

May 2021

## Abstract to Concrete Edge Elementary School

Thank you for the ACCEL grant money and the opportunity to promote a love for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in our young students. The money was used to purchase hands-on science and math materials for our third-grade students at Edge Elementary School. Due to Covid-19, we were not able to do as much cooperative learning; the money allowed us to double our materials, so more students were able to utilize the hands-on materials daily. The materials made learning meaningful and fun for the students. It helped to make abstract concepts concrete and understandable. Thank you for your support during these difficult times of a new normal we experienced this school year due to the global pandemic.

The students were beyond excited to learn our request for the grant money was accepted and could not wait for the materials to arrive! Once they did the students used them daily and have developed a greater understanding of concepts such as gravity, levers and pulley systems, force and motion, and so on. They also loved reading the math, science, and engineering books purchased. The materials and books have led them to having the intrinsic motivation to do hard things and not give up. They gave them a new perspective and enthusiasm for math, science, and engineering. They would use the items the entire class period daily if I could let them!

Many local students will continue to be positively affected by your generous donation. The students showed their gratitude for the materials by taking care of them so next year's students will also be able to enjoy and utilize them. Students will continue to have an atmosphere of fun, hands-on, authentic learning experiences with math and science. They will be able to enhance their social interactions and use teamwork when using the materials to complete group projects and individual experiments, designs, and creations.

Thank you for helping to transform our learning space into a hands-on laboratory. The items purchased allowed students to better understand the state standards being taught and were able to apply those skills and concepts with mastery after using the hands-on materials and books. Thank you for all the time, energy, and effort that is put into making this possible for us. We know it is a lot of work and we are very grateful for you.

Please see the pictures following.

