



PRESS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:

Celeste Potter – celeste.potter@ectorcountyisd.org or EducationFoundation.Odessa@outlook.com

Education Foundation of Odessa Awards More Than \$89,000 to ECISD Teachers

(Odessa, TX.) The Education Foundation of Odessa is excited to award **\$89,798.66** to Ector County ISD teachers for the 2022-2023 school year through its innovative grant program!

The Grants Committee approved the funding of:

11 Elementary Classroom requests totaling \$31,022.32; 10 Secondary Classroom requests totaling \$44,285.74; and 6 Secondary Fine Arts requests totaling \$17,050.00 in partnership with Odessa Arts who contributed \$5,000 to the Foundation for this special allocation. Additionally, the Grants Committee allocated \$10,000 to be awarded during the 2022-2023 school year to ECISD teachers through DonorsChoose, an online platform that allows teachers to seek funding for special projects throughout the year.

See attached list of grant awards.

Education Foundation Board President, Jay Arrick, says, *“The Education Foundation grants are the original focus of the Education Foundation, the grants serve as a way for innovative classroom projects that would not otherwise be possible due to school district budget constraints to come to realization. Every year we are inspired by the grants and the people that we have in our community bringing us ideas to further the education experience for our children. We want to thank not only all of those that work at ECISD that serve our children, but also all of the community members that donate to the Foundation that allow us to fund the annual grants as well!”*

Education Foundation Board Member and Grants Committee Chair, Tiny Garza, added, *“I am very pleased with the work the committee completed and that we are able to support our teachers and students in ECISD.”*

About the Grants Program

Each year, teachers, principals, and administrators from across the district submit proposals to the Education Foundation. A committee made up of Foundation board members reviews each grant and comes to a consensus on which projects to fund. Grants are evaluated on their innovation, creativity, student need being addressed, sustainability and content.

Since the Foundation’s inception, and including this year, the Education Foundation has awarded more than \$2.8-million to fund innovative and creative projects in the classroom for ECISD students. Additionally, the Foundation continues to provide additional monetary support to ECISD through support of special programs and incentives that result in student success.

The Grants Committee is made up of Education Foundation Board Members and community volunteers who take time to review each grant proposal and evaluate based on innovation, how the project relates to curriculum objectives adopted by ECISD and overall project budget.

About the Education Foundation of Odessa

The Education Foundation of Odessa is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization of citizens who share a vision of enhancing education in ECISD.

The Education Foundation of Odessa provides a new and innovative source of funding to support the school district's educational plan. The Foundation does not attempt to replace lost state funding, nor does it attempt to take the place of the district's operating budget. When considering the level of funding required to educate students, the Foundation can expect only to provide funds for those projects and activities that go beyond the normal classroom experience. Such initiatives provide enrichment, research opportunities, teacher training, intervention and prevention strategies and extend the educational effort.

Funding for the Grants Program and other Education Foundation supported projects stems from community support through donations. The Education Foundation's annual fundraising concert is back in 2022 with Lukas Nelson & POTR at the Ector County Coliseum on September 22nd.

The mission of the Education Foundation is to create opportunities for education in Ector County ISD. Our vision is that every student in ECISD will be school-ready, college-ready, work-ready... WORLD-READY!

Website: www.educationfoundationodessa.com

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/Education-Foundation-of-Odessa-260794134008596/?ref=hl>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EFodessa>


###



Spring 2022 Grant Recipients

Carver Early Education Center

Teacher(s): Tatum Roe

-  Insects and Metamorphosis! Watch me Grow! - \$1,000.00

Teacher(s): Paula D'on Paquette

-  STEAMing Our Way Through Early Childhood - \$6,500.00
-  How Does Your Garden Grow - \$500.00


Gale Pond Alamo

Teacher(s): Sandra Elms


-  Art in Science - \$943.13

Gonzales Elementary

Teacher(s): Diane Harlan, Staci Howell

-  Gardening: A Solution for Less Pollution - \$2,155.99

Teacher(s): Xin Jin

-  Collecting Paw Prints - \$4,377.00


Ireland Elementary

Teacher(s): Cara Shephard

-  Performing in High Definition - \$2,493.25

Johnson Elementary

Teacher(s): Dr. Zenovia Crier

-  Greenhouse Effect - \$1,451.95

Teacher(s): Evonne Marruffo

-  Fielding Tough Concepts in a Native Way - \$1,554.00

Zavala Elementary

Teacher(s): Erin Reddell, Senyda Huertas

-  The Secret Garden - \$2,620.00


Bonham Middle School

Teacher(s): William Pettigrew, Hector Izaguirre, Brian Barrientes

 Stand and Deliver - \$2,000.00

Bowie Middle School

Teacher(s): Jimena Wolfle


 A Collection of Keys - \$3,599.00

Crockett Middle School

Teacher(s): Juliette Farris

 Content Creation through Book Trailers - \$1,561.00

Teacher(s): Bria Maxey, Juliette Farris

 Student Voices Podcast - \$310.92

Teacher(s): Juliette Farris, Frances Varela, Cherry Trstenjak, Bria Maxey

 Never Forget - \$1,990.08


New Tech Odessa

Teacher(s): Jesus Valeriano

 Enkindle Gallery - \$5,876.00


OCTECHS

Teacher(s): Shelley Wagner, Bridgette Profit, Mark Perales


 To Walk in their Shoes - \$4,500.00

Odessa High School

Teacher(s): Cheryl Sellars, Chyree Lemaster

 Rocking the Renaissance - \$1,744.34


Teacher(s): Francesca Florance

 Covering Our Bases in Harp Education - \$2,075.00

Permian High School

Teacher(s): Patrick Moseley

 Walk the Graph - \$17,520.00


 Moving Cones - \$4,100.00

Teacher(s): Micaela Grenier

 Take Drama to the Next Level - \$3,500.00

Curriculum & Instruction Dept.

Teacher(s): Cynthia Rubalcado, Isabel Cardona

 Rev Up STEAM Learning in PreK! - \$7,427.00