



MTFEE

*Millstone Township
Foundation for Educational Excellence*

*Devoted to funding grants for items
that nurture extraordinary educational experiences
for every student in Millstone Township Public Schools*

Millstone Township Foundation for Educational Excellence Awards \$30,285.15 in Grants to Millstone Township Schools

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP, NJ, May 24, 2018 – Millstone Township Foundation for Educational Excellence (MTFEE) awarded five grants today, totaling **\$30,285.15**, to Millstone Township Schools. All grants will be implemented in the fall. Since 2002, MTFEE has awarded more than **\$560,000** to its schools. There are currently more than 60 MTFEE-funded grant programs running in the Millstone Township School district. Every child that matriculates through the school district will in some way benefit from an MTFEE-funded grant.

Following is a listing of the grant awards and recipients:

Introduction of Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener (\$9,356.41) (*Eleanor Cysz, primary school nurse; Lori Blazier, elementary school nurse; Marianne Disick, middle school nurse*) - The grant consists of a Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener, which will be used by all schools in the district. It will assist the nurses in providing students with a more comprehensive vision evaluation and enable them to make an objective assessment that will instantly detect major vision problems. Research shows that 80 percent of visual impairments can be prevented or cured, when identified and treated early. At present, all students receive vision screening as per NJ School Health Service Guidelines and may be subjective due to multiple variables.

Traverse Rock Climbing Wall (\$8,292) (*Evan Norwood, primary school physical education teacher*) - The grant consists of a Traverse Rock Climbing Wall, which will be installed in the primary school gymnasium. It will benefit students by giving them an opportunity to improve muscular strength, cardiovascular endurance, fine and gross motor skill development, balance, coordination, and flexibility. The cognitive values include incorporating math and literacy into climbing activities, problem solving, decision making, focus and concentration. The affective advantages include courage, self-confidence, self-reliance, goal-setting, patience and supporting others.

Programmable Robotics Kits for STEAM (\$4,943.40) (*Erik Wall, middle school related arts teacher*) - The grant consists of LEGO programmable Robotics Kits, to enhance the middle school Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics (STEAM) curriculum. The program, which is a three-year progression, will empower students to utilize an engaging and proven technology platform to develop and improve coding, design and analysis skills. It also will better integrate core science and mathematics concepts into the STEAM experience.

Math Lab: Making Math Fun Again (\$4,828.79) (*Lisa Murin, math coach for primary and elementary schools*) - The grant consists of two math labs – in the primary and elementary schools – for K-5 students, which will create spaces to allow learning through play. Students and teachers will have access to manipulatives and lessons that are rich in real-world application and go beyond the lessons found within the program used in classrooms. Students in lab will have the use of water tables, cooking lessons, scales, measuring tapes and more to enhance their personal experience.

STEAM Makerspace (\$2,864.88) (*Nicole Meyrick, third grade teacher and Meghan Olah, third grade teacher*) - The grant consists of a LEGO wall to provide opportunities for students to engage in a creative, imaginative and playful atmosphere, which will allow learning to unfold, rather than conform to set tasks. In addition, there will be two Brick Labs, which will contain 200 hands-on activities to enhance and support the STEAM curriculum. The grant will be used as a STEAM Lab, Makerspace for hands-on science, math and STEAM lessons, as well as for the gifted and talented program.

For more information about donating to MTFEE, becoming a trustee or its fundraising programs and events, please e-mail info@mtfee.org, visit www.mtfee.org and like us on Facebook.

MTFEE operates independently from the school district and replenishes its grant fund exclusively through private donations and its fundraising efforts. MTFEE grants, which have been awarded at every grade level and in every discipline, have included STEAM enrichment programs, learning labs, book rooms, professional development, fitness equipment, vision screener, SMARTBoards®, mobile computer and iPad™ labs, and rock climbing walls. MTFEE is a member of New Jersey Education Foundation Partnership and The National Consortium of State and Local Education Foundations (NCEFS).

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