

Garden City PTA All Schools Meeting Grant Requests for General Membership Vote October 21, 2026

#83: High School Self Defense Classes

Grant amount requested \$3840.00

What School(s) will the grant be allocated to? High School

Goals and objectives of the grant? The goal of the program is not to teach students how to fight, but to provide our senior girls with practical personal-safety skills as they prepare for greater independence after high school. Through instruction in situational awareness, boundary setting, avoidance, basic self-defense techniques, and strategies for safely removing themselves from uncomfortable or potentially dangerous situations, the program would complement the lifelong wellness and safety goals of our physical education curriculum.

This grant will be a one-time grant. If the program goes well, it will be considered to be included as a budgetary item at the school.

Description for the use of the grant funds? The grant funds would allow an expert to come in and train our students as well as our PE teachers who will collaborate with outside agency on lessons.

Does this request meet the district's internal purchasing guidelines? Yes

Does this request have the support of central administration? Yes

#84: Homestead School Bike Rack

Grant amount requested \$970.00

What School(s) will the grant be allocated to? Homestead School

Goals and objectives of the grant? The goal of this grant is to provide a safe and accessible bike rack at Homestead School that encourages students and families to incorporate active transportation into their school experience. By providing a designated space for bicycles, we hope to promote healthy habits, independence, responsibility, and increased connection between our school and the surrounding community.

This project directly supports the Garden City School District's mission of "Inspiring Minds, Empowering Achievement, Building Community." Encouraging students to bike to school provides a developmentally appropriate opportunity for our youngest learners to build confidence and independence while developing healthy lifelong habits. It also strengthens the connection between home, school, and community by providing families with an additional way to travel to and from school together.

Ultimately, the bike rack will help us create a safe and welcoming school environment that supports the whole child and encourages students to develop responsibility for themselves, respect for their community, and an appreciation for healthy and environmentally conscious choices.

Description for the use of the grant funds? Grant funds will be used to purchase and install a permanent bike rack at Homestead School. Currently Homestead does not have a designated area for bicycle parking.

Does this request meet the district's internal purchasing guidelines? Yes

Does this request have the support of central administration? Yes

#85: Homestead Morning Bins

Grant amount requested \$1200.00

What School(s) will the grant be allocated to? Homestead School

Goals and objectives of the grant? To create a welcoming, developmentally appropriate start to the school day that supports students' transition into the classroom while building independence, creativity, collaboration and readiness for learning.

Support a positive transition to school by providing students with a predictable, engaging 10-minute soft-start routine before Morning Meeting.

Promote self-regulation and readiness to learn by allowing students time to settle into the classroom through calm, hands-on activities rather than immediately beginning traditional worksheet-based morning work. Strengthen fine motor skills through activities involving building manipulating, connecting, drawing, sorting and creating. Encourage creativity and problem solving by providing open-ended materials that allow students to design, build, explore and experiment.

Develop social and communication skills by creating natural opportunities for students to work together, share materials, engage in conversation and solve problems collaboratively. Build independence and responsibility as students learn routines for selecting materials, using them appropriately, cleaning up, and transitioning to Morning Meeting. Increase student engagement and sense of belonging by beginning the day with activities that are inviting, accessible, and enjoyable for a range of learners.

Description for the use of the grant funds? Grant funds will be used to purchase a variety of engaging, developmentally appropriate materials for students to use during Morning Bins, including building and construction materials, puzzles, fine-motor activities, creative materials, and other hands-on learning opportunities. Funds will also be used to purchase durable storage bins to allow teachers to easily organize, rotate, and maintain the materials throughout the school year.

Does this request meet the district's internal purchasing guidelines? Yes

Does this request have the support of central administration? Yes

#86: High School Phone Cases

Grant amount requested \$2451.09

What School(s) will the grant be allocated to? High School

Goals and objectives of the grant? The goal of this grant is to reduce student cell phone use in the hallways and support consistent enforcement of the school's cell phone policy. By introducing NuKases, we hope to provide a practical and effective way to address students who are not following the policy without requiring staff to confiscate, store, and manage student phones throughout the day. This approach would allow students to maintain possession of their devices while reinforcing expectations for appropriate cell phone use during the school day.

Description for the use of the grant funds? Grant funds would be used to purchase NuKases by NuGerm. NuKases are durable, reuseable, lockable phone cases that prevent students from accessing their phones until they are unlocked by a staff member.

When a student is observed using their phone in the hallway, they would be required to place it in a NuKase for the remainder of the school day. Students would keep their phones in their possession and report to the main office at dismissal to have the cases unlocked. The cases would then be collected and reused as needed.

Each NuKase costs approximately \$20, bringing the total cost for 100 cases to \$2000 plus applicable shipping and tax.

Does this request meet the district's internal purchasing guidelines? Yes

Does this request have the support of central administration? Yes