

Lake Central Education Foundation Seed Grant 2026

Number of Seed Grants Funded: 2
Grant Round Amount: \$3,922.53
Impacting Approximately 390 Students

Cumulative Grants Funded: 703
Cumulative Amount: \$391,656.41

Grant #	Person Awarded	School	Project Title	Amount Awarded 4-20-26
1	Sara Sjoquist	High School	Buddy High School Art Exchange with Elementary School	\$1,408.53
2	Mary Joan Martin	High School	Exploring Nuclear Chemistry with Hands on Activities	\$2,514.00
Grand Total				\$3,922.53

1. Sara Sjoquist

4th grade students will draw, color and give written descriptions of their unique creatures to their appointed high school buddy who will then build it and bring it to life in 3D. This exchange will allow teenage art students the opportunity to work with a “tiny client’s needs.” This also will garner memories and incite a love for art in the younger generations. High school students in return will receive 4th grader's letters and drawings, they will begin planning and building in clay or in soft sculpture by sewing a stuffed animal. We will videotape some of the progress to share and send the 4th graders with their completed creatures with a note from their high school buddy. Overall, the completion of a successful buddy art exchange will leave lasting memories for years to come!

2. Mary Joan Martin

Teaching nuclear chemistry to high school students with minimal understanding of the atom and its stability is extremely difficult. By using specialty equipment my hope is to expose students to the importance of understanding and consider a career in nuclear chemistry!

Special thanks to our top Partners in Education for their support of the Lake Central Education

Champion Partners: Powers Health, Purdue University Northwest, Summers Plumbing, Heating & Cooling, Town of Dyer, Tri Kappa-Zeta Psi

Hero Partners: Town of Schererville, Core Construction, The Czarnik Family, Friends of Lake Central Schools, Indiana University Northwest School of Education, Caleb S. Johnson Law, LLC, Olthof Homes, Peoples Bank, Puntillo & Crane Orthodontics, P.C., St. John Smoothie King, Strack & Van Til

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