Grants Awarded

**Lighting the Reading Spark:** Colleen Irvin and the Park Campus Reading Specialists were awarded funds to create a guided reading room with a wide selection of texts at varying reading levels. This reading room will be a space that is easily accessible by all teachers, with high-quality, diverse titles in many genres, levels, and themes, as well as multiple copies for small group instruction. This room will be accessible to all teachers grades kindergarten through eight grade.

**3rd Grade Mentor Texts:** Mary Murphy was awarded funding for her project that will supply 3rd grade mentor texts district-wide. Mentor texts expose students to literature that they may not have picked up on their own and allow students to more fully explore and assess plot, theme, and character development. The books not only extend learning to traditional reading and writing, but can also be tied to other subjects like science and social science. Well chosen mentor texts help students develop critical thought and spark their curiosity.

**SoundField Amplification Systems:** Alex Dollinger (SLP) & Lori Hoornstra (Hearing Specialist) at GMS were awarded funding for four SoundField amplification systems. These systems will improve the signal-to-noise ratio, amplifying the teacher’s voice above the ambient noise in the room. Student learning environments comes with many listening challenges. When students can hear and respond to directions better, they perform better. Research shows that sound field systems help students hear the teachers’ instructions and content more clearly, thereby improving their auditory comprehension.

**We Need You!**

We need your help to continue providing grants and enriching opportunities to students. We are in need of new volunteers to support fundraising and community awareness activities. This may mean clerical tasks, writing, using social media, planning events, or directly engaging with the community. It depends on YOUR interests. Please contact us at foundation46board@gmail.com to learn how you can help.

*Foundation*46 is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit educational foundation. Our mission is to enrich and enhance the educational experience of every student in CCSD 46. Contact us at: foundation46board@gmail.com  Visit our website: [www.foundation46.org](http://www.foundation46.org)