

# Lake Central Education Foundation

## Grant Round 60

Number of Grants Funded: 15  
 Amount: \$11,451.69  
 Impacting Approximately 2,984 Students

Cumulative Grants Funded: 647  
 Cumulative Amount: \$351,012.72

<b>Grant #</b>	<b>Person Awarded</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount Requested &amp; Awarded 3-18-24</b>
1	Karen Arehart and Ann Downey	High School	Swim Fins	\$999.80
2	Beth Szymaszek & Megan Adams	Clark	Clark Best Buddies	\$237.09
3	Linda Pawlak	Kolling	Weatherproof Your World	\$379.98
4	Linda Pawlak	Kolling	The Secret Code of Fractions	\$759.98
5	Vince Pucci	Kahler	Drones for Kahler Middle School PLTW	\$859.96
6	Lynn Puzey and Elizabeth Schultz	Homan and Watson	Homan and Watson Students are DRUMSTATIC!	\$641.78
7	Crystal Lippie	Bibich	"Physical Health and Growth - Motor Skills"	\$503.92
8	Genna Shinka	Bibich	Cardio Drumming	\$344.54
9	Kristy Bashara and Sheri Venturelli	Bibich	The BIG 5	\$980.00
10	Melody Wolff	Kolling	Make-A-Word	\$991.25
11	Paul Hickey	Peifer	Dual Full-Feature Keyboards	\$958.76
12	Jennifer Miller	Watson	Rods to Learning	\$991.41
13	Kimberly Butler	Homan	More Than a Sensory Bin	\$814.70
14	Tracey Caposey	Watson	Celebrating the Seasons Through Writing & Literature	\$998.52
15	Julie Walker, Brittany Perry, Kim Yelich, Amanda Murayn, & Stephanie Trzupek	Watson	The 6Steps to Enhancing Student Learning	\$998.92
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>\$11,451.69</b>

**Summaries:**

**Grant #1: Swim Fins**

**Applicants: Karen Arehart and Ann Downey**

**Summary:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that drowning is the second leading cause of death for kids ages 5-14. Lake Central is taking an active role in the reduction of this statistic by providing professional guidance in the learn-to-swim process. The use of fins greatly enhances students' ability to adapt to the water and gain confidence in their ability to survive in the water.

**Grant #2: Clark Best Buddies****Applicants: Beth Szymaszek and Megan Adams**

**Summary:** Best Buddies is a nonprofit organization that has 3,397 chapters with 120,408 participants. We are honored that Clark Middle School is one of the newest members. As a new club this grant will provide the financial resources to serve students by providing opportunities to form a lasting relationship throughout their school experience and beyond. Through the Best Buddies program, students who have intellectual developmental disabilities are paired with students who do not have those challenges. This partnership fosters relationships which help to end the social, physical, and economic isolation that can be experienced by people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

**Grant #3: Weatherproof Your World****Applicant: Linda Pawlak**

**Summary:** Purchasing a weather station for Kolling school would give students a real-world example of how weather changes with the seasons and how those changes are predictable based on weather information such as barometric pressure, humidity, and wind speed. Students will use this information to create tables and graphs.

**Grant #4: The Secret Code of Fractions****Applicant: Linda Pawlak**

**Summary:** Fraction Tower cubes will be used to supplement and enhance the current math series and provide hands-on investigation of fractions, equivalent fractions, comparing fractions, and simplifying fractions, as well as adding and subtracting fractions. We have some fraction tower sets but not enough to allow students to work independently and demonstrate their understanding of the key concepts.

**Grant #5: Drones for Kahler Middle School Project Lead the Way (PLTW)****Applicant: Vince Pucci**

**Summary:** By engaging with drone programming, students can develop an understanding of coding concepts in an accessible and interactive manner. Students will learn a new coding language and how our current language can be adapted for multiple applications. To complete the course, students will work in groups to develop a flight path, compete in drone races within the classroom, and apply real-world applications to the classroom.

**Grant #6: Homan and Watson Students are DRUMSTASTIC!****Applicants: Lynn Puzey and Elizabeth Schultz**

**Summary:** DRUMSTASTIC is the next level of collaborative, total hands-on cardio. It is a health, fitness, and wellness program based on science. The "brain-body" workouts encompass a fitness and movement-based approach to learning via musical rhythm and movement. The students will utilize multiple areas of the brain to create complex skills which improve brain activity and concentration. DRUMTASTIC promotes health and fitness on multiple levels: physical, psychological, neurological, educational, emotional, social, and rhythmical, so let's get drumming!

**Grant #7: Physical Health and Growth-Motor Skills****Applicant: Crystal Lippie**

**Summary:** Tricycles used as an early intervention to supplement gross motor skills for students with and without disabilities promotes communication, play, and social/emotional skills. It also develops balance and core strength needed to complete school activities. Increased confidence, participation, and social interaction leads to increased student independence.

**Grant #8: Cardio Drumming****Applicant: Genna Shinkan**

**Summary:** Some students do not always thrive in certain aspects of physical education and find themselves more into the music aspect of extracurriculars. This gives them a chance to associate the two subject areas into one. Research shows students who are engaged in physical activity during the school day have increased appropriate behavior, increased concentration, and increased motivation. It also helps fight obesity and decreases depression. Drumming, just like aerobic exercise, also increases heart rate and blood flow while simultaneously engaging both the linear (rational left brain) and the creative (intuitive right brain) hemisphere of the brain linear, rational left brain and the creative intuitive right brain.

**Grant #9: THE BIG 5****Applicants: Kristy Bashara and Sheri Venturelli**

**Summary:** Our grant will help support strong foundational skills for reading. We understand the importance of early intervention for students who struggle with reading, as well as ongoing assessments and progress monitoring to ensure that all students are making progress. The BIG 5 are essential to successful literacy outcomes. This will take place during the school day, literacy centers, MTSS, and daily interventions with the reading specialist.

**Grant #10: Make-A-Word****Applicant: Melody Wolff**

**Summary:** Phonics instruction has been identified as a key element in students successfully learning to read. Students learn phonics through systematic, hands-on, interactive use of the Make-A-Word Chart.

**Grant #11: Dual Full-Feature Keyboards****Applicant: Paul Hickey**

**Summary:** Second-grade students at Peifer Elementary School will enjoy the use of a dual, fully featured keyboard set-up, where they are able to imitate their teacher's examples of keyboard passages and songs, both independently and side-by-side, plus confidently build keyboard playing skills. "Free playing" (improvising) opportunities will also be provided to foster a "no-fear" atmosphere when learning to play the keyboard.

**Grant #12: Rods to Learning****Applicant: Jennifer Miller**

**Summary:** Four classes of 4th graders, encompassing a large range of learners, will use the 84 sets of Cuisenaire Rods for hands-on investigations for algebraic reasoning, addition and subtraction (additive reasoning), multiplication and division (multiplicative reasoning), fractions, plus modular arithmetic. Additionally, the rods will be used to teach students counting, sequences, and patterns.

**Grant #13: More Than a Sensory Bin****Applicant: Kimberly Butler, Occupational Therapist**

**Summary:** A school-wide sensory bin library will provide all students with tools that promote sensory learning in order to achieve improved classroom engagement, self-regulation, and overall academic success.

**Grant #14: Celebrating the Seasons Through Writing and Literature****Applicant: Tracey Caposey**

**Summary:** Celebrating the Seasons will provide opportunities for my students to practice and improve their reading and writing skills while celebrating everything that makes each month exciting. These high interest picture books and novels will excite and motivate students to dive into literature, explore many different texts, and write in ways that will boost their skills while being engaged and motivated to learn the content.

**Grant #15: The 6 Steps to Enhancing Student Learning**

**Applicants: Julie Walker, Brittany Perry, Kim Yelich, Amanda Murzyn, and Stephanie Trzupke**

**Summary:** The Science of Reading research precisely tells instructors to teach phonics explicitly and systematically. This 6 Steps to Enhancing Student Learning 30-kit proposal provides durable, portable, hands-on, multi-sensory graphemes, and 6-step lesson plans to teach phonemic and phonics skills. All Watson Kindergarten students will learn decoding, spelling, and fluency during their daily differentiated reading block.