

## COUNCIL ROCK EDUCATION FOUNDATION 2016 GRANT AWARD RECIPIENTS



In 2016, CREF awarded ten grants for innovative projects to serve the students of the Council Rock School District. Below are the names of the 2016 grant recipients and a brief description of their award-winning projects that will take place in the 2016-2017 school year.

---

### **Bouncy Bands for ALL: *Tracy Ortman, Welch Elementary School***

Based in the fidget-to-focus philosophy, one classroom of thirty-two students uses bouncy band installed at each desk, enabling each student to move while working quietly and increase time on task. High energy workers can fidget without distracting others and students with anxiety, frustration and hyperactivity are discreetly soothed through bouncing against the bands.

---

### **Budding Birders: *Jennifer Frawley and Barbara Bennett, Newtown Elementary School***

Developed in partnership with Audubon Society, the Budding Birders Club teaches kids how to identify birds - providing the Newtown Elementary community with the resources to develop, maintain, observe, learn and enjoy a sustainable bird habit through interactive activities in school's own courtyard.

---

### **Sixth Grade STEMspace: *Laura Silks, Sol Feinstone Elementary School***

The STEM maker space is project-based learning that focuses on integrating technology and STEM skills. Students explore various forms of technology to solve challenges relating to content learned in the classroom in an environment that encourages creativity, problem solving and collaboration.

---

### **C2 Club: *Jeanne Lindros, Rolling Hills Elementary School***

The C2 Club – computers and coding - teaches students about computer science. Participating students from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grades learn how to build their own computers, code and program to create games, art, music and more.

---

### **Holland STEM Curiosity (Flight & Rocketry/Little Leaves): *Andrea Mangold and Karen Craig, Holland Elementary School***

An introduction to the wonders of the science of spaceflight and aerodynamics, this project uses hands-on investigation, design, and experimentations that integrates math, science, and engineering into fun, engaging learning activities. Students build and test a variety of aircraft such as gliders, parachutes, catapults and operational model rockets, and borrow telescopes for home use. Students learn physical laws of governing flight and the engineering process.

---

### **OSMO Software: *Danielle Pugliese and Linda Wojton, Welch Elementary School***

Technology integration for small group instruction, this grant funds 8 OSMO software gaming system for iPads that allows students to build skills in literacy and math along with small group dynamic skills.

---

### **STEM Library: *Hilary Adams, Jennifer Ventresca, Kristine Topley, Noreen Moore & Lisa Weis, Five Elementary Schools***

Five participating elementary school libraries - Churchville, Hillcrest, Holland, Maureen M. Welch and Richboro - integrate library skills, STEM and literacy skills for grades 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>. Students collaborate using folk literature with STEM kits to create structures and offer alternative endings to stories while strengthening problem solving and comprehension skills.

---

### **Who's in Charge - An Intro to Mindfulness: *Sue Gormley and Irene Cavatore, Council Rock High School South***

Mindfulness is a moment-to-moment awareness of one's experience. This program educates students about the neurological science behind mindfulness practice and introduces students to the practice of Mindfulness so they can begin to incorporate the techniques and tools into their daily lives to help reduce stress, increase focus, improve learning and retention and regulate emotions.

---

### **OSMO for iPad: *Kim Rinella, Hillcrest Elementary School***

This grant provides 10 OSMO software packages, available to all teachers and students to use, to provide hands-on learning to help teach and reinforce literacy, math and art skills along with promoting small group dynamics and interpersonal skills.

---

### **Victor Lopez Music Commission: *Keith Rudat, Council Rock District Jazz Band***

This grant commissions a new work from a world-renowned composer, Victor Lopez, who has written over 450 musical compositions, for CRSJ jazz band students at North and South. This musical piece provides advanced training to our students' understanding of current jazz literature while inspiring and motivating them. The work will be premiered at the 2017 Council Rock "Jazz at the Rock" Festival, a tristate event, on April 8, 2017 at Council Rock North.

---