2019 Sylvia D. Brown Scholarship Report

Committee
Terrie Marr, Chair
Sherry Alleman, Elaine Bukowiecki, Karen Diaz, Mary Matthews

The Sylvia D. Brown Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that two (2) proposals were submitted this year and the committee is recommending that we fund both of the proposals. They are:

1. Project Title: Enhancing Reading Engagement through the Use of Representative Texts and Grade-Level “Literacy Partners”  
   $990.64
   
   Kierstin Giunco    Mission Grammar School    Boston, MA
   Christine Leighton Emmanuel College       Boston, MA

   This proposal requests funding to increase the accessibility of representative texts in an urban classroom. These will be implemented with “literacy partners” that collaborate about one text within meetings and dialogue journals. Student engagement is hypothesized to increase when students are provided daily opportunities to read, write and discuss their choice representative text with literacy partners. Data will be collected on engagement and social interactions through recordings, anecdotes and scales. These will be collaboratively coded and analyzed for changes in engagement. This study would increase equitable research-based practices, as engagement is also linked with other essential reading skills.

2. Project Title: Addressing Social Emotional Learning by way of Meaningful Engagement through the Provision of Student Interest Driven Reading Materials and Active Conversation  
   $800.00
   
   Barbara Flanders George R. Austin Intermediate School Lakeview, MA

   This action research will seek to examine the impact of student engagement in book clubs through the provision of reading materials aligned to individual student choice resulting in the formation of new relationships and the establishment of a true learning community. The students’ active engagement will work to develop their SEL needs.

TOTAL OF REQUEST   $1,790.64