



December 9, 2024 School Board Meeting

GPFPE Grants Awarded to GPPSS

1. **Books for Library, Classrooms and Students (Ages 3-5) Barnes (\$2,000)**
This ASD instructor wishes to establish a lending library within the Early Childhood Program at Barnes. This partial grant award will provide age appropriate board books for students and classrooms to promote literacy engagement and social interaction. Funds awarded are provided through the *Lois J. Warden Fund* that is designated for important early and elementary educational programs within the school system.
Submitted by Melanie Baka
2. **Bringing Books to Life (Ages 2-6) Barnes (\$2,000)**
A multi-sensory program, requesting puppets and stuffed animals, will combine three dimensional manipulative objects with books and music to create meaningful hands-on learning experiences for young students with special needs. This partial grant award will be funded by the *Lois J. Warden Fund*.
Submitted by Kelly Vess, Dorothy Heitjan and Stephanie Martin
3. **Kerby's Rising Stars Destination Imagination Team (Young 5 to 4th grade) Kerby (\$240)**
The Kerby DI parent mentor has asked for funds to pay for the team registration, manager background checks and other fees. This partial grant award supports STEAM education and problem-based learning of the DI program.
Submitted by Jessica Safadi
4. **Augmentative and Alternative Communication (Young 5 to 4th grade) Mason (\$4,193)**
These elementary speech-language pathologists and ASD Categorical teachers requested communication devices to help special education students with limited verbal skills. This grant, funded by the *Lois J. Warden Fund*, purchases iPads and AAC applications to allow students to better communicate in the classroom.
Submitted by Elisabeth Galvin and Laura Loveday
5. **Mason Book Vending Machine (Young 5 to 4th grade) Mason (\$6,150)**
Mason PTO parents and the school Reading Specialist are asking for the purchase of a vending machine that will dispense grade appropriate books as reading incentives and rewards. Although this grant will be funded by the generosity of the *Lois J. Warden Fund*, the Mason PTO will provide the books.
Submitted by Kyle Monroe and Anne Marie MacGillis
6. **Monteith and Mason Destination Imagination Team (Kindergarten and 1st grade) Monteith and Mason (\$240)**
This grant will fund the registration of a team and mandatory background checks for parent mentors for this DI early elementary program that encourages students to interact with others, solve problems and think critically through an Early Learning Challenge.
Submitted by Tracie Wells, Aly Dix and Cally Beil

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7. **Sensory Motor Room Start Up** (Kindergarten to 4th grade) **Monteith (\$3,500)**
These teachers are requesting materials to provide a space to allow students to better regulate their bodies, build fine and gross motor skills as well as integrate learning and movement to improve focus during instructional time. A partial grant award will begin the process by purchasing some materials such as special flooring, weighted neck pillows and therapy balls.
Submitted by Jennifer Boyd, Kelly Page and Christina Peklo
8. **Modernizing Middle School Workshop for 21st Century Skills and Safety** (7th and 8th grades) **Pierce (\$7,800)**
The Pierce Industrial Arts instructor wants to update antiquated machines and systems in his classroom to reflect modern safety improvements and assure a more efficient learning environment.
Submitted by Brent Revello
9. **Headphones for ELA Classrooms** (5th-8th grades) **Parcells (\$2,000)**
English language classes use headphones for multiple online resources throughout the school year. This grant award will provide 25 classroom sets of working headphones and jacks for middle school students.
Submitted by Nan Sabella
10. **Brass Roots Initiative: Adding Color to Advance the Ensemble Sound** (5th -8th grades) **Brownell (\$6,600)**
A partial grant award will purchase 2 Double French Horns for the Brownell Band. These instruments will support the musical development of middle school students and add a fuller, more cohesive sound within the ensemble.
Submitted by Brad Elstone, Tom Torrento and Chris Takis
11. **Replacement Stove and Oven for Special Education Classrooms** (5th-8th grades) **Parcells (\$750)**
The purchase of this appliance will support categorical classrooms and the Peer to Peer programs at Parcells. It will be used for life skills lessons, cooking activities and collaborative projects to enhance both academic and social learning opportunities.
Submitted by Drew Kisskalt, Lauren Brown and Parcells Peer to Peer Students
12. **General Assistance for the Gearheads-the Combined North and South FIRST Robotics Team** (9th-12th grades) **North and South (\$2,500)**
This partial grant award will help purchase equipment and supplies that allow students to develop and implement solutions to build and maintain a robot to solve complex problems. Members of this blended high school team learn skills such as organization, leadership and project management along with collaboration with mentors and student colleagues.
Submitted by Jeffrey Santrock

13. The Shoe Project (9th-12th grades) North (\$2,000)

This innovative grant request is from a North business teacher. It involves teams of students designing, marketing and analyzing actual canvas sneakers during class. At the end of the process, the shoes will be donated to Lace Up Detroit to encourage philanthropic giving and community support.

Submitted by Scott Sowers

14. Comprehensible Input Readers for French (9th-12th grades) North (\$535)

Having had success with these reusable readers before, this foreign language instructor asks for 2 class sets of books for her French classes.

Submitted by Sarah Edwards

15. University Tours (11th-12th grades) South (\$1,500)

South high school counselors request monies to provide college and university tours to upperclassmen who have not had a chance to tour campuses in the area. The award will be used for bus costs and lunch at Eastern, Wayne State and possibly local community colleges. This grant is funded by the *Doug Roby Angel Fund*. Doug Roby was a beloved South social worker who had an unwavering commitment to education and his passion for the well-being of his students was always evident.

Submitted by Troy Glasser

16. Camera Lenses for Photography Classroom (9th-12th grades) South (\$1,852)

Six wide angle camera lenses will enhance student creativity while they work to capture landscape photography, architecture and sporting events.

Submitted by Sarah VanDagens

17. Future City High School (9th-12th grades) South (\$375)

This partial grant will fund registration of a team of high schoolers who will imagine, research, design and build cities of the future. Using the Engineering Design Process, students on this team learn project management skills and showcase their solutions to a citywide sustainability issue.

Submitted by Carrie Morris

18. Grosse Pointe Public School System Website (all students, schools and Grosse Pointe communities) District Wide (\$50,000)

A new GPPSS district website will be more user friendly and provide parents, staff and community members with access to important information online. It will allow them to more easily browse, learn about our school district and find out important dates and activities taking place in our schools.

Submitted by Dr. Chris Stanley



SEED (Social, Emotional, Encouragement and Development) Grants

1. **Peer 2 Peer Program** (9th to 12th grades) **North (\$2,500)**

Student members of the Peer 2 Peer program use their leadership skills and knowledge to cultivate a culture of caring and support at this high school. The focus of their work is to reduce stigma, raise awareness and encourage help-seeking, when needed.

Submitted by Christine Kuhl and Jessica Turner

2. **Fifth Grade Camp Support** (5th grade) **Parcells (\$2,000)**

This grant provided financial aid to eight 5th graders, allowing them to attend a camping experience with their classmates, where they learn many life skills in a safe and fun environment. Students at camp build skills such as teamwork, responsibility, decision making and independence.

Submitted by Sam McGrath and Adrienne Nash

3. **Wellness Week** (Kindergarten to 4th grades) **Kerby (\$500)**

Kerby Elementary wishes to celebrate Wellness Week in May. This partial grant will allow the purchase of materials that support positive mental health, such as the importance of physical activity, art, healthy food and emotional learning. *Submitted by Amanda DerKevorkian and Katy Vernier*

4. **Sensory Corner** (Ages 2 to 5) **Barnes (\$1,000)**

An Assistant Director of Preschool requests funds to begin putting together a calm and safe space for children to visit when they need a break from the stimulation of a busy classroom. This partial grant award will help purchase some of the materials necessary to construct this space.

Submitted by Jill Kloster

5. **Adaptive Swing Set with ADA Ramp** (5th to 8th grades) **Parcells (\$4,328)**

This middle school will construct an outdoor swing set and accessible ramp to allow students of all abilities the chance to enjoy, learn, grow and create memories with their classmates.

Submitted by Beth Rainbolt, Brit Vandenberghe and Natalie Thompson

6. **Parcells Student Union (5th to 8th grades) Parcells (\$7,500)**

The Parcells Core Team, which is made up of administrators, counselors and social workers, asks for funds to build a common space at this middle school which will complement the existing curriculum and especially benefit students struggling with social integration or requiring additional support in developing interpersonal relationships. This partial grant will, when combined with other fundraising efforts, allow the implementation of this idea.

Submitted by the Parcells Core Team: Jason Wesley, Sam McGrath, Debbie Redlin, Amy Macey, Carla Palffy, Nicole Jensen, Nichole Washington, Jenna Gower and Nicholas Symonette

7. **Support Mannequin Project for French Students (9th to 12th grades) North (\$300)**

A French instructor wishes to enhance her foreign language instruction by using a mannequin to represent different emotions to create meaningful dialogue and using journal entries to reflect empathy and social and emotional learning.

Submitted by Nagham El Hage

Total Fall GPFPE Grant Awards: \$112,353



April 28, 2025 School Board Meeting

GPFPE Grants Awarded to GPPSS

1. First Tee School Program (Young 5s - 4th grade) All Elementary Schools (\$3,250)

This grant funds a youth development program that integrates the game of golf with a life skills curriculum. This grant will be funded by the *Lois J. Warden Fund* that is designated for important early and elementary programs within the school district.

Submitted by Courtney Kliman

2. Chromebooks for Classrooms (Kindergarten) Kerby (\$7,000)

These teachers are requesting new technology to replace the current dysfunctional devices in their classrooms. Chromebooks will also help these kindergarten students work with equipment that is not only dependable, but has become mandatory in the district.

Submitted by Julie VanTol and Pam Cronovich

3. Technology in Young Fives (Young 5s) Kerby (\$4,143)

A request from this instructor would cover the cost of iPads, a charging dock, and cases for her students. The award would allow these young students access to functional technology within the classroom.

Submitted by Kim Chwalek

4. Chromebooks for Student Learning (Kindergarten - 4th grade) Richard (\$9,956)

This elementary principal is requesting funding to purchase Chromebooks that will be shared throughout his school to enhance online curricular resources.

Submitted by John Kernan

5. DI at Defer (1st - 4th grade) Defer (\$1,000)

Destination Imagination teams at this elementary school intend to use this grant for the 2025-2026 school year. It will cover registration of the teams, background checks for team mentors, and tournament fees.

Submitted by Courtney Dykstra

6. DI at Pierce (5th - 8th grade) Pierce (\$1,000)

Another grant award for the 2025-2026 school year, this will cover DI team registration, background checks for team mentors, and tournament fees for this middle school.

Submitted by Courtney Dykstra

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7. Championing for Students with Disabilities with Story Champs (Early Childhood - 8th grade) Barnes, All Elementary Schools and All Middle Schools (\$7,780)

This grant request will fund a narrative intervention program designed for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and mildly to moderately language impaired students to improve oral language.

Submitted by Lisa Aouad, Lisa Dougherty, and Vanessa Coverdill

8. AED Trainers (All ages) GPPSS District (\$1,550)

District nurses are requesting funds to purchase two automated external defibrillator trainers to assist with ongoing staff training for cardiac emergencies within district school buildings.

Submitted by Janelle Crutchfield, Heather Muschong, and Patti Stehlin

9. Inquiry Based Learning with DBQ Project (5th - 8th grade) All Middle Schools (\$10,140)

This request will fund consistency with common language and curriculum between English and Social Studies instruction in GPPSS middle schools. The Document Based Questions program is formulated to allow students to supplement their curriculum, focus on authentic learning, and build skills to support evidence-based writing. The teacher training portion of this grant is funded by *The Ronald Dalby Fund*.

Submitted by Alexis Lecznar, Drew Dettlinger, Rebecca Churray, and Beth Rainbolt

10. Destination Imagination Global Finals (5th - 8th grade) Pierce (\$1,000)

Two DI teams from Grosse Pointe have qualified for - and will attend - the 2025 DI Global Finals in Kansas City. This award will facilitate their participation.

Submitted by Courtney Dykstra

11. Aeronautical Engineering (6th grade) Parcels (\$776)

A middle school science teacher wishes to fund a group of students who will build rockets that can be used many times, and can be shared with the other district middle schools. The rockets can reach an altitude of 200 feet. Students will be involved with engine placement and fin design for controlled thrust and maximum altitude.

Submitted by Walter Charuba

12. Greenfield Village (5th grade) Parcels (\$1,000)

This middle school social studies instructor hopes to take all 5th grade students to Greenfield Village after completing a Colonial Life unit.

Submitted by Kelly Sexton-Bolen

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13. Pierce Botmasterz All-Girls Robotics Team (5th - 8th grade) Pierce (\$600)

This grant will help fund the start-up and annual costs for the 2025-2026 school year for this robotics team.

Submitted by Jane Plieth

14. After-School Support Programs (5th - 8th grade) Parcels (\$6,000)

These funds will permit extra after-school programs already in place to provide testing, homework assistance, and tutoring to middle school students needing extra academic help.

Submitted by Parcels Administration

15. Botmasterz All-Girls, District Wide, 14+ Robotics Team (7th - 12th grade) All Middle Schools and High Schools (\$1,000)

A district sponsor and an involved parent have applied for a grant to fund registration, competition fees, parts and tools needed to build a robot for this extra-curricular team. This grant award will also be used for outreach to GPPSS elementary and middle school buildings.

Submitted by Jane Plieth and Sherry Betcher

16. Grosse Pointe North Quiz Bowl: National Tournament (11th - 12th grade) North (\$1,000)

After qualifying for the National Quiz Bowl Tournament in Atlanta, this grant will help these talented and hardworking students toward their goal of attending this important competition.

Submitted by Jessica Turner

17. Coaster Creation (9th - 12th grade) North (\$300)

A North High School special education teacher has applied for a grant award to purchase materials that her students will use to make and decorate coasters. She hopes that these coasters can then be sold by her students at craft fairs in the area, creating a small classroom business model.

Submitted by Jill Martin

18. Assistive Technology for Reading Support (9th - 12th grade) North (\$1,175)

This LRC teacher at North High School will use this grant award to purchase a Scan Marker Pro, C-Pens, and Guided Reading Strips to support student learning for students with reading disabilities. It will allow students independence to complete their assigned work.

Submitted by Heather Bowersox

19. Improved Access to Microscope Technology (9th - 12th grade) North (\$5,933)

Science teachers have applied for this grant to ensure that their students receive a high-quality science education that meets academic and industry standards. These funds will add to existing microscopes, replace malfunctioning ones and purchase slide sets of cell types and human tissues.

Submitted by Christopher Skowronski and Liz Michaels

20. Layout and Workflow Optimization Grant (9th - 12th grade) South (\$2,256)

This art teacher is completing the layout and flow of his new classroom at South. He plans to use this grant award to create areas to safely store and efficiently move student projects and materials.

Submitted by Tom Szmrecsanyi

21. Skull and Bone Replicas for Forensics (9th - 12th grade) South (\$4,300)

Forensics instruction includes a unit on forensic anthropology. This teacher is hoping to give his students a greater collection to show the variety and differences of human skulls and bones.

Submitted by Jeffery Swietlik



SEED (Social, Emotional, Encouragement and Development) Grants

1. **Community Somewhat Virtual Book Club** (9th - 12th grade) **South (\$953)**

A South High School librarian wishes to conduct a monthly high school book club with students across the country who will read and discuss the same books virtually - and connect with the authors of the books. Book titles change each year.

Submitted by Courtney Johnson

2. **Wellness Workshop, Friendship Corner, Mindful Movement and Mindful Moment Materials** (1st grade) **Richard (\$384)**

This teacher wants to use mindfulness techniques to help her first graders with brain development, better focus, and enhanced classroom management.

Submitted by Yvette Vetor

3. **Bea*TWEEN the Books Therapy Dog Program** (5th - 8th grade) **Pierce (\$465)**

This is a grant award that would fund therapy dog, Bea's, yearly membership and insurance, as well as purchase books on social and emotional learning for Pierce's student population.

Submitted by Christina Michaud

4. **Peer to Peer** (9th - 12th grade) **North (\$2,000)**

This important student high school support group continues to promote mental health awareness and wellness at North. The grant award will facilitate student leadership and knowledge to cultivate a culture of caring and understanding at the school.

Submitted by Christine Kuhl and Jessica Turner

5. **Therapy Dog Liability Insurance** (Kindergarten - 8th grade) **Monteith and Pierce (\$290)**

Scarlett would become the only small therapy dog in GPPSS. This grant funds her insurance costs.

Submitted by Danielle Doolittle

6. GPPSS Therapy Dog Program (5th - 8th grade) Pierce (\$290)

Pierce's School Psychologist is requesting insurance and fees for Birdie, a certified therapy dog. Along with her certified handler, Birdie will be present during interactions with Pierce students and will visit classrooms during student breaks.

Submitted by Marc Weaver

7. 5th Grade Camp (5th grade) All Middle Schools (\$20,000)

This grant request is aimed at 5th grade students not financially able to attend this yearly important camp experience. Meeting middle school classmates from other feeder schools and having a day of interesting and stimulating outdoor activities is a valuable part of a 5th grader's entrance into middle school, which GPFPE is happy to support.

Submitted by Chris Stanley

Total Spring GPFPE Grant Awards: \$95,501