

PPS Foundation and CFCI's Classroom, Field Experience and STEM Grant Recipients for the 2023-24 School Year

Educator	School	Grant Type	Project Name	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
Jennie Smith	Annie Jo Gordon Community Learning Center	Field Experience Grant	Chicago Field Museum	This field experience to the Chicago Field Museum will give the students opportunity to explore the history of the Earth and different cultures and different units covered in science.	\$500	\$500
Michael Bowen	Annie Jo Gordon Community Learning Center	Field Experience Grant	Field Trip to St. Louis Zoo	The field trip to the St. Louis Zoo will provide students with opportunities to view animals in their habitats they would not be able to see locally. Students will be able to relate their learning through interactive scavenger hunts and to their lessons in science related to biomes.	\$500	\$500
Amber Dean	Dr. CT Vivian Primary School	Classroom Grant	Farm Park Field Trip	Students will be able to visit the farm park and interact with animals that typically live on a traditional farm. While there, the students will be able to feed the animals with the feed cones that will be purchased with the grant money.	\$800	\$800
Julie Jenkins	Dr. CT Vivian Primary School	Classroom Grant	A Trip to Remember!	As teachers, we believe that children can be anything they want to be in this life. The Playhouse will spark ideas that will keep kids playing and creating to build their schema in a positive way. The grant funds will be used for: busses and drivers cost/Playhouse admission cost/materials to create individual memory binders/resources to continue career focus within the classroom. These binders will allow our students to think both seriously and critically toward their future. As they age, they will refer to this keepsake as a part of their life experiences.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Willis Barber	Dr. Maude A. Sanders Primary School	Classroom Grant	Drama Club presents Disney's FROZEN	I'm trying to get students interested in being part of drama club, and the best way to do that is to be able to perform a show they are familiar with. I want to respect copyright laws and get permission to perform "Frozen," but the expense of getting the materials and royalties is a set back for my school's drama club, which has little funds available. This grant would take the financial barrier away.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Mary LaKemper	Franklin Primary School	Classroom Grant	Tactile Math	The goal of this project is to provide supplemental learning tools to mathmatically challenged learners. These tools will enable students to develop basic number sense skills and achieve success with the math curriculum. The time-frame for implementing and evaluating this multi-sensory math approach will be November 2023-May 2024.	\$919	\$919
Stephanie Churchill	Franklin Primary School	Classroom Grant	Books to Support Social Emotional Learning (SEL) in Classrooms	The grant money would be used to purchase children's books that support social emotional learning. The books would be presented and read aloud to each class and then a discussion with the students would follow. This not only encourages critical thinking, but provides tools for the students to cope with the different situations in their lives.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kimberly Thomas	Glen Oak Community Learning Center	Classroom Grant	GeoBread House	Students will create a geobread house using a cube like kleenex box, frosting, and graham crackers. Students will apply critical thinking on what shapes need to be created with the graham cracker to create an enclosed roof. They will also measure the dimensions of all the shapes used to create the geobread house. They will compute area, surface area, and volume. Students will also create a circle graph that describes the different candy used to decorate the house. To differentiate, students will create their own math problems using the information they learned while making their house.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kelcey Brown	Harold B. Dawson Middle School	Classroom Grant	Reading Centers	Funds will be used to purchase reading centers. These centers will meet the standards for 5th grade, while also being differentiated levels to meet students where they are at. These centers will be used during our reading block and small group instruction.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Trenton DeSantis	Hines Primary School	Field Experience Grant	4th Grade Hands On Science and Engineering Outreach	The field experience to the Children's Discovery Museum in Normal, IL will provide hands on/interactive learning for our primary school students in areas of engineering, fine arts, and science. The students will participate in interactive career exploration which includes drama, agriculture, engineering, and the medical field, which is supplemental to the district's College Career and Life Readiness Program.	\$500	\$500
Brenda Smith	Jamieson School	Field Experience Grant	Don't Breathe in...Blow Out	The field trip to J Draper Glass company in Peoria will allow students to learn about a new art medium, learn the safety proceedures, practice following instructions, and get a hands on experience. The students will watch a demonstration and then get to assist with glass blowing to create a unique piece for the class.	\$500	\$500

PPS Foundation and CFCI's Classroom, Field Experience and STEM Grant Recipients for the 2023-24 School Year

Educator	School	Grant Type	Project Name	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
Teres Brawner	Jamieson School	Field Experience Grant	Future Food Handler's Challenge	This series of six field experiences for post high school life skills students will explore a variety of places of potential employment that involve food handling and also dealing with the public. This will help develop work skills and take hands on classroom cooking activities to allow students to see them applied in real live job and working environments in the community. The locations are Nick and Willies, Little Ceasars, Todoughs, WCTC, Hawaiian Ice and Jimmy Johns.	\$500	\$500
Juli Cranwill	Jamieson School	Field Experience Grant	Art Exposure Experience	The field experience to the Art Bodega in Washington, IL will provide students an opportunity to work with artists to create art outside of their classroom. The students will follow participate in painting on canvas by following step by step instructions from the artist.	\$450	\$450
Stephanie Benne	Liberty Leadership Middle School	Classroom Grant	Reading Nook & Books	The grant will provide flexible seating options for students, including two bean bags and reading mats. The flexible seating options are essential for students who struggle to stay seated for our long eighty-five-minute blocks. It is an excellent way to differentiate learning for students who prefer spreading out or sitting on the floor while learning. The grant will also provide nonfiction reading materials including "Who Is" biographies and "Who Would Win?" theoretical animal nonfiction books. In addition, the grant will provide two additional bookshelves for the classroom to house new and current texts.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kirianna Dryden	Lincoln K-8 School	Classroom Grant	Young Authors	The goal of this project is to give the students the experience of publishing a novel. Students will brainstorm, write, review, edit, work with a professional artist and have their books bound. This project will be completed by from November to March.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sara Ratliff	Lincoln K-8 School	Classroom Grant	3rd & 4th BAG REPORT REWARDS	The goal of the project will increase students' Behavior, Attendance and Grades. The project will be utilized quarterly throughout the 23-24 school year. The third and fourth grade students will record data on their BAG Reports daily. They will use the following code: green(meets), yellow(needs improvement), red(critical). The grade level teams created criteria for each color. When quarterly reports are sent out the BAG Reports will reviewed by teachers. The teacher will indicate how many students were mostly green in each level. A Pop-up Cart will come to their class with prizes with 3 different levels. Level 3 will have the most deired prizes. Students will get to choose a prize off of the cart depending on how many areas they are green in. If they are green in all three areas (Behavior, Attendance, Grades/ Effort) they would get to choose from Level 3. Level 2 and Level 1, would also have prizes but the higher levels would be more desirable.	\$500	\$500
Adam Stevens	Manual High School	Classroom Grant	DIGIM Author-Led Book Study	We will conduct a monthly book study with Peorian author DeMarcus Hamilton, who has agreed to provide direct instruction and motivational mentorship for our most at-risk 12th grade students placed in an alternative graduation setting. We will utilize his recently published book D@mn, I Graduate in May (DIGIM) to help students navigate the college and career exploration process with a deeper understanding and confidence. Funding will purchase a classroom set of books and posters to provide to students for use during the eight session book study from October 2023 to May 2024.	\$996	\$996
Kimberlie Getz	Manual High School	Classroom Grant	Community Based Instruction	Community Based Instruction for Manual High scholl Life Skills students is designed to teach special needs children hands-on meaningful skills that will allow them to be as independent as possible. The Life Skills class will go out into the community once a week throughout the school year. The goal is to provide a variety of hands on learning opportunities to help students aquire the skills they need to live in the world around them.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Teri Hinrichsen	Manual High School	Field Experience Grant	Building Community in the Great Outdoors	Students will go to Great Oaks Camp in Lacon, IL in May for a one-of-a-kind experience that includes ziplining, ropes course, and many other outdoor activities including archery, hiking, and a climbing wall. Students will work together with classmates and strengthen classroom community and build connectedness with classmate. This is a prosocial experience that will be a small step forward for students dealing with layers of trauma.	\$500	\$500

PPS Foundation and CFCI's Classroom, Field Experience and STEM Grant Recipients for the 2023-24 School Year

Educator	School	Grant Type	Project Name	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
Alivia Taylor	Northmoor Primary School	Classroom Grant	Walk for a healthy, smart, happy life!	The PPS classroom grant will fund two Apple ipads, two mobile ipad stands, two protective tablet cases, bulk velcro strips and 400+ ID badge holders with lanyards. In collaboration with PHIT America, the EZ Scan subscription was just purchased for our student body to improve their overall fitness while amping up their brain for improved learning thru running and walking. Student's scan their personal QR Code on the tablet after each lap walked for the EZ Tally to record their laps walked and minutes spent being physically active. AMPED will be implemented as soon as tablets are purchased.	\$959	\$959
Michelle Henderson	Northmoor Primary School	Classroom Grant	IAR 3rd Grade Incentives	The students will be taking the IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) at the beginning of March. To encourage students put forth their best effort on the test, we have given them the opportunity to earn a day to Roller Skate at the Morton Roller Rink as a testing incentive. This would follow a unit in PE where they have learned the safety of skating. For students to earn this testing incentive they must use the entire testing time, they cannot distract others, and they need to stay focused and engaged. The students will receive a contract for their parents and students to sign stating that they understand all criteria to earn this testing incentive. After testing is completed and all students have completed make-ups, students will earn the incentive. Goals are to maximize testing performance.	\$760	\$760
Jamie Quinn	Northmoor Primary School	Field Experience Grant	The Nutcracker, a Theater Experience	This is an in-theater outreach performance of The Nutcracker put on by the Peoria Ballet at the Peoria Civic Center, specifically for schools in the community. Peoria Ballet shares the art of dance, while also engaging critical thinking and imagination skills through a live theatrical performance. This performance provides excellent opportunities for cross-curricular studies in literature, history, art, and music.	\$387	\$387
Sara Martinez	Northmoor Primary School	Field Experience Grant	Pioneer Days at Sommer Park	Pioneer Days at Sommer Park in Edwards, IL will provide real life experiences for our third graders. The children will have the opportunity to participate in candle making, visit a pioneer school, watch a woodworking demonstration, tour a homestead including a one room log cabin, and tour a cemetery where an acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln is buried. These events are the ideal compliment to the novels we will read prior to this trip--Abraham Lincoln Fact Tracker and Sarah, Plain and Tall.	\$500	\$500
Kathryn Rodolfi	Peoria High School	Field Experience Grant	The World is our Classroom	Books and classroom instruction provide a base, but immersing students directly and actively in an interdisciplinary excursion to live history and experience culture is invaluable. The French settlement "La Nouvelle Orléans" is very much alive in contemporary New Orleans, still flush with Francophone influence. In traveling there, students will see "Le Vieux Carré" with their own eyes, enjoy the cuisine, experience the musicality, and tour the city alive with the spirit of its French, Creole, Acadian, African, Dominguan, and Haitian forebearers.	\$500	\$500
Jeff Venegas	Reservoir Gifted Academy	Field Experience Grant	8th Grade Lorado Taft Field Experience	The Lorado Taft Field Experience has 8th graders staying on campus for four nights to take outdoor learning classes, varifying from Fine Arts, Orienteering (math), Journaling, Team-Building activities, SEL activities, History of Native American Culture, and Survivor Skills. Students are accompanied by Lorado staff, as well as staff from our school to teach the classes and monitor students. Students take the week to unplug from their devices, stress of the day to day school / home life, and to connect to nature.	\$500	\$500
Thomas Hayes	Richwoods High School	Classroom Grant	Art Murals	The goal is to beautify the school with student artwork. The feedback from last year's murals has been incredible. Parents, teachers, administration, and students have all given very positive praise in support of the initiative. We will use this grant money to buy supplies to paint murals around the school as well as compensate the students for their time and effort.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kelly Nehls	Richwoods High School	Field Experience Grant	Field trip to News Stations WMBD	We will be able to go to the WMBD news station in Peoria and see a live show being produced and streamed. Students will be able to ask videographers, anchors and producers questions about their careers and college. These students will be able to make network connections, learn about the field and see hands-on what this career choice would look like in all positions.	\$500	\$500

PPS Foundation and CFCI's Classroom, Field Experience and STEM Grant Recipients for the 2023-24 School Year

Educator	School	Grant Type	Project Name	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
Joe Baumgardner	Richwoods High School	STEM grant	Richwoods Science Club	This grant will help the Richwoods Science Club continue its current science enrichment activities as well as pursue new opportunities for students. We currently run after school science clubs for 3rd and 4th graders at Northmoor and Kellar Primary schools, lead Robotics and Kitchen Science Exploratories at Reservoir Gifted Academy and take field trips to provide students with educational opportunities they can't experience in the classroom. This year we want to begin participating in the Illinois Junior Academy of Sciences district, regional and state science fairs.	\$1,500	\$1,500
Dawn Gersich	Rolling Acres Middle School	STEM grant	Integrating Art, Technology and Learning	This project will be a collaboration between three classrooms; science and social studies, art and technology. One of the most common learning targets in science is being able to draw a model to represent a concept. Some students struggle with this learning target. With this project, students will learn how to create visual models in art so that they can represent their content area knowledge as a visual model. Then in technology they will learn how to take what they drew and use graphic art tools through Silhouette to turn their model into a sticker! The nice part about using art and technology for assessment is that differentiation becomes easier since drawing doesn't require the ability to read or write in complete sentences.	\$1,500	\$1,500
Heather Cunningham	The Elise Ford Allen Academy	Classroom Grant	Kindergarten Yoga	I plan on using the \$1,000 for Angie Swearingian with Yoga Learning Adventures to visit our classroom throughout the year. Some academic lessons she could provide with yoga are alphabet practice, phonics, literacy, reading comprehension, math problem solving and thematic units with the animals, ocean, human body, farm, friendship, and superheroes. Some mindfulness and self-regulation lessons would be with breathing breaks and movement breaks. These are lessons and experiences that would not be provided normally in a classroom. These lessons could be differentiated by providing lessons in small groups during her time in the classroom. The classroom teacher could also provide differentiated follow-up lessons to help children who would need it with self-regulation.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Kathy Phillips	The Elise Ford Allen Academy	Classroom Grant	Gift of Gardening Pt 2	It is with these supplies that we will be able to expand and sustain our project for years to come. We would like some of the older students to get involved and be part of an Allen Academy Garden Club. The more students involved with help grow their appreciation for our school community.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Heather Gratzke	Trewyn - Day Treatment	Classroom Grant	Mindful Music in the Classroom	The grant funds will be used to pay for the music therapist and for instruments for the classroom. The students will be able to use critical thinking skills they do not usually use because they do not have music class in their schedule. The professional music therapist will be able to work with their social/emotional needs while teaching them music skills. All of the students in the classroom have an IEP, but are all different at the same time. Their needs will be met by using a hands-on approach, providing thinking time, scaffolding lessons, and providing extra support to students that need it.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Carrie Kinsella	Trewyn - Day Treatment	Field Experience Grant	Cultural/Social Experience in Context	We have been studying different countries around the world. We center on language, customs, culture, food, and schooling. Since we cannot take them to the different countries, we would like to have a field experience trip to an Asian restaurant to try something new from a country we are currently studying as part of the lesson. Having this opportunity to eat at an Asian buffet restaurant will give them the chance to experience foods, customs, and some language from many different Asian countries. Students will also be able to identify and show examples of appropriate socializing, including the use of manners, patience, helping others, trying new things, express opinions, and what they want or need calmly.	\$500	\$500
Jennifer Bessler	Trewyn - Rise Academy	Classroom Grant	Readers on the Rise!	This project will be centered around literacy. Students will be able to have access to new books that students are interested in. Students in my classroom will help gather ideas for new books to purchase. A little library will be built by students at Woodruff Career Center and then placed at our school for our program. Additional new books will be purchased throughout the year for students to increase reading skills. Students will also be able to visit and read to other students in our K-4 program with the new materials purchased. The idea behind this project gives students a voice in what they are reading as well as practice leadership skills to organize requests, stock the library and help others choose books to read, as well as read to each other.	\$1,000	\$1,000

PPS Foundation and CFCI's Classroom, Field Experience and STEM Grant Recipients for the 2023-24 School Year

Educator	School	Grant Type	Project Name	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Funded
Cheryl Halm	Trewyn Therapeutic Program/Day Treatment	Classroom Grant	Engaging Students Through Comparative Anatomy	Our students who have special needs often miss out on some of the most enriching experiences that a regular division Science class offers. By showing students how the human body works through a comparative anatomy class, they will develop a better understanding of their own body. By learning about the function of the body systems, students will also be able to compare how the systems of many animals resemble that of the human body.	\$446	\$446
Mary Keltner	Valeska Hinton E.C.E.C.	Classroom Grant	Big Wheel Keep On Turning	Big wheels keep on turning is designed to provide inclusive play opportunities for the children of Valeska Hinton, while helping to develop an understanding of diversity and individuality. Each bike has been selected to benefit our typically developing students as well as those with limited physical mobility. The bikes will be introduced to buddy rooms and then shared with the entire school over the course of the 2023-2024 school year.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Megan Nugen	Valeska Hinton E.C.E.C.	Classroom Grant	From 2-D to Reality: 3-D printing for hands on learning	Preschool students learn best when they are able to use all modalities of learning to understand their world. A 3D printer will enhance the learning of our students by providing the unique ability to bring a student's interest from the figurative world into reality. The printer will allow staff to adapt materials based on a child's preferential learning, visual capabilities, and tactile senses. Staff will also be able to collaborate with related services in occupational / physical therapy, speech, and vision/hearing to develop materials and ideas that will enhance a child's education experience.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Morgan Riggs	Whittier Primary School	Classroom Grant	Bilingual Library	The Classroom Grant Funds will go towards purchasing new, engaging, and popular books in Spanish. These books would be similar in content and popularity to books read in English, but will be written in the student's native or second language. The books purchased will range from Kindergarten- Fourth grade reading levels so that all students, no matter their reading ability, can enjoy.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Shelby Crocker	Whittier Primary School	Classroom Grant	AAC to Enable Classroom Participation	Whittier's kindergarten inclusion classroom has multiple students that communicate using visuals and other alternative ways than verbal communication. Without access to these visuals and communication devices, we are seeing many behaviors stem from frustration from being unable to communicate. This is why I am seeking funding for an Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) device to use in our kindergarten inclusion classroom. With access to this device and an app for communication, these students with functional communication deficits will be able to interact with peers and adults in the classroom in an appropriate way.	\$596	\$596
Denise Baker	Whittier Primary School	Classroom Grant	Feelings, Flexible Seating, and Fidgets to Calm	Items to be purchased with this grand money include books, fidgets, and additional flexible seating. The books will be used during SEL time to help students learn how to identify feelings they are experiencing, talk about these feelings, and share out how to appropriately express these feelings. The goal of the fidgets being purchased is to help students calm and teach students how to use different items to help them calm down. Classroom behaviors have increased drastically over the past few years and many students do not know how to calm themselves without being aggressive. The hope is that the use of fidgets will help students learn to calm themselves by re-focusing that negative energy. Flexible seating will be used to assist students who need movement, variety, and alternatives to the usual carpet spaces or table spaces.	\$705	\$705
Oriana Gilson	Woodruff Career and Technical Center	Classroom Grant	Young Alumni-Student Engagement Conference	The Young Alumni-Student Engagement Conference brings together dual-credit PPS students in the Health Occupations, Criminal Justice, and EMT/Fire Science programs with Young Alumni Ambassadors- recent PPS graduates currently attending college. Through participation in the conference, (1) current PPS gain insights to better prepare them for the academic and lifestyle changes of college, (2) both current PPS students and young alumni have the opportunity to expand professional/academic experiences and strengthen resumes, (3) all participants grow networks with upcoming and current practitioners in their fields. The conference enhances and makes tangible the College Success learning objectives of preparing high school students to successfully apply to, attend, and graduate from college/university.	\$1,000	\$1,000
Lisa Snow	Woodruff Career and Technical Center	STEM grant	Introduction to Arson Investigation	This school year I will be partnering with the City of Peoria Fire Department (PFD), in creating a practical homicide arson investigation. Woodruff Criminal Justice, Fire Science and EMT students will conduct the investigation inside a real world scene created by the PFD. The equipment purchased for the arson investigation scene will familiarize students who want to be first responders to the equipment utilized for arson investigation. They will learn how to protect and gather evidence to lead to arrests and convictions of arson suspects. In addition students will learn that most fires are not arsons and how to rule out arson as a possible cause.	\$719	\$719