



**May 4, 2026 Board of Education Meeting
GPFPE Grants Awarded to GPPSS**

1. Grosse Pointe Destination Imagination Global Finals (5th - 9th grade) Pierce and South (\$500)

This grant award will help fund the 2026 DI Global Finals trip this May.

Submitted by Courtney Dykstra

2. Medical Training Equipment (all grades) GPPSS (\$1,724)

District nurses have requested four CPR manikins and other medical equipment that will be used in training programs throughout the school system.

Submitted by Patti Stehlin and Heather Muschong

3. DI at Defer (1st - 4th grade) Defer (\$500)

The teacher and coordinator of Destination Imagination at Defer asks for funds to pay fees and do background checks for the next school year.

Submitted by Courtney Dykstra

4. Art Enhancement Program Sponsored by the Michigan State University Wharton Center (3rd and 4th grade) Monteith (\$300)

The magnet teacher at Monteith requests funds to provide an in-school experience to allow her students to explore their creativity and innovation through exposure to a visiting artist from MSU's Wharton Center, who will help create projects that tie in with this teacher's curriculum.

Submitted by Angelina Kuczewski

5. Richard's Real-World Reads: Updating the Nonfiction Collection (Youngs 5s - 4th grade) Richard (\$4,000)

This library media specialist wishes to update the Richard library nonfiction collection for 21st century learners. Funds for this grant come from the *Lois J. Warden Fund* that is designated for important early and elementary programs within the school district.

Submitted by Mary Beth Coffey

6. Morphology Training (Kindergarten - 4th grade) District Elementary Schools (\$16,500)

District literacy coaches and reading specialists request funding to support Morphology Plus, which is used for reading instruction in conjunction with the Orton Gillingham program in the district. Part of this award comes from the *Dalby Fund*, which was created to assist with teacher training.

Submitted by Stephanie Erhard, Stephen Shier and Sandy Cameron

7. Conquering Dyslexia by Jan Hasbrouck, A Book Study (Kindergarten - 5th grade) District Elementary Schools (\$965)

Kindergarten to 5th grade literacy coaches will participate in a professional book study, focused on dyslexia. The book focuses on topics such as the early dyslexia warning signs, neurological causes and effective instructional interventions. This information will be shared with reading teachers across the district.

Submitted by Stephanie Erhard, Stephen Shier and Sandy Cameron

8. The Connected Classroom: iPads for Math Instruction (5th - 8th grade) District Middle Schools (\$5,844)

Math teachers at district middle schools are requesting iPads that they will use to strengthen classroom instruction and maximize the use of existing SMART technology.

Submitted by Ashley Golitko, Sharon Drew, Jackie Bingham and Holli McNally

9. iPads Enhance Artistic Achievement (7th and 8th grade) Parcels (\$5,597)

This Digital Art instructor wishes to expand her students' access to tablet-based technology with the purchase of 12 iPads, Apple pencils, cases, and a charging cart.

Submitted by Karana Hales-Haywood

10. Technology for Digital Artists and Photographers (6th - 8th grade) Brownell (\$7,024)

As with the previous grant, this Digital Art teacher – with a slightly larger class – is requesting 15 iPads and supporting equipment to allow her students to experiment with graphic design, animation concepts and portfolio development.

Submitted by Sarah VanDagens

11. Emergency Supplies (5th - 8th grade) Brownell (\$1,500)

These school secretaries would like to place backpacks, with basic supplies such as flashlights and a blanket, in every classroom to be used in case of an emergency.

Submitted by Kate Haggerty and Yvette Saravolatz

12. AAC in Action: Increasing Student Communication (5th - 8th grade) Parcels (\$353)

A middle school speech-language pathologist is requesting an iPad and a case to be used as an Augmentative and Alternative Communication device with her moderately cognitively impaired students, which will assist them in practicing their communication skills.

Submitted by Anna Boes

13. DI at Pierce (5th - 8th grade) Pierce (\$500)

This funding will be used to support the 2026 - 2027 Destination Imagination program at this middle school. It will facilitate fee payment and background checks for parent team leaders.

Submitted by Courtney Dykstra

14. Marketing Shoes Project (9th - 12th grade) North (\$2,500)

Continuing a highly successful project, this marketing instructor has his students design a shoe brand, target a market, and promote their brand to benefit a charity in the area. This learning approach prepares students to think critically, solve problems and collaborate creatively. This grant will fund the project in the 2026 - 2027 school year.

Submitted by Scott Sowers

15. Literacy in Spanish Class (9th - 12th grade) North (\$1,534)

A North High School Spanish teacher is requesting funding for a supplemental lending library to be used in her language classes.

Submitted by Jacqueline Davis

16. Adapted Home Living (9th grade – post graduate) North (\$2,000)

This grant asks for funding to assist ASD students and students with cognitive impairments, giving them structured, hands-on instruction as they learn to become independent. Materials such as a basic washer and dryer, adapted switches and various calming devices are a part of this request. The Adapted Home Living Skills Support Program supports community engagement, future-focused planning, academic excellence and safety for all students.

Submitted by Dionna Damaskos, Bethany Derringer and Jill Martin

17. AED Life-Saving Equipment (District and Community-Wide) South (\$3,000)

The South athletic director would ultimately like to have two outdoor, accessible climate-controlled structures on the South athletic fields to house life-saving Automated External Defibrillators, which would be available to students, teachers, and community members. This grant funds one of these installations.

Submitted by Andy Rishmawi

18. Empowering the Next Generation: Closing the STEM Gender Gap with Botmasterz Robotics (5th - 12th grade) District Middle and High Schools (\$2,500)

The parent-coach and teacher of the all-girl Botmasterz robotics team are requesting funding to provide necessary robot parts, marketing materials and tools as these middle and high school teams enter competitions around the state.

Submitted by Jane Plieth and Sherry Betcher



19. Mobile Crisis Kit (9th - 12th grade) North (\$636)

This grant asks to put together a shared set of therapeutic items and resources to support students, staff and responders during times of crisis – such as an event which causes a significant number of students or staff to experience difficulties that impact learning. Examples of items in the kit include noise-canceling headphones, sensory fidget boxes and a coping skills card set.

Submitted by Sarah Wit

20. Therapy Dog (Kindergarten - 4th grade) Ferry and Monteith (\$465)

Funds are requested to support the ATD membership fees and insurance costs for Scarlett, as this dog eases transitions for traveling students as well as soothes social anxiety and emotional frustration.

Submitted by Danielle Doolittle

21. Social Emotional Learning Foundations with Skill Streaming for Children and Youth (1st grade) Mason (\$314)

This teacher wishes to integrate individualized informational texts into her teacher-led reading time that address specific emotional or social challenges faced by each group of students. This grant award funds the purchase of a set of books.

Submitted by Lesley Graham

22. Wellness, SEL and Yoga Teacher Training (Kindergarten - 4th grade) Kerby (\$1,998)

The Kerby school psychologist and behavior specialist want to share Breathe for Change, a program that empowers educators to improve their well-being and the well-being of their students. They are willing to share their training with other teachers across the district.

Submitted by Amanda Derkevorkian and Aimee Miller

23. Take 10 Bear Den at Maire Elementary (Young 5s - 4th grade) Maire (\$2,724)

This grant helps set up a calming space at Maire to promote emotional readiness and positive behavior. It would fund the purchase of SEL books and materials.

Submitted by Alisha Salli

24. 2026 GPN Wellness Fair (9th - 12th grade) North (\$570)

Counselors, school psychologists and social workers request funding to support the North Wellness Fair, which is a school-wide event designed to engage students in activities that promote mental, emotional and physical well-being.

Submitted by Jenny Sherman, Christine Kuhl, Jill Davenport, Jessica Turner, Katie Maki, Sarah Wit, Marqueisha Brown and Jonathan Stander

25. Peer to Peer (P2P) (9th - 12th grade) North (\$2,500)

This program reduces stigma and raises student awareness about mental health, while encouraging students to ask for help when it is needed. P2P team members use their leadership skills and knowledge to cultivate a culture of caring and support at North High School.

Submitted by Christine Kuhl and Bethany Derringer

26. Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies: Empowering Students Through Wellness Week (Young 5s - 4th grade) Kerby (\$1,500)

The Kerby principal is seeking funding for Kerby Wellness Week, which aims to equip students with practical tools to manage stress, make healthy choices and develop positive routines.

Submitted by Katy Vernier

27. Guest Speaker – Jim Basketball (5th - 8th grade) Parcels (\$1,500)

The Positive Behavior Intervention and Support coordinator at this middle school would like to bring in a guest speaker to help students understand social challenges they might face and comprehend the impact of their actions, while developing empathy. This award will bring in “Jim Basketball”, whose message is “Dribbling and Dyslexia”.

Submitted by Andrea Gruenwald

28. SEEDs of Success: Filling Bottles, Fueling Growth (Kindergarten - 8th grade) District Elementary and Middle Schools (\$2,300)

Two community food banks are in operation at Defer and Mason, with support from the Family Center and local hospitals. A need for student refillable water bottles was the basis for this grant request. Through this grant award, 1,000 water bottles will be purchased for dispersal at the food banks.

Submitted by Mary Jo Harris and Anne Cadriel

29. Mighty Moose Medals – Mason Academic Growth and PBIS Initiative
(Young 5s - 4th grade) **Mason (\$1,537)**

This grant funds the purchase of PBIS incentive tags, reading brag tags and math brag tags. The expected outcome of this incentive project is to maintain consistent reinforcement of academic growth, positive behavior and encouragement of student leadership.

Submitted by Rachel Baubie

30. Link Crew Teacher Training (9th - 12th grade) North (\$5,000)

Two North staff liaisons for the Link Crew mentoring program have not had the formal training for this program, which focuses on improving success for incoming high school freshmen. This grant award will fund that training.

Submitted by Eric Praedel and Colleen Byrn

Total Regular Grant Awards: \$56,841

Total SEED Grant Awards: \$21,044

Total GPFPE Spring Grant Awards: \$77,885