



ABC Unified School District Education Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABC EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2021-2022 MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS

Cerritos, CA—February 9, 2022— The ABC Education Foundation recently completed its eighth annual mini-grant program to return funds to schools in ABCUSD from Foundation fundraising efforts throughout the year. Nearly \$37,000 will be awarded to support 20 programs at 12 ABCUSD school sites. Highlights from some of the 2021-2022 grants include:

- Sue Rausch Performing Arts Grant given to Tetzlaff Middle School's theatre program for wireless microphones
- Greg Lewis STEM Grant given to a project benefiting kindergarten and 1st grade students at Niemes Elementary School to purchase 40 Botley Coding Robots
- Online cooking course and utensils for kindergarten students in Carver Academy's Independent Study Program
- Multisensory reading instruction supplies for Hawaiian Elementary's kindergarten through 2nd graders
- New percussion ensemble equipment for Cerritos High School's Marching Band
- Support for Gahr High School homeless students to receive a Senior Package (yearbook, cap and gown, attendance to dances, school sweatshirt)
- A virtual reality program called Floreo VR for therapists at Kennedy Elementary School to use with BRIDGES students that will especially help build connection with autistic students

- Shelving and books to create a classroom library for a 2nd grade class at Leal Elementary School
- New music stands for Gonsalves Elementary School's band program
- Social-emotional learning incentives to promote positive behavior including field trips, coping strategies (fidget toys), and fun Friday activities for students in the Haskell Middle School's BRIDGES Academy
- EduCurious virtual history curriculum/project-based learning for a 6th grade class at Stowers Elementary School
- And more!

The ABC Education Foundation will be distributing funds to the schools directly in the following weeks. In past years the distribution of funds was held at an event where the Foundation also honored their donors from the previous year whose funds helped make the mini-grants a reality. The Foundation plans to host a virtual event this spring to honor 2021 donors and the 2021-2022 grant awardees (to be announced).

About the ABC Education Foundation

The ABC Education Foundation was founded in 2011 to support all ABCUSD schools with funding for programs in education where State funding falls short. Since inception, the Foundation has funded over \$450,000 in total programs. The annual mini-grant program (started in 2013) makes up \$262,500 of the total dollars funded. The Foundation also provides backpacks for financially disadvantaged students each school year full of school supplies and has distributed over 7,000 backpacks in ABCUSD. Most recently the backpack drive evolved into a program called SEED (School Essentials for Education Drive) where teachers, administrators and mental health professionals in ABCUSD can make individual requests for a student with financial need or their classroom's social-emotional needs from the Foundation. The Foundation also helped secure \$3.5 million in additional grants for the district.