

# THE HIGHLAND FOUNDATION

*Invest in the vision. Empower the future.*

## FALL/WINTER 2016-17 PROJECT GRANTS

# LITERACY



Hinckley Students at Book Kick Off Assembly

### ONE DISTRICT, ONE BOOK (\$10,389)

This is funded through a long-term grant proposal. Now in its third year, all elementary (Granger, Hinckley, Sharon) students receive a common book each January to read throughout the course of a month. Students will participate in numerous activities associated with the district reading theme and the messages of the book. An online blog will also enhance communication between elementary buildings. This year's book is *The Lemonade War*, by Jacqueline Davies.

### PLAYAWAY AUDIO MP3 BOOKPACKS (\$3,638)

Audio learning allows teachers to differentiate instruction in their classrooms, and allows students of all reading levels to be exposed to higher level vocabulary and comprehension than they would normally see in decodable books. These HD players are paired with books during silent reading times at a listening center. Every 1st grade student will have access to them daily at Granger Elementary. This innovative technology addresses the needs of readers on all levels in the area of fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and critical thinking skills

### 3RD GRADE AUTHOR BOOK WRITING PROJECT (\$600)

This project was funded last year for 3rd graders at Hinckley Elementary School and is an opportunity for beyond-level students to see their writing come to fruition using an on-line website that takes young authors (using pen names) through the writing process to the completion of their very own paperback book. Additional copies will be purchased for the classroom and all district elementary libraries. The project is slated for completion at the end of March 2017.

# FINE ARTS

### BAND ACCOMPANIST (\$2,000)

The band accompanist grant covers fees associated with having an accompanist work with Highland music students who are preparing for solo and ensemble events.

### HUNTERTONES JAZZ RESIDENCY (\$4,100)

The Huntertones are a contemporary jazz band that performs Jazz, Funk, Soul, R&B and Rock. Originally from Columbus, OH, they are currently based in Brooklyn, NY. On April 24-25, the band will work with middle and high school students and share their experiences as professional musicians and educators. They will also lead jazz clinics and direct student ensembles. They will perform with the students during the District Jazz Concert on April 25 at Highland High School.



The Huntertones



# COMMUNITY

# ENRICHMENT

### JESSE WEINBERGER: OVERNIGHTGEEK UNIVERSITY (\$5,738)

Jesse Weinberger, an internet safety expert and owner of OvernightGeek University, visited Highland Middle School and Highland High School on January 12-13 and spoke to students about the potential dangers of the internet and how to keep yourself safe. Students learned about potential consequences, mitigating risks, etc. She also spoke about platforms (Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat, Ask.Fm, etc.) and real criminal cases involving sexting, sexual predation, loss of scholarships, loss of college acceptances, and much more. On January 23, Jesse offered a presentation geared specifically toward parents. The adult-only presentation addressed current statistics, understanding access methods, cyberbullying, sexting, sexual predation and sextortion and how to become an engaged digital parent.

### ACADEMIC CHALLENGE TEAM BUZZER BOX SYSTEM (\$997)

The Highland Middle School Academic Challenge Team is open to any student in grades 6-8. It is an extracurricular activity that provides students a chance for academic enrichment in a fun, competitive atmosphere, while promoting teamwork. The Medina County Tournament is held annually in March. This grant allows the HMS team to have its very own Buzzer System to help prepare and practice for future Academic Challenge Competitions.

### YOGA AND MINDFULNESS WITH HEATHER BAUR (\$5,150)

The Yoga and Mindfulness Program exposes students to the physical and emotional health and wellness benefits that result from yoga. Researchers rave about the rewards of practicing yoga from improved focus to increased self-confidence. Yoga instructor Heather Baur will conduct yoga classes during physical education classes at Highland Middle School, and after school to Highland High School students in the HHS Media Center (through May). Students will learn power basic yoga, which emphasizes core strength and flexibility. The program runs through May 2017.



## INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

### HIGHLAND INTERCULTURAL PROGRAM (\$8,300)

This is a continuation of the current intercultural studies program at Highland High School where students build relationships and learn from students in other countries. Funds help to defer costs for staff travel and included host costs for meals, hotels for guest teachers and field trip entrance fees for guest students. This program has allowed Highland students to explore first-hand the history, language and culture of other countries, both while in the classroom and visiting abroad. This year, Highland students will travel to Spain, France and China from March 17-31.

### NEED-BASED FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL (\$3,000)

This funding is used to assist those Highland students who need financial assistance with travel expenses, including cost for flights abroad to Spain, France and China.

## STEM STUDIES

(SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS)

### ASTRONAUT VISIT FOR HIGHLAND 5TH GRADERS (\$2,500)

NASA speakers include astronauts who come to speak to large groups of students about current research and former space travels. This program will enrich the students' knowledge about space, space travel, occupations of NASA and space exploration. It will encourage the students' interest of the space program and exploration. The speaker will energize and inspire students to research these areas. The Astronaut will appear in May 2017 at the Highland High School Auditorium where 5th graders from the district will come together for the program.

FALL/WINTER 2016-17

**TOTAL PROJECTS COST: \$46,412**

Now in our 16th year, our mission remains the same ~ to enhance and supplement learning opportunities for students and staff at Highland Local Schools. To learn how you can help make a difference, visit [WWW.HIGHLANDFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.HIGHLANDFOUNDATION.ORG). For more information, contact Executive Director Theresa Wright: 330-321-3816 / [theresa.wright@highlandfoundation.org](mailto:theresa.wright@highlandfoundation.org).