**District 205 Foundation for Educational Excellence**

**Thiems Grants 2015**

**$29,194**

**District Wide -$11,620**

**Finding Kind and The Bully Project $740**

***John Clugg, Katy Clugg- students***

This grant will provide funding for a community wide screening of **Finding Kind** , an award winning documentary aimed at bringing awareness and healing to negative and lasting effects of girl-against-girl bullying. Additionally, a Bully Project tool kit, containing the documentary Bully and other accompanying materials, will be purchased for York High School with the opportunity to share the contents with district staff for evaluation as a potential resource at other levels. Funds are earmarked to purchase a kit for each middle school should they want one.(2015-21)

**Elementary and Middle School**

**BrainPop: Bursting with Information $10,880**

***Karla Talbot and K-8 Librarians***

*BrainPOP* is an online school and home use multi-media subscription database that features over 600 animated movies with formative assessments and curriculum extensions. Funded for all elementary schools by the Foundation since 2010, this popular resource provided access to over 21,893 unique visits and averaged 123 separate logins each instruction day in 2013-2014. Due to the popularity and increased annual use of BrainPop at the elementary level, this year funding has been increased to pilot the use of this subscription service to all middle schools. (2014-24)

**Elementary- $10,719**

**Boost Comprehension $230 Emerson**

***Kate Cortez***

This is a supplementary program for teaching reading comprehension skills with grade level kits that focus on a variety skills. These will be used for ELL students in first through fourth grade to incorporate more targeted comprehension exposure and practice.

(2015-01)

**IXL 4 All $550 Emerson**

***Christine Kissel, Christine Dvorak, Angie Sterns, Kelly Guziewski***

This grant provides access to the computer based IXL program in Language Arts for each fourth grade student to use at home and at school. IXL is a highly motivating individualized program that provides instant feedback to students, parents, and teachers. This is the second year pilot for the language arts version of this software and will allow staff and students to evaluate it as a potential resource for extended use. (2105-12)

**Still Razzed About Reading $1,550 (partial) Field**

***Valerie Baxter Dina Marazzo-Capua, , Gretchen Boerwinkle, Liz Firak, Lois Prokosch, Kendall Wright , Rasaleen Eagan***

Raz-Kids is an online, leveled reading database that is student-centered and common core aligned. This total building and at home site will assist teachers in differentiating their reading instruction so that students can read e-book texts appropriate to their developmental level, and will help students reinforce and practice comprehension skills taught by the classroom teacher. This is a second year pilot and will allow staff and students to evaluate it as a potential resource for extended use. (2014-10)

**Revving it Up with RAZ-Kids $1,954**

***Tammy Dospoy, Courtney Edwards*  Emerson**

This gives all school and at home access of Raz-Kids for use as a leveled teacher guided resource with e-books for student use. (2015-13)

**Delving Deeper with Close Reading $1,782 Emerson**

***Courtney Edwards, Tammy Dospoy***

This grant is going to fund the purchase of approximately two hundred non-fiction books for third through fifth grade. The Close Reading Strategy will be used to focus on reading comprehension ad vocabulary. (2015-14)

**Implementation of Sensory Materials to Improve Jefferson**

**Student Engagement and Attention Within the Classroom $2,500**

 ***Kirsten Weidner, Kelly Krueger***

Alternative seating options, sensory and movement break tools and supports will be purchased for use in kindergarten through fifth grade classrooms. Using the Response to Intervention model, this program gives students with attention and sensory concerns opportunities to more effectively access curriculum and function independently in the classroom. (2015-07)

**Scholarly Literacy Development $658 Jefferson**

***Heather Noncek***

Small sets of specifically selected fiction and non-fiction books will be purchased for use by reading specialists for targeted reading intervention of third through fifth graders. This project would provide struggling readers with the same opportunities as all students to be exposed to a variety of novels that contain information relevant to everyday life and content areas(2015-08).

**Interactive Notebooks (partial) $600 Fischer**

***Christina Seiders, Pia Bartolai ,Lisa Ferraris***

This project provides starter kits for all first through fifth grade math teachers to get their students started using Interactive Notebooks in Math. These notebooks allow for creative and hands-on note taking for students, and have been proven to increase achievement when used properly.(2015-19)

**Oh the Places We’ll Go with PebbleGo! $895 Emerson**

***Sandy Wenig, Claudia Valdez, Lindsey Niggins, Elizabeth Kawa***

PebbleGo is an innovative, engaging online research database for primary readers. This grant allows the addition of Science, Social Studies and Biographies databases to the school’s existing PebbleGo subscription which is primarily used for students in kindergarten through third grades.(2015-16)

***YORK HIGH SCHOOL-* $ 6,855**

**Decorative Pictures of Science in Action $900**

***Jeremy Paschke, Adam Brown***

This grant funds the creation of eight to ten high quality photos of students and teachers doing science that will hang on the walls of the academic center at York. This sends a positive message about the importance of science and academics and will help encourage the pursuit of science as a discipline for students.(2015-20)

**Manufacturing Anything:Coming Soon to Schools in 3-D $3,255**

***Jeff Drach, Jeremy Paschke, Cindy Zentner***

A 3-D printer will be purchased for the science department to be used for students to design and build models and useful tools for use in a variety of scientific studies.(2014-04)

**APPS for SUCCESS: Students Using Clever $700**

 **Calendars for Executive Functioning Strategies and Success**

***Pat Rowe***

This program will help students in Guided Study learn how to evaluate and choose applications that will help them effectively plan and organize in high school and beyond(2015-09)

**Courtyard Garden and Outdoor Classroom $2,000**

***Andrew Bendelow, Lauren Yun***

The creation of a school garden and outdoor classroom is an ongoing project that began last year and has growing financial and working support. It provides hands on lessons/projects for science and multiple vocational arts curricula, as well as club activity. (2015-18)