



News Release

For Immediate Release
February 25, 2016

CONFIDENTIAL

Northwest ISD Education Foundation to Award \$100,000 in Innovative Teaching Grants on February 26

- WHO –** NISD Education Foundation (NEF) Board of Directors and Donors
NISD Administrators
29 grants at 14 campuses
- WHAT –** The Northwest ISD Education Foundation will board the Grant Brigade buses to award innovative teaching grants across the Northwest ISD. Grant Brigade participants will divide into two groups and travel to schools to surprise the recipients in their classrooms and during school-wide assemblies with oversized checks celebrating the award.
- WHEN –** **8: 20 a.m. – 12 p.m., Friday, February 26**
See the Grant Brigade schedule for arrival times and campus destinations for both groups.
- WHERE –** The Grant Brigade will travel to schools across Northwest ISD, with one group covering the eastern portion of the district and another the western portion. See the Grant Brigade Schedule to view a list of schools where the Grant Brigade bus will be stopping. (Please note that some grants include multiple campuses; however, these grants will only be presented to the primary author.)
- WHY –** The Northwest ISD Education Foundation will award 28 innovative teaching grants and one NEF Legacy Grant, totaling \$100,000. To date, more than \$1.4 million have been distributed to teachers in Northwest ISD.

HIGHLIGHTS –

Following are just a few of the innovative teaching grants being awarded:

Legacy Grant - Gene Pike Middle School, **From 1992 to 2022: Designing Collaborative Spaces for Conceptual/Creative Learners - \$25,000** – This grant will allow Gene Pike Middle School to update several learning spaces throughout the school, creating collaborative work spaces for students. This would allow them to work more collectively in group activities. A remodel for the area between the library and cafeteria will include L-shaped furniture with attached bar seating, allowing 10-12 to sit together. There will also be a two-sided whiteboard on wheels, and 2 new HD monitors in this area. The second area for remodel will use a long hallway by adding four collaborative, flexible seating areas with moveable furniture, three two-sided whiteboards on wheels, four HD monitors with moveable carts and additional electrical outlets. This will help the school achieve their instructional goals by encouraging student engagement and involvement.

-more-

Eaton High School, **Creating a School-Based Enterprise - \$2,000** - This grant will fund a student operated “Snack Shack” at Eaton High School, where students will be provided an opportunity to apply business and social skills they have learned. Special needs students will be given leadership roles as managers, workers and consumers. The program will not only allow special needs students the opportunity to obtain socialization outside of the academic classroom, but it will also provide them with valuable experience and employable skills needed after graduation to help them be future ready.

Chisholm Trail Middle School, **Microscopes Meet the Future - \$3,185** - Three state-of-the-art Flinn Digital Compound Microscopes with built-in tablets will allow a grade level to schedule microscopy labs on the same day so students can benefit from collaborative lesson planning, share videos across classrooms and incorporate images in their notes and projects. These microscopes have high resolution 5 megapixel cameras and can be connected through Wi-Fi to project still images and videos in the classroom.

NOTE – This is a **SECRET**. If you plan to attend, please contact David Hester at 817-215-0174 or Jerry Cantu at 817-215-0056 or 817-475-9073.

If you meet the group during the day, please do **not** enter the school until the Grant Brigade bus arrives at the front entrance.

###