

**Venture Grants**  
**Penn Manor Education Foundation**  
**October 2005**

*Super Wednesday – Testing to assess strengths and weaknesses*  
*Penn Manor High School*

All students in grades 9-11 will participate in standardized testing (PSSA, PLAN, PSAT, ASVAB). The high school has developed common local assessments that are a true measure of the students' success. Administering standardized tests school-wide will provide data to assess the existing programs strengths and weaknesses. The grant will pay for testing fees.

*Literacy Work Stations for the ESL Learner*  
*All Elementary Schools*

The challenge is to find creative ways to reach English Language Learners who are deficient in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Literacy work stations will be specialized and the student will be able to start at a comfortable level and work independently at their own rate. Stations would include ABC/Phonics, Writing, Listening/Oral Language, Spelling, and Reading.

*Tornado Tubes and Art*  
*Martic and Hambright Elementary Schools*

Combining art and science, the project will include a landscape picture designed by the students showcasing their knowledge of foreground, middleground and background. The picture will wrap around the bottle used to make the tornado. Food coloring will help students learn about tint. Using two plastic soda bottles and a connector tube, students will simulate a tornado.

*Computer Drawing & Design*  
*Conestoga and Pequea Elementary Schools*

The elements and principles of design are basic building blocks in understanding and creating works of art. Students will utilize a software program that allows them to create and manipulate images. The design program will enable students to learn about computer design and also teach them to produce and manipulate both original and imported images.

*Promoting a Healthy Lifestyle*  
*Hambright Elementary School – 4<sup>th</sup> grade*

The school nurse will conduct monthly sessions that introduce students to a different kind of healthy vegetable and fruit. The students will have a chance to taste test the featured items. This project will supplement the healthy lifestyle curriculum. With obesity in children a focus by the State of PA, this program will help students learn about better nutrition and introduce them to unfamiliar, healthy foods.

### *Reading Oasis Adventures*

#### *Martic Elementary School*

This project provides reading and writing enrichment opportunities for both reluctant and ravenous readers. The goal is to expand the students' vision of the work of reading through the portals of the school's Reading Oasis. Monthly book clubs and special events days will help students embrace reading in all of its genres. Poetry, folk tales, math tales, science tales, non-fiction books will be provided for all levels.

### *Foreign Language Workbooks*

#### *Penn Manor High School – Foreign Language*

Workbooks that offer an assortment of reading activities, writing activities, and oral comprehension will help to improve the fluency of students taking foreign languages.

### *School Newspaper Layout and Design*

#### *Penn Manor High School*

The school newspaper, Penn Points, needs to upgrade its software to allow writers/reporters to write and design layout for all areas of the paper. The upgraded software will enable the student staff to be involved in all aspects of the publishing process.

### *Small Animal Care/Vet Science*

#### *Penn Manor High School - Agriculture*

The students taking the Veterinary Science course will be provided with practical experience working with animals and learning the importance of management, care and recordkeeping. Rabbits will be housed at the high school for this purpose. Students will care for and observe the genetic traits that are passed onto offspring in subsequent generations. The rabbits will also be used in Pet Therapy programs at local retirement facilities. The high school students will also visit the district elementary schools with the rabbits to show the younger students basic care and handling.

### *The Apprentice*

#### *Penn Manor High School - Business*

Students in the Business Marketing class will be organized into competing companies. Each company will be required to choose a product to sell, develop a marketing plan to present to the "bank", develop an advertising plan, and then market their products. Funds will be used as seed money to get the companies started. The goal is to repay the seed money and see how much profit each team can make.

### *French Scholastic Magazine*

#### *Penn Manor High School*

French Scholastic Magazine will enhance the student's interest in current events happening in France. The articles are topical and high-interest providing students with a realistic look at France today.

*Counseling Office Resource Library  
Marticville and Manor Middle Schools*

Middle school is a very difficult time for students and parents. The goal of this grant is to provide resources for parents and students that contains information on how to handle all the changes that occur during the middle school years. Books, videos, and magazines addressing topics dealing with death, handling anger, bullying, cliques, self-mutilation as well as material with helpful tips for parents will be available in this lending library.

*Early Years Newsletter*

*Letort Elementary - Kindergarten*

Provide subscription to Early Years newsletter which gives parents of kindergarten and preschoolers guidance in both education and parenting issues.

*Non-fiction classroom books*

*Letort Elementary – 6<sup>th</sup> grade*

Purchase non-fiction books that feature history, biographies, government and science. Students do not normally seek out this type of reading material. The books chosen are high-interest and easy to follow. The students will share the book they have read with their peers to generate more interest.

*Buddy Book Kits*

*Eshleman Elementary – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

Reading materials that reinforce reading skills and provide additional non-fiction resources will be bundled into kits. A kit will contain task card activities that compare, contrast and reinforce comprehension and other reading skills. The kits will cover topics such as animals, plants, the arts, and pets.

*Science Magazines*

*Letort Elementary - Kindergarten*

Ranger Rick and Our Big Backyard is a magazine issued through the National Wildlife Federation. It will be used at the kindergarten level to supplement the science curriculum.

*Chesapeake Bay Foundation Skipjack Sailing Trip*

*Penn Manor High School - Science*

Students in the Ecology of the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Watershed class will take a field trip to Annapolis, Maryland and board the Skipjack Martha Lewis. They will learn about navigation and how local water quality impacts the water quality and productivity of the bay

*Take Home Literacy Totes*

*Hambright Elementary – 1<sup>st</sup> grade*

*Martic Elementary - Kindergarten*

This program will allow students to take home a tote bag filled with various types of literature, easy to follow instructions, and a journal page for students to connect the classroom curriculum to an at home literature-based activity. The program also encourages students and their families to read together.

*Animal Experiences*

*Pequea Elementary – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade*

*Central Manor Elementary – Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade*

Susan Vollmar is a wildlife enthusiast with a wealth of knowledge. She will visit each class and teach hands-on lessons relating to the six animal groups, migration and hibernation. This project will serve as enrichment to the existing science curriculum.

*Artist-in-Residence – Latin Dance*

*Manor Middle School – Foreign Language*

International Latin dancers will put on a dance exhibition and small group instruction for all Spanish classes. The instruction will focus on typical Latin dances. The troupe will also explain the connection between music and dance and its importance in the family social system of Hispanic culture.

*District Wide Read-a-thon*

*All students and community members*

High school students and teachers organize a district wide read-a-thon to coincide with the National Education Association's celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. High school students will go into the elementary schools to promote reading and invite the students to the event. This is a family event that promotes reading together.

*Encouraging Interaction with Students from Foreign Countries*

*Penn Manor High School – Foreign Language*

The grant would provide funds for the high school to host 15-20 students from Germany for approximately 3 weeks in the fall semester. Host Penn Manor students will take their guests to school, local attractions, and otherwise immerse them in American culture. In the summer, the host students will go to Germany to do the same.

*Computer Work Station*

*Letort Elementary – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

Provides students with high quality reading programs for independent practice at a computer work station during guided reading groups. The programs will offer support to struggling readers as well as challenges for more advanced readers

*Entrepreneurship Opportunities*

*Penn Manor High School – Agriculture*

The grant helps with matching funds as required by the Agriculture and Rural Youth Grant Program to purchase a livestock evaluator.

*Basic Math Facts Memory Aids*

*Letort Elementary – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

Memory aids such as stories, pictures, rhymes and sensory images will help students remember their basic math facts.

*Science Expo*

*Martic Elementary School*

School-wide science expo that will introduce students and their families to the many facets of science. Presentations will include Millersville University professors, Jack Hubley, PA Game Commission, Franklin Institute, NASA and others Educators-in-Residence.

*Artist-in-Residence: Jonathon Sprout*

*Eshleman Elementary School*

Singer/songwriter Jonathon Sprout will perform a school-wide assembly. His program highlights several heroes from our history. An evening performance is planned for the community to enjoy.

*Artist-in-Residence: Syd*

*Penn Manor High School*

Syd will perform for the school and visit music classes to share his experiences. The 21 year-old Syd constantly carries with him lightheartedness and humor - on and off the stage.

*Artist-in-Residence: Peking Opera*

*Marticville and Manor Middle School*

A nationally recognized Chinese opera troupe will visit both middle schools to perform and share their unique art with the students.

*Author-in-Residence: Ruth White*

*Manor Middle School – 7<sup>th</sup> grade*

Ruth White, author of Newberry Honor book Belle Prater's Boy, will spend a day with students and teachers focusing on the writing process and her personal journey in becoming an author.

*Author-in-Residence: Ann Rinaldi*

*Manor Middle School – 8<sup>th</sup> grade*

Ann Rinaldi, author of numerous historical fiction books targeted to young people, will address and interact with all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Total funds awarded for Venture Grants - \$18,935.38**