



# BLAINE COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## **BLAINE COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION (BCEF) 2021 Final Report**

Grant Title: **Back on Track**

Grant Amount: **\$25,000**

### **Year in Review:**

BCEF intended to provide academic support before / after school with BCSD staff. The staff was unable to add additional hours to their day. Luckily, other organizations stepped up to fill this need. Teachers were in need for classroom, curriculum support to help engage students. BCEF is reviewing their programs to ensure that we are providing the highest quality of academic support for students. We added an End of Grant Report to BCSD staff regarding grants from BCEF, so we can gauge measurable from the funds provided for academic support. This has also helped to build a relationship with the district to collaborate for academic support.

### **Objectives & Outcomes:**

The funds provided academic support, but the look of the support changed. Instead of offering before/after school support, we offered curriculum support for teachers to engage students more effectively. We saw an overall increase from teacher requests from last year by 57%. Some teachers had a classroom budget of \$250 for 350 students. They needed support to be able to provide materials for their students such as grocery cards for home economics class or special need students for culinary lessons (Federally required curriculum). Funds for decodable readers paired with the teacher's literacy training. We now require an end of grant report for teachers that received funds that demonstrates academic measurable, such as the \$2,000 request from WRHS Physical Science and new AP Biology class labs. They saw overall 10% lab grade improvement compared with physical science with virtual lab. This increased support for staff has led to build a stronger relationship with the district. Not only will this new relationship help us to collect measurable data from our support for classroom needs but also BCEF is part

of the conversation and providing funding to support literacy curriculum needs at the middle schools for the upcoming 2022-23 school year.

**Photos** (*see below*)

**Budget**

<b>Expense Type</b>	<b>Total Amount of Expense</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Actual Expenditures</b>
5 after school elementary academic support	\$7,000 each school for total of \$35,000	\$10,000	See attached chart
3 after school middle school	\$7,000 each school for total of \$21,000	\$4,000	See attached chart
Digital Software support for school wide need	\$15,000 in approximate need	\$5,000	See attached chart
Digital Software support for teacher	\$5,000 in approximate	\$2,000	See attached chart
Salary for Program Support	\$50,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$126,000</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	

I shared a chart of teacher and school wide grants combined as a sample of the grants we funded with the WRWF grant in mind to support these requests. All of the requests

were to support academic support of student learning; some were digital-based and others were basic needs to support the level of the student.



School	Subject	Amount Requested	Board Decision	Title	Description
WRMS 6-8th	ESL	\$ 303.76	\$304	Electronic Resources for Newcomers Class WRMS	Thinking Maps Individual License including the online Thinking Maps is a 1 yr license and Story board is 3 been great tools to help ESL students communicate much higher level. Provide the opportunity for students to plan and create work with the aid of graphics and graphics
Alturas K-5th	Instructional tech	\$ 2,500.00	2500	Site License for Code monkey Coding Software Platform	used some of the free activities with students this year them to be the most engaging that she has seen in sampling platforms with students. Coding incorporates Communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical skills along with perseverance and problem solving promote success throughout students' school careers get their code to work, they gain confidence in their experience a sense of accomplishment. The skill of perseverance provides students with the motivation to succeed in other academic areas, and students learn and never give up. Writing code is difficult. Students correct spelling and syntax- it has to be exact. Students self-control and confidence when they persevere and their code to work. Debugging and analyzing for errors teaches and encourages problem solving thinking.
WRMS 6	Science	\$745	795	Subscription for generation genius science curriculum	The subscription cost decreases when purchased - Would love a 5 Year subscription These were during COVID and found that they were updated for students
Alturas K-5th	Engineering and Design	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	Vex Robots	If granted this funding, I would purchase a VEX Bundle for kindergarten through 2nd grade students VEX GO Classroom Bundle for 3rd through 5th These VEX robotic products are considered the and coding products internationally for elementary They are the beginning robotic kits that will prepare students for more advanced robotics and that a VEX robotic materials, classes, and competitions River Middle School and our Wood River High included a copy of the prices in pictures below, information can be found at vexrobotics.com.

\$0

School	Subject	Amount Requested	Board Decision	Title	Description
HEM ALL grades	ELA	\$3,858.40	\$ 3,859.00	Leveled Texts for Readers	<p>We are in need of level Q-V OKAPI - Flying Start to texts for reading instruction. In next generation guide students are doing most of the work. Teacher talk is teachers watch closely to gain insight into the reading happening. Guided reading is the final point of support reach independence. It offers teachers the unique opportunity to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Observe students' complete reading processes in</li> <li>2. Catch inefficiencies before they become habituated</li> <li>3. Encourage students as they work</li> </ol> <p>According to leading reading researcher, Wiley Blevins, we need a variety of both decodable and leveled texts in order to move students forward toward proficiency. Last school year, the County School District curriculum and development committee purchased a small set of OKAPI - Flying Start to Leveled Texts for each school. Unfortunately, the levels that were only targeted middle readers in grades 1st-2nd. This is an inequitable reading instruction for both teachers and students and specialists on campus. Teachers do not have enough leveled materials at appropriate levels for students. Expenses by grade level can be found below in the attached spreadsheet. The need of level Q-V texts. While these levels are consistent for grades 4th-5th we currently have students in grades 4th-5th that are reading above/below grade level that need targeted instruction. The funding of this OKAPI project will allow all students in grades 4th-5th to benefit from small group instruction at their instructional level. We will provide 288 paired fiction/non-fiction texts at instructional level.</p>
BES 2nd	All Subjects	\$450.00	\$ 450.00	math & Science hands on Learning Curriculum Support	<p>Wooden Fraction Circles \$53.95; Cut out Labeled Fraction Circles \$42.95; Geometric Solids \$52.95; Geometric Stick Models \$42.95; Microscope \$39.99-\$59.99; 48 pack Microscope Slides \$42.95; Science Trays 2 sets \$56; Bamboo Cutting Board Set \$42.95; Dissection kits need 6 - approx. \$9 each;</p>
WRMS 8th	English	\$159.00	\$ 159.00	The Thrill of Horror	<p>I am asking for 24 books in the Five Nights at Freddy's collection. These scary stories have a lower Lexile level and can be read by the majority of my students. I have a large number of students reading at a 1st and 2nd grade level. The reading levels in class are too high for them to read. I would like to purchase these books for them to select on their own and read for independent time. Alongside the short stories we will read together in class.</p>

WRHS 9-12th	English Lang Dev	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Learning English through Reading	Our amount of newcomers this year skyrocketed. We have 20 newcomer students in our newcomer class. We have resources to help this large population. One way to learn English is through reading. This library is designed so students develop their language through reading fiction and non-fiction books. We intend to use this funding to purchase a collection of books that are written at lower level, but on interesting subjects. Books focus on science, math and social studies. As a school this year, we are focusing on student reading. This will be a great way for our Newcomer students to be able to read at their individual level with appropriate language and vocabulary.
WRHS 9-12th	All Subjects	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	Silent Sustained Reading	We intend to use this funding to purchase culturally diverse literature in primarily Spanish for students to read during silent sustained reading. These books will be kept in Advisory classrooms for student use.
Carey K-3rd	reading	\$ 705.00	\$ 705.00	Decodable Readers	Funds would be used to purchase multiple copies of decodable readers at a primary level. This will allow small groups of beginning "reading" as soon as they are introduced to phonics and letters/sounds.
WRHS 11-12 <sup>th</sup>	Voice 2	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	Groceries for cooking and budgeting skill lessons	For effective independence learning in the community, students need to know how to determine if they have enough money for purchases. Primary shopping site for adults is the grocery store. We will teach students to navigate sales flyers, coupons, find prices in the store.

WRHS 9th	Physical Science	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	Solar Powered Ferrofluid Speaker Project and Phases of Matter Demonstrations	<p>We will be purchasing consumable and long-term- the grant. The ferrofluid project is an ongoing set of culminating in an end of trimester project build that separate units: chemistry, electromagnetism, and ele second portion of the funds will be for demonstration changes of matter. What is amazing is that th has students working towards mastery of ALL of the standards:          HS-PS1-2: Simple Chemical Reactions          HS-PS1-3: Electrical Forces and Bulk Scale Structur          HS-PS1-4: Total Bond Energy Change in Chemical R          HS-PS1-6: Increased Products Design Solution          HS-PS1-7: Conservation of Atoms in Chemical Reac          HS-PS2-4: Gravitational and Electrostatic Forces Be          HS-PS2-5: Electric Current and Magnetic Fields          HS-PS2-6: Molecular-Level Structure of Designed M          HS-PS4-1: Wave Properties in Various Media          HS-PS4-2: Digital Transmission and Storage of Infor          Specifically, via the standards above students are ex          magnetism theory, relate differences in large scale m          and nano-magnetic materials, describe the unique b          ferrofluids under magnetic fields, describe applicatio          ferrofluids.</p>
HEM K-6th	Reading Intervention s	\$ 4,966.50	\$ 4,967.00	Reading Interventions through Decodables	<p>While all of the reading specialists and several K-2 t          trained and are using the Orton-Gillingham Phonics-          our school does not have high quality decodable tex          to apply the concepts that have been taught explicitl          texts are black and white booklets that we staple tog          able to use these books with our older readers (3rd-          importantly, they are not high-interest, engaging text          re-reading or writing activities.          Benchmark Education Company has high quality, ag          decodable texts that will work for our struggling read          levels. By supporting this grant, BCEF will be putting          decodable texts into the hands of all of our K-5 read          close the gap for our below grade level students</p>



WRHS 10-12	Biology/ Zoology/ AP Biology/ Botany	\$1,000	\$ 1,000.00	Lab Technology
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The grant would fund the purchase of a Vernier SpectroVis spectrophotometer, a MiniOne Gel Electrophoresis system, and four pipettes (100-1000 and 20-200) for related lab activities. The school previously purchased MiniOne Electrophoresis systems, but the school would like more to have a lab set for experiments in genetic analysis. MiniOne systems provide access to many biotechnology experiments that are otherwise difficult to implement in a high school laboratory. The SpectroVis spectrophotometer measures the absorbance of light at various wavelengths of light and would be used for a variety of experiments related to algae growth, photosynthesis, and enzyme activity. The school has a supply of pipettes in the 2-20mL size but lacks smaller pipettes for adequate coverage and prevent cross-contamination that arise when student groups share pipettes. All of the equipment is durable and would last many years.

\$ 14,440.00

