

Incentive Grant Teacher Suggestions

1) "Should I receive the grant in future, under current conditions, I would probably use it in much the same way; rewards for positive behavior. I have always used a token economy in my class, and even through distance learning, a token economy could be used through a site like Class Dojo, where individuals or groups can be rewarded points for positive behavior. In my class last year, I found group points more effective, and rewarded the group with the highest points at the end of each month with lunch on and with me, from the restaurant of their choice (within reason). I also used raffle tickets in class that were used to buy prizes or snacks from my "store" every week. I used much more than the grant awarded out of pocket, and I would do it again. From a distance, I would have to get the prizes to the students, and lunch may not be possible, but dropping off on the porch or sending by mail would be easy enough and worth it to keep that connection to my students."

2) "I would use the \$300 to send items (bookmarks, stickers, special pencils, pens, sharpeners, etc) to motivate students to participate and turn in work since many of my students did not do this during distance learning the 1st time."

3) 6-8 Resource and Special Day- I used my SPIE grant to fund my student store (fun pens, pencils, bracelets and puzzles for the kids). I had a virtual store on Fridays and the kids shopped. I then placed the items in their Monday packet and they picked them up. It was a piece of "normal" for them in an abnormal time. I'd love to continue doing this next year too!"

4) "One way I would use funds is to pay for video making apps to make sure I had the tools to make quality videos for my students. The apps out there help, but the pay for services offer the extras. Another thing would be books. My classroom library needs to be updated for me to loan out books to my students. Or to buy sets to use for book clubs."

5) "I would use the \$300 dollars to send reading books to my kiddos because they cannot go to our school or classroom library. Reading allows them to escape reality and enter into a new world. It will allow them to take their mind off of the pandemic and enjoy some quiet time in a good book. They would really enjoy getting a book in the mail from me and I could just picture their smiles when they open the package."

6) "For grants, I would host an event (mock interview day) virtually and offer prizes That would be mailed home. That suggestion is specific to my grant, but could be done in a variety of ways. Additionally, with students being on campus sometimes (potentially a modified schedule) that would allow for on campus events as long as they are socially distanced. Also, consider removing the district match, as most districts are struggling for money because of COVID. I like the new design of more money and a district match, but because of these times, that may help folks too."

7) "I believe now more than ever we are thankful for the support of organizations such as yours! As teachers we often spend so much to give our school kids the best we can, but with current budget cuts we too will have to pull the reins on our classroom spending, which is unfortunate for the students we serve who already have so little. I think that Amazon vouchers would be the best way to approach a grant, given the quarantine in place this option would allow teachers to mail incentives to their student's homes directly or deliver themselves maintaining social distancing. Now more than ever incentives are needed to motivate students who do not have the internal motivation yet, or sadly who do not have the support in their home to be successful with distance learning."

8) "Thinking about this, my ideas for the \$300 with distance learning in mind would be gift cards for students (bookstores, office supply stores), reading books, school supplies, and maybe technology support items (wireless mouses, headphones, audiobook subscriptions, etc) "

9) "I would love to deliver **yard signs** to students who challenge themselves to reach certain goals during Distance Learning. I am currently a Prep Provider and I teach PE three days a week. Many students are currently sitting at home with no exercise. It would be wonderful to **drop off a hula hoop, jump rope, skip-it, basketball, etc. to my students.** We could have **friendly fitness competitions and share our results while promoting healthy living.**"

10) "I would use the \$300 to **Purchase WHITE BOARDS, EXPO MARKERS, PENS, FUN PENCILS, NOTE BOOKS, JOURNALS, PLANNERS, HIGHLIGHTERS, and Fun material to make masks.** Put all the items in a gift basket and take a picture of the items letting the students know if they have perfect attendance/great online behaviors- by logging into emails, google classroom, webex meetings, doing their reading and math in IREADY, and daily check ins. Each student will get a small gift basket delivered to their doorstep by ME!! GREAT INCENTIVE FOR STUDENTS TO KEEP MOTIVATED!!"

11) "What I would do is put together **science experiment kits** so we could do experiments and demonstrations together. I'd like to do the same with art supplies so all students could do art."

12) "Teacher could send **snail mail certificates or postcards:** Money for postage, printer labels, and printable postcards."

13) "Cardstock in colors to print **encouraging yard signs, or signs to hang in their child's home** workspace or in their front window of their house."

14) "Games for the family to play. In the past, I have used my SPIE funds to purchase **board games** for the classroom. I would now buy them for the student to keep at their house. **Bananagrams, checkers, connect 4, Uno, etc.** Lego kits -- Ship it right to their door from Target or Amazon."

15) "**Brag Tags** -- \$ to purchase TPT pre-designed tags - ready to email to the family."

16) "I think both **gift cards** and **ordering things from say amazon/ebay** and shipping directly to students could be good."

17) "I found that my **2nd graders LOVED receiving something in the US mail from me** during the last 2 months of "at home" leaning! I sent them each a book & small prize. My out-of-pocket postal cost was high. Perhaps next time, I would send a **personal letter and a gift card for Barnes & Nobles or Scholastic Books.** I might also include a self-addressed stamped envelope to encourage students to write back to me. Another idea is to have a **"marquee" or letter board on which to post achievements** or students names to recognize. This board would be visible during live classroom meetings for all students to see."

18) "I have been an instructional coach for 4 years and returning to the classroom in the fall-whatever that may look like!!! I know a lot of my teacher friends have been **buying books, pencils, stickers, etc. for students during the shutdown.** They have done **scavenger hunts and contests**-rewarding students with a delivered treat. I know the students have loved it!"

19) "I struggle with this same question. I think I would really like to offer my students some **hands-on supplies for both science and art lessons.** I realize these may not necessarily be

rewards, but I do believe they can be items to help motivate learning. For example an easy one is the owl pellets I used in the past with SPIE money. Easy to dissect with a tutorial, Zoom, or Meet group call. This could be fun, engaging, and lead to students wanting to know more about the flow of energy in ecosystems. I also believe art kits such as: colored paper, sketch pads, assorted chalk, pencils, and markers, tape, and scissors can be useful and engaging as well. **Art supplies can be used in lessons of art, math, and science.** Again tutorials can be used for these types of projects as well as group chat activities. I know for myself I will be spending the summer thinking about how to make distant learning motivating and engaging.”

20) “If we had to continue distance learning in the next school year and I was awarded the grant I would use it to purchase things like **memberships to some of the online platforms that we use like Prodigy. I would also still buy books and other goodies like that and just mail the rewards to students.**”

Thank you for continuing to work through all this so our students still have the possibility to receive incentives.”

21) “ I expended all funds but did not feel as though I did so effectively. By which I mean that I'm not sure it led to exceptional work. I would rather have **purchased a 3d printer** and allowed students who were motivated to design and print objects they desired when they'd met certain targets.”

22) “Thank you so much for the email. This trimester, my students have loved receiving letters and postcards in the mail, and I have had to pay out of pocket for supplies and postage. I think that there could be many incentives for completing assignments or maintaining on-task behavior this way, whether sending an item or a simple letter or certificate to the student's house. I hope this helps! ”

23) “I think I would really like to offer my students some **hands-on supplies for both science and art lessons.** I realize these may not necessarily be rewards, but I do believe they can be items to help motivate learning. For example an easy one is the owl pellets I used in the past with SPIE money. Easy to dissect with a tutorial, Zoom, or Meet group call. This could be fun, engaging, and lead to students wanting to know more about the flow of energy in ecosystems. I also believe art kits such as: colored paper, sketch pads, assorted chalk, pencils, and markers, tape, and scissors can be useful and engaging as well. Art supplies can be used in lessons of art, math, and science. Again tutorials can be used for these types of projects as well as group chat activities.”

