



Tam High Foundation Grants are Enriching Student and Academic Life for All Students at Tam

Foundation grants are awarded in response to applications submitted by Tam teachers and staff, and must further the Foundation's mission to support creative, innovative, and state-of-the-art programs and tools that enrich the education of all Tam students. Examples of recent grants include the following.

Grants Awarded During the 2013-2014 Academic Year

Major Grants (Awarded Spring 2014)

Replacement Laptops and Color Printer for the Library. The Foundation replaced the color printer and all 24 of the laptops in the library. These are essential tools that students use before, during, and after school.

Sound System Upgrade for Gus Gym. Gus Gym's antiquated sound system was replaced by a state-of-the-art system that dramatically improved the audio at a wide range of events including guest speakers, rallies, Back-to-School Night, AP and state testing, career and college fairs, and parent education.

Laser Cutter for Architecture Classes. A laser-cutter has become a critical architectural tool by which architects can cut out or engrave designs on plastic, wood or cardboard with extreme detail and accuracy, and Tam's architecture students are now able to learn this important skill.

3-D Printer for Engineering and Architecture Classes. This machine helps students become proficient in computer-aided design and manufacturing, a 21st century skill. Students will be able to create functional parts for prototypes of their own design.

Experiential Learning Fund. The Foundation created a fund, which will be replenished annually, that the Principal draws upon at her discretion to fund a wide variety of field trips for Tam students.

Guest Artists in Drama, Music, and Fine Arts. Once again, the Foundation will fund guest artists in the Drama, Studio Arts, and Music Departments. These artists provide students with invaluable experiences and knowledge through their professional expertise in these areas.

Mini Grants (Awarded in Fall 2013)

HD Video Cameras for Journalism Classes. The Foundation purchased two professional quality HD cameras that Journalism students use to film sporting events, live interviews, graduation, and other events of interest to the Tam community for the new Tam Broadcast Network, which is unique among Bay Area high schools.

STEM Technology for Marine Science Classes. STEM is Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, a teaching approach that seeks to bridge disciplines for deeper learning. The Foundation funded several STEM projects for Marine Science classes, including a ROV (remote operating vehicle) program.

SMART Board for Integrated Science and AP Biology. This sophisticated teaching tool, common at many universities, gives teachers the ability to teach interactively using a digital board that allows for detailed data manipulation and analysis.

DNA Barcoding Labs for Integrated Science and Marine Science Classes. These labs allow students to identify plants and invertebrates using mitochondria, deepening their understanding of genetics and evolution.

SmartMusic Technology for Music Classes. Five new computers and a software program allow students to play assignments with an accompaniment track, identify errors in pitch and rhythm, and receive immediate, personalized instruction from their teacher.

Computer Workstation for Draw/Paint and Studio Art Students. These workstations, equipped with Adobe Design, Aftereffects, and Microsoft Office, are industry standard and enable students to produce digital artwork.

Go-Pro Cameras for Ceramics. Students use these cameras film themselves working with clay, and teachers use the film for group and individual instruction.

Updated Equipment for Photography Classes. The Foundation replaced and augmented the Photography Department's aging collection of film cameras and darkroom enlargers, equipment critical to the program.

Library Extended Hours. The Foundation will continue its support for this popular program, paying the salary of an aide to keep the library open from 4 PM until 7 PM Mondays through Thursdays.

Link Crew. The Foundation continued to fund the Link Crew program, by which students provide peer support and leadership for one another in social, academic, and self-government areas.