanks to a generous donation from Tradition Mortgage, the Education Minnesota Foundation is able to award scholarships to applicants each year. These scholarships are awarded once per school year.

Dave Ellefson

Rochester Education Association

Science: Early Adolescence

\$500.00

Jill Magnuson

Dover-Eyota Education Association

Literacy: Reading–Language Arts:

Early and Middle Childhood

\$1,000.00

Gary Mansergh

Annoka Hennepin Education Minnesota

Science: Adolescence and Young Adulthood

\$1,000.00

Elizabeth Sandvick

Education Minnesota - Edina

Science: Adolescence and Young Adulthood

\$500.00

Amanda Schutz

Education Minnesota - Edina

English as a New Language: Early

Adolescence through Young Adulthood

\$500.00

Christopher Vaughan

Education Minnesota - Edina

English as a New Language: Early

and Middle Childhood

\$500.00

Erica Wattson

Education Minnesota - Edina

Generalist: Middle Childhood

\$1,000.00

Total projects and scholarships awarded:

52

Amount funded:

\$147,811.45

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The benefit of union membership.



**THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
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4/2021

