



Innovative Mini-Grants – Fall 2021 Funding Summary

The RBEF Board approved funding for the following ten teacher grants:

Grant	Grant Description	Grant Amount
Diverse Literature Initiative	The addition of diverse books to expand the 6th grade ELA literature library, helps all students feel more connected and develops inclusivity skills focusing on compassion, care for others, and a broader world view. These books nurture ongoing discussions relating to cultural, economic, and gender diversity. Students learn about challenges faced by diverse characters including topics of immigration, living conditions, discrimination, and war.	\$4,025
RU Research Ready?!	Developed and enhanced a comprehensive research curriculum at RUHS. Adding the EBSCO college-level database provided a practical and relevant resource for students to improve their research skills. Students practice keyword searches, use Boolean Search operations, and access peer-reviewed journals and scholarly articles to increase their exposure to resources and processes needed for a successful post-high school experience.	\$4,800
Classrooms as Workspaces/ Flexible Seating for Optimal Learning	Flexible seating creates an adaptive and engaging classroom environment to facilitate optimal learning, promote choice and accountability. It helps to keep young minds alert and focused. Teachers observe more “on task” behavior and personal responsibility. Behavior interventions are reduced. Teachers and students appear happier and have a more enjoyable experience (more smiling faces).	\$8,700

Honoring Identities: Learning from Black and Indigenous Voices	Through new approaches to literature, students engage in personal development and reflection related to diversity and culturally responsive pedagogy. The books foster a welcoming and comfortable environment for students to explain their opinions and discuss race in a historical and present-day context as students gain an increased understanding of cultural diversity and how others create art, celebrate, and live.	\$4,703
Kinder: Building Words and Sentences	Students use "hands-on" approaches to build words using magnetic letters and trays in the classroom and remote learning. Tactile construction excites the students, especially when used at home, which was key as these young students were learning virtually.	\$938
Mobile sound system for High School Choir Program	The new mobile sound system supports RBEF's focus on arts education. This allows opportunities for choir students to have more options to perform outdoors. It further promotes visibility/growth in all RBUSD music programs. Specifically, the sound system allows the choir program more control over audio quality, ensuring appropriate amplification and distribution of voices.	\$4,968
Creating Science with Everyday Things	This curriculum allows for Creative problem-solving using math and science and promotes small group collaboration. Provides "hands-on" approaches to science, including the design and implementation of various projects.	\$4,146
Let's Make History Come Alive for our 6th Graders with TCI	This goal of this curriculum is to supplement and enrich 6th grade history for the next 1-3 years. Purchasing TCI online subscriptions for each student enhances 6th grade Social Studies curriculum by developing skills that enable students to think like historian and challenge how students analyze history. Students are able to produce a variety of project-based activities during the year. These projects help students demonstrate their mastery of California Common Core Standards and the Social Studies Framework.	\$10,466
iPads for Effective and Efficient Student Feedback	The iPads allow students to review digitally submitted assignments and read teacher feedback clearly and efficiently. Reduces confusion associated with the previous method of communicating teacher feedback as the teacher comments provided are more easily understood. Students are more responsive to corrective action to improve their results and grades.	\$3,265
Little Math Minds: Building Fluent Mathematicians	This grant supported the 1 st Grade math curriculum by improving fluency during distance and in-person class instruction. It establishes an exceptionally useful "just in time" resource compatible with the existing Eureka curriculum and encourages student collaboration and open discussion about different math thought processes and scenarios.	\$2,803
Fast Fact Fluency Support	The grant provided an added resource called Reflex to assist students in grades 1-5 with growth and improvement in the automaticity of addition,	\$3,295

	subtraction, multiplication, and division. Statistical reference shows that 3 rd graders start with approximately 7% knowledge of multiplication and division facts. With the addition of Reflex this can improve up to 78%. Retrieval speed increases because time previously spent on computing basic facts is transferred to applying fact knowledge to solve multi-step word and higher-level thinking problems.	
	Total Grants to be Funded by RBEF <i>*Four grants were postponed to 2021-22 for implementation due to COVID Restrictions including Gaga Ball, Technology and Physical Education, e-Sports Platform for Middle School, and Good Eats!</i>	\$52,109*