



Press Contact:
[Laurie Pepitone](#)
Director of Marketing and Communications
Morris Educational Foundation
(973) 683-0767

MORRIS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AWARDS CLOSE TO \$34K IN GRANTS TO THE MORRIS SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SEPTEMBER

Funding Supports Academic, Enrichment, and Social-Emotional Wellness Initiatives for the 2026-2027 School Year

Morristown, NJ (September 29, 2026) – Marking the first month of the 2026–27 school year, the [Morris Educational Foundation](#) (MEF) is proud to announce it has already awarded \$33,895 in grants and program support to the Morris School District. The MEF, a non-profit organization enhancing excellence in education in the District, provides funding for a variety of staff-requested programs, resources and experiences not covered by the school budget or tax dollars throughout the school year.

“Every grant the MEF awards represents an opportunity to bring a great idea to life for Morris School District students,” said Ann Rhines, Morris Educational Foundation grants chair and former teacher and member of the Morris School District Board of Education. “From hands-on STEM experiences to creative literacy programs, these grants give educators the resources to further engage students, spark curiosity and build skills that extend well beyond the classroom. We’re grateful to the generous community of donors who make these opportunities possible and help the MEF support every student, every day.”

Nine grants were awarded at the September 28th Morris School District Board of Education meeting as outlined below:

ChompSaw Cardboard Cutters for Sussex

This grant will provide Sussex students with child-safe ChompSaw cardboard cutters, giving all students the opportunity to transform ideas into creative prototypes and projects. The hands-on experience will encourage innovation and critical thinking while developing fine motor skills, confidence and independence.

Equipment to Enhance the MHS Chemistry Lab Experience

Support for cutting-edge materials to enhance chemistry education at Morristown High School. This grant will enhance AP Chemistry laboratory experiences for 11th- and 12th-grade students through the addition of a high-precision analytical scale and professional-grade lab notebooks. The new resources will provide students with hands-on experience using advanced equipment, helping prepare them for university-level scientific investigations.

Footprints Mentorship

Connecting Frelinghuysen Middle School students and Hillcrest Elementary School kindergarten students to foster mentorship and academic skill-building.

Morristown High School Winter Guard Floor

A new performance floor for the MHS Indoor Winter Guard, supporting students as they rehearse and compete throughout the season. The 50-by-70-foot floor is an essential part of each performance design while also providing an important safety surface for students.

One Good Scene

A professional scriptwriter and actors will visit Morristown High School to guide advanced Creative Writing students in crafting and performing original short dialogue scenes, strengthening their storytelling and communication skills.

Ozobot Evo Elementary Computer Science and Robotics Kits

This grant will expand STEM and computer science learning for students in grades 3–5 through Ozobot Evo Classroom Kits, providing hands-on opportunities to explore coding, robotics, engineering and problem-solving. These experiences will build foundational STEM skills and connect elementary learning to the District's broader technology and innovation initiatives in grades 6–12.

Reading Readiness: Preschooler-Parent Shared Reading

A monthly bilingual book club for all Morris School District preschoolers and their parents to help establish family reading routines for Spanish- and English-speaking families. Meetings will occur from October through May at Lafayette Learning Center, featuring literacy activities using age-appropriate, bilingual books. Parents will learn how to use books to teach their children early literacy skills such as phonemic awareness, letter recognition, numeracy, colors, rhymes, singing, and vocabulary.

Speak Sobriety for Morristown High School

Stephen Hill will speak to MHS students about his journey to sobriety. The MEF joins with the Morris Township / Morristown Joint Municipal Alliance to present the program.

Tutoring at Frelinghuysen Middle School

Funding for the after-school math and language arts tutoring program at Frelinghuysen Middle School. The grant covers the stipend for the program coordinator as well as snacks, supplies, small awards for students with excellent attendance and the end-of-the-year breakfast with students and volunteer community tutors.

The Morris Educational Foundation awards grants five times throughout the school year, in September, November, January, March, and May. District staff and administrators interested in applying for a grant can submit an application by [clicking here](#).

In addition to funding these grants, the Morris Educational Foundation started the school year by supporting the District in other ways, such as providing a warm welcome and crayons to all incoming kindergartners and partnering with Morristown High School's WJSV-FM to conduct a live broadcast at the Morristown Festival on the Green.

Over the past 34 years, the MEF has invested \$7.3 million to impact the Morris School District across academics, arts, athletics, and other activities. To view the full list of grants awarded in the 2025-2026 school year, please visit www.morrisedfoundation.org/what-we-do/grants-awarded.html.

Founded in 1992 by local parents and business leaders, the Morris Educational Foundation works with District leadership, staff and donors to support the schools and the community in a partnership of lifelong learning to elevate education across STEM, literacy, the arts and social-emotional initiatives. To help create transformative experiences for the 5,700 students and 1,000 educators in the Morris School District, visit <https://www.morrisedfoundation.org/ways-to-give/donate.html>.

Visit the Morris Educational Foundation on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) to stay up to date on events and programs.

About Morris Educational Foundation

The Morris Educational Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, enhances educational opportunities for more than 5,700 students in all 10 schools of the Morris School District. Established to raise private funds for public education, the Foundation works to enrich and inspire the academic pursuits of all our students, from preschool through high school. For more information, visit www.morrisedfoundation.org.