

<p><b>A Voice for Choices</b>          MFISD Elementary Campuses  <b>Sponsor: Security State Bank &amp; Trust</b></p> <p>A fundamental human need is the desire to be understood. Approximately 275 students in our district are classified as students with a speech impairment. These students struggle on a daily basis to convey their needs, wants, and aspirations with others. As communication service providers, we are keenly aware of the power of language. The grant will allow us to create a communication board that will help students access their environment and become independent communicators. The communication board permits students to participate in meaningful social exchanges beyond the classroom. To that end, our efforts underscore the district's commitment to love every child and inspire them to achieve their fullest potential.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,330.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Julie Skero  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Jenni Mattox, Shelly Tennyson, Rita Piotrowski, Amanda Bowen</p>	<p><b>Be an Artist- Use Technology!</b>          Marble Falls Elementary  <b>Sponsor: Huckabee</b></p> <p>The philosophy is learner centered where the classroom is considered the students' studio, and we constantly ask ourselves' "what do artist's do?" as we explore ideas across a variety of mediums. Over the course of year one with iPads in the art studio, students in grades 3-5 will successfully create a digital process portfolio which provides evidence of creative thought and reflection. iPads are also used to create art using Adobe Creative Cloud, Tinkercad 3D design, iMovie, G-Suite, and other applications. Students will also use technology for reference and research. Lower grades will use technology for digital drawing and to document ephemeral creative work, such as their architectural designs made with blocks. This will introduce them to the idea of documenting their creative work for the upper grades.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$ 4,990.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writers:</b> Deborah Ledyard  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Kara Gasaway, Michael Haley</p>
<p><b>Uke Can Do It!</b>          Marble Falls Elementary  <b>Sponsor: American Business Women's Association</b></p> <p>Ukuleles are a fun, motivating way to learn music. This project most definitely meets our goal to "love every child and inspire them to reach their fullest potential." Academically, students will be able to cover a wide variety of musical topics, including rhythm, pitch, melody, and harmony. Once they have experienced learning basic chords and notes, they will have opportunities for creating their own music. Finally, ukuleles are a versatile instrument that lends itself to both solo and ensemble playing, so another goal is to incorporate opportunities to experience both of these types of performance in the classroom.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,360.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Jennifer Rose</p>	<p><b>The Chicken Coop Project</b>          Marble Falls Elementary  <b>Sponsor: Alpha Chi Patsy McDonald Legacy Grant</b></p> <p>The Chicken Coop Project engages students in an inspirational hands-on learning experience. Children in Life Skills and Positive Behavior Support classrooms primarily maintain the chicken coop; however, all students across campus are welcome to visit. Overall, the project aims to connect academics to the real world through the integration of math, science, and language arts lessons that promote food nutrition and valuable work related skills. Students develop routines and responsibilities that teach self-management, cooperation, compassion and empathy by handling chickens with care.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,800.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writers:</b> Sara Tinker</p>

<p><b>From Crayons to College</b>          Highland Lakes Elementary  <b>Sponsor: MVBA</b></p> <p>A student who is taught with a college-readiness focus is better equipped academically than one who has not been given that same preparation, and this focus begins in early education (particularly for families experiencing cycles of poverty). “Greatness is not a function of circumstance. Greatness, it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice, and discipline.” This grant would fund our commitment to market a college readiness message. We will directly address this through a culture of universal achievement strategically engaged in cycles of collaboration, standards alignment, assessment, data management, and interventions - with embedded language that promotes the concept of college and explicit modeling of college readiness behavior and expectations to students.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,330.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> LeeAnn Harkins  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Leslie Talamantes, Leslie Baty, Stacy Lashbrook, Casey Keeton</p>	<p><b>SEL Toolbox for our Community</b>          Highland Lakes Elementary  <b>Sponsor: First United Bank</b></p> <p>The district has implemented a Social and Emotional Learning program on each campus as a proactive way to help students recognize and control their emotions by teaching them skills in self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. This project will daily serve special education, 504, students in RTI, the general education population, teachers, and parents. The toolbox will be used in the S.M.A.R.T. Lab for behavioral reinforcement, social skills training, regulation techniques, and educating the targeted population. S.M.A.R.T. lab staff will work closely with teachers and parents of students with high behavioral needs with the goal of decreasing inappropriate behaviors and teaching the appropriate life skills necessary to establish leadership qualities. The toolbox will include a library of social and emotional learning books that can be checked out by teachers to assist them in their daily SEL lessons.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,450.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writers:</b> Tiffany Goodsell  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Trina Howell, Tesha Tepper</p>
<p><b>Classroom Interactive Rugs</b>          Spicewood Elementary  <b>Sponsor: Galloway Insurance</b></p> <p>This grant will be used to purchase a new classroom rug. This rug will be used daily with all students. We have circle read alouds at least 5 time or more per day. This rug will not only be used for circle time but also for further learning. The rug has the alphabet on it and we will use this as an interactive tool to identify letters, sorting, beginning sounds, etc. We will be able to see the students using their space and the academic achievement they will gain from this.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,370.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Micki Bertino  <b>Additional Writer:</b> Holly Todd</p>	<p><b>Replenish our Makerspace for Continued Creativity and Discovery</b>          Spicewood Elementary  <b>Sponsor: Hill Country Galleria</b></p> <p>The Makerspace provides a place for students to have an opportunity to explore their own interest, learn to use tools and materials, and develop creative projects. This grant will replenish the consumable supplies and other materials used by all students in the Makerspace. Each grade level has a set time to come in the Makerspace to complete a lesson, and students also have the opportunity to visit on Club Day once a month. The Makerspace environment gives our students an avenue to further develop a mindset of continuous learning and growth.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$3,000.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Judie Jenkins  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Cari Orts, Susan Cox</p>



Grants 4 Great Ideas  
Funded Grants—Spring 2020

<p><b>Listen to Learn, Learn to Grow, Grow to Bloom</b> Marble Falls Middle School <b>Sponsor: BancorpSouth</b></p> <p>What we are trying to address is the area of academic growth as well as language acquisition. The content and ideas in a classroom are communicated in English and therefore, essentially non-accessible to non-English speakers. These translating earbuds will improve the accessibility of content to these students. The overall impact we hope to achieve is in the area of communication between non-English speakers and teachers and can extend to other adults and students, such as in the front office and even ARD meetings. The possibilities are not limited to the classroom.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$2,380.00</b> <b>Primary Grant Writers:</b> Roberta Werner <b>Additional Writers:</b> Jennifer Marburger, Kaylin Ewing, Rick Blackington, Susan Beck</p>	<p><b>Say Cheese!</b> Marble Falls Middle School <b>Sponsor: Lone Star Land Partners</b></p> <p>This grant is for more cameras for students to use in class in Multimedia. The Multimedia 1 classes will use easier point and shoot style cameras and the Multimedia 2 and 3 classes will use DSLR cameras. They will be used for all populations. Students will learn photography and video techniques with the cameras. This will include using the cameras in the advanced classes for the school video announcements. Cameras will be used daily during photography and video units in every class.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$4,000.00</b> <b>Primary Grant Writers:</b> Michelle Jett <b>Additional Writers:</b> Melissa Fontenot, Emily Skaggs, Madison Anderson</p>
<p><b>Calming Tools for those in Schools</b> Marble Falls High School <b>Sponsor: US Employee Benefits Services Group</b></p> <p>We hope to target students that have difficulties regulating sensory input which is called sensory modulation difficulties. Sensory modulation refers to the brains ability to respond appropriately to the sensory environment and to remain at an appropriate level of arousal or alertness. By the use of the equipment throughout the day or on a specified schedule based on the individual student's needs, the student should be able to attend to tasks and academic work with a calmer body and mind. By calming the body, a student should have increased focus on given tasks.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$630.00</b> <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Fallan Sadler <b>Additional Writer:</b> Betsy Pyle</p>	<p><b>Training Camp: Student Motivational Book Study</b> Marble Falls High School <b>Sponsor: First Capital Bank of Texas</b></p> <p>Our goal is to provide motivation and a change in thought process and behavior. The book's tag line is "What the Best Do Better Than Everyone Else." The book is by John Gordon, and it's called, "Training Camp: A Fable About Excellence." Our hope is that it encourages reading in a fun way, and that they students are learning life lessons that will translate into adulthood. This book, in particular, reveals the deep truths and proven strategies that take the very best to the top. It teaches you how to maintain a big picture vision while taking zoom focused action. These are skills and attitudes that can be learned. Students and staff overseeing students will have daily reading assignments and answer questions at the end of each chapter.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$1,900.00</b> <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Jennifer Hall <b>Additional Writers:</b> Brian Herman</p>

<p><b>Cue the QLab!</b>          Marble Falls High School  <b>Sponsor: Kiwanis Club of Marble Falls</b></p> <p>Our grant would be for the purchase of two MacBook Pros with QLab and SketchUp software installed. QLab is the industry standard for designing and running projections and audio for theatrical events. SketchUp, a 3D modeling program would be used by our technical theatre students. The two proposed classroom computers would serve our classroom in day-to-day use for our entry level classes as well as be used by our more advanced theatre technicians for shows and design contests. These laptops are also ideal for student achievement because they are portable and allow our technicians the ability to travel with them and use them in a number of venues. For many shows we have projectors and speakers mounted above stage, back stage, in the wings, in the house and sometimes on stage. Having a small but powerful laptop running complicated cues using high definition media requires us to upgrade our systems to better prepare our students for collegiate and professional theatre.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$4,900.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Jon Clark  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Rachel Rapoza, Emily Chavez</p>	<p><b>Set HAZERS to stun!</b>          Marble Falls High School  <b>Sponsor: Chevrolet Buick Marble Falls</b></p> <p>This grant would replace two hazers and two fog machines with two high performance hazers that can create 99 variations of haze from 'light to fog-like'. These machines would be in use throughout the year. They are flexible enough to use in a classroom, or they could fill up a large auditorium stage. Having these high performance machines would give our students that many more options when creating effects for a show. These machines are also often used to enhance the look of our light and projections of productions. Additionally, we use fog machines and hazers for our band concerts, choir concerts, dance and cheer events. With the Unique 2.1 hazers we could customize our level of haze for specific situations and events. This grant would ensure that as we travel to contests or move from one space to another we are doing it efficiently and safely.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$ 3,700.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Bryce Gage  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Emily Chavez, Jon Clark</p>
<p><b>Reading Assistance for Tech Savvy Kids</b>          Marble Falls High School  <b>Sponsor: Bill &amp; Andra Harris</b></p> <p>In high school we have many students that struggle in reading and this affects daily living, school work, homework, and tests. We currently provide staff in inclusion classes and in content mastery to help students. We have discovered the Reader Pen, which scans written words and reads to the student via ear buds. Using the Reader Pen would allow students to be more independent, not limited to a setting. For a student that struggles in reading, even easiest tasks like reading the cafeteria menu can be difficult. Many of these students are embarrassed to ask for help and struggle to just get through the day. This device looks very similar to a pen that they carry with them. The student scans the text they want to read and it reads it to them through their earbuds.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$4,780.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Elaine Gomez  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Shana Fancher, Damon Adams</p>	<p><b>SlingStudio for Live Streaming to the Community</b>          Technology Department  <b>Sponsor: Edwards Risk Management</b></p> <p>Live streaming and recording events from across the district to platforms such as Facebook and YouTube will help us have a bigger presence and give us an opportunity to highlight the great things happening in MFISD that many in our community may be unaware are going on. Community engagement has been shown to increase student achievement as engaged parents are a major factor in student success. The purchased hardware will improve our live stream to the web (Facebook, district site, etc.) capability and live stream many more events that take place in our district to improve communication with the community. We would like to eventually be live streaming from different campuses multiple times per week, live streams will be recorded and viewable after the end of the event. We also will be working to train campus staff to use the equipment without additional assistance.</p> <p><b>Amount Funded: \$4,650.00</b>  <b>Primary Grant Writer:</b> Adam Goodman  <b>Additional Writers:</b> Brian Ferrell, Nathan Fink</p>