

# LINCOLN SCHOOL FOUNDATION

*advancing education through innovation since 1988*

May 20, 2020

Dear Lincoln School Committee Members:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Lincoln School Foundation, it is our pleasure to present to you the grants we have approved for the 2020-2021 academic year.

The Lincoln School Foundation has voted to award five grants for the 2020-2021 academic year, totaling \$21,961. We also voted during the current school year to award five SY 2019-2020 out-of-cycle grants totaling \$7,006. These grants (\$28,967 in total) align with our mission to inspire and fund innovation that fosters critical thinking, collaboration, and authentic learning experiences for every student in the Lincoln Public Schools. We were pleased to receive so many high-quality, thoughtful grant applications this year and to have teachers reach out throughout the school year when needing support for new ideas.

In fitting with our mission to advance education through innovation, we continue to focus on supporting our schools' push towards more creativity, collaboration, risk-taking, and authenticity. The grant initiatives we funded this year allow our teachers to participate in professional development to grow their knowledge and skills and try out new, authentic project ideas in the classroom. In addition, the grants provide resources to support outdoor play and environmental stewardship among students. We are excited to be able to support these thoughtful initiatives.

We look forward to the School Committee meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> when you will address these grants. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Anne Wang  
Grants Chair, Lincoln School Foundation  
anneawang@gmail.com

Cathie Bitter  
Chair, Lincoln School Foundation  
catherinesbitter@gmail.com

## Lincoln School Foundation Grant Awards 2020-2021

	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>School(s)</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
1	Book of Children's Art	Colleen Pearce	Smith	\$2,740	\$2,740
2	Videos for Volunteers	Sarah Collmer	Smith	\$1,000	\$1,000
3	Collaborative and Proactive Solutions Proficiency Training	Bethany Dionne	Smith and Brooks	\$9,000	\$9,000
4	Green Team <sup>1</sup>	Siobhan Rooney, Carolyn Weaver	Smith	\$5,327	\$3,000
5	Big Blue Blocks <sup>2</sup>	Shelley Moeller, Sarah Collmer	Smith	\$17,721	\$6,221
				<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$21,961

### Out of Cycle Grants Awarded SY 2019-2020

	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>School(s)</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Awarded</b>
1	Literacy Coaching Institute (Teachers College)	Jess Rose	LPS	\$3239	\$3,239
2	Learning and the Brain Conference	Jess Rose	LPS	\$2592	\$2,592
3	Indoor Fieldtrip	Sharon Horenstein	Hanscom Primary	\$300	\$300
4	Cross-campus Choral Workshop <sup>3</sup>	Howard Worona	Hanscom Middle and Brooks	\$375	\$375
5	Passion Projects	Jenny Nam	Brooks	\$1,160	\$500
				<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$7,006

<sup>1</sup> The application also included a composting pilot. We awarded only the Green Team and planning portions of the grant.

<sup>2</sup> The application also included "Recess Reboot" training from Playworks. We awarded only the Big Blue Blocks portion of the grant.

<sup>3</sup> LSF provided \$375 for Hanscom participation; Lincoln PTO provided \$375 for Brooks participation.

## Summaries of LSF Grants Awarded for 2020-2021

### **Book of Children's Art - to raise money for Australian animals (Smith 3rd Grade)**

\$2,740, Colleen Pearce, Art Teacher, in collaboration with 3rd grade team

This grant provides seed money for the printing of 100 books containing art of Australian animals created by 3rd grade students. Proceeds from the sale of the book would be donated to support animal organizations in Australia working to save animals impacted by the wildfires. The idea for creating and selling the book came from a 3rd grade student and allows students to see the impact that they can make with their art. Colleen would work with 3rd grade teachers to incorporate lessons around pricing and marketing the books as well as creating the copy that would go along with the artwork. She hopes to have a parent who works in publishing talk with the kids about the process.

### **Videos for Volunteers (Smith)**

\$1000, Sarah Collmer, Principal

This grant is to create instructional videos for classroom volunteers on how to support students academically in the classroom. This complements the initiative to include more parent volunteers in the school. Providing parents with supports to engage academically with students will encourage more parents to volunteer in their children's classrooms and support students' academic proficiency.

### **Collaborative and Proactive Solutions Proficiency Training (Smith and Brooks)**

\$9,000, Bethany Dionne, School Psychologist

Given reported increased need for consistent support around social emotional and behavioral challenges for students, this grant funds a training for a core group of 8-10 teachers. "Collaborative and Proactive Solutions" (CPS) is an empirically supported, evidence based, non-punitive, non-adversarial, trauma-informed model of care. The model focuses on identifying the skills a child is lacking and the expectations he or she is having difficulty meeting and helping kids and caregivers solve those problems rather than trying to modify kids' behavior through application of rewards and punishments.

The method of the training is a 15-week online class in which the trainers work with a core group of 8-10 teachers from Smith and Brooks, and the teachers complete assignments, including practicing the approach and learning over time. Their work with students impacts those students and serves as a model for other teachers. They are expected to become "proficient in utilizing a model to support students who are struggling with emotional and behavioral challenges. The training will lead to staff being able to successfully utilize strategies to decrease conflict, enhance relationships between staff and students, improve communication between staff and students, and help both staff and students learn and more effectively display skills including empathy, appreciating how one's behavior is affecting others,

resolving disagreements in ways that do not involve conflict, taking another's perspective, and honesty."

**Green Team (Smith)**

\$3,000, Carolyn Weaver, Educational Assistant, in collaboration with Siobhan Rooney

This grant is to fund the starting of an afterschool Green Team club and planning for a composting pilot. The students on the Green Team will participate in composting activities that could include worm composting, researching and implementing alternatives for composting, and field trips to Codman Farm or Black Earth Composting to learn about and get ideas from their composting and sustainability practices. Once composting piloting is underway, the Green Team members will weigh and chart the amount of food waste diverted in the cafeteria so that students can see how their actions make a difference in caring for our environment. Teachers will also have an opportunity to use the classroom composting as a way to teach about ecosystems and sustainability.

**Note:** The application also included a composting pilot for an additional \$2327.

**Big Blue Blocks (Smith)**

\$6,221 for Big Blue Blocks, Shelley Moeller, Social Worker, in collaboration with Sarah Collmer, Principal

This grant aims to give students a greater number of options for play at recess. The Big Blue Blocks from Imagination Playground include cubes, bricks, cogs, curves, cylinders, pieces with holes, and shapes that fit together. They can provide a new mode of open-ended loose parts play and creativity for students and can be easily moved for use when students are in modular classrooms and back to Smith when the school building project is complete.

**Note:** The application also included "Recess Reboot" training from Playworks for an additional \$11,500.