FEF Program Committee Project Selections 2012-2013

The Program Committee reviewed 28 proposals with requests totaling \$157,216. The committee is bringing to the Board for approval 19 proposals (68% of submissions) totaling \$69,007. Of those, 11 (58%) are for full funding and 8 (42%) are for partial funding.

Falmouth High School

Grades 9-12

5/9 proposals

Use of Infrared Camera in the Science Classroom

Miguel Zamora

\$2500 (F)

The grant will purchase an infrared camera to be used in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and STEM classrooms to help students visualize difficult concepts, in some cases concepts that that no other technology can provide: seeing how the nature of light creates perception of color, locating points of friction on student-made devices, identifying heat leakage in structures, seeing energy distribution in the human body.

This Land is Your Land, Continued

Jane Baker

\$7069 (F)

In Phase Two of this year's highly successful project, Jane continues and expands her interdisciplinary and collaborative project. FHS art, graphics, and oral history students will once again document and celebrate Falmouth's open spaces. Additionally, the project will include all Teaticket Elementary students in learning about and interpreting through art the 300 Committee's newly purchased parcel in Teaticket. FHS artists will work with the younger students to create murals and giant paper "quilts" that will be made into kites. The project will culminate in an exhibit in the FHS Art Gallery and a kite festival at Teaticket School. The grant will purchase equipment and supplies.

Murals John Holladay \$2,603 (F)

This grant will purchase supplies for graphics students to create 8 giant murals for all Falmouth schools. FHS students will work with students and principals from each of the other schools to design, create, and install these large pieces of art.

Literacy in the Biology Classroom

Christine Brothers

\$720 (F)

AP Biology students will read, discuss, and write about *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, which describes the scientific research conducted using, without consent, tumor cells taken from an African-American woman who died of cervical cancer. The book raises important medical, ethical, and cultural issues, and the project supports the district's cross-disciplinary Literacy Action Plan. Students will create summary projects which will be displayed in the school's Science Gallery and at the district's science fair.

Aquatic Ceramic Creations

Corine Adams

\$2500 (P)

The grant will purchase supplies for a collaborative project including FHS ceramics students and WHOI. After researching marine life, ceramics students will visit WHOI, consult with scientists, and use WHOI's scientific equipment to view microscopic creatures. They will then create three pieces, including both realistic and abstract interpretations of the marine life they've studied. The culminating activity will be a student-planned exhibit at WHOI, displaying the ceramic pieces with artists' statements.

Lawrence School

Grades 7 and 8

3/5 proposals

Music Technology

Tom Borning, Eileen Cahill, Andrew Fietek \$6900 (P)

This grant will purchase computers to support the creation of a music technology lab. All 7th and 8th grade students will have the opportunity to use the Garage Band system; this is a program that allows students to have a virtual recording studio, capable of recording multiple tracks and instruments, right at their computers. Building on the instrument skills they've learned in class, students will use the program to learn to compose and to play the piano.

Lawrence School STEM Class

Bob Laquidara, Bob Porto

\$9900 (F)

This grant supports, through the purchase of all supplies, the creation of a new hands-on STEM course. This course for the whole 7th grade class complements the highly successful 8th grade Engineering course funded last year by FEF. Curriculum units include The Science of Flight, Green Energy, Robotics, Circuits and Electricity, Computer-Assisted Design, and Communication Technologies.

Turning Kids On To Reading

Joanne Holcomb

\$2765 (F)

This grant will purchase 35 Kindles for the 60+ students in Reading Lab classes. Reading Lab supports struggling readers to improve comprehension, fluency, stamina, and tenacity while reading the same challenging literature as their peers. In a small-scale experiment this year, teachers' assessments showed that students who used electronic readers read more and comprehended more of the text. This grant will allow the initiative to be broadened so that all Lab students will benefit.

East Falmouth School

Grades K-4

5/5 proposals

Lights, Camera, Action

Lynette Perdiz-Cash

\$6300 (P)

This grant will purchase print materials and 1 Apple iPad Learning Lab in support of a project that incorporates writing and technology. The teacher will utilize Reader's Theater to teach students to read a piece of literature, analyze it, and adapt it as a script. In teams, students will then use the Puppet Pals app to create and present their own productions. Productions will be shared with the school via a VGA cable, and possibly with the district through the classroom blog. These resources would be used by all third grade teachers in the school.

Enhancing Science Education

Wendy Scholes

\$4750 (P)

Wendy Scholes will take the lead on this project, which will involve the third and fourth grades. Its goal is to "spark the science interests" of the students, with a focus on Earth and Space Science. A Smart Board will be used for cutting-edge interactive lessons, along with Star-Lab, the Museum of Science's portable planetarium, and a visit to the school by an astronaut.

The History of Falmouth in Docudramas

Jim McGuiness

\$694 (F)

In collaboration with The Falmouth Historical Society and the Wampanoag Tribal Council, students in grades 3 and 4 will study three periods in Falmouth history and write three original docudramas. These productions will be shared with the school and other schools in the district. The grant will be used to purchase a camcorder, tripod, and memory card. Other needed supplies have been purchased, and parents have been enlisted to help with costumes.

Inspiring Struggling Learners

Deborah Littell, Jill Meserve

\$1476 (F)

This grant will e used to purchase 2 iPads to be shared by the approximately 45 Title One students in grades K-4. Title One provides extra support for identified students who are below grade level in reading. The goal is to bring students to grade level as quickly as possible, so they can rotate out of the program. These teachers will use technology, along with several assessment tools, to decrease the time required for struggling reads to succeed.

Fun, Fitness, and Renovation Dave Watson, Stephanie McDowell, Nancy Thrasher \$4,000 (P)

This proposal, submitted by the PE teacher, the PTO President, and the Playground Fundraising Chair, continues the ongoing renovation of the playground at East Falmouth School. FEF has a history of support, contributing around \$8800 since 2009-2010, to this community effort. Each component has included the participation of public and private partners, has been a valuable resource for the town, and has incorporated both physical and problem-solving challenges for children. The latest addition, which this grant supports, is a climbing wall.

<u>Teaticket School</u> Grades K-4 1/1 proposal

\$1,089 (F)

21st Century Readers: A Book Club for Everyone Julie Duffany

This teacher has a voluntary lunch-time book club for students. She wants to involve struggling readers, who, reluctant to join in, have missed out on the high-level discussion and enrichment of Book Club. Acknowledging that electronic readers seem to increase motivation, comprehension, and fluency, she will purchase Kindle eReaders, Playaways (digital MP3s pre-loaded with a single book), and book sets, with the goal of giving struggling students an equal opportunity to benefit from Book Club discussions.

Mullen Hall School Grades K-4 2/2 proposals

Mullen Hall School Garden Parent Partners Enrichment Team \$5100 (P)

This proposal is a request from the PPET, a subcommittee of the School Council, which includes parents, teachers, and administrators and was created to enrich the curriculum. The Garden project is a multiphase, school-wide initiative that uses a garden as the basis for hands-on learning experiences in science. In-kind services have been donated, and Phase One of the project has been funded; the grant from FEF will be for specific components of Phase Two, including a garden shed and raised beds. The applicants have provided documentation of buy-in from the staff.

Third and Fourth Grade Social Studies Expansion Holly Sawyer, Ann Tavares, PPET \$3274 (F)

This project, written by the PPET and supported by teachers and the principal, enriches the existing social studies curriculum for all grade 3 and 4 students. The grant has two components; both include technology (for research, reading support, recording, and video-sharing), print resources, and other supplies. For grade 3, the grant will expand the Living Wax Museum, in which each student researches, writes, and then "becomes" an historical figure. Their research is presented as a living wax museum, in an afternoon performance for the school and an evening performance for parents and the community. For grade 4, the grant resources are used to expand the study of North American regions. Each region has a "trunk", including 5 categories of student exploration: maps, travel brochures, music, art, books, and authors, which are brought to life through the iPads. The "trunks" move from classroom to classroom, so that all fourth graders benefit from these materials.

Combined and Multi-School Projects 3/4 projects

Morse Pond School and Lawrence School

Grades 5,6,7,8

ESL iPod

Joe Santos, Danielle Pigeon

\$2500 (P)

This grant provides iPads programmed specifically to increase the language proficiency of ESL (English as a Second Language) students. Although the iPads won't replace student-teacher interaction, they will reinforce skills, allow more directed and engaging practice, and allow the teacher to more efficiently evaluate student progress. Also, translation capabilities would support students in their comprehension of the core curriculum.

North and East Falmouth Elementary Schools

Grades 1-4

Scan Me! QR Codes in the Library

Kristin Bergeron

\$3200 (P)

Through the use of iPod Touches, this librarian will provide two innovative programs in her two schools. For her QR program, she will generate QR codes and place them throughout the school libraries, providing information "hot spots" to access websites and text related to curriculum. Her purposes are to "connect students to extended or related information, entice readers, and showcase the library in an exciting new way." In addition, she will use the devices to experiment with "backchanneling", which means maintaining a real-time conversation alongside a concurrent conversation. Students can ask questions during a lecture or movie, or provide comments to be discussed later.

VIPS and Grades 4-8

VIPS Girls Circle \$1566

This grant supports the continuation of Girls Circle, a partnership between VIPS and Falmouth Human Services. Girls Circle promotes, through an age-appropriate curriculum, self-confidence, personal strength, and communication skills. With the help of FEF and other funding organizations, the program has grown in the past several years to include more volunteer facilitators and more young people. Funding will pay for the development of a program evaluation component to more effectively measure program success, as well as needed curriculum materials and supplies.

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