

MISD **PRESS RELEASE**

Montgomery ISD Education Foundation Grant Express rewards over \$43,000 to district educators

Twenty grants awarded to bring creativity and innovation to MISD classrooms

Jan 5, 2022 – The Montgomery ISD Education Foundation’s grant program is designed to encourage, facilitate, recognize and reward innovative and creative instructional approaches that will enhance the education of its students. After several months of work developing an improved grant program that promotes collaboration between departments, the foundation was able to provide five campus grants, eight individual teacher grants, five instructional team grants and two multi-campus grants, for a total of \$43,298 awarded to district educators in Montgomery ISD.

“Financial support of this magnitude is instrumental to increasing innovative learning in Montgomery ISD,” Superintended Dr. Heath Morrison said. “The creativity of our teachers and staff and the generosity of our foundation to fund the dreams they can imagine for their students is a huge blessing to our district.”

MISD Education Foundation Executive Director, Tiffany Ortiz, formed a grant sub-committee to evaluate and research the 36 grant proposals that were submitted through the application process. This committee included Grant Program Chairman Sarah Rhea, district leadership staff, as well as nine community members that either have children enrolled in the district or are local business owners actively involved in the happenings of Montgomery ISD.

“The work from our committee of volunteers was critical in selecting the most innovative proposals that would improve and enrich learning for as many Montgomery ISD students as possible,” Rhea said.

In total, the twenty grants awarded will directly impact 6,783 students throughout the ten campus district. The high quality of awarded grants will include piloting a Ceramics Program at Montgomery HS as well as helping to bring a portable discovery dome from the Museum of Natural Science to Lincoln ES. There was also an emphasis on active learning by providing desk cycles and flexible seating for many Montgomery ISD classrooms and the fine arts proposals from music teachers and band directors were also a large portion of the awards.

“The committee is extremely grateful to the members of the district’s senior leadership team who helped us with our final selections,” Ortiz said. “Their knowledge and support ensured that all grants are beneficial and in the scope of Montgomery ISD’s approved curriculum guidelines, as well as campus and district improvement plans.”

Foundation board members and members of the MISD Board of Trustees, as well as donors and members of the district’s senior leadership team formed the MISDEF Grant Express, taking a Montgomery ISD bus from campus to campus on Wednesday, surprising the awarded applicants.

“The purpose of our foundation is to enhance what our amazing educators are already doing in their classrooms,” Ortiz said. “Today we were able to complete a process that was only possible thanks to the donations of our local business community, our Montgomery ISD families and every person that has played a part in our fundraising efforts this past year!”

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One Path, Together.