PRESS RELEASE

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Education Foundation of Odessa Awards More Than $125,000 to ECISD Teachers

(Odessa, TX.) The Education Foundation of Odessa is excited to award $127,827.08 to Ector County ISD teachers for the 2020-2021 school year through its innovative grant program! These grant funds are in addition to the $23,000 in Fine Arts funding announced last week, making a total of $150,827.08 in funding for next school year.

See attached list of grant awards.

Education Foundation Director, Celeste Potter, says, “While the current year did not end the way we had planned, we are grateful to be in a position to continue awarding funds to our teachers in Ector County ISD. The Education Foundation Board of Directors look forward to seeing all of these grants in action in the 2020-2021 school year.”

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. This year, the Committee reviewed 95 proposals and were able to fund 47 of those requests.

Since the Foundation’s inception, and including this year, the Education Foundation has awarded more than $2.6-million to fund innovative and creative projects in the classroom for ECISD students.

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.

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

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Spring 2020 Grant Recipients

Lamar Early Education Center
Teacher(s): Brooklyn Arias
   STEM is Our Super Power - $1,293.97

Blackshear Elementary
Teacher(s): Cecilia Gutierrez, Norma Galindo and Mariebel Zermeno
   It’s All in the Box - $2,250.00

Teacher(s): Beatrice Sosa and Christina Munoz
   Collaboration Stations - $1,650.00

Teacher(s): Cecilia Gutierrez, Alicia Gonzales and Dave Machuca
   Hand2Mind Learning in Disguise - $2,700.00

Teacher(s): Jeanette Chavez and Beatrice Sosa
   Reading Hand2Mind - $2,400.00

Dowling Elementary
Teacher(s): Kelly Pyron
   For the Love of Books - $2,065.66

Teacher(s): Donna Allen
   Because We’re Dreamers - $368.25

Milam Elementary
Teacher(s): Jennifer Marks
   Texas Library Association Annual Conference - $1,462.75
   Fix Our Favorites - $2,000.00
   Show Us Success - $2,671.88
   Books for Bilinguals - $3,134.32

Teacher(s): Claudia Lopez and Betsy Lujan
   AVID Summer Institute - $2,550.00
**Pease Elementary**
Teacher(s): Maria Gonzalez
- A Connection Between Language, Culture, and Literacy - $4,140.00

Teacher(s): Gwen Mayo
- Online, On Shelves, On Fire for Books - $663.07
- OSMO-azing! - $3,964.88

**Reagan Elementary**
Teacher(s): Janice Wilson
- One School, One Book - $2,167.00

Teacher(s): Maricela Young
- Gaming Comprehension Skills - $185.49

**Zavala Elementary**
Teacher(s): Julie Graham, Shanna Edwards, Valerie Martinez, Katrina Christensen, Nancy Valeriano, Ana Miranda-Castanos and Erin Reddell
- A Recipe for Success - $2,313.00

Teacher(s): Linda Marquez, Tanya Galindo and Erin Reddell
- The Magic Book Machine - $4,595.00

**Buice Elementary and LBJ Elementary**
Teacher(s): Johnna Rosson and Vanessa Brower
- Gifted Training: Gaining & Obtaining... Houston or Bust! - $3,315.00
- Reading, Leading & Succeeding in the 21st Century - $1,691.42

**Bowie Middle School**
Teacher(s): Kimberly Gideon and Brian Ellington
- First® Lego® League Competition - $3,694.00

**Crockett Middle School**
Teacher(s): Juliette Farris
- I Can't Find Anything to Read! - $5,127.76
- New Residents in the Library - $1,000.00

**Alternative Education Center**
Teacher(s): Reynaldo Duran
- Chromebooks for International Collaboration - $1,266.00

**New Tech Odessa**
Teacher(s): Yoana Picazo
- Rescue Beacons & Geometry - $3,919.58
**Odessa Collegiate Academy**
Teacher(s): Elizabeth Gray  
- AVID Summer Institute - $850.00

Teacher(s): Travis Cooper  
- Equipping the Back Yard Brain - $3,250.00

**OCTECHS**
Teacher(s): Shelley Wagner, Bridgette Profit and Mark Perales  
- To Walk in Their Shoes - $4,570.00

Teacher(s): Stephanie Marin and Victoria Weinzel  
- Magnifying Learning - $1,258.75

**Odessa High School**
Teacher(s): Melissa Roth  
- Advanced Academics Counselor Workshops - $1,500.00

Teacher(s): Naomi Fuentes  
- AVID Summer Institute - $8,500.00

**Permian High School**
Teacher(s): Tim Gilley  
- Diggin’ Up Rome – An Archaeological Excavation - $1,725.00

Teacher(s): Teri Richardson and Michelle Press  
- Tag! Who’s It? - $9,700.00

Teacher(s): Ashley Sikora and Leondra Holman  
- Vocational Training - $3,447.95

**Odessa High School and Permian High School**
Teacher(s): Yesenia Barajas and Ramon Rivera  
- Organic World Language - $5,000.00

**Advanced Academics**
Teacher(s): Heather Bland  
- Friday Night Reads - $5,500.00

**AVID**
Teacher(s): Virginia Hunt  
- Transforming Reluctant Readers - $5,000.00

**Instructional Technology**
Teacher(s): Ashley Osborne and Christopher Bartlett  
- Blended Learning in Action - $6,000.00
**Literacy Department**
Teacher(s): Jaime Miller
- Reading is a Tasty Treat - $5,000.00

**Special Education Department**
Teacher(s): Michelle Whetstone and Sarah Patton
- Learning is Functional Everywhere (L.I.F.E. Skills Lab) - $3,936.35