



Marlborough Education Foundation, Inc
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For Immediate Release:

MARLBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2009/2010 GRANT AWARDS

Marlborough, November 20, 2009: the Marlborough Education Foundation (MEF), an independent, nonprofit, community-based corporation is pleased to announce its 2009/2010 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 an Educator" program, and via direct solicitation of local businesses. We are also deeply indebted to **Fish Eye Software** who has, for the fifth year in a row, endowed a special grant for the promotion of science and math technology within the schools, and to **Dr. Carvalho and Dr. Roth** who have also, for the fifth year in a row, endowed a grant for the promotion of literacy education within the schools.

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 twelve years MEF has awarded \$101,500 in grants. This year nearly \$13,000 in grant requests was received.

THIS YEAR'S GRANTS:

Over \$9,000 will be distributed to the following grant recipients:

Early Childhood Center

Recipient of the Carvalho/Roth Grant to promote literacy.

Karen Briggs- \$639 for "The Woven Word"

The *Woven Word* is a program developed by The Committee for Children to support early literacy and social emotional development in young children. The program uses a shared reading technique called "dialogic reading" to enhance the emergent literacy skills and emotion awareness and management.

Kathleen de Chabert- \$1,000 for "ECC Bookroom"

The Early Childhood Center does not currently have a formal school library. Though space is limited they have designated a small space to be used as a library. Though books would not be taken home they would be available to students within their classrooms. These books would afford all students the opportunity to experience different early literacy themes and genres apart from classroom books.

Karen Briggs- \$609 for "Music and Movement"

Children of all ages, background, and ability share the common experience of music. Music provides a means for children of varying developmental levels to express themselves in a fun and creative manner. The musical instruments funded by this grant will help children develop coordination skills, body control/awareness, rhythmic pattern and a sense of group belonging.

Kane Elementary School

Patricia McMunn- \$937 for "Camcorder for Assessment and Self Evaluation"

Technology is widespread in our curriculum. Opportunities for assessment and self-evaluation give ownership to the student and allow one to identify strengths and weaknesses. This camcorder will be used by teachers to better identify learning behaviors that affect student performance. Students will record their performances and presentations to use as a self evaluation and learning tool.

Marlborough 4-7 School

Recipient of the FishEye Software Grant to promote technology.

Sue Leavey/Nancy Klein/Elaine Davidson/Romelle Baker-Jarvis- \$1796 for "Projecting for the 21st Century Classroom"

The 4-7 School are seeking funds to purchase four Actiview cameras with projection capabilities for two 4th Grade regular education classrooms, a 7th Grade classroom and for the 5th and 6th Grade Health teacher's classroom. The Actiview cameras will allow the teachers to prepare and project more interactive exciting lessons on a daily basis.

Lynne Medailleu/Patricia O'Brien/Danielle Martins-\$1767 for "Building Background with Books on CD"

The Building Background with Books on CD program at the 4-7 School is designed to help English Language Learners develop background knowledge in the content area of Science by using materials from MillMark Education Literacy through Content. Students will be provided with a bag to take home that contains an informational science text, audio CD and CD player. Students will be able to follow along in the text while listening to the text on CD. The content of the books follow the Science Curriculum Frameworks for 4th and 5th Grade.

Marlborough High School

Kathleen Richov- \$2420 for “Using the Classroom Performance System (CPS) for Assessment and Learning”

Through the incorporation of eInstruction’s CPS, daily progress of student learning can be assessed and monitored. “Clickers” change the dynamics of the classroom for students with varying confidence abilities and different learning styles. Science and technology/engineering teachers will use the CPS across all grade levels and courses. Preparing for exams will become an efficient, productive and fun activity.

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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