

MEDIA RELEASE
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Foundation funds \$30,000 in Learning Grants for Prairie Spirit students

Innovative learning opportunities for Prairie Spirit students are being supported by \$30,000 in Learning Grants from the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation.

The Foundation's Learning Grants are designed to support students in Prairie Spirit School Division, with an emphasis on student engagement and relevant learning opportunities.

Applications for Learning Grants opened in the fall, with a focus on enhancing student engagement by empowering young people to explore their passions and create change in their classrooms, their schools and their community. Following a rigorous application process, the Foundation approved nine submissions from teachers and administrators and provided funds to schools throughout the Division.

"This is a very exciting time for the Foundation, giving back to our schools and supporting new learning opportunities," said Sharon Compton, Executive Director of the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation. "We are looking forward to hearing more about the impact these grants will make in the lives of our students and building our grant pool next year and beyond!"

The Foundation approved applications where the learning environment supported students to collaborate within and outside the classroom, learning side by side.

The Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation was established in 2014 to engage partners in public education to enrich opportunities for students to become contributing citizens and learners for life. The Foundation encourages and facilitates community and corporate support and involvement in public education.

"Our vision for the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation is a community that values innovation in public education and supports a lifetime of learning," explained Bonnie Hope, Board Chair for the Foundation. "Without the support of our partners, sponsors and fundraiser participants, opportunities for our students such as these learning grants would not be possible."

The Foundation raises funds through partnerships, sponsorships, its annual Golf Classic and Trip a Month Raffle, with plans for the first Annual Appeal this spring. To make a donation, contact Sharon Compton, Executive Director, via email at psfoundation@spiritsd.ca; phone 306 713-3881; or visit the website at: www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca.

The 2017 Learning Grant recipients:

Building Better Learners	Using Lego and robotics to support curriculum throughout a variety of grades and supporting the establishment of a Lego club	Leask Community School
Junk Yard Robotics	Supporting a robotics program, offering robotics learning opportunities for students immersed in technology, inquiry and problem-based learning throughout the school division	Variety of Prairie Spirit schools
Classroom Libraries	Creating curated classroom libraries to support senior students in specific subject areas	Rosthern High School
Resonate	Supporting a music conference for teachers and students in Prairie Spirit and beyond	Prairie Spirit School Division – Resonate Music Conference
Outdoor Classroom	Supporting an established outdoor classroom with the addition of a bench for collaboration and sharing	Vanscoy School
Outdoor Garden Space	Supporting the establishment of an outdoor learning space and garden space	Hepburn School
Outdoor Garden Space	Supporting the expansion of an established outdoor learning centre by involving students in the creation of new garden boxes	Aberdeen Composite School
Outdoor Education Program	Supporting the creation of an outdoor education program through the purchase of resources and equipment	Walter W. Brown School
Outdoor Education Program	Supporting an established and growing outdoor education program through the purchase of resources and equipment	Warman High School