

**TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED 2023-2024
(FALL SEMESTER TOTAL = \$26,016)**

**EDUCATION GRANTS AWARDED FALL SEMESTER, 2023-2024
(TOTAL = \$22,545)**

- **Traditions of Chinese Acrobats (MBA)**
This grant will enrich the students' lives, exposing them to arts in another culture by presenting a solo acrobatic performance. The performer will point out connections to Chinese art and culture and explains some rituals of the Chinese New Year and teach the audience some basic Chinese phrases.
- **Rockin' Readers (SES)**
This grant will establish a new section in the SES library where books that connect to music and performing arts are featured. All students at Somers Elementary attend both music and media every week. These books will facilitate cross curricular connections, foster a love of reading, enhance student understanding of our music curriculum, and enable students to continue learning outside the classroom and at home with friends and family. The grant provides for shelving to house the books and many new books to populate the shelf.
- **Gallery Wall Project (MBA)**
One way to motivate students is to let them see their own work and that of their peers on public display. This project will provide the frames to attractively display every student's artwork throughout the halls of MBA. This will enhance the personalization of the learning environment, beautify the hallways, and allow students to share their talents with peers and staff.
- **Enhancing WIN services (SHS)**
The WIN program steps in to help students with learning gaps and skill deficits. The grant will provide a white board table, on which students can try out ideas, make easy corrections, and experiment freely. New furniture will encourage participation and collaboration and allow for individual attention when needed.
- **Enhancing the Reading Environment (SES)**
This is an additional way to encourage students to read and reflect by providing temporary outdoor seating in the enclosed courtyard at Somers Elementary. It will provide more space for students to read on their own in a quiet setting.



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- **Smart Pass for Somers High School (SHS)**
This software uses student chrome books to issue, approve, and track student pass usage. This will first provide data on the extent of any problem of over-using passes and significant loss of learning time. It will also provide data on who is using passes, how often, and with whom, so that steps can be taken to intervene where appropriate. This is all done with very little teacher time wasted on enforcement or checking up on students. Instead of rules that hamper all students, those who simply need a pass and those with an unhealthy or illicit motivation, this system would allow for a precise response affecting only those who are operating outside the rules.
- **Exploring the World beyond the Classroom (SES)**
This grant will establish a fund for virtual field trips, aligned to curriculum content, that connect students to real world experts. For example, as students are learning about weather, they can explore how the sun affects our Earth's weather with an interactive experiment comparing hot and cold air with experts at a science center in Colorado. We are already equipped with the technology to make connections with National Parks, museums, laboratories and many other sites. This grant will fund those connections, bringing students virtually to the site where they can interact with experts at the site. The STEM leader will work with classroom teachers to connect students to those real-world experts.
- **Multimedia Communications Class Studio Upgrade (SHS)**
Multimedia class at Somers has been using old equipment that severely limits what they can produce. This equipment upgrade will give the production a more modern feel and better prepare the students for real world broadcasting. The equipment would also allow the class to record in a single take with less editing, which in turn would provide more time for interviews and highlight stories that would bring together the SHS community.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AWARDED (through October, 2023-2024) (TOTAL = \$3,471)