



Teacher Grants 2025-26

Working with individual teachers, small teams, or sometimes entire departments, each year we award targeted grants to put high-impact teaching tools in the classroom. They give Warwick students extra enrichment above and beyond what the district can budget.

Amount invested in Teacher Grants for this school year - \$220,835 (as of 073125)

Grants awarded - 30

Students Impacted – 3,700+

Teachers Enabled — 80+

Grade levels supported – Pre-K through 12th grade at all six schools

Recipients 2025-26

All Warwick Schools

- Cutting-edge digital tools and teacher training to create immersive, collaborative learning experiences that build 21st-century skills across all grade levels. Includes virtual reality and podcast resources, and interactive games for game-based learning.
 - Jonathan Olshan, Shelly Chmil
- Sponsorship of Warwick School District Resilience event – an annual community-wide presentation about issues and challenges students face today.
 - Dr. Melanie Calender

Warwick High School

- A small test kiln to enhance the ceramics program by enabling quicker glaze experiments that blend chemistry, creativity, and hands-on learning.
 - Nate Nixdorf
- Two (2) hands-on, inquiry-based science labs that deepen understanding of blood sugar regulation and the carbon cycle while building data analysis skills and real-world scientific literacy.
 - Krista Roe, Caleb Hettinger, Kaitlyn Bryant
- Interfaces for scientific probes and a Hach colorimeter, giving students access to industry-standard lab tools for advanced chemistry and environmental science investigations.
 - Doug Balmer, Diana Griffiths, Beth Lynch
- Three (3) new investigations and five electrophoresis systems to expand the high school forensics learning with real-world crime scene analysis for biotechnology, AP Biology, and STEAM research students.
 - Krista Roe

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- Four (4) high-performance laptops for a new Honors Urban Design course, enabling students to create virtual cities for the national Future City competition while building STEAM skills through hands-on design and professional mentorship.
 - Michael A. Smith
- Four (4) gaming PCs and peripherals for the school's Esports team, enabling statewide competition and fostering teamwork, communication, leadership, and sportsmanship.
 - Brian Pearson
- Science Fair materials to help students create research projects.
 - Doug Balmer, Diana Griffiths
- Breaking the Silence presentation to all 9th graders by Byrnes Health Center – designed to help minimize the stigmas that surround the topic of mental health.
 - Maribeth Johnson
- Twelve (12) interactive laser projectors for Warwick High School math and computer science classrooms, to enhance instruction through real-time critical analysis and computational thinking.
 - Gary Minnich, Michael Neuman, Jeffrey Wile, and Mathematics Department team members
- Three-year subscription to Gale databases – a safe research tool with reliable sources that allows students to learn how to research.
 - Nicole Stump
- Visit by Shakespeare expert and performer, Daniel Kostelec, to augment classroom learning for 10th and 12th graders.
 - Christina Bracken

Warwick Middle & High School

- Science Olympiad lab supplies, building materials, and tournament fees for team-based competitions
 - Lee Walter, Krista Roe, Lisa Hochreiter, Sarah Martens
- Expansion at middle school and start up at high school - robotics team to compete in head-to-head challenges to design, build, program, and operate robots.
 - Jenna Brower

Warwick Middle School

- Essential lab equipment including electronic balances, pH sensors, colorimeters, and soil moisture meters to improve the quality of middle school science fair projects and enable 50–60 students annually to conduct more accurate, advanced research in STEM fields.
 - Austen Lambert

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- Six (6) advanced robotics kits to equip eighth graders with hands-on experience in coding, engineering, and problem-solving, fostering STEM skills for a technology-driven future.
 - Kevin Krause, Jeff Oberholtzer
- A subscription to *Scope* magazine to enhance students' literacy skills in reading, writing, speaking, and language.
 - Jenna Brower, Amber Moschini, Joe Lacombe, Christie Cosmore, Abby Cox

Warwick Elementary Schools

- Twenty (20) Yoto Mini players to help elementary students improve focus and self-regulation during independent work by providing screen-free, calming audio in busy classroom settings.
 - Megan MacNair, Allison Hausman, Peter Andrearczyk, Jonathan Olshan, Fred Griffiths
- Diverse, curriculum-aligned books to strengthen 6th grade small group libraries for improved comprehension, vocabulary, and love of reading.
 - Jacki Watkins, Megan Cupo-Fisher, Scott Bailey
- Additional Orff instruments, including xylophones, metallophones, glockenspiels, and various percussion instruments, to expand student participation in interactive music education, fostering creativity, collaboration, and musical literacy.
 - Stephan Englehart
- Sixty (60) digital microscopes for four elementary schools, enhancing hands-on STEM learning and fostering scientific inquiry, technology skills, and collaboration from kindergarten through grade 6.
 - Megan Cupo-Fisher, Meghan Young, Cathy Dommel, Allie Bernstein, Shelly Chmil
- A visit to John R. Bonfield Elementary by Dan and Emma Perritano. Emma has cerebral palsy and together with her father competes in long-distance-walking. An assembly themed "Be your best self every day" will be provided to all K-6 students.
 - Bethany Getway
- Four (4) week-long visits by the Mobile Agriculture Education Science Lab – a 40-foot STEM classroom with 30+ hands-on experiments related to agriculture, science, resource management and sustainability.
 - Allie Bernstein, Megan Cupo-Fisher, Jacki Watkins, Lisa Colino, Steven Lin, Amy Griffith, Bob White
- Take home learning backpacks to put supplies and manipulatives in the hands of families supporting our youngest learners in the district's pre-K program.
 - Stacey Yunginger
- One Book, One School, One Community - annual reading program to reach all 1800+ elementary kids and their families. A visit by a famous author is included.
 - Alex Daecher, Mariah Balmer, Melissa Vulopas, Samantha Wharton, and Teams

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- STEM Career Fairs for 6th graders to see a world of STEM career possibilities.
 - Erika Breckenmaker, Alex Daecher
- Zearn, an online resource designed for students to reinforce math at elementary levels.
 - Jenna Louderback, Amy Balsbaugh, Steven Lin, Heriberto Codero
- Expanded access to decodable books aligned to phonics instruction, giving early readers in kindergarten meaningful practice in letter recognition, sound identification, vocabulary, and comprehension.
 - Emily Craig, Megan Obetz, Kylee Pastal, Amy Evans, Malinda Stoner
- Expanded access to Geodes decodable texts for grades 2-6, providing engaging, content-rich books and teacher resources to strengthen students' decoding, fluency, and comprehension.
 - Emily Craig, Megan Obetz, Kylee Pastal, Amy Evans, Malinda Stoner