



2021 IMPACT REPORT



COVID LEARNINGS AND THE TOLL OF BEING REMOTE

In 2021, ITEF did not open its Innovator Grant Cycle. The world was focused on the havoc COVID-19 was wreaking on humanity and educators were responding to the concerns and sometimes demands of parents, politicians and public health officials. Many teachers were between a rock and a hard place while trying to respond to the needs of all students who were learning remotely and meeting the expectations of parents, politicians, school administrators and their own families.

ITEF suspended the Innovator Grant Cycle for a year, and instead, focused on facilitating conversations between educators in a forum we called The Educators Council. Our intent was to create a safe environment for educators to talk, to share, and to consider innovative teaching and learning approaches they might not have explored in 2020 - 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to increased depression, anxiety, and social risks among children of color aged 5 to 11 years old, according to findings published in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health. The study, led by researchers at Boston Medical Center, is one of the first to quantify the negative psychosocial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children of color using pre- and mid-pandemic data. Rates of depression and anxiety increased from 5% before the pandemic to 18% during the pandemic. The Adolescent Behavior and Experiences Survey, conducted by the CDC further found that: "More than 1 in 3 high school students experienced poor mental health during the pandemic and nearly half of students felt persistently sad or hopeless." CDC, 2021 Adolescent Behavior and Experiences Survey.¹

The range of impacts on youth's daily lives was broad – including learning difficulties, family economic impacts, hunger, and abuse in the home. ITEF believes it is important to understand the impact on young learners so we can better understand how to support both educators and students. We are hopeful that 2022 will find educators and students stronger, resilient and ready to learn.

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/abes.htm>

2021 CATAPULT GRANTS

EIGHT AREA SCHOOLS GRANTED \$177,392.83 FROM ITEF

The Innovative Technology Education Fund (ITEF) awarded \$177,392.83 to eight area schools, with grants ranging from \$10,605 to \$30,000. These competitive Catapult Grants allow schools in our region to obtain basic technology and level the technological playing field for K-12 students. The 2021 Catapult Grant recipients are:

Brittany Woods Middle School

(School District of University City):

Funds will cover Chromebooks and carts for students to collaborate asynchronously on PBL-related assignments.

Awarded: \$18,809.97

Froebel Literacy Academy

(SLPS): Educators will engage in enhanced weekly professional learning through use of new Promethean whiteboards.

Awarded: \$22,999.93

Gateway MST Elementary School

(SLPS): Special education students will have access to new classroom tools that support and accelerate their learning. **Awarded: \$30,000**

Northwest R-1 High School

(Northwest R-1 School District): Funds will provide the opportunity for students to increase their communications and marketing expertise through the purchase of thirty laptops. **Awarded: \$28,890.00**

St. Francis of Assisi School

(parochial): The school will upgrade their WiFi connectivity and bandwidth to ensure consistent internet access throughout the campus.

Awarded: \$19,413.94

St. Mark Catholic School

(parochial): Three classrooms will install interactive display boards; K-2nd students will receive tablets. **Awarded: \$10,605.00**

Vashon High School (SLPS):

The school will increase its capacity for asynchronous learning across classrooms well as enhanced use of the library. **Awarded: \$22,180.99**

Walbridge STEAM Academy

(SLPS): Ten interactive smart boards will be installed to deepen student learning and increase educator access to online resources.

Awarded: \$24,493.00

THE NEXT CATAPULT GRANT CYCLE OPENS ON **SEPTEMBER 1, 2022** AND CLOSES ON OCTOBER 31, 2022. APPLICANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR FUNDING UP TO \$30,000. MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE ITEF WEBSITE.



LEAN INTO LEARNING

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

ITEF awarded sixteen grants worth \$48,148.00 to educators who chose inspiring and innovation-related activities to deepen their professional growth. Although travel was greatly limited by Covid-19, educators hosted virtual learning sessions that deepened their knowledge and increased their readiness to incorporate new teaching practices.

We salute those educators and districts that continued to expand their pedagogy to prepare their students to thrive and excel in a future that is technology driven.

“ We attended the SXSW EDU conference and participated in a session called *Performance Based Grading*. In our district, we have opened an internship-based high school along with a STEAM high school. The speakers discussed the process that they took to move from standard letter grades and move into “performances” in which students showcase their knowledge and how they turned transcripts into essentially a list of skills that the students are leaving with that will allow them to use on the job site immediately. This session **greatly sparked our creative thinking** for how we can translate this into the discussions back in our own community.”

Samantha S. and Abby E.
Ferguson-Florissant School District

Professional Development Grants were awarded to these schools in 2021:

City Garden Montessori School
Ferguson-Florissant School District
Hazelwood School District
Kirkwood School District
Lebanon Community #9 School District
Mehlville School District
North Side Community School
Our Lady of Guadalupe
St. Francis of Assisi
St. Louis Language Immersion School
St. Louis Public School District
The School District of University City

More information about this initiative
can be found on our website:
innovted.com/professional-development-grant

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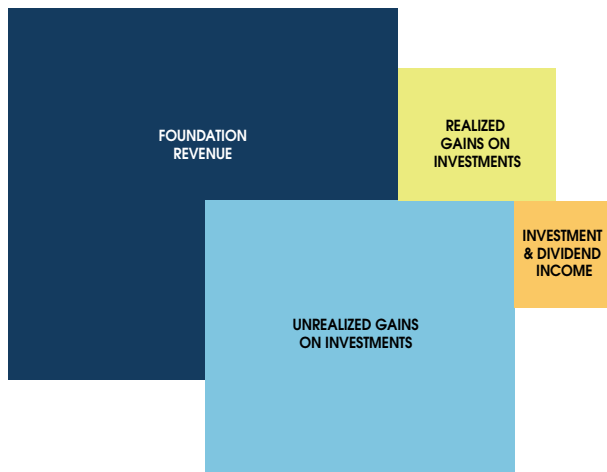
Julie Sharp, Ph.D.

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE

Foundation Revenue:	\$1,025,957.00
Realized Gains On Investments:	\$256,071.00
Interest And Dividend Income:	\$151,930.00
Unrealized Gains On Investments:	\$819,844.00

TOTAL REVENUE **\$2,253,802.00**



EXPENSES

Total Grantmaking:	\$281,506.00
Salaries, Benefits and Payroll Taxes:	\$204,380.00
Administrative Expenses:	\$135,816.00
Grant-Related Expenses:	\$28,299.00

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$650,001.00**

