



Marlborough Education Foundation, Inc
P.O. Box 5824
Marlborough, MA 01752
www.mefonline.org

For Immediate Release:

MARLBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Marlborough, May 2, 2022: the Marlborough Education Foundation (MEF), an independent, nonprofit, community-based corporation is pleased to announce its 5K race

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.

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 24 years MEF has awarded \$200,00 in grants.

The Marlborough Education Foundation is holding it's 5th annual Spring Thaw 5K Race and 2.5 K Fun Walk on Sunday, May 15, 2022 at the Angorista's Drive entrance of Whitcomb School. The race begins at 10:00 am with registration opening at 8:00 am. The race is \$25 for adults, \$15 for teachers and students if registered by May 6, 2022. \$30/\$20 on race day. Payment by cash or check only. Please go to mefonline.org to register online or print out a registration form.

On December 14, 2021, the Marlborough Education Foundation awarded \$5,925.87 in four (4) grants to teachers in schools that included Marlborough High School, the Richer Elementary School, the Whitcomb School and the Early Childhood Center. The grants included:

Early Childhood Center

Karen Briggs- \$2,351.88 for “*Enhancing Learning with Light*”

Light panels provide a fun and inviting way for children to explore materials while expanding attention skills and sensory development and reinforcing literacy, math, science and writing skills. Lighted surfaces heighten colors and details and encourage curiosity, observation and engagement, while providing an enriching and motivating learning experience.

Raymond C. Richer Elementary School

The recipient of the Richard L. Cowan endowment for Engineering and STEAM Education

Kelly Hall - \$1,024 for “*Robo Pet Kits*”

Students will have the opportunity to build different pet themed robots using the Robotics Pet 600 kit. Each kit features a motorized control box that allows the creations to come to life and move. This project will enhance the fourth-grade STEM unit on animal structures and adaptations. Students will create robotic creatures in Innovation Lab.

1st LT Charles W. Whitcomb School

Recipient of the Dupont Endowment to promote Technology grant

Mark Rodriquenz - \$1,699.99 for a C.A.D. Design Student Printer

Marlborough Schools had purchased Student Computer Aided Drafting software licenses but there was nothing in place for kids to print their work. Standard 8.5” by 11” printers could not produce proper prints, and the Massachusetts DOE frameworks require this material be taught. This printer allows the students to print and take their work home. Mr. Rodriquenz, who is certified in the CAD software integrated CAD Design with all of his 7th grade projects.

Marlborough High School

Suzanne Venkataraman - \$850 for “*LGBTQ Electronic Book Collection for all Students and Faculty at Marlborough High School*”

There was a need for LGBTQ eBooks/books for students and faculty at the high school media center. Having a specialized collection for them will help LGBTQ students/faculty feel that they are recognized, have value and the HS community does not question their right to exist.

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. These teachers submitted their grant awards to the Marlborough Public Schools Finance Administrator and received assistance purchasing their materials which made it into their classrooms last December. The teachers have been incorporating these materials into new projects in their classrooms all winter.

The Foundation appreciates all participation of the public in this race to help them finance the grants that will be given to teachers at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year.

For further information about the race or the Marlborough Education Foundation please contact: Valerie Cowan at (508) 481-008 or vlcowan@comcast.net.

