



GRANTS AWARDED 2018-2019 (TOTAL = \$67,025)

- **Wide Format Color Printer - (SHS)** - The wide format color printer is available in the Media Center for students, clubs and staff to make posters, and create materials that enhance the curriculum.
- **Stargirl Society – (MBA)** – The Stargirl Society is an after school club that promotes individuality, self-esteem, tolerance, and sensitivity throughout the student body, as well as building a sense of community throughout the school.
- **Cursive Club – (MBA)** – This club will provide students with instruction, outside of the classroom hours, of the valuable art of writing and reading cursive handwriting.
- **Vex Robotics – (SHS)** – These microprocessor units include touch screen controls, programming software as well as faster computing speeds. These will be used by the robotics classes, robotics clubs and independent studies.
- **Library Media Center Makerspace – (SHS)** - A Makerspace is a communal area that provides students with the opportunity to be creative, innovative, and explore personal interests. A combination of technology and crafting, it encourages students to use critical thinking skills through hands on design and construction. While every Makerspace looks different, they all contain some combination of technology and crafting creativity. The technology area will let students to explore new skills before committing to a class, or expand upon skills that they've learned previously. The grant will purchase 5 new HP laptops, a 3D printer and pens, and virtual reality goggles. There will be several smaller computer/robotics kits that would also provide students with hands-on opportunities. A SparkFun kit, Raspberry Pi, and different levels of programmable robots will be available for students interested in various types of coding. Their purpose is to build off of the knowledge base obtained through Tech Ed classes at MBA and SHS. The art component of the Makerspace will be an area where students will be able to de-stress or pursue hobbies or talents that do not fit into their current curriculum. It would include a Cricut vinyl/paper cutter, a heat press, a button maker, and a sewing machine, as well as more traditional crafting options such as yarn, beads, coloring books, and origami.
- **Mimio Teach: Interactive White Board Displays – (SHS)** - Mimio Teach is the new smart board for the classroom. The given grant is to purchase 10 units for our classroom teachers. With a MimioTeach system, you can easily:
 - Turn any ordinary whiteboard into an interactive whiteboard.
 - Encourage participation at the whiteboard.
 - Search the MimioStudio Gallery for ready-to-use lesson content.
 - Enliven lessons with audio, video and Flash files.
 - Record video lessons to reuse whenever you want.
 - Record audio files using your computer's microphone.
 - Import existing lessons from Microsoft PowerPoint and Adobe Acrobat.
 - Save your whiteboard notes and drawings to your computer.



GRANTS AWARDED 2018-2019 (TOTAL = \$67,025)

- **Students Against Drunk Driving Assembly – (SHS)** – This grant will allow the High School to have a speaker from Courage to Speak Foundation to speak to the whole student body as well as the entire faculty on the dangers of drug abuse in young people. They will also speak about how to communicate with young people about the dangers of drug use and addiction. This presentation will take place on the day of Somers High School Prom to remind students to make responsible choices before and after prom. Not only will this benefit the student body, but it also further educates the faculty of SHS on what signs to look for in a student who may be under the influence or struggling with addiction.
- **Heart Rate Monitors – (MBA)** - The heart rate monitor is a personal motivator that provides a high tech, data driven exercise prescription through a one to one personalized learning experience by encouraging students to take ownership of their health. It sends a daily summary report and journaling prompt to both students and parents as soon as class is over to engage and educate families beyond the school day and aggregates the data up from the individual to the district level. MBA would become the first school in the district to integrate this technology, creating a “learning laboratory” for us. The results will forge a pathway to innovative learning and ignite inspired leadership throughout the entire district in physical education and Health. Through goal setting and individual feedback, the heart rate monitor challenges our students to improve their physical health, which can positively influence their emotional health and cognition.
- **MBA Courtyard Cleanup – (MBA)** – The MBA Environmental Club is working hard to make its mark on the community. This year, they would like to clean up and beautify the courtyard while creating a butterfly habitat that will support the 8th grade science curriculum. 8th graders have been collecting, raising, and tagging monarch butterflies for the last four years, with 100 monarchs tagged this year alone. They will be adding milkweed host plants and flowering food plants to the courtyard to support the 8th grades monarch work. Environmental club students and staff will do the work in the courtyard while soliciting help from Junior Beta Club members who can log their time for community service hours.
- **Imagination Playground – (SES)** – The imagination Playground strives to transform children’s minds, bodies and spirit through play. It is the kind of play that experts say is critical to a child’s intellectual, social, physical and emotional growth with play pieces that consist of heavy duty foam coated cubes, bricks, cogs, and cylinders. There are loose parts with holes that fit together to allow children to have their own ideas. The children can create ramps to use with balls provided. These activities are also STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and support our science standards. Imagination Playground encourages creativity, communication and collaboration in play.
- **Outdoor Music Garden – (SES)** – The playground is where kids learn valuable everyday life lessons about interacting with others, social norms and independence, all while gaining important relationship-building skills. Providing opportunities for children to engage in outdoor musical play allows them to practice these skills as well in a fun and unstructured way. Music is a global, artistic language that creates community, connection and a sense of



GRANTS AWARDED 2018-2019 (TOTAL = \$67,025)

belonging. The primal power of music evokes emotions, memories and images, taking the participant on a magical journey. These innovatively designed instruments are durable, sustainable, and perfectly tuned sound sculptures that enhance any outdoor space. The instruments will include Percussion Play Conga Pair, Zylophone 9 Note Melody, and Rhythm 9 Note Marimba.

- **Social and Emotional Learning Initiative – (SES)** - The We Thinkers! series is a Social Thinking educational series that combines a social learning framework with music and dramatic play activities for early learners (ages 4-7). Each volume consists of 5 storybooks and a curriculum. The teaching across the series is sequential and concepts build upon each other. Through the adventures of four characters (Evan, Ellie, Jesse, and Molly), children are introduced to and learn about complex social concepts in a language they can understand. Readers journey along with the characters as their adventures unfold in various settings that mirror children's experiences and inspire their imaginations: in the classroom, on a farm, underwater in the ocean, during a trip to outer space, at the zoo, at a dinosaur birthday party, while on a mystery vacation, and in other child-friendly situations.