



Enhancing Educational Excellence Since 1997

122 E. College Ave., Suite 1-B, Appleton, WI 54911
Phone: 920-832-1517 • FAX: 920-832-1301

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2013

Contact: Julie Krause
Executive Director
(920) 832-1517

FOUNDATION GRANTS NEARLY \$33,000 TO ENHANCE LEARNING IN AASD

The Appleton Education Foundation has approved grants totaling nearly \$33,000 to support creative programs and projects that enhance the education of Appleton Area School District students.

Funding for competitive grant cycles comes from AEF's unrestricted endowment and five other endowment funds within the AEF.

Seventeen schools and several district departments received funds for 32 different projects. Grants of \$500 or more follow:

Appleton Area School District –

- \$1,157 from three AEF funds to support online professional development for AASD's 41 speech and language pathologists.
- \$503 from the Connie Pitt Memorial Endowment Fund to purchase Bluetooth switches for iPads used by students who lack fine motor ability.
- \$1,320 for six subscriptions to eSchoolCare. This online resource will provide valuable health information, training modules and resources for AASD school nurses.
- \$5,000 to support the 2014 Summer Math Institute.
- \$500 to give special education students opportunities to practice positive social skills outside of the classroom.
- \$1,306 for headphones and keyboards to enhance the functionality of iPads purchased with a grant AEF received from the Bemis Company Foundation.
- \$1,500 to create take-home family activity bags for all students enrolled in Appleton Community 4K.

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- \$1,500 to support a district-wide program: “World Water Crisis – You Can Make a Difference!” The program will be based on the book [A Long Walk to Water](#), and also will include other books and activities that tie lessons to all grade levels.
- \$900 to purchase books and activity kits for parent/child playgroups for families with children aged birth to 5. Playgroups are offered at five AASD elementary schools.
- \$1,000 to support the visit of R.J. Palacio, the author of [Wonder](#), the 2014 Fox Cities Reads book. Palacio will speak at East High School and a middle school. All middle school students will watch Palacio’s talk via live feed.
- \$1,500 to bring authors Wendy Welch and Jack Beck to Appleton during the Fox Cities Book Festival for assemblies and workshops at eight AASD schools.

Appleton Public Montessori – \$1,500 for Harpsicle Harps to expand the school’s performing arts program.

East High School - \$500 for IdeaPaint and other materials to create additional whiteboard space on the tables and cabinets in a science classroom.

Edison Elementary, Columbus Elementary and Appleton Bilingual Charter Schools – \$1,500 for a multicultural music program called *Exploring the Global Soundscape*. Presentations at each school, an evening presentation for families, and flute-building workshops are program components.

Einstein Middle School – \$1,500 to help seventh- and eighth-graders create hand-made string instruments out of found objects.

Ferber Elementary School – \$800 from the Bob & Gerri Heffron Family Endowment Fund to purchase Kindles and accessories to improve reading levels of struggling sixth-graders.

Franklin Elementary School – \$500 for binoculars to enhance second-graders’ research of local birds.

Valley New School – \$1,290 from the Alan & Vira Stoner Education Fund to support the “After the War” project. Students will travel to the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King in Waupaca to develop relationships and learn from the veterans.

Richmond Elementary School – \$660 from the Betsy Melzer Endowment for materials to teach number knowledge (ie: patterns and relationships) to students with learning disabilities.

Horizons Elementary School – \$500 from the Betsy Melzer Endowment to support community field trip experiences for students with cognitive disabilities.

Johnston Elementary School – \$529 from the Betsy Melzer Endowment to purchase a deep pressure machine called a steamroller for use with students with sensory processing needs.

Madison Middle School – \$1,500 to support the building of a Supermileage car.

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\$500 for classroom makeover contest. Students will create design boards for an educator's classroom. The winning design will be implemented by students.

North High School – \$1,500 for a Poetry Slam for students in grades 6-12. Participants will compete against each other with performance poetry.

United Public Montessori – \$1,500 to purchase garden equipment and small kitchen appliances to enhance students' work in the UPM greenhouse. Students will harvest crops and create snacks for Appleton Public Montessori students.

Wilson Middle School – \$500 to support a student-driven project to build five Little Free Libraries in the Appleton community.

Like the Appleton Education Foundation on Facebook to receive grant updates year-round.

The Appleton Education Foundation, a supporting organization of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, has awarded more than \$3.2 million in grants since its founding in 1997. Grants provide accessible, flexible funding for creative and innovative programs not covered by the school budget. For more information, please call (920) 832-1517 or visit www.appletoneducationfoundation.org

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