



***Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation's
Spring 2023 Grants - Funded \$164,521
(SELS received \$9,047 for a district total of \$173,568)***

District-Wide Grants – \$13,870

TTUSD HeartMath Expansion- Kim Bradley

Grant funds expansion of the HeartMath program in eight TTUSD schools. [HeartMath](#) is a stress management system that helps students synchronize their brain and heart rate for optimal stress resistance and mental performance.

Fully Fund \$5,140

Enhancement of Early Learning materials to promote diversity, multicultural, and inclusivity- Cindy Maciel

This grant provides materials and equipment for TTUSD's early learning programs - Sierra Teen Education Parenting Program (STEPP) and the Truckee State Preschool program. This grant funds a variety of materials such as dolls, dress-up materials, books, visual aids, art materials, and equipment that supports the diversity of our families, community, and the abilities of all of our students.

Fully Fund \$4,730

Materials for the Accelerated Learning/GATE Classroom - Ashley Donahue

Grant funds accelerated learning/GATE classroom materials at Truckee Elementary and Glenshire Elementary schools. This grant will provide the tools and materials to develop and implement innovative curricula for gifted learners, creative thinkers, and high achievers.

Partially Funded \$4,000 of \$8,367 (inquire with TTUSD Tech about funding the Chromebook portion of the request).

Donner Trail Elementary - \$8,219

Reading Comprehension - Erica Stukey Allstadt

This grant funds novel sets for the 4th/5th-grade classroom teacher and for the 2nd/3rd grade that address topics in diversity. The individual books requested are the ones commonly requested by students.

Fully Fund \$1,690

PE Expansion: Baseball Gloves and Climbing Wall Holds– Holly Williamson

Grant funds a variety of sports equipment: baseball Gloves, balls, and climbing wall holds. This grant will help to expand offerings for baseball and a more challenging climbing wall with accessories for creative traversing.

Fully Fund \$1,948

Technology and STEM– Erica Stukey Allstad

Grant funds an extension of Science and Technology with the purchase of the Lego Robotics Program as well as Ozobot Evo Robots that students can code and watch their work in action. This grant allows the extension of learning in science, technology, and engineering.

Fully Fund \$3,029

Math Games and Intervention– Erica Stukey Allstad

Grant funds a series of standards-based mathematics games that apply to multiple grade levels and academic needs.

Fully Fund \$640

Omni-kin KIN-BALL- Holly Williamson

Grant funds an Omnikin ball for the KIN-BALL® sport+. The cooperative nature of this elementary sport allows for differentiation and promotes success with a wide range of athletic skill levels.

Fully Fund \$589

Language Enrichment– Erica Stukey Allstad

Grant funds games, alphabet cards, and additional resources to help support the curriculum and create cross-curricular ties to what students are learning in Spanish.

Fully Fund \$323

Kings Beach Elementary – \$5,153

KBE Physical Education Soccer Equipment - Kelley Deck

Grant funds age appropriate field equipment for soccer in PE and at recess.

Fully Fund \$1,443

Living History Day Kings Beach Elementary – Jamie Schwartz

Grant funds items for the California Living History Day, the culmination of a yearlong social studies curriculum based on California history, pioneers, and the Gold Rush. The students participate in seven hands-on stations.

Fully Fund \$486

Marcy Cook Math for Second Grade- Sage Johnson

Grant funds a full set of Marcy Cook activity tiles that are interactive. Students use the visual information provided to manipulate number values to make true equations and increase their skills in math.

Fully Fund \$630

Spanish DBQ (Document Based Question) Writing Curriculum– Katie Sluiter

Grant funds one set of The DBQ Project Mini-Qs in US History Volumes and Spanish Versions. DBQ units provide a scaffolded and accessible opportunity for all students to build analytical thinking and writing through historical lenses in Spanish.

Fully Fund \$879

History–Social Science Content Standard books - Amy Meierotto

Grant funds for grade-level books specific to the Spanish missions in California. These books help students learn about the social, political, cultural, and economic life and interactions among people of California from the pre-Columbian societies to the Spanish mission and Mexican rancho periods.

Fully Fund \$1,459

A Little Spot of Counseling - Jessica Darkenwald

Grant funds experiential fun books that focus on growth mindset, compassion, and character strengths. Being able to hold, play and interact with the material is instrumental in learning.

Fully fund \$256

Glenshire Elementary - \$17,316

High Level - Age Appropriate Library Books and Literature Circle Book Sets for Advanced Readers– Teresa Ketron

Grant funds individual books for student checkout and literature circle books set for group reading. These additional books expand choices for *students* reading at a higher level.

Fully Fund \$2,000

Sensory Bin Filler and Kits at Glenshire Elementary - Taylor Strong

Grant funds a sensory table, multi-function bins, scented sensory fillers, and hand tools. This grant supports all three kindergarten classes. These items will enhance character development, imaginative play, speaking and listening skills, fine and gross motor skills, conflict solution, independent exploration, and application of learning.

Fully Fund \$6,116

Read Naturally Live - Helen Moore

Grant funds a web-based reading program targeting struggling readers. This grant benefits students by increasing their motivation to read and helps them develop the necessary basic reading skills to become better readers.

Fully Fund \$2,530

5th Grade Classroom Libraries - Gretal Vargas

Grant funds for the purchase of classroom reading libraries for the three 5th-grade classes. This grant will allow the purchase of high-interest and updated books.

Fully Fund \$2,100

Wellness Center Rockers - Rachel Falk

Grant funds fund rocking chairs that are needed for students to self-regulate, solve problems, resolve friendship issues, talk, and receive some love from the Wellness Center. The request was for ten and we'd like to start with funding five.

Partially Fund \$925 of \$1,843

Mentor Texts and Diverse Read Alouds - Ali Cooke

Grant funds the purchase of writing mentor texts for second grade. Mentor texts are highly useful and powerful tools to help students to become effective and efficient writers and communicators.

Fully Fund \$500

Inclusive and Diverse Classroom Library – Jeanna Gruetzemacher

Grant funds for the purchase of diverse and inclusive literature for a second grade classroom. These types of books are essential for teaching Priority Common Core Standards, core values, and engaging lessons for the second grade.

Fully Fund \$745

Picture Book– Julie Cravens

Grant funds the purchase of picture books that will support all the subjects in fifth grade (SEL, ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies.)

Fully Fund \$1,500

Trauma-Sensitive Classroom Materials – Lisa Lindeen

Grant funds for the purchase of trauma-sensitive classroom materials that are beneficial to all students as a means of emotional regulation.

Fully Fund \$363

Mrs. Coopers Class Library - Ashley Cooper

Grant funds the purchase of books for a new classroom library. An enhanced classroom library with vocabulary-rich texts will give students the tools to become participants in the success of their learning.

Fully Fund \$537

Tahoe Lake Elementary - \$6,968

Phonics - - Cecily Senft

Grant funds decodable text in which special education students can practice their reading skills. These texts offer students opportunities to practice learned skills with high interest and controlled text with lower readability.

Fully Fund \$3,840

TLE Food and Beverage - Marnie Luxford

Grant funds the purchase of a beverage stand/cart (lemonade, hot chocolate, and coffee/tea) operation at Tahoe Lake Elementary, to be run by special education staff and students - including SDC, RSP, and speech.

Fully Fund \$2,142

Expanding Classroom Library – Shannon Liebler

Grant funds the expansion and needed classroom library books so students will be able to read a variety of texts while never falling short in finding new and exciting genres.

Fully Fund \$626

Scholastic News, 3rd Grade – Shannon Liebler

Grant funds subscription to a high-interest current event periodical, which is written at an appropriate reading level for third graders to support the Reading Informational Text standards. This grant will fund the teaching tools that support ELA, science, social studies, and technology curriculum.

Fully Fund \$360

Truckee Elementary - \$6,690

TES STEAM Lab - STEAM Readers – Stephanie Blume

Grant funds subscription to a high-interest current event periodical, which is written at an appropriate reading level for third graders to support the Reading Informational Text standards. This grant will fund the teaching tools that support ELA, science, social studies, and technology curriculum.

Fully Fund \$4,492

TK Sensory Play Grant– Jennifer Cilmi

Grant funds the purchase of sensory play tables and tools for classrooms. Sensory play is beneficial for all students and is an open-ended way to explore and improve motor skills and whole language development with peers.

Fully Fund \$1,253

Scholastic Let's Find Out and Science Spin for TK/K Students - Betsy Depew

Grant funds the subscription cost of Scholastic Let's Find Out and Science Spin weekly magazines for all of the TK/K students as well as digital resources for teachers and home access for families.

Fully Fund \$945

Alder Creek Middle School - \$12,865

ACMS Art Class Kiln– Pamela Hamilton

Grant funds a kiln for pottery and ceramic activities. The electric kiln would benefit the 6th - 8th-grade art programs.

Fully Fund \$3,930

7th Grade Classroom Library Tie-In to Social Science Units of Study– Kayla Hudson

Grant funds books that tie to various social studies topics covered and classroom bookshelf display that will change with each transition of social science units. The books will broaden students' awareness of cultural legacy and connections and deepen their empathy for other cultures.

Fully Fund \$1,485

STEAM Classroom Robotics - Micro:bit– Tina Kiewit

Grant funds Robotics kits and materials to support adding a STEM-related ACES rotation for the 6th-grade team. Students will be able to code and learn the basics of mechanical coding.

Fully Fund \$2,142

National History Day - Jesse Paoli

Grant funds supplies for National History Day. National History Day is a project-based learning activity that allows students to go in-depth on a particular topic of interest.

Fully Fund \$503

Learn to solve the Rubik's Cube - Suzie Dale

Grant funds over 300+ Rubik's Cube items for students to solve and build colored structures of art. All 6th-grade students who participate in the Aces rotation will benefit from this program. Rubik's Cube will build mathematics skills in disciplines such as STEM, Geometry, Algebra, and General Math concepts.

Fully Fund \$2,993

Strawbees STEAM Classroom - Pamela Hamilton

Grant funds Strawbees building solutions for hands-on and collaborative learning, including Strawbees Classroom digital lessons. This hands-on system makes STEAM accessible for beginners - advanced learners and promotes learning at their developmental pace.

Fully Fund \$664

Strawbees SUSTAINABILITY STATION - Pamela Hamilton/ACMS 6th-grade

Grant funds a Sustainability Station which is a durable hand-operated machine that will last for many years and make precise connectors shapes providing learners with the opportunity to create their own set.

Fully Fund \$1,069

Literacy in the Classroom – Pamela Hamilton

Grant funds High-interest, accessible literacy for even the most reluctant reader. These books benefit students searching for high-interest books at their reading level. Sixth-grade students created this book list.

Fully Fund \$80

North Tahoe School - \$9,562

DBQ Project - Document Based Mini Lessons for 6th grade Social Studies– Nicole Sayegh

Grant funds The DBQ Mini-Qs in World History that will engage students with 11 Essential Questions related to the 6th Grade Social Studies Ancient Civilization Curriculum. Students will have an opportunity to analyze informational text, synthesize information from various sources, identify/evaluate the author's point of view, and support claims with evidence in writing.

Fully Fund \$848

Mobile Whiteboards for Small Group Work– Nicole Sayegh

Grant funds three mobile whiteboards, which will allow the class to meet in small groups and collaborate on math problems in class.

Fully Fund \$474

STEAMing with Drones– Heidi Bushway Verkler

Grant encourages students to take their coding ability to a new level when they learn how to program a drone by expanding upon their skills. This grant will allow students to learn more about sensors, including an accelerometer, a gyroscope, and a barometer.

Fully Fund \$2,040

High-Interest Books for Struggling Middle School Readers at All Levels – Sasha Gamble

Grant funds the purchase of a variety of high-interest books and materials at various reading levels to meet the needs of these students. This purchase would include some classroom sets to read in small groups, some individual books for independent reading, and other leveled reading materials.

Fully Fund \$2,083

The Week Jr. magazine subscription– Danielle Karwowski

Grant funds a weekly magazine subscription with current events and interesting topics for students ages 8 – 14. The request was for a 40-week subscription and we are funding the 26-week subscription.

Partially Fund \$2,012 of \$3,096

Classroom Reading Nook/ Library– Danielle Karwowski

Grant funds a cozy and comfortable reading space for a 6th-grade ELA classroom. It will create a welcoming, safe, and warm space for all students to access, explore and read books from an extensive and diverse classroom library.

Fully Fund \$962

Books and Games to Support Reading Intervention and ELD - Erica Sonnenberg

Grant supports reading intervention curriculum with books and games that students enjoy and make practicing reading skills more fun.

Fully Fund \$1,143

North Tahoe High School - \$13,832

Sports Medicine Classroom Essentials– Hana Lamb

Grant funds knee and ankle sports injury trainers for students as well as a new sports medicine bench for students to practice evaluating, treating, and assessing injuries. Students will learn through practical hands-on application how to assess, prepare, prevent, evaluate, and treat emergency procedures.

Fully Fund \$4,660

Vlogging and Journalism tech/Podcasting– Erin LeFevers/Annie Stefani

Grant increases opportunities for students to experience "real world"/21st-century writing and presentation. Students will be able to write journalistic-like articles and create podcasts that can be posted online and for classroom presentations.

Fully Fund \$3,555

Music Equipment for North Tahoe High School Band - Todd Holway

Grant funds instrument cases to protect tubas as well as quality amplifiers for the Jazz Band rhythm section. New tuba cases will extend the life of the instruments by decades by allowing them to be properly protected and stored.

Fully Fund \$1,748 (TTUSD can match using the Musical Instrument Fund – total request was \$3,496)

Ceramic Cabinets– Jo Anna Battaglia

Grant funds for additional ceramic storage cabinets for the classroom. These functional cabinets would preserve clay and store ceramic materials. We are funding one of the two cabinets requested at this time.
Partially Fund \$3,860 of \$7,708

Sierra High School - \$2,704

Student Choice Leisure Reading Novel – Jill Zapata

Grant funds student choice novels for the Leisure Reading program, which is a vital component in the overall development of student literacy skills.
Fully Fund \$1,850

Literature Circle Novel Sets– Jill Zapata

Grant funds multiple copies of novels students wish to read. This grant allows the ongoing commitment to build student literacy and strengthen student educational experiences across all curricula.
Fully Fund \$854

Cold Stream Alternative - \$1,000

Supplemental Reading Materials for Cold Stream Alternative – Carey Parlette

Grant funds supplemental reading materials for English, social studies, and science classes. These reading materials will address individual student requests to create a sustained interest in reading.
Fully Fund \$1,000

Truckee High School - \$64,351

Band Inventory Refresh for THS– Jesse Steele

Grant funds flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones, tenor saxophones, a baritone saxophone, French horns, and sets of timpani mallets.
Fully Fund \$10,750 (TTUSD can match with Music Fund – the total request was \$21,500)

River Ecology and Marine Biology Applied Learning – Caroline Dezendorf

Grant funds dissection and lab materials that are critical components of the science courses as they provide hands-on learning opportunities. Students will be able to connect with aquatic ecosystems and this grant will bolster the curriculum by providing resources that will allow students to better engage with aquatic ecosystems.
Fully Fund \$9,620

Curriculum Enhancement for Biomedical Science Courses – Kathy Tallant

Grant funds updated equipment to expand the biomedical course. The request includes equipment for additional hands-on activities and labs to enhance the course curriculum. The Human Body Systems course curriculum is being updated for the 2023-2024 school year and materials are needed to align with future careers.
Fully Fund \$9,490

RealCare Babies – Courtney Delgado

Grant funds eight "RealCare 3 Babies," charging cart, workbooks, curriculum, and online training. This grant is for a unit in the "Adulting Course." It helps students realize the impact of parenting and promotes waiting until they are emotionally, financially, psychologically, and socially ready to take on the heavy demands; and second, to introduce the importance and variety of skills needed in caring for an infant.

Fully Fund \$34,419

Sierra Expeditionary Learning School (SELS) - \$9,047
(Funded directly to SELS with a separate check)

Decodable Texts-- Sierra Expeditionary Learning School– Sara Jones

Grant funds ten digital book sets of Decodable Readers for small-group reading instruction. The emphasis on teaching students to read via decoding (sounding out) words has been proven to be more efficient and more effective.

Fully Fund \$6,633

DRA Reading Assessment Materials- Lynn Akers

Grant funds for the update of outdated and incomplete DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment, 4-8) Kits. DRA is a classroom-based reading assessment designed for on-level and struggling 4th through 8th-grade students.

Fully Fund \$468

Supplemental Subscriptions to Enhance Literacy in the Elementary Classroom- Diane Welch

Grant funds an increase in a variety of high-interest reading material to a classroom library. This allows students the flexibility to choose additional reading material that fosters a love of reading.

Fully Fund \$486

Second and Third Grade Classroom Library Revamp- Diane Welch

Grant funds the update and revamp of the second and third-grade classroom library to be more inviting to young readers. This grant will encourage students to choose fiction books that interest them, become more excited to read popular characters or deepen their knowledge of non-fiction titles that spark further curiosity.

Fully Fund \$994

3rd grade Mystery Science Kits - Diane Welch

Grant funds kits that provide science lessons in class. Each pack contains supplies for 30 students working together in groups and/or with partners. These kits engage students in NGSS-aligned science lessons.

Fully Fund \$466

Spring 2023 Grants – Not Funded

Tahoe Lake Elementary

STAS Papergrip Picture Hanging Mounts – Rita Ramirez

Grant funds a picture-hanging rail system that can be installed and enjoyed for many years. This picture-hanging system allows artwork to be displayed and projects can foster a sense of accomplishment, pride, and creativity in students.

The grant request was for \$3,968

- *The committee hoped that the school's PTO might be able to fund this request.*

Truckee High School

Graphing Calculators for High School Success – Sara Gooding

Grant funds 310 new graphing calculators which students will have continuous access to a graphing calculator during all four years of high school, providing greater success in math, science, and CTE courses and on college entrance exams. The request is so the high school could issue a graphing calculator to freshmen when they start high school, similar to the issuing of Chromebooks.

The grant request was for \$41,949

- *The committee was concerned that the calculators would get lost during the four-year period. Students are issued graphing calculators when they are enrolled in a math course that requires one. Our concern is that when a student doesn't have math, the calculator may get lost. Additionally, almost everyone has access to a basic calculator with their phone. Based on our understanding, there are enough calculators for students who need one while taking a math course.*

North Tahoe High School

Fly Fishing: An Interpretive and Historical Experience– Jennifer Jurosky

Grant funds the opportunity for students to have a chance to engage in a sport that is life-changing in the context of history spoken by the Paiute. This grant includes a partnership with the Cast Hope organization.

The grant request was for \$4,076

- *The committee felt this request is an Extracurricular Club, therefore, doesn't meet our grant cycle criteria. However, through the support of a connection to the Rohr Family Foundation, we were able to fund this grant. The Rohr Foundation donated \$4,500 to Excellence in Education to fund this request. We will treat it as a pass-through grant.*