

2017 – 2018 School Year: \$19,358

The Dark Side of Chocolate: Consumerism and Social Responsibility: \$825

Mrs. Lindbom, 7th grade Social Studies teacher at YMS, will expand her unit on the cocoa industry in West Africa, “The Dark Side of Chocolate”, to incorporate perspectives from all academic disciplines, creating a comprehensive learning experience for 7th grade students on the Puma team.

Intensive Learning for Work and Life: \$755

Lisa Roberston and York Adult and Continuing Education, by covering costs for learning materials for a new evening program for non-native speaking adults over age 25, “Intensive English for Work and Life”, focusing on language development for workforce preparedness and safety. This calls could have a positive impact on families as the students improve their communication skills and likelihood for employment.

Classroom Movement: \$1,000

Mr. Etter, 8th grade Math teacher, will purchase foot and body movement tools and furniture that will allow students in all 8th grade classes to have the benefit of moving, while leaving their hands free to work on academics. In recent years, there has been an increasing need for students to be physically active in the classroom, and by having several options of tools in each class, students can determine which is most effective for them. The use of these tools will be managed by the teachers in terms of equity among students who need it and appropriate use without distraction to others.

Flexible Seating: \$5,000

At York High School, Mrs. Bean’s Math classroom will be transformed into a collaborative learning environment with new flexible seating that will encourage movement and group-style learning and enable Mrs. Bean to be responsive to a wide range of needs within the classroom. This new environment supports the new proficiency-based learning being implemented at YHS next year, as the teacher can adapt her style and the classroom space to better meet the needs of the students and accomplish curriculum goals. Mrs. Bean had offered her space with other teachers interested in the concept and will share her findings with her colleagues both in the math department and school wide.

YMS Physics Park: \$11,278

Mr. Moy, 6th grade Science teacher, will be overseeing the construction of a new “Physics Park” on the York Middle School grounds, expanding the classroom to the outdoors for a hands-on learning experience in at least science, health and physical education classes. This physics park will also create a new activity-based space for students during recess, offering a greater opportunity to release energy than is currently available. Mr. Moy is working closely with Facilities management and other administration, as appropriate, to ensure the space is built to code and is safe and sustainable