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GRANTS WILL HELP STUDENTS AT HINTGEN ELEMENTARY

School shares in \$3,874 in grants from the La Crosse Public Education Foundation; Pre-K Curriculum, sensory tools and local history books supported through grant funding Hintgen Elementary School students will get new classroom seating, enjoy fun musical instruments and learn more La Crosse history due to grants from the La Crosse Public Education Foundation (LPEF).

LPEF recently announced its second round of grants for the 2014-15 school year. Included is a \$905 grant to support Learning by Choice to change the look and feel of a Hintgen fourth-grade classroom in a way that helps students focus for extended periods of time. Money will help buy alternative seating, such as bean bags, camp chairs, and floor cushions.

Earlier this year, LPEF also announced its first round of grants for the 2014-15 school year. Included are:

- \$1,969 to support the SMART Pre-K Curriculum program that will promote learning readiness and academic success within pre-K and kindergarten students. The money will help provide funding for travel of four teachers from Hintgen and Southern Bluffs Elementary to a Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training (SMART) Pre-K Curriculum conference. This serves as a pilot project that will extend into the 2015-2016 school year as the SMART curriculum will be introduced into one Pre-K setting and one kindergarten setting at both Hintgen and Southern Bluffs Elementary Schools.
- \$1,000 to support the Sensory Tools for Schools program in efforts of providing sensory tools that promote student attentiveness in the classroom. The money will help fund the purchase of sensory tools and teacher resources for regular classrooms grades pre-K - 5.

Hintgen students also will benefit from two LPEF grants for projects involving all district elementary schools. One grant of \$1,227 will help buy a set of ukuleles and materials to be shared among schools. The goal for the Uke for Youth project is to cultivate life-long music learning and appreciation by students in third through fifth grades. Another grant for \$2,492 covered printing costs for colorful new booklets on La Crosse history. The booklets, developed by district staff and local experts, include multicultural perspectives and will be used in second grade curriculum.

These are just the latest grants from the La Crosse Public Education Foundation that go to improve classroom experiences and enhance the education of Hintgen students. During the last two school years, LPEF approved \$5,005 in grant funds supporting classrooms at Hintgen Elementary.

Across the district, LPEF awarded nearly \$50,000 in grants this school year. About \$31,000 was provided in December to support 17 grants. Another \$18,500 was awarded to 16 recipients in late March. In addition, LPEF provides nearly \$22,000 annually for Random Acts of Kindness to help students overcome roadblocks to success in areas such as nutrition, transportation and co-curricular support.

For more information, including how to apply for grants or how to support LPEF through your donations, go to the foundation's website: www.lacrosseeducationfoundation.org/.