

FALMOUTH EDUCATION FOUNDATION 2023-2024 PROJECT GRANTS

Below are 41 approved new (\$86,245) and continuing (\$78,684) Project Grants for 2023-24. Total awarded is \$164,929. The projects span all 7 schools and all grade levels; they represent core academic areas as well as health and wellness and the arts.

MULTI-SCHOOL NEW PROJECTS

Equity and Excellence in the AP Program Chris Brothers full funding: \$6000
Co-applicants Sonia Tellier, Henry St. Julien, Alan Harris
FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

This professional development project seeks to address the issue of under-representation of minorities in advanced level classes. Following a staff training course for AP teachers, counselors and administrators at FHS and Lawrence will identify the causes of inequities and work within Professional Learning Communities to generate solutions. The grant pays for trainer fees and travel expenses.

Strengthening our Shared Identity for All Clippers Sonia Tellier full funding: \$1985
Co-applicants Rose Moran, Alan Harris, Heather Rivera, Mary Kate Stevens
FEF Liaison - Lynette Robinson

This project, endorsed by K-12 administrators, aims to provide focused movement on Sensory Pathways that help to define the community characteristics of being a Clipper. Each letter of the word "CLIPPER" will represent a core trait which students are developing on the path to graduation. Sensory Pathways will be differentiated for each school's age group. The grant will pay for supplies and equipment to create the pathways.

French is Fun! Susan Schmidt full funding: \$700
Co-applicants Rebeka Sandefer, Kristin Mills, Daniel Perea-Kane
FEF Liaison - Gloria Borgese

This grant will introduce 5th and 6th graders at Morse Pond to French through games and projects, with the goal of encouraging increased participation in French as a foreign language at Lawrence and FHS. FHS and Lawrence teachers, along with high school students who will assist, will create and deliver after-school workshops for Morse Pond students. The grant will pay for workshop supplies, including art and cooking projects that will familiarize students with art and culture from countries in the French-speaking world.

MULTI-SCHOOL CONTINUING PROJECTS

Wellness & Social Emotional Learning for the Whole Educator China Mapp full funding: \$4995
Co-applicants Cristin Petisca, Abir Zaineh
FEF Liaison - Denise MacKerron

Utilizing the Breathe 4 Change platform, teachers and students have access to yoga and social-emotional learning through online wellness workshops. Because it was a popular opportunity in 2022-23, including both online and in-person participation, this project will be expanded to include FHS, Lawrence, and Mullen Hall.

Mini-Boats Project Carmela Myeski partial funding: \$8780
FEF Liaison - Lynette Robinson

This project builds on the first-year experience in which students refurbished three mini boats and a drifter that monitored the wind and ocean current patterns in Cape Cod Bay to determine the likely landing locations of cold-stunned turtles. In collaboration with Educational Passages, which will provide assistance, tech support, and equipment, the boats will be repaired and re-launched by high school students, and lessons on data collection, mapping, and turtle biology will be created to involve elementary-age students. The grant will pay for equipment and supplies for refurbishing the boats, as well as annual fees for Educational Passages.

Secondary Shakespeare Sarah Cox full funding: \$4200
FEF Liaison - Gloria Borgese

This grant will provide funding for Shakespeare and Company performances. They will perform *Hamlet* for the 10th and 12th graders at FHS, and “Shakespeare and the Language that Shaped the World” for all 8th graders at Lawrence, along with six workshops to help students prepare to read *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

FALMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL NEW PROJECTS

Get Out of Class! Jane Baker full funding: \$1800
FEF Liaison - Denise MacKerron

This project allows AP Art, Art II, and Honors Art students to leave the classroom and go into the community for real-life inspiration for their artwork. Field trips include travel to Newbury Street Galleries in Boston, Roger Hanlon’s lab at MBL, and the Woods Hole Aquarium. Student work will be displayed at the FPS Steam Fair. The grant will pay for transportation.

Learning From Mindful Movement
Co-applicant Lindsay Ruthven
FEF Liaison - Denise MacKerron

Susannah Brooks

full funding: \$2389

The FHS Guidance office will purchase a treadmill and a biofeedback machine to help students recognize and learn to regulate behaviors that interfere with learning. The treadmill will provide a supervised and structured movement break, including biofeedback data collection, with the goal of returning students to class.

Cultivating Well-Being Through Green Spaces Rupert Gordon
FEF Liaison - Sally Hauck

full funding: \$1679

This project is designed to introduce students to the emotional, behavioral, and health benefits of green spaces. Funds will pay for grow lights and plants so that every classroom in the building will have living plants, even those rooms without windows. Students in special education classrooms will be responsible for maintaining the plants.

Clipper Connections
FEF Liaison - Lynette Robinson

Caitlin Dugre

full funding: \$7200

This grant will pay for participation in two full-day workshops facilitated by Project Adventure in Beverly, MA. Participants will include selected coaches, advisors, and student leaders. The goal is to utilize Project Adventure's experiential approach to train participants in collaboration, problem-solving, leadership and team-building; this group will bring those new skills back to the high school to help promote a school-wide sense of community and belonging. FHS Principal is paying an additional \$2,400 for transportation.

French Library
FEF Liaison - Gloria Borgese

Rebekah Sandefer

full funding: \$400

To promote fluency and enhance vocabulary acquisition, this project will provide a variety of level-appropriate readers that reflect diversity and address contemporary issues and culture.

FALMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CONTINUING PROJECTS

Ekphrasis
Co-applicant Jane Baker
FEF Liaison - Denise MacKerron

Lauren Kenny

full funding: \$7419

Ekphrasis creates a cross-curricular experience for AP Literature and AP Art students. The project aims to deepen the connection between art and literature and inspire voice in writing. Students visit a museum and select one piece to study and research, then create poetry and art

based on the piece they selected. The project culminates in a celebration in which students present their work. This year students will travel to New York City and expand their experience to include visiting MoMA and seeing the play & *Juliet*. Other additions to the project include research into how the museum acquired the selected pieces, as well as completing work in time to submit to the Scholastic Arts and Writing Contest. FEF funds will pay for transportation and admission tickets.

Exploring Evolution at Harvard Museum of Natural History Heather Goodwin full funding: \$2250
FEF Liaison - Gloria Borgese

This grant provides transportation for 11th and 12th grade Biology students to the Harvard Museum of Natural History to explore and participate in one of its classroom programs. Students will then create and present activities on the theme of evolution for younger grades at the Falmouth STEAM Fair.

Reducing Anxiety in the Classroom, Year 3 Tom McManamon full funding: \$11,200
FEF Liaison - Ellen Barol

In year three of this continuing grant, Falmouth High School staff (100 staff members) will again work with consultant Jessica Minahan on classroom strategies, tools, and interventions for supporting students with anxiety-related or oppositional behaviors that impede learning. More staff will be trained to employ the strategies and to participate in the consultancy model, in which a team meets to devise a specific plan that addresses individual students' learning needs. Also this year, "champions" -- those have used the model and found it "transformative"-- will be identified to take on the leadership and continuation of the program. The grant pays the consultant's fee and travel expenses for four visits.

FHS College Mentor Program Tracey Crago full funding: \$2240
FEF Liaison- Lynette Robinson

This project will once again identify students who have the ability and motivation to go to college, but not the resources at home to help. Mentors guide participants through the application and financial aid processes. An important part of the program is visiting campuses, and this FEF grant will pay for transportation to college visits and a lunch in one of the college cafeterias.

Oceanography Cruise with Zephyr Education Cheryl Milliken full funding: \$760
Co-applicant Chris Brothers
FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

This project sends students to Woods Hole and out to sea, with teacher Cheryl Milliken and Rob Reynolds of Zephyr Education. Students will take advantage of whatever current activity is happening at the time in any of the institutions: WHOI, MBL, NMFS. All aspects of marine science are covered from microscopes to port engineering. The highlight of the project is a short

research cruise with Rob Reynolds where benthic dredging, plankton tows, acoustic buoy deployments, underwater towed camera, and sea-stories all occur. The grant pays for the cruise fee and bus transportation.

Transcendartists Jane Baker full funding: \$7505
Co-applicant Lauren Kenney
FEF Liaison - Beth Dussan

In this cross-curricular project, Art and Lit students will learn about the Transcendentalist Movement as it relates to creativity and artistic freedom; they will take field trips to see first-hand and be inspired by the sites of Transcendentalism. They will apply what they have learned and seen to create artworks and broadside poems. As a culmination, they will work in groups to transfer their artwork to large-scale kites for a sky gallery installation at the Coonamessett Restoration during the herring run. Meditation will be incorporated in the field trips to allow students to focus more deliberately on their experience. The grant will pay for art supplies, transportation and admissions, and a stipend for the meditation teacher.

Mini-Workshops with Ceramic Artists Corine Adams full funding: \$7039
FEF Liaison - Lynette Robinson

Funding for this project will pay stipends for visiting ceramicists, transportation for field trips to the artists' studios to learn firing techniques, and equipment and supplies, including a potter's wheel. Visiting artists, Paul Wisotzky of Blueberry Lane Pottery and Kathy King of Harvard University Ceramics, will demonstrate specific techniques, which the students will then utilize in their own ceramic pieces.

Cape Cod Salseras Cultural Experience Katie Stanton full funding: \$360
FEF Liaison - Beth Dussan

The Spanish Honor Society will create cultural and social connections by learning techniques of Latin dances from the instructors of the Cape Cod Salseras Group. There was so much interest in this project in 2022-23 that other foreign language students will be invited to participate if space allows. The grant will pay a stipend to the Salseras group.

Colombian Cooking Demonstration & Class Katie Stanton full funding: \$496
FEF Liaison - Beth Dussan

The Spanish Honor Society students will attend a cooking demonstration with a local Colombian chef to experience what they have been learning about traditional Colombian cuisine. Students will follow the directions in the target language and work together to make their own arepas. Funding will pay for the chef's visit and for supplies and equipment, including an electric griddle

LAWRENCE SCHOOL NEW PROJECTS

Railcar Rally-Engineers Playing "Engineers" Bob Porto full funding: \$6950
FEF Liaison - Ellen Barol

This project, piloted last year as a mini-grant, will provide a unique experience for Bob Porto's grade 8 Engineering class. Students will work in teams to build full-sized pump trolleys, and then participate in a team-wide race on the bike path, along the restored rail line. In their Engineering classes, students will learn about the physics of crank pulleys and wheel design, and in their social studies classes they will explore Falmouth's railroad history, culminating with a ride aboard the Cape Cod Train from North Falmouth over the canal to Buzzards Bay. The grant pays for transportation, the train trip, and building equipment.

Lawrence Greenhouse Chris Brothers full funding: \$7166
Co-applicants Caitlin Church, Kristina Woods, Martina Allen
FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

This project will build a classroom-sized greenhouse to accommodate Plant Science classes and provide students the ability to grow a variety of plants as well as learn the fundamentals of gardening. This structure will allow all students in the seventh grade an opportunity to participate in gardening, provide support for the Garden Club, and supply native plants for the pollinator gardens, food for the school kitchen, and donations to the Service Center.

Choice Based Fridays Karyn Phares full funding: \$1132
FEF Liaison - Gloria Borgese

Lawrence art teacher Karyn Phares will continue to offer "Choice Based Fridays" to eighth grade students. This project, which began as a successful experiment last year funded through mini-grants, provides a range of materials students may not get a chance to use in their regular art classes. Students are challenged with a photo of some type of food, to interpret in any way they like, using their choice of provided media. At the end of class, everyone hangs their artwork. Mondays then become a mini art show, providing an opportunity for a discussion in the form of a critique, using art vocabulary.

LAWRENCE SCHOOL CONTINUING PROJECTS

STEMinists Mathletics Club Kristina Woods full funding: \$1999
FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

Kristina Woods has doubled participation in her after-school Math Club and continues to recruit more students. Encouraging students, in particular female students, in STEM is essential, and participating in competitions is a fun and rewarding way to boost confidence and build school community pride in local and regional meets. This project will pay competition entrance fees and

calculators used in preparation.

Lawrence School Music Technology Eileen Cahill full funding: \$7494
Co-applicant Madeline Hally
FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

Through past FEF funding, the music technology lab at Lawrence School is a state of the art lab that allows students to collaborate and create music in the cloud, record voice and instruments, and create music and podcasts using modern genres. Because current music class sizes at Lawrence now range between 16 and 22, the 16-iMac music technology workstation limit requires many students to double up with a partner to take turns playing the piano keyboard and share the mouse and keyboard. Students who share a piano are unable to progress at the same pace as students with access to their own piano. This is an equity issue that can be solved by adding six more computers to the lab and will assure equal opportunity for all students to excel.

Ugly Mugs! Tiffany Van Mooy full funding: \$2882
FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

Guided by a professional artist, and with the use of new tools, including a clay extruder, 7th grade art students will design and create clay mugs that reflect early American folk art and African culture.

MORSE POND SCHOOL NEW PROJECTS

Creative Cubelet Bots Linda Burke full funding: \$3356
FEF Liaison - Denise MacKerron

In this coding project, students will create a modular robot using robot blocks called cubelets. Using a problem-based learning approach, the cubelets will help teach all 5th and sixth graders problem-solving skills like collaboration, engineering, design, and computational thinking. The grant pays for supplies.

Summer Reading Helps Us Soar as MPS Ospreys Elizabeth Abbott full funding: \$15,000
Co- applicant Erin Custadio
FEF Liaison - Ellen Barol

Although summer reading is designed to keep students' reading skills from backsliding during vacation, Liz's data show that only 25 of the 500 Morse Pond students did last summer's reading: a statistic that she found even more worrisome in these post-Covid days of learning gaps. This large-scale project aims to address that issue, while including Liz's mission: promoting a love of reading and respect for differences, and building community. The project includes one carefully chosen, still to be determined anchor text with copies for each student

and each staff person, creating a “One Book, One School” summer reading program. It also includes related companion texts chosen for interest, attention to access and diversity, and cross-disciplinary topics. Classroom activities will begin in the spring of 2024 and continue into the summer. Liz plans to open the library during the summer for “Cool in School” opportunities to read. For the rising 4th graders and the rising 6th graders, Liz is coordinating with K-4 and 7-12 ELA curriculum leaders. The grant will fund books for students and staff, and stipends for visitors

MORSE POND SCHOOL CONTINUING PROJECTS

Wade In The Water

Kara Chase

full funding: \$682

FEF Liaison - Phil Alatalo

In this project students continue to conduct real science by monitoring environmental parameters in Morse Pond. Students in Kara’s class become “citizen scientists” by learning the importance of data and how to present it, and gaining understanding about the urgency of protecting water quality in our community. This year, the project will be expanded by involving more than one team, by testing the Coonamessett Pond as well as Morse Pond, and by culminating with a trip for all 5th graders to the Coonamessett Greenway. The grant pays for water-testing supplies.

Diverse Authors to Create Windows, Mirrors & Sliding Doors Elizabeth Abbott partial funding: \$10,421
FEF Liaison - Ellen Barol

With this grant, Liz will expand her successful 2022-23 project. This project is based on her goal to inspire (or re-ignite, after losses during Covid) a lifelong love of reading, and to make the library a place where students can see themselves and each other with acceptance and respect. It will include authors, and also other presenters who can offer students a look inside the experiences of others (Windows and Sliding Doors) as well as a positive reflection (Mirrors) of themselves. Her “wish list” of diverse visitors for the 2023-24 year includes a paralympic athlete, Chinese acrobats, hip hop dancers, and a graphic novelist. Every visit includes school-wide, cross-disciplinary activities and lessons, and selected related books. The grant will fund stipends for the visitors and books to raffle.

TEATICKET ELEMENTARY NEW PROJECTS

Hands on Music Learning Using the Noteworthy Music Rug Marjorie Huelsman full funding: \$1170
FEF Liaison - Denise MacKerron

The Noteworthy Music Rug will provide a hands-on approach to learning musical literacy and will reinforce musical concepts such as recognition and understanding of basic musical symbols, note naming, and note matching. It will also act as a giant game board for music games.

MULLEN HALL ELEMENTARY NEW PROJECTS

Authors in Person Elizabeth Do full funding: \$5700
FEF Liaison - Ellen Barol

Elizabeth is joining other K-4 library teachers in a collaboration with Eight Cousins that will bring visiting authors into the schools and provide books by the visiting authors for each child to keep. Eight Cousins will help teachers select which authors are most appropriate and will facilitate the visits. Authors will be at no cost, since they are on book tours paid for by the publishers; the grant will be used to purchase books.

Catching-Up With the Animal Kingdom Elizabeth Do full funding: \$4200
FEF Liaison - Ellen Barol

This grant will provide updated, engaging, and contemporary nonfiction books to support literacy and research skills. An analysis of the books currently in the collection showed that almost 80% of the current collection was published before 2010. The requested books are aligned particularly with the first grade Animal Superpowers unit, but because animal books are the second most circulated topic (after sports), the books will be available to and enjoyed by all 380 Mullen Hall students.

NORTH FALMOUTH ELEMENTARY NEW PROJECTS

Windows and Mirrors: The Quest to Increase Diversity in our Elementary Library's Collection
Kristin Bergeron full funding: \$1000
FEF Liaison - Beth Dussan

This project will allow the library to expand its print collection to more accurately reflect the student population (Mirrors) and also provide the students and teachers with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and exposure to the lives and cultures of others (Windows). The grant will pay for books to be purchased from Eight Cousins.

SEL Practices in the Music Room

Korey Charles

full funding: \$1038

Who is the liaison?

This project will focus on continuing to build a safe classroom environment, where students feel connected, supported, and valued members of the community in the music room. The grant will fund tools, materials, and online training for social-emotional learning that takes place in music class, using the tools and techniques of the Conscious Discipline organization to help students recognize and respond to the dysregulation that can interfere with learning.

Authors Come Alive

Kristin Bergeron

full funding: \$5400

FEF Liaison - Beth Dussan

This project will allow Kristin to join the other K-4 librarians in a collaboration with Eight Cousins that will bring authors to the school. Students will have the opportunity to experience an author visit and receive a free copy of a book by the author. Visits are paid for by the publisher; the grant will buy a copy of the books for students to keep.

EAST FALMOUTH ELEMENTARY NEW PROJECTS

Authors Inspire: Amazing Author Visits

Tara Draper

partial funding: \$3200

FEF Liaison - Sally Hauck

This project, in collaboration with Eight Cousins and the other K-4 librarians, will provide multiple diverse author visits to K-4 students at East Falmouth. Studies have shown that author visits to schools help promote reading, motivate writing, demystify creativity, encourage risk-taking, and ignite sparks. Author visits are paid by the publishers; the grant will pay for books to give to the students.

EAST FALMOUTH ELEMENTARY CONTINUING PROJECTS

Everyday Speech

Lindsay Marble

full funding: \$299

FEF Liaison - Gloria Borgese

Everyday Speech is a program that incorporates social-emotional learning into K-4 classrooms. Classroom teachers use it as a guide to help students with anxiety management and mindfulness by giving them a school-wide shared vocabulary to express their emotions; it is used during classroom lessons, in small groups, and individually. Skill areas include emotional recognition, self-regulation, perspective-taking, friendship, anxiety management, and mindfulness. The goal for this year's expanded project is to bring Everyday Speech to all

classrooms in the school all year. The grant will pay for online resources.

Let's Read That Series!
FEF Liaison- Sally Hauck

Tara Draper

full funding: \$2321

With this grant, the collections of book series that students most love will expand. The aim is to not only broaden choices in genre, but to keep students engaged in reading about the characters they are already invested in. By allowing the students to experience these stories within multiple books and series, "their excitement will grow and flourish in ways we can only imagine."

Making It Up: Expanding Our Library Makerspace
FEF Liaison - Sally Hauck

Tara Draper

full funding: \$2184

Makerspace is a hands-on and unplugged learning activity that teaches problem-solving and computational thinking skills. In kindergarten through 4th grade library and technology classes, students will use the materials to discover new and creative ways to solve problems. The grant will be used to further expand the Makerspace with science and engineering books and other maker supplies.

Windows and Mirrors: The Quest to Increase Diversity in our Elementary Library's Collection
FEF Liaison - Sally Hauck

Tara Draper

full funding: \$1937

This grant will be used to continue to expand and update the library collection to more accurately reflect the student population (Mirrors) and provide students with the opportunity to expand their exposure to the lives and cultures of others (Windows).