

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (WBLAEF)
AWARDS 2019 BROSIOUS GRANTS**

WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minnesota (November 20, 2019) The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation awarded \$19,447 total to ten Brosious Grant recipients listed here below.

“The Latehomecomer” - Seth Salenger, Michele Norcross, Area Learning Center (ALC). Kao Kalia Yang, a Hmong American writer and author of *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir*, will spend the day at the ALC for a day of workshop after the students have read her book. Students from North and South campus will also be invited. The objective of this curriculum is to expose students to different cultures and stories of success so that they can see either people like themselves culturally or as a learner and see how grit, determination, becoming agents of their own learning can drastically change the course of their lives.

“Guitar Club”- David Melvin, North Campus. A Guitar Club will be formed at North Campus during Bear Time (a relationship building/club activities/academic support during the school day) for a group of 6-15 students from both general education and special education backgrounds who have a strong desire to express themselves musically. Students will gain knowledge and instruction on playing techniques, theory and music reading while playing together to compose music. It will also help students learn songs, perform, compose, and record.

“Revamping the Apartment to Encourage Independent Living” - Paige Pinnow, South Campus. This request is for upgrades needed at the apartment at South Campus, for special needs students to teach daily living skills, and will help fund the purchase of several new appliances for the apartment.

“Vinyl Cutter”- Philip Sundblad, Sunrise Park Middle School. 6th and 7th grade students will be able to use this Vinyl Cutting Machine to produce a two-dimensional project and print it afterwards.

“Lakeaires Popcorn Stand”- Amy Van Akkeren, Cassandra Krenz, Lakeaires Elementary. The Special Education Tier 2 program at Lakeaires Elementary will create and run a popcorn stand for students to learn mathematics, life/adaptive and community service skills. This grant will purchase the necessary supplies to make this a reality, including the purchase of a popcorn maker, popcorn and salt.

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“Partnering with Families to Create Multilingual Alphabet Books”- Ann Zettel, Normandy Park. A creation of multilingual books will take place in the Family Literacy class. Photo books will be created so that young learners can see themselves in the books and parents can read the books to their children.

“Future Ready Media Center Spaces”- Abby Willemsen, Central Middle School.

This project is designed to enhance the learning experience of the students by providing them with an inspiring setting and expanding range of opportunities in the Media Center as White Bear Lake Area Schools transition to a system that ensures students are the primary agent in their learning. The request is to purchase flip top nesting tables, orange sled base stack chairs, and overstuffed bean bag chairs.

“Touchscreens for T+” - Jessie Prissel, Transition Education Center. This request is for 8 touchscreen Chromebooks. Transition Plus students with more complex and limiting disabilities, have academic, interpersonal, physical, and communication challenges. Being able to learn through touch screen technology will ensure students are able to design and create their own future and engage in interactive instruction.

“School Grounds Coffee Shop”- Kelly Knutson, White Bear Lake High School, South Campus. Students will design and run a coffee shop, working with local architects, contractors and plumbers. This grant will be used to fund appliances for this project, including a coffee grinder and a coffee brewer.

“Document Cameras for Reading and Writing Workshops”- Erin Tarnowski, Katie Nohr, Amber Rustand, Karin Hogen, Central Middle School. This grant will allow Language Arts teachers to purchase 5 document cameras and will impact almost 1,000 students.

About the White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation:

The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation (WBLAEF) supports public education with the help of local businesses, alumni, and community members. The Foundation administers teaching grants, scholarships, fellowships for teachers and an Angel Fund for families with special economic needs. For more information about the WBLAEF please visit www.wblaef.org

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