

Thanks to You - Innovative Grants 2025-2026!

Celebrating 25 Years of Impact with 21 Grants Awarded! Over \$80,000!

This year's grants reflect the heart of HSF's mission — to ignite creativity, elevate learning, and inspire excellence in every classroom. We are especially grateful for an incredible anonymous donor who made five of these grants possible, demonstrating the powerful impact one act of generosity can have.

E-sports Club Expansion: Hillsboro HS: David Steinhauer, Jeff Baisch

Provides students with competitive gaming opportunities, fostering teamwork, leadership, and college/career readiness through organized tournaments and skill development in the growing field of e-sports.

Bloom Box - Helping HSD families grow, one milestone at a time: Oak Street Campus/Hillsboro Big Picture: Raya Cadiz

Offers age-appropriate developmental kits for children ages 0-3, equipping teen parents in the Hillsboro School District with accessible, research-based tools to support early childhood development, strengthen parent-child relationships, and promote school readiness at home.

Cutting it up in the Lab!: Tamarack ES: Sharon Angal

Adds more "Chompsaws," a hands-on tool blending engineering, math, and social-emotional learning to promote problem-solving, creativity, and collaboration.

Empowering Future Innovators: Coding for Success: Hillsboro Online Academy: Margaret Kellar

Enhances STEAM at Hillsboro Online Academy by engaging K–6 students in hands-on coding and robotics with LEGO Kits and Coding Mice, promoting critical thinking and tech literacy through hybrid learning.



Talking through Space!: Evergreen MS: Sean Fishback

Engages students in building crystal radios, exploring HAM radio and licensure for emergency communication, and potentially contacting the ISS—sparking interest in electronics, space, and public safety careers.



Groner Goes Gaga: Groner ES: Natalee Moore, PTO President

Creates an inclusive space for students to play Gaga Ball, promoting physical activity, teamwork, and social interaction while boosting school spirit and improving academic and social outcomes.

Move, Create, Inspire: Animation and Action in Education: Minter Bridge ES: Shawna Munson, Jenny Morgan

Uses stop-motion animation to empower all students, including ELLs and those with diverse abilities, to become storytellers and collaborators while developing academic, artistic, and physical skills through creative learning.

Playground Access for All Kids!: Orenco ES: Shelly Heller, Allison Combs, Angie James, Kate Heierman, Will Wenzloff, Lisa Hicks

Provides safe playground swing access for students with physical disabilities and improves the safety of the students and the staff serving them.

Expanding Minds, Enriching Lives: A Diverse Literature Initiative for Middle School Students: South Meadows MS: Stacy Talbot

Enhances middle school literacy and promotes empathy by incorporating diverse novels into the curriculum, where students actively choose books that reflect their cultures and backgrounds for themselves and future generations.

Fox Farm Expansion: Free Orchards ES: Sarah Newton, Gabby Hensley

Builds a rainwater barrel system, compost bin, and expansion for the school garden.



Lifting Barriers, One Load at a Time: Minter Bridge ES: Shawna Munson, Erin Canova, Erika Tofaeono

This project installs a discreet, ventless washer/dryer on campus to reduce hygiene-related barriers to learning, support student well-being, and contribute to a more inclusive school environment.

Instruments for All: Tamarack ES: Colin Mejdrich

Provides free band instruments for elementary students in Tamarack's after-school program, removing financial barriers and promoting growth in musical skill, confidence, and academic engagement.



Power of Play: Tamarack ES: Christine Goldmann

Empowers and inspires students to embrace physical activity through innovative, non-traditional sports equipment, fostering physical health, mental well-being, inclusivity, and a stronger sense of community.

Success through Diversification of Middle School Literature: Evergreen MS: Kathryn Pawelko

Purchases 3-5 class sets of diverse books in English and Spanish that meet state standards and reflect students' identities, helping HSD students explore different perspectives and their place in the world.



Sensory Spaces for Student Success: Jackson ES: Polly Lugo (PTO), Cherylen Marshall, Sarah Day

Updates the sensory space and adds an indoor sensory path in the school library to support student well-being, focus, and emotional regulation through interactive, Oregon nature-inspired design.

Let's Play/Juguemos: Inclusive Communication Board for Playground: West Union ES: Talia Shide (PTO), Juliet Hong

Installs a communication board on the playground with PECS images, bilingual captions, and the ASL alphabet to support diverse communication needs, enhance literacy, and foster a more inclusive, connected school community.

The five grants below were fully funded this year by an anonymous donor- Thank you!



Making Forever Memories: Glencoe HS: Thomas Stephens

Purchases a photo booth package that will become the cornerstone bringing joy, memories and community to not only the student body, but will be used at district events in feeder schools as well.

Expanding Collaborative Recess Play: Indian Hills ES: Mary Ciula

The goal is to enhance inclusive and accessible play at Indian Hills Elementary by purchasing new recess equipment and storage racks.

AVID & The Arts: Liberty HS: Shannon Witman

Prepares AVID students for life after high school by immersing them in Portland's arts culture, attending monthly performances, and reflecting on these experiences through a year-end project tied to their academic and career goals.

Hi/Low Books = Higher Outcomes: Brown MS: Chandra Hohmann

Creates a Hi/Low book collection for the library, providing accessible books for special needs, learning-disabled, and ELL students that align with their reading levels and promote equity and social-emotional learning for all.

Increase Reading by providing high-interest non-fiction books: Butternut Creek ES: Jessica Miller

Enhances the library with recent non-fiction books, including graphic novels and "how-to" guides on topics like video games, sports, and space, encouraging reluctant readers to explore their interests.



5 **butternut_creek_hsd** We had a sneaky, happy surprise visitor from Hillsboro Schools Foundation this week!!! They FULLY FUNDED a \$3000 grant for non-fiction books for our library!!!! Thank you Ms. Miller for applying for this important grant, and to @hsf4kids for funding it! We can't wait to buy some new books for our library!!!