

2012 Grant Award Recipients

(8 grants totaling \$8,694)

Ashland Middle School

Awarded To:	Ellen Dill
Title	Flip Teaching Tools
Summary:	This award will purchase an Apple MacBook Pro computer and related software and tools to create a workstation where the teacher would be able to create PowerPoint/video instructional lessons at school. The students will then do the lessons at home. This instructional model is known as flip teaching because it involves a reversal of the standard teaching model. Students would receive online lessons assigned as homework and then come to class ready to apply what they have learned in a project-based learning experience differentiated to appeal to their learning styles, motivation, and interests. Students would be able to watch, rewind, repeat, and then review their lessons at any time to support their learning. This proposal will initially benefit about 110 world language students in grades six through eight at AMS.
Amount Awarded:	\$1,493

Awarded To:	Kathryn Silva
Title	LiveScribe Pen for Middle School and High School Teaching
Summary:	This award will purchase five 8-GB LiveScribe or “smart” pens for use by the Office of Student Services to benefit students on IEPs in grades six through 12, with potential additional applications for teachers to create and maintain lessons for student viewing. A smart pen has an imbedded computer chip, which audio records when turned on. The pen writes on specially designed grid paper in a notebook, which is formatted to synchronize the writing to the audio recording. The user takes notes while the pen both audio records and synchronizes the recording to the notes written on the notepad. The user can then download the file onto a computer and have a visual copy of the notes synchronized to the recording of the lesson. While all students could benefit from the use of smart pens, students with learning differences and English language learners in particular would find them helpful. Other applications include: student use in flip lessons, as described in the previous application; teacher use to create a library of lessons; training modules for professional development; use by the Office of Student Services to create pencasts of information and resources.
Amount Awarded:	\$1,020

Awarded To:	Ellen Dill
Title	Increase Technology in AMS World Language Classroom
Summary:	The World Language Department seeks to increase the use of technology at the Middle School. This proposal seeks to meet two needs: provide proper headphone equipment in the Foreign Language Lab for use only by the World Language Department for running Rosetta Stone, and provide other programs from our Classroom Wikispaces Pages, such as TV5Monde: Learn French. The projectors will help increase the use of CD-ROMs, PowerPoints and other presentations, and student projects. The AEFI grant will fund three InFocus projectors and 15 headsets.
Amount Awarded:	\$1,996

David Mindess School

Awarded To:	Claudia Bennett
Title	An iPad by Many Other Names
Summary:	This award will purchase equipment and 30 iPad apps, called SonicPics, to create wireless connectivity between projectors and iPads. Adding wireless connectivity will enable the iPads to project wirelessly to a whiteboard or screen and thus become document cameras and Internet streaming devices. All iPads on the network could be projected, allowing for instantaneous sharing of student work. Specific objectives include: maximizing usefulness of the iPad as a learning tool by increasing its functionality, adding another option for using the Learning Carts and projectors, increasing student teacher access to Internet resources and encouraging collaborative working and learning. The SonicPics app will enhance students' creativity.
Amount Awarded:	\$487

Awarded To:	Kathleen Evans and Lauren Perry
Title	Integration of an Infocus Interactive Projector into the 4th Grade Classroom
Summary:	The Infocus interactive projector system offers a unique and affordable technology that can engage large groups of students simultaneously. The Infocus system allows teachers and classrooms to interact with multimedia as well as web-based content. Teachers are enabled to enrich their own subject matter and enhance otherwise one-dimensional media content. The AEFI grant will fund an InFocus projector and a mobile cart.
Amount Awarded:	\$1,242

Awarded To:	Claudia Bennett
Title	iPad ilearn
Summary:	Our goal is to provide our students and teachers with current technology to enhance the learning/teaching experience. iPads bring the technology students use in their own lives to the classroom learning experience increasing student engagement. The AEFI grant will fund three iPads to add to our iPad cart, bringing the total number to 28.
Amount Awarded:	\$1,497

Awarded To:	Claudia Bennett
Title	Reading is Music to My Ears
Summary:	The Mindess School continues to explore ways to improve reading skills. This project is another tool to encourage reading and perhaps even a love of reading. The grant will fund four iPod Shuffles and five headsets for students to use audio books. Additionally, this would offer an extension activity to students who are reading at a level beyond most of their classmates. And teachers could borrow some or all of the iPods for a reading center or book club.
Amount Awarded:	\$275

Henry E. Warren School

Awarded To:	Dana Burke
Title	Getting Ready to Type
Summary:	This award will purchase a software program called Type to Learn Jr. We will install it on a network of 25 computers in order to begin teaching typing skills to students in grade two. Presently, students do not begin to learn basic typing skills until grade three. Specific learning objectives include: location of letters, number, special keys; finger placement for faster typing; and improving fine motor skills. The program is also designed to support the MA Curriculum Frameworks Technology Standard Pre-K – 4.14.
Amount Awarded:	\$684