



Model Classroom Grant Recipients 2018



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

CHRISTOPHER D. MAHER



Dear Friends:

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I want to thank you for participating in this fourth edition of our Model Classroom Grant Program and for joining us as we recognize the 2018 grant recipients. Over the years, our Foundation has invested more than \$36 million in community organizations including more than \$1.9 million in grants to local schools to create high performing library and media centers, for green initiatives and for the creation of model classrooms. We understand the critical role the classroom plays in a student's academic and life-long success and also the challenges presented by limited resources. That's why we're proud to partner with local schools and to contribute the resources needed to develop creative solutions that help students and teachers succeed in the classroom and beyond the school walls.

Our current commitment to education extends beyond this Model Classroom Grant Program, and also includes the OceanFirst Scholarship initiative which has provided \$2.2 million in scholarship assistance to local students in the past nine years, as well as our support of the Teacher of the Year recognition events in the communities we serve.

We are pleased to share profiles of the 25 Model Classroom Grant recipients awarded \$10,000 each, from among the 144 schools that applied this year. As you might imagine, narrowing down the list and selecting the final 25 grantees was a challenge with so many excellent proposals submitted. A special thank you goes to the members of the Foundation Board Committee who participated in the review process.

On behalf of our entire OceanFirst Foundation Board, thank you for your commitment to the education of our youth and we look forward to continuing to work with you in the years ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Christopher D. Maher". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christopher D. Maher
Chairman, OceanFirst Foundation and OceanFirst Bank

OCEANFIRST FOUNDATION



Since its founding in 1902, OceanFirst Bank has built a solid reputation and legacy as a good neighbor and responsible corporate citizen. The Bank's strong commitment to helping families, organizations, schools and communities throughout central and southern New Jersey meet their financial needs has spanned several generations and reached a new high with the creation of OceanFirst Foundation in 1996. Made possible by a one-time endowment of \$13.4 million approved by OceanFirst Bank depositors, the endowment was invested in OceanFirst Financial Corp. stock. With the success of OceanFirst Bank, the investment has grown and offers OceanFirst Foundation the opportunity to provide grants to organizations that meet community needs within the OceanFirst footprint. The support OceanFirst receives from our neighbors who bank with us, is reflected in the success, and growing market value, of the Bank's shares. Therefore, as the community supports the growth and success of the Bank, and thereby the Foundation endowment, the Foundation support given back to the community is enhanced year after year.

Through the Foundation, more than 900 local charities and schools have received more than \$36 million in grants. Our commitment to helping address such needs as youth development and education, housing, health and wellness and improving the quality of life remains steadfast. We look forward to continuing our efforts and helping the communities and people we serve realize bright futures.



THE MODEL CLASSROOM GRANT PROGRAM

The goal of the Model Classroom Grant Program is to support bold and innovative schools that have the vision, creativity and desire to develop model classrooms for learning. Most important to us is to support efforts that create and promote a culture of academic excellence, to improve and enhance classroom instruction and to support schools that want to embrace new technology, tools and training that will add value to the learning experience and help improve student success. Twenty five schools – 12 elementary programs, 7 middle school programs and 6 high schools will each receive a \$10,000 grant to build their capacity in the classroom.

The program was open to all schools (K-12) in the OceanFirst Bank footprint. Grant requests were judged on factors including: the overall quality of the application, the school's vision for the classroom and the proposed use of funds, creativity, sustainability, the school's ability to carry out the project, partnerships, the budget and leveraged support, plans for assessment and promotion, student and community involvement and potential for impact on the school community. Final selections were made by the OceanFirst Foundation Board of Directors.

2018 GRANT APPLICANTS



Alder Avenue Middle School
 Aldrich Elementary School (1)
 Ardena Elementary School
 Asbury Park High School (3)
 Atlantic City High School (3)
 Barclay Brook Elementary School
 Bayville Elementary School
 Beachwood Elementary School (1)
 Belhaven Middle School
 Belmar Elementary School
 Berkeley Township Elementary School
 Brick Memorial High School
 Broad Street School
 Buena Regional Middle School
 C. Richard Applegate School
 Cedar Creek Elementary School
 Central Elementary School
 Central Regional High School
 Central Regional Middle School (2)
 Charles L. Spragg Elementary School
 Charter-Tech High School for the
 Performing Arts
 Clara B. Worth Elementary School
 Collier School
 Colts Neck High School (3)
 Cumberland Regional High School
 Davies Middle School
 Deerfield Township Elementary School
 Dennis Township Primary School
 Donovan Catholic High School
 Downe Township Elementary School
 Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School
 E.H. Slaybaugh Elementary School
 Eagle Academy
 Eagleswood Elementary School
 East Dover Elementary School (1)
 Edith M. Griebing Elementary School
 Egg Harbor City Community School
 Egg Harbor Township High School
 Elms Elementary School
 Emma C. Attales Middle School
 Estell Manor Elementary School
 Fairview Elementary School
 Fernwood Avenue Middle School
 Folsom Elementary School
 Forrestdale School
 Frederic A. Priff Elementary School
 G. Harold Antrim Elementary School (1)
 Galloway Township Middle School

George J. Mitchell Elementary School
 George L. Hess Educational Complex (1)
 Glenwood Avenue Elementary School (1)
 H & M Potter Elementary School
 Harmony Elementary School
 Herbertsville Elementary School
 Holy Cross School
 Holy Spirit High School
 Hooper Avenue Elementary School
 Hopewell Crest School
 Howard C. Johnson Elem. School (1)
 Howell High School
 Hugh J. Boyd Jr., Elementary School
 Island Heights Elementary School
 Joseph A. Citta Elementary School (1)
 Keyport High School
 Lacey Township High School
 Lacey Township Middle School
 Leeds Avenue School
 Lower Cape May Regional High School
 Mainland Regional High School
 Manasquan Elementary School
 Manasquan High School
 Manchester Township Elementary School
 Matawan-Aberdeen Regional High School
 Maurice River Township School
 Memorial Elementary School (1)
 Memorial Middle School (Eatontown)
 Memorial Middle School (Point Pleasant)
 Middle Township Middle School
 Middle Township Elementary School #2
 Mill Pond School
 Millville Senior High School
 Monmouth Regional High School
 Mullica Township Middle School
 Myron L. Powell School
 Nellie F. Bennett Elementary School
 New Egypt Primary School
 North Main Street School (1)
 Northfield Elementary School
 Northfield Middle School
 Oak Tree Elementary School
 Oakcrest High School
 Ocean Academy
 Ocean Acres Elementary School
 Ocean City High School
 Ocean City Intermediate School
 Ocean City Primary School
 Ocean Road Elementary School

Ocean Township Elementary School
 Ocean Township High School
 OCVTS - Jackson
 OCVTS - Performing Arts Academy
 Old Mill Elementary School
 Osbornville Elementary School
 Our Lady of Mercy Academy (3)
 Pine Beach Elementary School
 Point Pleasant Beach High School
 Point Pleasant Borough High School
 Ranney School
 Regional Day School at Jackson
 Richard M. Teitelman Middle School
 Richmond Avenue School (2)
 Ridgeway Elementary School
 Rieck Avenue Elementary School
 Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Ctr.
 Saint Benedict School
 Saint James Elementary School
 Saint John Vianney High School
 Saint Peter School
 Saint Rose High School
 Sea Girt Elementary School
 Silver Bay Elementary School (1)
 South Toms River Elementary School
 Sovereign Avenue School
 Switlik Elementary School (1)
 Texas Avenue School
 Toms River High School East
 Toms River High School North
 Toms River High School South
 Toms River Intermediate North
 Toms River Intermediate South (2)
 Township of Ocean Intermediate School
 Upper Township Primary School
 Vineland High School (3)
 Vineland Public Charter School (2)
 Wall High School
 Wall Township Intermediate School (2)
 Warren H. Wolf Elementary School
 Washington Street Elementary School
 West Belmar Elementary School
 West Cape May Elementary School
 Whitehall Elementary School
 Wildwood High School (3)
 Wildwood Middle School (2)
 Woodrow Wilson Elementary School (2)

(1) Elementary School Grant Recipient
 (2) Middle School Grant Recipient
 (3) High School Grant Recipient

Aldrich School

615 Aldrich Road

Howell, NJ 07731

School Principal: Andrew Smith

Point of Contact for Grant: Evelyn Kearney



Aldrich School will utilize their grant to convert the Media Center into a Makerspace. With 32.5% percent of students receiving special education, academic support instruction, and educational support services such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech, the team at Aldrich plans to design a space where all types of learners will feel successful. The classroom will foster a “Makers Mindset” by giving students opportunities to figure things out on their own and construct solutions to problems.

So, what does that look like? Visitors will be greeted by a well-organized layout with colorful tables with flexible seating options and multiple stations set up for student use. The seating options will aid in student success and motivation as it supports movements such as rocking and bouncing. Each station will have its own technology component with typed directions and video instructions for visual learners. Distinct signage will identify the four key work stations – Coding, Robotics and Computer Science; Video and Multimedia Production; 3D Design and STEAM; and a Making and “makeHERspace”. The “makeHERspace” will be curated to ignite the interest of female students in technology, engineering and design. The district hosts an annual Maker’s Fair which will showcase student projects aligned to the Maker movement and computer science.



Asbury Park High School

1101 Sunset Avenue

Asbury Park, NJ 07712

School Principal: Kathy Baumgardner

Point of Contact for Grant: Casey Hounsell

According to a study recently published by the National Association for Music Education, students in high-quality school music programs score higher on standardized tests compared to students in schools with deficient music education programs, regardless of the socioeconomic level of the school or school district. Asbury Park High School will utilize their grant to regenerate a vital aspect of their school culture and community by making music production and technology a fluid aspect of the music curriculum.

Reflecting on student’s interests, the team at Asbury Park High School recognized the passion for creating computer-based musical compositions rather than relying on traditional, instrument-based music education. Their vision is to transform two large under-utilized closets into an advanced practice room and a music production booth. The practice room will provide students the opportunity to record and create music using their own instruments. The music production room will give students the technology (computers, beat-pads, iPad, electronic pianos, and recording devices) to produce their own music and apply their understanding of musical concepts to their own compositions. These enhancements will also support the school’s vision to provide music production and songwriting classes in the future and help expand the instrumental music program.

Atlantic City High School

1400 North Albany Avenue

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

School Principal: Lina Gil

Point of Contact for Grant: Mark Deebold



Established in 1895, Atlantic City High School currently serves the needs of more than 1,850 students including more than 150 students enrolled in the NJDOE's recognized model English as a Second Language (ESL) program. Recognizing current research that confirms that second language acquisition is accelerated through hands-on, real world activities, the school has targeted marine science as a class in which opportunities are plentiful. The school will transform an existing space into an ESL Marine Field Station classroom. This learning center will be a state of the art marine ecology research laboratory with salt marsh and intercoastal waterway access, spearheaded by the school's ESL population. Students will receive "on the job training" in the area of environmental science.

Students will take the lead in designing, conducting, and reporting on experiments as they collaborate with classmates, teachers, professionals, and key stakeholders. Emphasis will be placed on creating a "culture of thinking" in which students reinforce and/or refute claims with a thorough and thoughtful analysis of the evidence. The school's vision supports the recommendation of the Next Generation Science Standards that students not merely learn about science but also regularly engage in the authentic work of scientists.



Beachwood Elementary School

901 Berkeley Avenue

Beachwood, NJ 08722

School Principal: Kimberly Muir

Point of Contact for Grant: James Klass

Beachwood Elementary school serves 511 students that participate in general education, autistic, and gifted and talented programs. The Beachwood Bears are in the beginning phases of overhauling the Media Center to create a space that is inclusive of all student's needs, interests and ability levels. The "Bears' DEN" will be a place for teachers and students to engage in instructional practices that are differentiated, equitable, and nurturing. Reading and literacy have always been at the heart of the Media Center, and it is important to the school community for that to remain a key component of the space.

The vision for the "Bears' DEN" is to create an inclusive learning space for students by integrating sensory opportunities that stimulate student engagement in the learning process. The improved center will include a sensory area with resources to help support students' focus and growth; a gardening station to support cross-curricular lessons connected to their community garden and students' sensory needs; a bank of reading intervention tools to advance struggling readers; and an area for their therapy dog to read with students and guide their social and emotional development. Together, the elements within this space will help to support all students' various learning styles and needs, while building an inclusive atmosphere.

Central Regional Middle School

509 Forest Hill Parkway

Bayville, NJ 08721

School Principal: Joseph Firetto

Point of Contact for Grant: Felicya Morreale



Central Regional Middle School educates students from the sending districts of Ocean Gate, Seaside Heights, Seaside Park, Island Heights, and Berkeley. Central Regional is a designated NJ School Choice District which allows students from all areas of Ocean County to attend Central Regional to take advantage of their high level academic programs and academies.

The Young Engineers Robotics Lab will focus on students in seventh and eighth grades in the subject areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The vision for this model classroom is to create a hands-on, interactive learning environment where students can see how technology and advancements in the engineering field are used in real world applications. The grant will allow for the purchase of new collaborative seating, Lego systems and programming, coding, and 3D printing tools. Students will be able to see how robotics are used in STEM fields as well as in the areas of music, household tasks, automotive and the arts. The school will also purchase additional robotics curriculum modules for the Lab. Upon completion of each module, the students will have the ability to design and build robots that address environmental, social and economic problems for real life connections. Students will be challenged to present their findings with peers, teachers and the community.



Colts Neck High School

59 Five Points Road

Colts Neck, NJ 07722

School Principal: Dr. Brian P. Donahue

Point of Contact for Grant: Dr. Brian P. Donahue

Colts Neck High School will use their grant to transform a mathematics room. Colts Neck High School supports mathematics instruction for over 1,400 students in grades 9-12, including special education and English Language Learners (ELL). Students taking courses from resource to advanced placement mathematics will benefit from a new, flexible, dynamic workspace with movable furniture, multiple whiteboards, and accessible technology that allows teachers and students to have the resources they need to engage in collaborative approaches to authentic, real-world mathematics.

Specifically, the school will use their grant toward the purchase of multiple technologies: one-to-one Chromebooks, an interactive television, and a flat-screen for small group projection. These new tools in the enhanced Mathematics Lab will accommodate collaborative class projects and investigations that bring relevance and integration to classroom learning. For example, using Chromebooks for research and design along with an interactive television for demonstration and collaboration, geometry students will be able to move beyond the pages of their textbooks to investigate the creation of virtual environments from the parabolic arcs of grass in a movie to the transformation-guided paths of their favorite video game characters.

East Dover Elementary School

725 Vaughn Avenue

Toms River, NJ 08753

School Principal: Matthew H. Gray

Point of Contact for Grant: Peggy Kruger



East Dover Elementary School serves 662 students with approximately 33% of students economically disadvantaged and meeting the criteria for free or reduced lunch. East Dover is a "Title I" school with remedial services and approximately 200 students are classified with special needs including mild to severe autism, language and learning delays, and communications impairment.

The school's vision is to create a calming, yet stimulating environment that will help students who are struggling with sensory dysfunction. Sensory dysfunction is a disorder in which sensory input is not integrated appropriately in the brain and may produce varying degrees of problems in development, behavior and sensitivities to processing information. As East Dover moves toward the progressive and research-based process of an inclusive education model, this space will enhance their efforts by providing a safe place for special education and general education students to develop sensory coping strategies that will enable them to spend more and better quality time with their peers. The Sensory Zone room will offer all students a supportive place for sensory and/or emotional regulation, to improve focus, to develop or reactivate senses, to encourage socialization, to improve cognitive development, and to improve motor function.



G. Harold Antrim Elementary School

401 Niblick Street

Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742

School Principal: Dr. Thomas O'Hara

Point of Contact for Grant: Tara Weber

G. Harold Antrim Elementary School is in its 2nd year of implementing a school-wide STEAM program. In just two years, the school went from no STEAM program to one that is expanding to include hands-on learning opportunities that involve community and local partnerships while teaching college and career readiness skills.

The vision of Antrim is to transform an old computer lab into STEAM classroom with a focus on hydroponic and aeroponic grow gardens. Students will have access to the garden space to care for the plants on a daily basis. Students will learn how to grow from seed to harvest and what it takes to keep plants healthy and bountiful. Students will measure and track the health of plants throughout the year and observe best practices for success. The hydroponic garden will also be used to create a business. The 5th-grade classes will have the responsibility to market and sell their harvest to local pizza parlors. Money raised will be earmarked for future STEAM project supplies and/or maintenance and supplies. A "company" name will be chosen, a logo and business cards will be created and distributed, and product-safe bags will be used to package the products. Students will learn how to make bank deposits, keep a bank account, and balance the account at the end of the month. They will also learn how to create a profit and loss statement.

George L. Hess Educational Complex

700 Babcock Road

Mays Landing, NJ 08330

School Principal: Melanie E. Lamanteer

Point of Contact for Grant: Marilyn Stecher



George L. Hess Educational Complex is celebrating its 25th anniversary and currently serves 1,332 students from preschool to students in grades 2 through 5. Approximately 40% of students are economically disadvantaged; 18% are students with disabilities and 3% are English language learners.

The school will use their grant to create a mindful, responsive, trauma-informed classroom in grade three. Overall, their goal is to improve the social, emotional, and behavioral skills of students for the purpose of ensuring that students are kind, respectful, collaborative citizens as well as for the purpose of creating a classroom environment that is conducive to academic excellence.

The classroom will be a model for the district in moving forward with its Mental Health Initiative, now in its second year. It will serve as a lab site for staff members and administrators to visit, observe best practices modeled and take lessons learned back into their own classrooms. The classroom will have staff not only trained to deliver excellent academic instruction, but also trained in mindfulness, a social and emotional learning curriculum, along with knowledge and training on the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).



Glenwood Avenue Elementary School

2900 New York Avenue

Wildwood, NJ 08260

School Principal: Travis LaFerriere

Point of Contact for Grant: Travis LaFerriere

Glenwood Avenue Elementary School serves a socioeconomically disadvantaged population of students with 85% of students receiving free or reduced lunch. In addition, 35% of its 482 students are English Language Learners. The fact that there is no usable green space at the school – a truly urban school – led to their decision to pursue the creation of an outdoor classroom. Permission was granted by the city to use a pre-existing park located near the school for the classroom.

Students in pre-K through 5th grade will utilize the "Oasis" outdoor classroom for learning across all content areas - reading, writing, math, science, social studies, art, and music. The classroom focal point will be bench-type seating to accommodate up to 25 students. The instructor area will include a large, outdoor quality, chalkboard. The project will connect the Wildwood High School Industrial Technology Program and Structured Learning Experiences Program with the elementary school for the construction of raised garden beds for students to plant flowers and vegetables. To assist teachers, they will create outdoor exploration backpacks that may be checked out based on topics chosen to teach. The backpacks will include ready-made, age-appropriate lesson plans that span across the curriculum.

Howard C. Johnson Elementary School

1021 Larsen Road

Jackson, NJ 08527

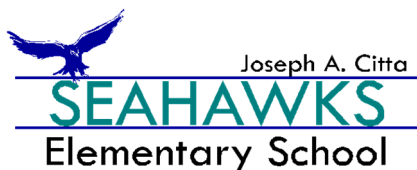
School Principal: Dr. Michael Raymond

Point of Contact for Grant: Missy O'Keeffe



Howard C. Johnson Elementary School serves 478 students in grades K-5, of which, 31% have special needs and approximately one-third are students with multiple disabilities. With their grant, the school will create a space to lead social and emotional learning with the aid of a school therapy dog, maintain their accountability through Yale University research, and promote their community service to a global audience.

The star of the school's "Learning Unleashed" Model Classroom is a dog with Ivy League credentials. The Yale University School for Child Development & Social Policy has created a proven, well-research curriculum called "Mutt-i-grees". Its mission is to "teach children skills to promote self and social awareness, effectively communicate and manage emotions and foster empathy." Students will join together in this newly made, calming and cooperative space to explore thoughtful lessons on social emotional learning through interaction with a school therapy dog. The school has reimagined what was once an office and adjacent space in the school's library to expand the footprint of the classroom and make it the hub of their school. The designated space will be used at regular intervals to ensure that the therapy dog is well-rested and ready when it is time to perform instructional duties.



Joseph A. Citta Elementary School

2050 Lakewood Road

Toms River, NJ 08755

School Principal: Mallory Kennedy

Point of Contact for Grant: Shannon Brown

Joseph A. Citta Elementary School serves a diverse student population. They speak various languages, represent a myriad of ethnicities, and fall on opposite ends of the economic spectrum. Since 2011, the percentage of economically disadvantaged students grew from 20% to 38% of the total school population. As the demographics have changed, they have found that many of the students aren't exposed to important pre-reading skills that help them to be successful in school.

With their grant, the school will transform an existing fifth grade classroom into the "Citta Scholars Literacy Lab" – a haven for teachers and students alike. Currently, reading specialists are housed in three separate small office spaces throughout the building. They meet students in cramped quarters walking between locations to get books. A dedicated space will allow students and teachers to receive support to develop their confidence and competence in the areas of reading and writing through collaborative opportunities to use interactive materials and resources. Two of the building teachers receive literacy professional development regularly as part of a district-wide initiative. These learning opportunities help the teacher representatives to build their repertoire of instructional strategies, and in turn, they provide individualized support and professional learning opportunities to the staff at Citta. They will now have a dedicated space for this work.

Memorial Elementary School

485 Adelphia Road

Howell, NJ 07728

School Principal: Raymond Gredder

Point of Contact for Grant: Alysson Keelen



Memorial Elementary School serves children in third through fifth grade. In addition to general education classes, the school proudly serves the district's special class programs. These unique programs provide students who have developmental, cognitive, social and emotional disabilities the individualized support and services they need in order to achieve their academic and personal goals.

The school's Model Classroom will focus on all students in grades 3-5 with special needs. Two classes, formerly called "Behavioral Disorder" will lead the "Outdoor Classroom for the Peaceful Path" project. Now called "Multiple Disability", these classes serve students who have difficulty regulating their emotions and behaviors. These students will be called "Peace Leaders". "Peace Leaders" when faced with a difficult situation will choose the "peaceful path" – the path of empathy for others, using words to work out conflict, and being a role model for other students. To accomplish this, the entire school is committed to creating an outdoor classroom with natural learning centers that are organized by a peace sign walking path. The "Peace Leaders" will take the lead in building and maintaining this outdoor classroom. The space will include a classroom seating area, shared reading learning space, a friendship bench area, an outdoor makerspace, a movement learning space, a sensory garden, and a STEM hands-on activity area.

North Main Street Elementary School



215 North Main Street

Pleasantville, NJ 08232

School Principal: Teresa McGaney-Guy

Point of Contact for Grant: Renee Alford

North Main Street School serves 380 students and special education students make up 22% of the population as do English Language Learners. At least 94% of students receive free or reduced lunch. The model classroom this school envisions is a second grade classroom with a focus on reading interventions. With the majority of North Main Street School students reading below grade level when they enter school each September, there is a need for focused instruction and interventions.

The Model Classroom will be a place where students are learning to read and to enjoy reading. While learning, students will receive the differentiated instruction required, using all the skills necessary to be squarely on the path to college and career readiness. Decoding words, monitoring and correcting their reading, solving unknown words and summarizing what they read are key in the skills students will gain by working in this space. The Stockton University School of Education is offering to place five education students into the Model Classroom. The school, in turn, is offering to provide training in reading assessment and benchmarking (DIBELS) and phonics instruction, for these students. The grant will allow for the purchase of both the student benchmark system (DIBELS) as well as phonics classroom sets and student sets that offer explicit and systematic instruction (Wilson Reading Foundations).

Our Lady of Mercy Academy

1001 Main Road

Newfield, NJ 08344

School Principal: Brooke A. Coyle

Point of Contact for Grant: Brooke A. Coyle

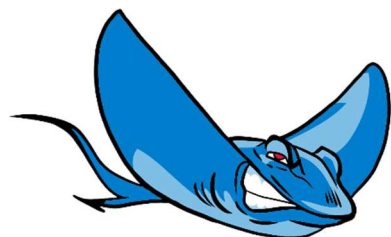


OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY

Changing the World, One Young Woman at a Time

Our Lady of Mercy Academy is southern New Jersey's only all-girls high school. Through a challenging academic curriculum, diverse extra-curricular program, hands-on leadership experience, and the spirit of sisterhood, students thrive and are forever bonded in faith and friendship.

The school's vision for their Model Classroom is to transform a Laptop Lab into a fully functional Center for Business and Collaborative Learning. The classroom will be geared for primary use by juniors and seniors as part of a four-semester business education program. The program will focus on using hands-on and simulated learning to introduce and provide skills for use in business careers in which women are underrepresented, yet successful and in high demand. As part of the initiative, students will be introduced to career opportunities in business, the school will establish a DECA chapter and develop courses focused on business fundamentals, create a business specific Job Shadow Program, recruit alumnae and other women in business and related fields to become part of a Business Skills Speakers Series, explore dual-credit and/or certification opportunities, and form a Center of Excellence in Business Advisory Board of experts. The school will purchase a stock ticker display, collaborative room furnishings, and a Promethean Board with the grant.



Richmond Avenue School

4115 Ventnor Avenue

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

School Principal: Shelley Williams

Point of Contact for Grant: Dr. James McGinn

Richmond Avenue School is an urban school serving 707 students in grades Pre-K through 8th grade. 92% of students are economically disadvantaged, hailing from culturally diverse (96%) backgrounds with only 35% of the students' families speaking English. In addition, 26% of students are English as a Second Language Learners.

The Citizens Science Model Classroom is designed with the intention to transform science students into student scientists. The focus of this transformed classroom is to connect student's school work to the real world; foster an awareness of the importance of taking action to make things better in the community and empowering students with the ability to make a difference through citizens' science in their own neighborhood. The enhancement/transformation plan has three components: Curricular Integration, Citizen Science Projects, and Resources Acquisition. Students will be provided opportunities to design and lead place-based (local) and problem-based projects. The grant will allow the school to purchase the equipment to raise and release terrapins and horseshoe crabs and to engage in aquaculture-hydroponics. Students will also build an interactive geo-political map of Absecon Island, an interactive profile map of a barrier island and an interactive estuary map and fish condos – artificial habitats placed in the bay.

Silver Bay Elementary School

100 Silver Bay Road

Toms River, NJ 08753

School Principal: Michael DeVita

Point of Contact for Grant: Victoria Rhein



Silver Bay is one of the twelve elementary schools within the Toms River District. Silver Bay is committed to developing the whole child and building a sense of social and civic responsibility. They are pupil centered, a community where children explore their interest and abilities, aiding them in the discovery of their individual potential. The Silver Bay community will focus on the media center/library due to its potential and its accessibility to the entire student population.

The school's vision is to create a learning space that develops the whole child and recognizes the importance of personalizing a student's educational experiences – a place where developing a sense of social responsibility is embedded within the learning process. The grant will support the acquisition of adaptive tools and technology to customize learning and stimulate active engagement, enabling every child to experience the same learning opportunities. The school will utilize Google Expeditions AR to give students the ability to immerse within their global community through virtual trips and to "Explore the Many Wonders of Our Planet". The updated media center will also become home to student clubs. In addition, the school has formed a partnership with Toms River High School East Robotics Club – Short Circuits - and they have pledged to train staff and students on relevant technologies.



Switlik Elementary School

75 West Veterans Highway

Jackson, NJ 08527

School Principal: Kathleen McKiernan

Point of Contact for Grant: Kathleen McKiernan

Switlik School cites a growing need for elementary teachers across the nation to take an active role in learning how to incorporate student data into their planning and instruction to support personalized learning platforms.

Switlik Elementary School's Model Classroom will allow for the creation of an innovative, personalized learning platform in a third grade inclusive classroom where traditional resources, highly adaptive assistive technologies, and multisensory materials will complement personalized instruction to general and special education students. This student-led classroom will expose learners to centers, like that of what a graduate would find in an applicable individualized learning opportunity where research, goal setting, community service, and student celebration are at the forefront of the skill set needed to be successful. The school believes that this data-driven instruction initiative has the strong potential to expand across all grade levels and become a model for the Jackson School District.

Specifically, the grant will provide for the purchase of Chromebooks, tablets and other technology, Osmo Classroom Kits, a collaboration table and furniture, community service project supplies, and a leveled text set library.

Toms River Intermediate South

1675 Pinewald Road

Beachwood, NJ 08722

School Principal: Paul Gluck

Point of Contact for Grant: Abigail Newsome



Toms River Intermediate South serves 1,061 students. District and school staff strives to make meaningful educational opportunities accessible to all students through programs like a recently established coding club designed to engage female, basic skills students in technology and STEM.

The school's vision is to transform a technology and maker space environment into a "Take Apart Lab" where students will have space, tools and materials required to examine both functioning and malfunctioning technology. The classroom is currently designed as a maker space where students are encouraged to design and build what they are passionate about. Students will be encouraged to bring items from home that require repair. Groups of students will then collaborate on how to best repair the product, document their progress digitally with the use of iPad apps and augmented reality, share their work throughout and ultimately return with a fixed item. This meaningful, hands on experience will encourage students to develop a deeper understanding of the core concepts of technology discussed in the NJ technology standards while strengthening their role as members of the community. The grant will be used to transform the class into a flexible learning space. Open shelves, peg walls, sit to stand tables, rolling stools and a whiteboard will allow for proper organization and safe storage of student work and projects.



Vineland High School

2880 East Chestnut Avenue

Vineland, NJ 08361

School Principal: Thomas McCann

Point of Contact for Grant: David Orlandini

Vineland High School serves 2,491 students, of which, 1,534 are economically disadvantaged and 581 are classified as Special Education. Vineland is a community with a rich agricultural history and has always had a need for an agricultural program at the school.

The Model Classroom Grant will support the school's Greenhouse Garden Center located within the Life Skills Suite. Currently, the school uses a hobby greenhouse and plans to use their grant to upgrade to a commercial grade greenhouse. The hobby greenhouse would become a teaching tool. A nearby classroom in the vocational wing will be transformed into a work space for classroom instruction, seeding, planting, transplanting, propagation, recycling containers, soil mixing, bug identification, planter design and growing houseplants. This will provide students the opportunity to learn how to sustain a garden year round and increase both the quantity of the plants grown but also the type of plants and quality of the plants. Students will follow the process from seedling to fruiting and/or selling of the plants. The school also plans to expand the program outside the high school via their Community Based Instruction trips where students visit establishments and partners in the community. They want students to realize that what they learn in the classroom and garden can apply to every garden in the community.

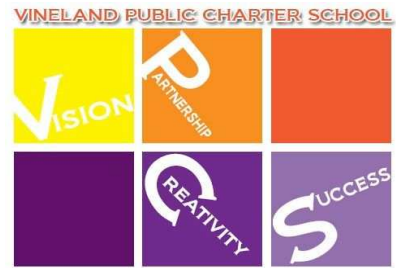
Vineland Public Charter School

2724 South Main Road

Vineland, NJ 08360

School Principal: Dr. Claudio Cerullo

Point of Contact for Grant: Kim Garcia



Vineland Public Charter School opened in 2009 as the first of three public charter schools in the Cumberland County Charter School Network. The school operates with a mission to provide a nurturing, supportive, creative, and actively engaging environment for students and families that facilitates the development of well-educated and responsible young adults with a lifelong love of learning.

"Integrating Engineering into Everyday Instruction" will focus on 8th and 9th grade science. The classroom will become a model environment that encapsulates the rigor of next generation science standards through a year-long, series of professional development sessions for middle and high school teachers. The trainings will focus on engineering integration within the classroom.

The techniques and strategies learned within the professional development series will be utilized by participating instructors and colleagues for years to come. Participating science teachers will share their newly acquired techniques with other teachers in future training sessions that take place at all three public charter schools within the network. The goal is to make S.T.E.M disciplines and careers exciting and accessible to every eighth and ninth grade student, fostering lifelong learning and the adaptive skills necessary to navigate the dynamic world we live in.



Wall Intermediate School

2801 Allaire Road

Wall, NJ 07719

School Principal: Erin Embon

Point of Contact for Grant: Megan Fleming

Wall Intermediate School is a strong, supportive community of inquiry and discovery. They are committed to the whole child, striving to promote individual growth, meeting the social, emotional and academic needs of all learners.

Breaking stereotypes, the library at Wall Intermediate School is an active hub for learning, exploration and discovery. With their Model Classroom Grant, the school will transform a study skills room within the library into a Robotics Lab. This space will be home to entry level and more complex robots, robotic parts, accessories, and computers to facilitate associated programming. Students with no previous coding or robotic experience are able to enter the space. Upon gaining experience and confidence, teachers and peers will direct students to interact with more complex robots and robotic components. This process naturally scaffolds active learning experiences in robotics and computer science. The school hopes that these experiences will inspire and empower students to pursue additional learning opportunities that will result in acquiring valuable career skills. The Robotics Lab will continue to promote the culture of academic excellence, enhance classroom instruction, embrace new technologies, and provide the training needed to continue to transform teaching and learning.

Wildwood High School

4300 Pacific Avenue

Wildwood, NJ 08260

School Principal: Phillip Schaffer

Point of Contact for Grant: Josepha Penrose



The Wildwood School District has been identified in US Census Bureau data as having the highest percentage of students living in poverty in New Jersey. Wildwood High School strives to provide students with a comprehensive academic education which includes college and career readiness as well as college credit and industry credentials upon high school graduation.

The school will use their grant to convert a regular classroom into the Warrior Café Classroom. The conversion of this classroom is the next step in a three-year process of developing an approved Career Technical Education (CTE) Program of Study through the New Jersey Department of Education. This classroom will allow the school to provide a real world, experiential component to the culinary arts program and provides an in-house connection to the school's Structured Learning Experiences (SLE) program in which students gain work experiences and career exposure while in high school. Students also develop the soft-skills required for working with the public and so important to employers. The café will provide a variety of dining opportunities to staff, students, and community members as well as a space for school and district meetings and special class events. The Café will operate daily between 11AM and 1 PM.



Wildwood Middle School

4300 Pacific Avenue

Wildwood, NJ 08260

School Principal: Phillip Schaffer

Point of Contact for Grant: Tricia Lemma

Wildwood Middle School serves a socioeconomically disadvantaged population of racially and ethnically diverse students. The school strives to be innovative in instructional approaches to ensure that they meet the needs of all students at their level of readiness, while taking into account the needs of the whole child such as food security, appropriate clothing, and health services.

The area chosen for the "Classroom by the Sea" is currently an empty concrete space within a fenced in area at the District's urban garden. It was chosen as the Model Classroom project as a continuation of the District's efforts to create a lush, green, outdoor space for a school that lacks it. With their grant, the school will secure furniture, materials and structures to create a comfortable outdoor classroom environment for 25-30 students that allows for the integration of all subject areas at the middle school level - language arts, math, science, social studies, art, music and health. Lessons will focus on the use of recycled materials, wind and solar energy, storm and water recovery, making healthy food choices, exploring and creating natural habitats, drawing plants and animals, taking measurements, calculating and converting temperatures, making connections to literature and studying the impact of geography on communities.

Woodrow Wilson School

210 West Sylvania Avenue

Neptune, NJ 07753

School Principal: Dr. Debra Mercora

Point of Contact for Grant: Dr. Debra Mercora



Woodrow Wilson Elementary School serves students from kindergarten through eighth grade. The school is notable for having a dramatic change in demographics in the last 10 years. Once a lower middle class district with approximately 27% of students deemed economically disadvantaged, the school now educates a diverse community with 60% of students deemed economically disadvantaged. The district has not received an increase in State Aid to accompany the change, yet successfully provides a challenging and quality education.

The school's vision for their Model Classroom is to become a Digital Global Promise (DGP) Learning Studio. They will become a part of a network of Learning Studios worldwide using project based learning and challenge based learning skills to find solutions to the same global sustainability challenges. It offers the school the opportunity to work beyond their walls and solve bigger problems with a global think-tank of students. The Learning Studio will have the common elements of all DGP Studios: Advanced technology for designing and making, and global feedback; access for teachers to an online professional learning community; and a set of project guides and design challenges for teachers to implement with students. The Model Classroom Grant will specifically be used to purchase the technology necessary to support the classroom.

OceanFirst Foundation's Impact by the Numbers...

\$36,586,342

in grants have been awarded to nonprofits and schools since 1996

WOW!



463

grants totaling

\$1,713,482

awarded to local charities in **2018**...more to come!



\$2.2 milion

in **Scholarships** awarded helping **1,500+** students achieve the dream of a college education

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