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### ***ABC Education Foundation Awards Over \$34,000 in Grants to Support ABCUSD Schools***

**Cerritos, CA – January 22, 2025** – The ABC Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for students in the ABC Unified School District (ABCUSD), has announced the recipients of its 11th annual mini-grants program. Thanks to the generosity of donors, the Foundation awarded 11 grants totaling \$34,712.56 to support innovative classroom projects and districtwide programs at the ABC Unified School District Board Meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

This year's grants fund a wide array of impactful initiatives, including:

- **Toyota Tundra Grants**, sponsored by AutoNation Toyota of Cerritos, awarded to:
  - Whitney High School and Gahr High School for cultural and ethnic history programs.
  - Haskell Middle School for a youth podcast program.
- **New furniture and supplies** for the learning lab at Cerritos Elementary School.
- **Diverse novels and supplies** for an honors English class at Cerritos High School.
- **Outdoor equipment** to enhance gross motor skills at Furgeson Elementary School.
- **Supplies** to create positive experiences for students in need at Gahr High School.
- **A school-community partnership program** at Kennedy Elementary School.
- **A writing development program** to build confident writers at Melbourne Elementary School.
- **Science Fair materials and classroom tools** for Niemes Elementary School.
- **Special whiteboards** to enhance learning at Willow Elementary School.
- **A cultural cookbook project** at Wittmann Elementary School.

“Thanks to the unwavering generosity of our donors, we are able to support these innovative programs that directly benefit ABCUSD students,” said Foundation Chair Heather Summers.

“Our mission is to continually expand our reach and deepen our impact on classrooms across the district.”

AutoNation Toyota Cerritos has been a key partner in the Foundation’s success. In 2022 and in 2024, the dealership made significant contributions to establish the Toyota Tundra Grants, which provides two grants up to \$10,000 annually for select programs. This support, along with donations from other community partners, has been instrumental in sustaining and growing the Foundation’s efforts.

“The support our schools receive from the ABC Education Foundation makes a tangible difference in classrooms across the district,” said ABCUSD Superintendent Dr. Gina Zietlow. “Each grant enriches our high-quality curriculum, offering students additional opportunities to thrive academically and personally.”

The funds were officially distributed at the ABCUSD Board of Education meeting, highlighting the Foundation’s ongoing commitment to fostering educational excellence.

#### **About the ABC Education Foundation**

Founded in 2011, the ABC Education Foundation has raised over \$641,000 to support ABCUSD schools, with \$423,773 allocated through the annual mini-grants program since its inception in 2013. Beyond grants, the Foundation supports students through initiatives such as SEED (School Essentials for Education Drive), which provides classroom and social-emotional resources to students in need. Over the years, the Foundation has also donated more than 7,600 backpacks filled with school supplies to disadvantaged students and helped secure \$3.5 million in additional grants for the district.

For more information, visit [abcedfoundation.org](https://abcedfoundation.org).