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Golden Apple Foundation Awards \$12,000
 for Local Classroom Projects

(12/5/2018) Golden Apple Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of eleven educators who received a total of \$12,000 for classroom projects. The teachers will be recognized at the Golden Apple Foundation board meeting, Dec. 11, 2018. Projects selected focused on reading, communication, STEM skills, critical thinking, comprehension, student engagement and parental involvement. All projects feature creative ways to encourage student achievement.

Project	Teacher(s)	School & District	Granted
Building a Firm Learning Foundation: Paired Text – Students will develop reading comprehension, vocabulary and content knowledge while reading paired text. They will engage in high interest fiction and non-fiction text while developing critical reading skills and strategies.	Kerry Setter	Rock Cut Elementary School/Dist122	\$1,500.00
Model U.N. Programming – These students are generally underexposed to high level academic opportunities such as MUN, but participation can lead to opportunities such as scholarships and internships. High interest, real life subject matter boosts the students’ research, public speaking, negotiation and reading comprehension skills.	Jackie Nagel	Galapagos Charter School	\$1,488.00
Books for Early Readers and Spanish Books – Books will be purchased to increase the number of books in Spanish and books geared to early readers, so that the library will more effectively reflect the district’s population of students [this school library serves the district, not just this school]. Students and their families will be more engaged as they can enjoy reading these books together.	Meghan Hembrough	Donald C. Parker Early Education Center/Dist122	\$789.29
Hands On Learning with 3D Printing – With the purchase of several small 3D printers for the industrial technology classes, a void in computer aided design (CAD), computer science and additive manufacturing will be filled. Knowledge and experience gained will be applicable in almost any field of study or trade work the students may pursue. Having access to these printers will also provide a creative outlet previously limited to the more advantaged.	Chris Noble and Dan Hallstrom	Harlem Middle School/Dist122	\$1,460.00
Tech Challenge Robotics program – Starter kit materials for the national FIRST Tech Challenge will jumpstart a robotics program and after school club to further the interest and dedication of students involved. Science, tech and engineering programming at the middle and high school levels will be advanced through the development of a robotics program open to all interested students.	David Bye	Keith School	\$775.00
Hart to Heart Conversations – Pairing students with senior citizens as pen pals improves attendance; reading, writing, listening and relationship building. Students read cursive writing and learn about history. Language arts lessons are incorporated in the letters. At the end of the year, the students and seniors meet face-to-face and go to dinner theater, something many would not experience otherwise.	Ann Hart	Stephen Mack Middle School/Dist140	\$1,403.00



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Maker Space for Technology and Independent Study – Maker spaces provide hands-on learning, help with critical thinking and improve self-esteem as students experiment, imagine and design new projects during independent study and technology class. Students will drive their own learning in areas of interest; and learn to use tools and materials both physical and virtual.	Emily Breakfield	Willowbrook Middle School/Dist133	\$1,279.00
Community Building through Google Sites and Suites – Students will learn basic photography skills, safe Internet use and online social media skills. They will learn the steps to create a Google site for the classroom setting which will also engage parents and classmates. Problem solving, confidence and communication will all improve as students work together on content, uploads and edits. They will gain career-ready website design skills.	Ashley VanSickle	Harlem Middle School/Dist122	\$1,340.00
Reading Options for Struggling Readers – Funds will purchase eBooks, audiobooks and high interest print editions of novels for struggling/reluctant readers. Having access to content in various formats will encourage students to read more. This will also help de-stigmatize alternative forms of communication and ways to acquire knowledge. More readers will want to read independently and at their own pace, thus improving reading scores.	Aprel Prunty	Roosevelt CEC/Dist205	475.00
March Madness of Books – The number of books read will increase as students vote for books to proceed through brackets to become the “champion.” Discussions about books in the reading community formed improve comprehension. The program’s competitive nature and the selection of books will enhance student interest and engagement, ultimately improving their reading scores.	Karen Liddell	Maria Montessori at Marsh School/Dist205	1,489.79

Golden Apple Foundation opened the application process to enhance the learning of PreK – 12th grade students throughout Winnebago and Boone counties for projects that would go unfunded by school budgets. Previously, the application process was open to just six class levels (PreK-5th or 6th- 12th grades in alternating years). Since its inception, Golden Apple Foundation has provided funding to 252 educators for 218 projects totaling more than \$136,000. Recipients will be recognized at the 23rd Annual Golden Apple Banquet Friday, April 26, 2019, at Giovanni’s Restaurant and Convention Center.

Golden Apple Foundation inspires, celebrates and supports educational excellence in our community.

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