2022-2023 Innovation Grant Awards

3 Grants recommended for funding totaling $16,260.00

Title of Grant: Sensory Room $10,460.00
School: Warren School
Applicant Information: Katie Bent, Warren School Special Education Chair
Innovation Grant Goal: *Create a safe and innovative space for all children to have their sensory needs met, as well as staff training. This Sensory experience room to the Warren school to assist children in body and emotion regulation so they can return appropriately return to class.*

Title of Grant: **Fitness - $1800.00**
School: Ashland Middle School
Applicant Information: Dee Mastromatteo, Peter Zacchilli
Innovation Grant Goal: *The AMS Wellness Department's goal is to create a safe fitness environment where students can enhance their physical, emotional, and social health through exercise… to update the entire fitness space… incorporating the Fitness App programs into our curriculum as well as replacing/adding a few pieces of equipment… amplify student choice and provide a deeper level of individualized training… create movement concepts that will help students overall achievement including supporting their mental health. Content is varied and includes fitness, including adaptive fitness, strength training, yoga, meditation, breathing techniques, nutrition. This variation in content will allow teachers to meet the needs of a wide population of students' skills and interests.*

Title of Grant: Protein Modeling Set- $4000.00
School: Ashland High School
Applicant Information: Jennifer Benstock & Christina (Tina) Locke
Innovation Grant Goal: *The protein models and the three sets of tRNA models will enhance the current models purchased from the DNA model project from the Edgerton Center at MIT. These models would be an addition to the DNA models purchased with a grant received from the Ashland Cultural Council to purchase the DNA and tRNA sets of the models. These models provide a visual and hands-on learning experience that help to make a difficult concept accessible to all students including ELL students, students with IEPs, and all levels of learners. The use of the models helps to develop the modeling skills required by the new state frameworks that are assessed on the MCAS, build on*

student's spatial learning and awareness, and offers a more concrete yet creative way of learning.