



Reading Education Foundation

Outside the box ~ Inside the classroom.

REF is pleased to support innovation and creativity in Reading schools by awarding \$41,727.38 in teacher grants and professional development in 2019.

DISTRICT-WIDE

Year-Long Professional Development Fund: REF will continue to offer this rolling deadline fund for RPS educators to take advantage of training opportunities that arise throughout the year, thus making it easier for teachers to bring new ideas into their classrooms.

SECONDARY SCHOOL GRANTS

Expanding Boundaries: With the purchase of classroom laptops, 7th & 8th grade Coolidge foreign language students will experience heightened engagement through a variety of tools designed to accommodate different learning styles, individualized lessons and assessments, global collaboration and cultural exposure. *Grant proposed by Ursula Abad*

Working like an Artist with Pottery Wheels: The purchase of 3 pottery wheels for 7th & 8th grade students at Parker will expand their ceramics knowledge and provide a new way to express their own unique creativity. *Grant proposed by Diane Davis*

Inspiring Future Programmers: Through the use of Finch robots and Microbits, Parker students will build critical thinking skills, computational aptitude, and enthusiasm for computer science. *Grant proposed by Robyn Ferrazzani*

Building Compassion and Empathy through Literature: Both middle schools will participate in an all school read of Alan Gratz's *The Refugee*, engage in activities in a variety of curriculum areas, and experience an author visit to develop a deeper understanding of refugee situations, including those of the current day. *Grant proposed by Sarah Marchant and Richele Shankland*

Expanding Current Non-Fiction in the Classroom: Broaden the quality of non-fiction offerings and improve reading/writing skills of Parker 6th grade students through a subscription to *Scope* magazine and the wide range of text formats found in the interactive, online *Scope* website. *Grant proposed by Julie Merrill and Megan Kiser*

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRANTS

Access-for-All Chapter Audio Books : Through the use of PlayAway audiobooks, Birch Meadow library will achieve increased circulation of popular chapter books for 3rd-5th graders. *Grant proposed by Paula Falvey*

Exploring STEM through Play: Cubelets robot blocks will provide a fun, creative and engaging platform for introduction to basic coding activities and critical thinking skills at Barrows. *Grant proposed by Lori Hill and Kelley Papa*

All-Inclusive Library Collection: By seeing themselves in books they read, Wood End students will gain acceptance, self-discovery, respect and safety. *Grant proposed by Joanne King*

Sensory Motor Trails: This outdoor trail will provide all elementary schools and Rise Preschool a fun and engaging way for students to involve whole body movement to self-regulate and focus. *Grant proposed by Alysia Redard, Maria Fitzpatrick and Rebecca Schromm*

Completion of Elementary Ukulele Program: Final installment of instruments will give each school a full class of instruments, achieving more student engagement and a more beneficial musical experience. *Grant proposed by Melissa Steiger*