Examples of successful past Teacher Innovative Grants funded by the Clear Creek Education Foundation

Please use these examples of innovative, sustainable, collaborative programs to give you an idea of some of the great things happening in the district that you can take to your campus and make your own or come up with your own very NEW idea.

Contact Kaci Hanson, kahanson@cccisd.net or 281.284.0031, for any questions or for more ideas to!

Elementary:

Grant Name: Why the noise? What’s the commotion? It’s learning and fun through C’Motion!
Campus and Teacher: McWhirter, Kathryn Stevens
Summary: Motion takes learning to a new level as it combines using interactive gaming equipment with the process of reviewing and applying core content skills. This twist to learning is designed to help at-risk children have fun, instill the love of reviewing and using knowledge as the class uses fitness techniques while reviewing curriculum elements from mathematics, science, social studies, and/or language arts specifically chosen by their classroom teachers. *Ms. Stevens had already worked it out with the vendor to this program to match our donation if it was funded and provide the program at another CCISD Title 1 school.

Grant Name: Makerspace 101 – Innovation Stations
Campus and Teacher: Ross Elementary, Brandy Magdos
Summary: The goal of this grant is to provide elementary school students with enriching learning experiences through the use of a Makerspace. A Makerspace is a collaborative space where the students will come together to design, create and build items of their own creation through inquiry-based learning.

Grant Name: Financial Finesse
Campus and Teacher: Weber Elementary, Cynthia Weaver
Summary: Financial Finesse is a project created to address the new financial literacy TEKS which were added to the elementary curriculum beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. It will incorporate a system of economics into the daily lives of the students allowing them to achieve mastery of the state objectives in a more meaningful way.

Grant Name: STEM for Stewart Saturdays (Part 1)
Campus and Teacher: Stewart Elementary, Geralyn Kiser
Summary: Stewart students love the science experiences they have at school. We want to invite families to join us for Stewart STEM Saturdays, where teachers, students, and parents will all work together on science experiments or engineering projects. We also want our students to have opportunities to do science at home, offering enough support
for their parents to make the experiences meaningful and enjoyable. We need engaging, meaningful experiments and engineering projects for families to work on together at our special STEM Saturday events. We also need simple science and engineering kits to send home with students.

Grant Name: Learning Together: Growing Leaders Through STEM (Part 2)
Campus and Teacher: Stewart Elementary, Geralyn Kiser
Summary: Teachers at Stewart Elementary are committed to creating a learning environment that is highly engaging and gets students excited about learning every day. We want our students to be strong critical thinkers and problem solvers in math and science. We need to provide opportunities for them to continue learning beyond the regular school day, including resources and support for their parents. We need math and science materials for Stewart STEM Saturdays, as well as meaningful math games for students and their families to use at home. We believe that if teachers, parents, and students work together, students will grow academically and develop the confidence to be leaders in their community.

Grant Name: Recess: Inclusion for All
Campus and Teacher: Ferguson Elementary, Meredith Brown
Summary: The purpose of our grant is to provide a recess bucket to students with a physical disability throughout our district. Due to the physical involvement of these students and the high numbers of children at grade level recess, a student in a wheelchair or walker is not able to safely access the play structures and participate in most recess activities. Due to this limitation, most of these students are often isolated from their peers during this time that is so important socially. The recess bucket would provide equipment and activities that would allow the student with a physical disability to participate in recess activities appropriate to their abilities with their non-physically disabled peers.

Grant Name: Move to Succeed: Integrating Sensory Tools to Increase Student Success in First Grade Classrooms
Campus and Teacher: Whitcomb Elementary, Miriam Bailey
Summary: The First Grade team will take a grade level approach to integrate sensory tools and strategies to help increase student self regulation and decrease disruptive and distractive behaviors. This will impact all learners within the classroom by enhancing the learning environment and increasing student academic and behavioral successes across content areas.
Grant Name:  Knight's Cafe  
**Campus and Teacher:** Mossman Elementary, Suzanne Hargrove  
**Summary:** To provide a curriculum based "kitchen" where special needs children plan, prepare, and serve lunch monthly to the Mossman staff and district guests.

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Grant Name: Puppets with Character  
**Campus and Teacher:** Falcon Pass Elementary, Katherine Stathakos  
**Summary:** This grant would provide each kindergarten class with a set of puppets for student use in role play of social skills and positive character traits throughout the year.

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Grant Name: 1st Graders Partner with Professional Writers Through Writers in the School Project  
**Campus and Teacher:** Falcon Pass Elementary, Katherine Stathakos  
**Summary:** Utilize the WITS program (more information at www.witshouston.org) to bring in professional writers to partner with 1st grade teachers to mentor students in the joy and power of effective writing.

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Grant Name: See it and 3D it!  
**Campus and Teacher:** Falcon Pass Elementary, Deborah Adams  
**Summary:** Using the 3D printer we received from last year, students will use handheld and desktop 3D scanners to recreate real objects utilizing their understanding of ratio and scale. Students will examine real-world uses for their designs and the technology itself and use a 7-step design process to complete their projects.
Intermediate:

Grant Name: String Project
Campus and Teacher: Bayside Intermediate, Jennifer Kidwell
Summary: Numerous studies have demonstrated that instrumental music supports student achievement by aiding in brain development and helping students learn teamwork and discipline. Offering violin to underperforming Mossman 5th graders is an attempt to help close the gap between these students and their peers. This grant is designed to take advantage of the Education Village concept to enable vertical teaming and collaboration between Mossman, Bayside and Clear Falls High School (CFHS). Approximately 14.8% of Mossman Elementary students are economically disadvantaged. With the help of Principals Johnson and Thomas, we want to offer students the opportunity to learn violin as an after-school program every day to these 5th grade students. The program will take place at Bayside while offering Clear Falls High School service learning opportunities to mentor these Mossman students.

Grant Name: District Wide Science Night
Campus and Teacher: Clear Creek Intermediate, Betty McCullough
Summary: District Wide Science Night for all Elementary and Intermediate School Students in Clear Creek ISD

Grant Name: 7th Graders Learn from Professional Authors through the Writers in the Schools
Campus and Teacher: Seabrook Intermediate, Kimberly Cawley
Summary: A professional author will teach writing from a crafting perspective to 7th grade students over the course of 24 weeks.

Grant Name: Destination Innovation
Campus and Teacher: Victory Lake Intermediate, Darlene Schlitzberger
Summary: Destination Innovation is a spring semester project that allows for students to utilize their advisory time to participate in an innovation project of their choice. The end result of Destination Innovation is Innovation night where students will showcase their project to the school and community celebrating their accomplishment of innovation. This opportunity for innovation allows time for personalized learning to occur as well as supporting the district mission of leading the way in the 21st Century by encouraging innovation and forward thinking.

Grant Name: Art in History
Campus and Teacher: Clear Creek Intermediate, Jennifer Leary
Summary: The Art in History program is where students can learn about previous cultures through historic, hands-on, 3-Dimensional artifacts. With over 34 unique projects available, in areas of history, ELA, literacy, geography, art, math, and economics. This is an exciting way for students to learn. Clear Creek Intermediate is a title 1 school where many families have financial difficulties. This grant would allow for the artifacts to be paid for with no additional expense needed by the student.
High School:

**Grant Name:** Collaboration Station: a technology-infused, flexible zone of the library  
**Campus and Teacher:** Clear Springs High School, Melinda Hutt  
**Summary:** The Clear Springs Library wants to change the way students and teachers use the library. In conjunction with CCISD’s Latitude 2 Learn initiative, which aims to transform teaching and learning, the new Collaboration Station will provide a much needed, forward-thinking project development space. This transformation may be achieved, in part, by influencing the pedagogy utilized during instruction allowing an increase in the number of project-based, personalized learning experiences completed by our Chargers at Clear Springs.

**Grant Name:** Makerspace-a-month Project  
**Campus and Teacher:** Clear Lake High School, Shirley Cook - Dickey  
**Summary:** Makerspaces are a new movement in public libraries, and are intended to promote student initiated learning through a construction-based and hands-on learning environment. Educational Makerspaces in school libraries take the idea further, helping the students develop critical thinking processes and problem solving, and transforming the teacher from a deliverer of instruction into a facilitator and coach for independent student learning. I would like to provide one ongoing, curriculum-based makerspace every month in the Clear Lake High School library. The specific makerspace ideas are listed below. I will work with the Science, Math, Engineering, Career, Language Arts, Visual Arts, and Computer Science departments to create maker projects that will support curriculum while encouraging creativity, higher level thinking, and independent learning.

**Grant Name:** Cabinet of Curiosities: Exploring Biology in the Arts  
**Campus and Teacher:** Clear Falls High School, Nina Makepeace  
**Summary:** The grant would allow for the purchase of a wide variety of biological reproductions and preserved specimens to be used in the visual art classroom as subject matter for a variety of types of artwork.

**Grant Name:** Aquaponics Gardening I and II  
**Campus and Teacher:** Clear Brook High School, Emilie Olivier  
**Summary:** The aquaponic gardening project will facilitate students in creating a self-sustaining recirculating ecosystem utilizing natural bacterial cycles to convert fish waste to plant nutrients. This is an environmentally friendly, natural food-growing method that harnesses the best attributes of aquaculture and hydroponics without the need to discard any water or filter or add chemical fertilizers. AP Environmental Science, Aquatic Science, and Biology classes will use the system as a demonstration of sustainable food resources and nutrient cycling. This project is an expanded version of the system that was submitted the previous year; with increased implementation ideas.
Grant Name: Outdoor Learning Center  
Campus and Teacher: Clear View High School, Rebecca Garland  
Summary: Create an outdoor learning space for Clear View High School. Currently there is no outdoor space designed for classroom or collaborative use. The grant will allow us to install a paved path and pad as well as benches arranged in a circular fashion in a space already designated and available at the end of English and Art hallway.

Grant Name: Up we Grow  
Campus and Teacher: Clear Creek High School, Stacey Lange  
Summary: The students in our Alternative Academics classroom in wheelchairs have a hard time accessing the garden at CCHS. We would like to begin a vertical garden and also explore hydroponic gardening.

And so many more!