

These exciting projects were the recipients of Innovation Grant for 2017-2018.

High School	Project	Sponsor	Description
Conant	Celebration of Diversity in Conant High School Community	Heather Doan	The goal of this project is to create a visual representation of the diversity within Conant High School by hanging international flags in the school's world language hallway.
Conant	Mental Health Awareness Fair	Felicia Macfarlane	The CHS Student Services Department would like to continue to bring awareness to the school community to "Stop the Stigma" of mental awareness through this informational and interactive fair.
Conant	Operation Snowball: 2016–2017	Richard Bauer	Operation Snowball is a one-day, 15-hour leadership event promoting positive decision-making in the areas of health and wellness, stress management, relationships, and communication.

Conant	Prepare Program Leadership/Camp Sunrise	Asra Syed	Offering support to teacher-recommended students, teambuilding and leadership activities help prepare students for the rigors of high school.
Fremd	STEM Education through Robotics	Paul Hardy	The components purchased with grant funds will be used to enhance multiple projects within the IED class and also utilized in the Project Lead the Way summer program. Students will incorporate existing manufacturing processes into designing specific task robots.
Fremd	Latinas Achieving Success	Cristina Williamson	Latinas Achieving Success helps Latina students have as many opportunities during and after high school as possible. The group focuses on three core areas: academics, culture, and community.
Fremd	Operation Snowball	Tony Tosh and Erin Malinowski	Operation Snowball is a one-day, 15-hour leadership event promoting positive decision-making in the areas of health and wellness, stress management, relationships, and communication.

Fremd	Viking Service Week	Courtney Billittier and Martin Zacharia	This is an opportunity for students to recognize the causes, impacts, and solutions to poverty, both locally and globally; the goal is to inspire students to recognize and alleviate the problem.
Fremd	Writers Week XXIII at FHS	Russ Anderson	Besides building a sense of community at Fremd High School, Writers Week promotes reading, literacy, and writing, including author visits and presentations.
G.A. McElroy Administration Center	National Hispanic Institute (Transportation)	Jerry Trevino	Almost 30 Latino students from across District 211 have raised funds to participate in the Great Debate Camp, a five-day camp focusing on college readiness and application. This grant pays for the transportation.
Higgins Education Center	Adventure Learning Club	Brian Lazzaro, Derek Schmidt, and Kali Zanona	Building on the success from previous trips, Academy-South students with severe emotional disabilities will experience a campfire, set up a tent, and learn about geology and animal life, often for the first time.

Higgins Education Center	After School Club	Derek Schmidt, Kali Zanona, and Colleen Lundell	As the only extracurricular activity available for Academy-South students, this club will offer an opportunity for students on the autism spectrum, as well as other students (serving as positive role models), to enjoy games, arts and crafts, and outings.
Higgins Education Center	New Endeavors Club	Lauren Lombardo	This club focuses on students with social communication weaknesses by creating opportunities to socialize and interact with peers. The club provides a structured environment to reinforce the social skills taught through the STRIDES curriculum at New Endeavors (Social Thinking, Independence, Developing Everyday Skills).
Higgins Education Center	Service Learning Project	Colleen Lundell	To support the Positive Peer Culture model in the Academy-South program, students are given the opportunity to show care and concern by working as volunteers at various facilities, transferring their learning to the real-world environment.

Higgins Education Center	Academy-South Music Club	Colleen Lundell	The Academy-South Music Club will provide a weekly opportunity for students to not only learn about and enjoy music, but also practice social skills and foster other interests.
Hoffman Estates	Amy Rudolph Basketball Tournament	Hope Hazlett	The Hawk Club holds a basketball tournament to raise money for the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois. This tournament honors a student from the ELS program who died from kidney failure 35 years ago.
Hoffman Estates	Blessings in a Backpack	Angela Rallidis and Debbie Miller	Blessings in a Backpack assists schools in providing food to students in need for the weekend throughout the school year. Hoffman Estates High School would like to accommodate more students.
Hoffman Estates	Book Club	Terri Berkowitz	The goal of the Book Club is to promote literacy outside of school. By providing books, the cost to join the club is deferred for students.

Hoffman Estates	Freshman Foundations	Barbara Nocula	Ninety-five percent of incoming freshmen are involved in Freshman Foundations, which mentors, educates, and informs students by helping them set goals and realize their potential.
Hoffman Estates	FreshMentors	Maureen Mann	This program provides freshman students with continual support and structure throughout their first year by selected and trained junior and senior students, which benefits both student groups.
Hoffman Estates	GANAS (Guiding & Nurturing Academic Success)	Angelica Cordova-Rajoo	This program is in its fourth year and has reached out to more than 100 Latino freshman students and provided them the opportunity to learn about the benefits and importance of a college education.
Hoffman Estates	Holocaust Museum Trip	Debbie Miller & Luke Yanule	In a co-taught U.S. history class, students will visit the Holocaust Museum during the World War II unit.

Hoffman Estates	Literacy Connections V	Terri Berkowitz	In order to encourage and promote reading literacy, any student who reads a book from one of the library's reading/genre lists and submits a review is eligible to win a bi-weekly prize.
Hoffman Estates	Read to Lead Summer Reading IV	Terri Berkowitz	The “Read to Lead” summer reading program is voluntary, but highly encouraged and promoted. To ensure access to books for all students, this grant defrays most of the expense.
Hoffman Estates	Sunrise Outdoor Education	Debbie Miller	The General Studies Program has been utilizing Sunrise Outdoor Education Center for years. It gives students opportunities to work on problem-solving skills, teamwork, and science in a natural setting.
Hoffman Estates	UNITY Peer Mentoring Program	Dr. Paulette Miller and Cherea Sparkman	As part of an outdoor field trip that encourages teambuilding, communication skills, and problem solving, students cook their own lunch over an open fire — a first for many.

Hoffman Estates	HEHS Engineering Competition Entry Fees	Wayne Oras	To support Project Lead the Way, students participate in engineering competitions throughout the school year.
Hoffman Estates	iCompete for Hoffman Estates High School	John Ulrich	The Hoffman Estates High School I-Compete program provides extracurricular athletic and recreation activities to at-risk elementary students who will likely attend HEHS.
Hoffman Estates	Mariachi at Hoffman	Tobin Langridge	The Mariachi ensemble is an afterschool musical group that allows students to tap into music from different cultures.
Hoffman Estates	Project Excel	Andres Acosta	To encourage and nurture community building and leadership skills in often-marginalized students, chosen incoming freshmen are paired with a younger student. Freshmen then interview and work with the younger student to create a biography for the child to keep.

North Campus	After School Club	Jessica Martinez-Quintero	This Academy-North club offers students with emotional disabilities opportunities to socialize and interact with peers, while exposing them to hobbies, service/learning opportunities, and a variety of activities.
North Campus	Peace Games	Ben Durchslag	Peace Games is a schoolwide initiative to enhance mastery through increased opportunities to succeed in athletic outlets, artistic expression, and academic activities, while enhancing a sense of belonging.
North Campus	Promoting Positive Growth: Positive Behavioral Interventions to Reduce Truancy	Alexandra Fliess	This grant seeks to utilize Positive Behavior Interventions to re-engage students in their educational programming by helping to motivate them to come to school and engage with schoolwide behavior systems.
Palatine	Blessings in a Backpack	Deana Havens	Blessings in a Backpack assists schools in providing food to students in need for the weekends throughout the school year. PHS is expanding this program to include fresh food, as well as other items.

Palatine	Commit to the PIRATE Acknowledgements	Michael Prentice and Sophie Foucault-Lawler	This is the seventh year of this positive behavior intervention program that acknowledges students for positive behavior.
Palatine	DNA Hip Hop Dance Crew & Latin Dance Crew	Liza Sullivan	Many students in this diverse performing group are low-income; the cost of costumes and shoes would prohibit many from being part of this club that teaches teamwork, respect, and achievement.
Palatine	Alejandro Diaz Memorial Soccer Game	Jaison Varghese	This parent-student soccer game for ESL families at the start of the school year involves and welcomes parents of mostly Hispanic students, a group often underrepresented at the school.
Palatine	HOSA – Future Healthcare Professionals	Victoria DeGuia	This grant assists in obtaining necessary reference books for students to prepare for HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) events.

Palatine	Palatine's PROMISE Lunchapalooza Speaker	Sue Althoff Doran	As part of the Palatine's Promise social/emotional intervention program, Lunchapalooza is a three-day celebration of Palatine High School's student diversity, while raising money for a charitable cause.
Palatine	Project Excel	Alonso Ramirez	This program began 10 years ago with 18 students. Last year, more than 160 students were involved in Project Excel. Freshman students plan a trip to Chicago and sophomore, junior, and senior students take college visits, while all benefit from the planning, camaraderie, and the trips.
Palatine	Summer Reading Program	Brittany Tillander and Christy Victor	To increase summer reading, this grant funds incentives, prizes, and provides a pizza social for those who participate.
Palatine	Palatine Activity Club	Christy Fredrick and Karie McGinn	Palatine Activity Club is a social club for Educational Life Skills and Life and Learning Strategies students. Events include sports tournaments, dances, and activities throughout the year.

Palatine	Adonit Pixel Stylus	Nick Hostert	As part of the art department's move towards digital creation, styluses enable students to have all of the pressure sensitivity and control benefits while using their iPads as they would using much more expensive art tablets.
Palatine	Attendance Intervention Program (AIP)	Miriam Castro	The Attendance Intervention Program (AIP) provides mentoring and support for students struggling with poor attendance.
Palatine	Body Beat Metronome - 2	Carlos Esquivel	Funding provides the music department with two Body Beat Metronomes that allow multiple people to keep rhythm with the music.
Palatine	Comingled Recycling Program at Palatine High School	Jennifer Dahl	The Ecology Club is starting a recycling program and bins allow materials to be comingled.
Palatine	Palatine Jr. Intervention Group	Mike Hernon	The group targets academically capable juniors who have not demonstrated the motivation or preparation to pursue post-secondary opportunities.

Palatine	Palatine Orchesis Illinois High School Dance Festival Grant	Krystal Coleman	This grant supports Orchesis, a dance group at PHS, participating in the Illinois High School Dance Festival, an exciting day of dance that includes four master classes, a professional company performance, and a student choreography showcase.
Palatine	Pirate Olympics	Mike Alther	PHS activities and athletics have developed an initiative and incentive program that promotes wellness in a competitive setting. Pirate Olympics promotes teambuilding and supports positive school culture through a series of competitive athletic events.
Palatine	Virtual Reality Kit, HTC Vive and Titl Brush Software	Nick Hostert	The art department is seeking to provide students with the opportunity to use virtual reality in their projects. This allows students to create and explore virtual 3D environments and artworks.

Palatine	Palatine High School Writer's Day	Erin Lindstrom	Writers Day includes performances by Chicago Slam Works ("Poets With Class") during several periods in the auditorium. Presentations will be workshops that involve interaction between writers and students.
Schaumburg	Saxon PRIDE	Erika Werlein	Saxon Pride is a successful positive behavior reinforcement program, that is expanding its focus to create positive school connections for all students.
Schaumburg	Leadership Training for students	Kelli Carleton	Funding provides leadership training for student leaders from all leadership clubs to build student collaboration for schoolwide events. The training covers the importance of student leadership and how students can enhance school culture, bring all student groups together, and help drive school culture throughout the school year.

Schaumburg	Student-2-Student Freshman Outreach Program	Thomas Letzel	For six years, Student-2- Student has been hosting 8th grade students (future Saxons), to shadow current SHS students through their class schedule.
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