



Marlborough Education Foundation, Inc
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For Immediate Release:

MARLBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

ANNOUNCES 2005/2006 GRANT AWARDS

Marlborough, November 10, 2005: the Marlborough Education Foundation (MEF), an independent, nonprofit, community-based corporation, is pleased to announce its 2005/2006 grant award recipients.

OUR MISSION

MEF's mission is to provide the funds for new programs and resources that enhance the educational opportunities for students in the Marlborough Public Schools. The programs we support should complement the existing curriculum, help as many students as possible, and be self-sustaining.

WHERE DOES OUR MONEY COME FROM?

MEF relies on the generous support of individuals, families, organizations, and businesses in the greater Marlborough area to provide the funding needed for these grants. Money is raised through various community events, through our semi-annual Thank and Educator program, and via direct solicitation of local businesses. We are also deeply indebted to Drs. Sal Zammitti and Robert Carvalho of Marlborough and Fish Eye Software who each endowed special grants this year (details listed below).

HOW ARE GRANT RECIPIENTS CHOSEN?

Our grant selection process is blind - the names and school affiliation of the applicants are deleted from the copies the board reviews. Only one board member, the person responsible for photo copying and distributing the grant paperwork, knows the name of any applicant.

The grants are reviewed by each member and questions are relayed back to applicants through the member who did the paperwork distribution.

A subsequent meeting is held at which each application is reviewed and discussed. The Board considers the scope of the grant, the number of children it will benefit, the ability for the program to sustain itself once funds are provided, and finally, the relevancy of the program to the school's curriculum.

HOW MUCH MONEY HAS BEEN AWARDED?

Over the last seven years MEF has awarded close to \$72,000 in grants. This year over \$29,000 in grant requests were received. We believe that this year's recipients presented a broad range of ideas and are pleased that each of our public schools is represented in these grants.

THIS YEAR'S GRANTS:

Over \$12,000 will be distributed to the following twelve grant recipients:

JAWOREK SCHOOL:

- \$1,255.00 to Reading Specialist, Molly Callahan and Inclusion teacher, Lisa McManamin for The Fluency Lab. The funds will be used to purchase headphones, cassette recorders and stories on cassettes that will be used to set up a lab designed for children in grades K-3 who are experiencing difficulty reading. The program will allow the students to work individually, on their reading and reading comprehension.

KANE ELEMENTARY AND MARLBOROUGH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL:

- ***Recipient of the FishEye Software, Inc. grant for the promotion of science and math technology within the schools:*** \$700.00 to each school for the purchase of a SMART Board. The grant was written by Kane teachers Deb Rudman, Patti MacMunn and Norine Elliott, and by MIES teachers Romelle Baker Jarvis and Susan Leavey. A SMART Board is an interactive white board that is networked to a computer and projector. Working in groups, students can then manipulate data and share information.

RICHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- \$500 to teachers Karen Murphy, Sue Van Winkle and Sandy MacCormac for the purchase of Everyday Math Games CDs. These computer games will be used to help 1-3 grade students learn and/or reinforce math skills covered in class.
- \$2,775 to Reading Specialist, Paula DiPerri, for the purchase of Story Grammar Marker Program. This program uses manipulatives that helps students organize their thoughts for oral and written expression. The program has been used with great success at the Jaworek School and was funded there by MEF in 2002.
- \$1,000 to teachers Faye Lessner, Stephanie Tesorero and Tina Petty for Discovering Colonial Times. This kit comes complete with maps, books, learning games and instructional tools that will be used to update the resources used by this school's third grade teachers to teach this period of history.

MARLBOROUGH INTERMEDIATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND MARLBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- \$400.00 to Art teacher, Cheryl Wareck for Character Education Visual Arts Kits. The program consists of 11 units that combine art appreciation with the study of character and values. Students will learn about a specific piece of art and the artist, and then use this knowledge to discuss other issues of character- tolerance, equality, ethics, etc. The program ties closely to the school's anti-bullying program.

MARLBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- \$1,373 to William White, grade 7 teacher, for the purchase of an Impulse GII Race System . The race system includes a mini race track, power supply and software that will be used by all 7th grade students. Students in this technology class design and build their own racing cars. The track is used to test their projects.
- \$485 to Phyllis Goldblatt, grade 6 and 7 D.E.L.V.E. teacher for SpinS (**S**tudents and **P**arents **i**nto **S**cience). Parents and students will design and build parachutes or hot air balloons and test them in competitions against other family teams. This program will reinforce engineering and math concepts taught in the D.E.L.V.E. program for advanced students.
- \$161 to grade 6 & 7 Spanish teachers Michelle Scully and Molly Daily for books, videos and games that will be used for the school s newly formed after-school Spanish Club.
- \$1000 to Music teacher, Shelley Turnbow to replace ten guitars that will be used by students in her music classes.

MARLBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL:

- ***Recipient of the Zammatti/Carvalho grant for promoting literacy education within the schools:*** \$445 to Jose Reyes, high school English teacher, for Vocabulary as Paleontology: Understanding the (Hi)stories of Words . This grant will be used to purchase an online subscription to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED). The subscription will be used by most English and College Writing classes. Teachers will use this resource to help students understand the root, or beginning meaning of a word and enhance vocabulary.

The Foundation extends its thanks to the other applicants for grants. The Foundation also wishes to thank the administration of the Marlborough Public Schools for their continuing support.

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