



Student Support Committee Grants 2023-24

Student Support Committee grants are awarded for innovative and novel programs, equipment or pilot projects that support the educational experience for students with varied learning, physical, cognitive, social and emotional abilities. Grants may be awarded for an individual classroom or for a project that benefits a range of classrooms and ages. The grants should address students' diverse needs.

Below are descriptions of the grant-winning projects from 2023-24, taken from grant applications.

Home Math Kits

Grades 2-5

AIS Math students would receive a pouch that includes the manipulatives they will need at home in order to play games and practice skills at home. This will give us the opportunity to switch out the games and activities that go home. This would include directions for families to review together.

Number/Letter Ball Set

Grades PK-5

A set of number balls and letter balls to use for educational purposes during PE class. These materials will help students learn while participating in gym class.

Executive Function Tool Kit

Grade 3

To support all of our student's development, and maintain strong executive function skills which will help them succeed in their school career and beyond.

Rapid Automatic Naming Games

Grade 2

Games that will help support students who need to increase their vocabulary and rapid naming (Games: Pictionary, Scattegories, Kids Charades, Apples to Apples Junior, Taboo Kids)

Projector to Ease Frustrations

Grade 2-ICT

Students have been brought to tears by the idea and execution of adding pictures to their writing. Even though the importance of art and the creative process are understood, when students are publishing their writing, they should not be held back by their artistic talents. The use of this projector would be limited and not used every day/time by the same student. This would be another aspect of the tools that are used in the classroom to allow all students to access the curriculum.

Prialize Notes

Grade 9-12

The purchase of 6 mini visual printers helps by condensing notes and creating visual aids. This encourages healthy study habits that maximize productivity and reduce stressful situations in class.

Art Sensory Boxes

Grade K 12:1:1

Art sensory boxes for my art room, giving opportunity for my kindergarteners to help build on a wide variety of fine motor skills through specific "play-through-learning" activities. (For example: boxes focused on shape, color, texture). I would use the funds awarded to purchase boxes to create and fill with supplies such as water beads, play dough, magna tiles, soft blocks, and kinetic sand.

Diffusing Light Filters

Grades K-5

The fluorescent lighting covers will be used to diffuse the sensory impacts of fluorescent lighting. The funds will be used to purchase the lighting covers for both ExSEL classrooms and the accompanying ExSEL spaces.

Classroom Sensory Gym

Grade PK-K

The funds would be used to purchase a crash pad, cocoon swing and stand, body sock, stepping stones, and a weighted lap pad. These items will be used along with the other items that are already in the classroom (trampoline, yoga balls, sit-and-spin, etc.) to create a sensory gym.

Flex Seating & Sensory Swing

Grade PK-K

The goal of this grant will provide the students with an alternate seating option for large group times as well as a swing for sensory breaks. This will be used in the Pre-K 8:1:2 class and this will help the students with significant needs.

Music Room Calming Center

Grades K-5

The funds will be used to purchase a comfortable chair, a small carpet, as well as various tools for students to use if they need a break from instruction, such as: fidget tools, adaptive seating, coloring pencils/sheets, sensory headphones, timers.

Mock Apartment

Transition Academy

Students will be able to use the simulated apartment to practice skills in making the bed, cleaning, personal care and hygiene, dressing/laundry, setting the table, and more. Additionally, students will be able to use this setting to develop their social skills. Through role play, students will learn the responsibilities and interactions necessary for sharing a living space with others, whether that is a roommate or family member.

Garden Storage Shed

Grades 9-12

The garden was established in the spring of 2023 by Transition Academy students. The garden is an outdoor learning space that allows students to learn about growing food and caring for plants, while enjoying the peaceful benefits of spending time in nature. The garden storage shed will support the garden program which will hopefully be expanded this year as part of an MSF grant. The garden will include a sensory garden bed, an herb garden for the culinary classes, and more for cooking and recipes in Transition Academy.

Vocational Chart

Grade 9-12

The TA Vocational class is looking to receive a Cricut machine along with other needed materials to begin making stickers that we can sell through our Transition Academy store. The initial idea is to start small and learn how to make these stickers (for water bottles, laptops, etc.) and then build up over the years to bigger items. Future goals would be to make iron on decals for T-shirts or press directly onto water bottles or coffee mugs. The students this year are going to be making and selling soap, these stickers will also be able to be used as labels for the soap.

Generalized Learning & Community Based Instruction

Transition Academy

The goal of this grant is to provide Transition Academy students with a high-interest learning experience in the community where skills practiced in school such as (social skills, functional math & literacy skills, language skills, travel & safety skills, etc.) can be in put into practice from a contrived (classroom) setting, then generalized to a real-life environment (the community) which is most impactful for our learners.

Sensory Based Work Bins

Grades 1-4-8:1:1

The funds will be used to purchase a comfortable chair, a small carpet, as well as various tools for students to use if they need a break from instruction, such as: fidget tools, adaptive seating, coloring pencils/sheets, sensory headphones, timers.

Enhancing Speech Production & Overall Intelligibility in Pre-K-5

Grades PK-5

The goal of the grant is to intervene as early as possible to remediate sound errors (omissions, substitutions, distortions) by teaching correct production of the phoneme as well as the oral- motor skills needed. articulation and phonological errors.

Self-Contained 811 Library Engagement Resources

Grade K-5

Our goal for this grant application is to expand and replenish our touch and feel books as well as expanding our big book collection and puppets. We hope to have 15-20 new touch and feel books that will allow some variety in selection. Large books will allow students to see and engage with a physical book instead of a screen. The puppets will also be used to further engage with books about a variety of animals and multicultural puppets will look similar to a variety of characters over a range of many stories.

Behavior Plan Toolbox

Grades K-12

Funds will be utilized to purchase a variety of social emotional read aloud, activity books and materials/games that will support BIP development and direct work with students.

Large AAC Playground Boards

Grade K-7

Many of our students benefit from some sort of Assistive Technology for communication. We have approximately 17 students who use AAC devices and many more who rely on communication boards to help support language comprehension and use. We would like to partner with the STEM classes at MHS to have them create the boards for us.