



GRANTS AWARDED 2015-2016 (TOTAL = \$44,859)

- **eBooks & Audio Books (MBA)** This grant will greatly enhance the eBook offerings for all students and improve the learning experience for our special education students by providing audio books of classroom novels for listening on their iPads.
- **Improving Students Keyboarding Skills (SES)** The purpose of this grant is to provide a keyboarding program that is accessible from any technology device, and provides individually paced instruction for students starting in grade 1. The ability of students to be able to competently keyboard will impact their ability to perform successfully both in daily work and on assessments.
- **Standing Desks for Math Students (MBA)** It is reported students are more engaged with the teacher and with their work when they are standing. Standing desks are a fabulous tool for students that tend to be more active, fidgety, or even more tired.
- **Presentation System Plan for SHS Music and SHS TIDE Program (SHS)** This collaborative effort involves purchasing a new flat screen television for the Graphics Lab to assist in presentations the entire group can participate in while using smart board technology for teaching in the Music Room. **This grant was awarded from the Helen and S. Prestley Fund.**
- **Kids Kore Wobble Chairs for Students with Special Needs (SES)** Wobble Chairs help students who have sensory or attention needs that greatly impact their ability to focus throughout the school day. The goal of the chairs is to help the students with sensory processing and improve their ability to learn.
- **ergoERGO Seat (SES)** The ergoERGO Seat is an ergonomic seat that rocks in any direction and provides an active way for children to sit. It compresses slightly to allow small movements in any direction strengthening both muscles and the attention span of students.
- **Making Music (Preschool)** Making Music is a program that helps children (young and old!) build upon skills across all areas of development including speech/language, cognitive, fine/gross motor, social/emotional functioning, and creative expression.
- **High Interest-Low Level Reading for Students with Disabilities (SES)** The purpose of this project is to provide students with disabilities access to high interest books at a lower reading level. These are books that are “high interest low level” so that older students are able to access content and vocabulary that are age appropriate, but that have text written at their individual reading level. **This grant was awarded from the Dan and Jane Roulier Fund.**
- **State Personal Development Grant (PBIS) for SHS (Phase 2 – SHS)** Assist in the roll out of the PBIS grant, also known at Somers High School as the “Spartan Code,” which rewards students who go above and beyond to promote respect, responsibility, integrity and kindness.
- **NewsELA Pro (SHS)** NewsELA is an innovative way to build reading comprehension with nonfiction that’s always relevant. The articles are categorized by subject, reading standard, grade level, and language. It will help students to strengthen their ability to read non-fiction critically and improve their ability to respond to text dependent questions.



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- **WISE (MBA)** The goal of Women Inspired by STEM Education (“WISE”) Project, mirrors the goals of the Federal STEM Education Plan. The intention is to motivate young women in Somers, grades 7 through 10, to engage in STEM activities with the ultimate goal of considering STEM careers.
- **Auto Detailing Project (SHS)** Supporting a start up program developed for non college bound students to learn the skills of Automotive Detailing.
- **Lego Story Starter (SES)** LEGO® Education StoryStarter is an innovative and creative hands-on, minds-on literacy activity designed to create confident writers and readers in elementary schools. StoryStarter consists of a unique LEGO set combined with curriculum and software designed to engage and teach students within Language Arts and also focusing on developing 21st Century skills.
- **School Store (MBA)** A grant was awarded to open a School Store created in conjunction with the Student Climate Task Force.. The store will offer items like pencils that might be left at home and school spirit items.
- **Drama Club (MBA)** This grant supports a second school play at MBA which will be there Jerry Spinelli production of STARGIRL.
- **Music Department (MBA and SHS)** Various musical instruments purchased for the Music Department's use at both the high school and the middle school: digital piano, baritone saxophone, bass clarinet and a sousaphone.
- **Sensory Tool Kits for Classroom Teachers (SES)** With this grant, the classroom teachers have sensory tool kits available in the classrooms allowing them to quickly intervene when students are over stimulated and provide sensory breaks as needed.
- **Sensory Calming Classroom (SES)** This grants allows the special education teachers to create a special room where students can go to when they become over stimulated allowing them to calm down and focus.
- **LEGO Program (SES)** With this grant Grade 2 teachers will use LEGO sets to help students solve math problems.
- **Pear Deck (SHS)** Purchase of interactive software that allows teachers to create presentations right