



## Professional Development and Education Grants for 2009-2010 School Year

### Professional Development

1. **Exploration of Color on Metal**, Laurie Schmidt, McCall Middle School, \$1,350.  
Art teacher Laurie Schmidt will attend a two-week workshop at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts on Copper Enameling that she will use to expand the 3-D art curriculum for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at McCall.
2. **Project Zero Classroom**, Sue Costello, Lincoln Elementary School, \$2,000.  
Ms. Costello will attend the one week program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education on best practices in teaching, learning, assessment and creativity with the goal of gaining new techniques to improve instruction. Project Zero was founded in 1967 to study and improve education in the arts.
3. **2009 NCSS Annual Conference**, Katy Rees, Margaret Harvey, Christopher Marques and Allison Kangas, Winchester High School, \$2,562.  
These four teachers from the History department will attend the National Council for Social Studies conference themed “Dreams and Deeds: The Civic Mission of Schools”.
4. **The Creative Brain**, Mary Costello, Adrienne Caselle, John McCann, Jeanne Snodgrass and Joel Buford, District-wide Music Department, \$4,875.  
Five music teachers will attend a conference titled “The Creative Brain – Using Brain Research on Creativity and the Arts to Improve Learning”.
5. **National Conference of Teachers of English**, Jennifer Zeuli, John Waddell, Susan Swan and Roisin O’Brien, Winchester High School English Department, \$2,660.  
Four WHS English teachers will attend the conference titled “Once and Future Classics: Reading Between the Lines” to generate new ideas for the department during their year of curriculum review.
6. **Calkins Home Grown Writing Institute**, 25 elementary teachers district-wide, \$8,000.  
Following the success of last year’s grant, 25 more teachers will attend a four-day institute in Winchester led by the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project of Columbia University.

7. **Teachers as Scholars**, 35 Middle and High School Teachers, \$15,000 and 10 Elementary School Teachers, \$4,500.

For the tenth year running, teachers will attend 2-3 day seminars in the content area of their choice. The program allows new teachers and veteran teachers to become scholars taught by professors at top colleges and universities throughout the region. The program serves as a professional development incentive to retain talented teachers and to cultivate lifelong learning.

TOTAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: \$40,947.00

## **Educational Grants**

1. **Cost Effective Alternatives to Smartboard Technology**, Eric Lister, Winchester High School English Departments, \$500.  
Mr. Lister will pilot two hand-held electronic tablets in his classroom which will be linked to his laptop and can be projected with an LCD.
2. **Promoting Conceptualization and Integration through LCD Technology**, Kate Scanlon, Lincoln Elementary School, \$2,767.  
This grant will provide three LCD projectors and mobile carts to be used throughout the school.
3. **Kidspiration 3 Software and LCD Projectors**, Leah Ferullo, Irene Diamond, Melissa Testa, Muraco Elementary School, \$7,080. Kidspiration Software, currently used at Lincoln and Ambrose schools, facilitates comprehension and organization especially for visual learners. This grant will provide the software for all 72 computers at Muraco and six LCD projectors with mobile carts. Technology Specialist will provide all teachers with the necessary training in August 2009.
4. **Using Lexia Software to Drive Reading Achievement**, Betsy D'Allelio, Reading Specialist, Lynch Elementary School, \$4,793.  
Lexia Reading is an educational software that supports reading skills and development at all levels of ability. Computer assisted instruction delivers a systematic, intensive practice required for low performers to learn word-attack strategies and provides a motivational tool for learning. The Ambrose School has piloted the software this year with success. WFEE will provide 5 software license for 24 months for the Lynch computer lab.
5. **Social Skills Through Stories and Displays**, Sarah Casey, Preschool, \$640.  
A digital camera, flip video and voice recorder and USB drive will assist the preschool teachers to create social stories and displays to help children navigate targeted social situations, events or routines.
6. **STARLAB Expansion**, Katie Hebda, McCall Middle School, \$1,635.  
WFEE will provide the funding for the purchase of two additional STARLAB cylinders for the portable planetarium. The Moon cylinder will be used with the curriculum for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades and the Greek Mythology cylinder will be used with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum.

7. **Capture the Motion**, Elisabeth Angus, Winchester High School, \$755. VideoPoint Physics Fundamentals software and a digital camcorder will allow high school Physics students to experience how the motion of everyday objects can be analyzed scientifically.
8. **Electronic Book Readers Across the Curriculum**, Leandra Elion, Janet Needham, Gloria Dove and Jennifer Zeuli, WHS, \$1,536. This grant is requested for the purchase of 4 Kindles (electronic book readers) as well as \$100 to be used for the purchase of books to load onto the Kindles. The purpose of the grant is to determine whether electronic book readers can be used effectively in the English, Social Studies, ELL and reading classrooms to facilitate reading skills and ease reading for less skilled students.
9. **Concentration Station**, Lisa Fleming and Susan McCartney, Ambrose, Lincoln, Muraco and Vinson Owen. \$5,133. This grant is similar to one made last year at Lynch school for "Fidget Boxes". Grant funds will be used to purchase manipulatives to be placed in each classroom for the use of students to help to regulate energy levels. The applicants are Occupational Therapists at Ambrose and Lincoln and will train teachers on the use of the materials. We are asking the grant applicants to pilot the program at Ambrose and Lincoln, report back to the Board in January, and then, if Ms. Fleming and McCartney feel it can be done effectively, expand the program to Muraco and Vinson Owen in the 2009 - 2010 school year. If the applicants wish to wait till 2010-2011 to expand the program they can do so without re-applying for grant money. The \$5,133 figure assumes the manipulatives will be purchased for all schools.
10. **Differentiated Instruction: Expanding Reading through Active Listening**. LeeAnne Toner, Janice Bernardi, Juliana Jarvis, All Elementary schools, \$4,500. Funds granted would be used to purchase Playaway audiobooks. These are MP3 players that are preloaded with books. Books to be purchased will be consistent with selections available in the school libraries. The applicants expect that the availability of audiobooks in this format will be accessible and helpful to students who are auditory learners.
11. **Sibelius Software**, Irina Chelnokova, Lynch, \$249. Sibelius is a music notation software which will allow the applicant to create written scores and arrangements of music to distribute to students.
12. **They're, Their and There the Fun Way: Smartboards for Grammar Instruction**, Tara Donner, Sara Stenson, Allison Pomerantz, McCall, \$6,891. This request is for 3 Smartboards, portable stands and Bluetooth wireless connections to support the teaching of English in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms.
13. **Smartboard and LCD**, Matt Taylor, McCall, \$3,000. Mr. Taylor is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math teacher on the All-Star team.

14. **Electromagnets**, Laurie Traugot, Ambrose, \$732. This grant will support Mrs. Traugot and the other third grade teachers at Ambrose when teaching about forms of energy. They would like to use grant funds to purchase materials that can be used to build electromagnets. Most materials purchased will be recycled to be used in other years.
  
15. **Brainpop Rock!** Kelly Kacamburas, Joanne Najarian, All Elementary Schools, \$3,325. This grant would fund a subscription to a curriculum support service that provides video based lessons and interactive activities. This system is currently in use in some classrooms in Winchester and has been well liked by teachers. The committee would propose to fund this subscription for one year, after which we would expect that the technology department and the schools would fund it.
  
16. **Kids on the Block Autism Curriculum and Puppets**, Disability Access Commission, Linda Stapp, Cara Falconi, All Elementary and WHS, \$2,659. This grant would fund the purchase of a curriculum to support autism awareness and aid the inclusion of children with autism. The curriculum requires the purchase of large puppets and includes scripts and other support activities. Winchester High School Connect and Commit participants will be trained to present the puppet shows to elementary school students.
  
17. **Electric Vehicle/Auto Shop**, Debe Holland, Martha McDonough, Joe Randolph, WHS, \$7,500. The electric vehicle conversion begun last year is ready to begin a second year through this after school club open to all high school students. Last year a Chevy S10 was converted to an electric powered vehicle. Engineering on that vehicle continues and the club would like to purchase a second vehicle to convert, possibly to one using solar power.
  
18. **ActiveBoards at Ambrose**, Laurie Traugot, Anne Pace, Ambrose, \$3,860. This grant would fund the purchase of 2 Promethean Activboards for use in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades at Ambrose.
  
19. **Student Leadership at WHS**, Tom Gwin, Marge Harvey, Robert Trakimas, WHS, \$3,600. This grant would fund the second year of the Climate Control program funded by WFEE last year. The purpose of Climate Control is to develop a network of student leaders who are trained and then who will train other students to find common ground and understanding among students and faculty in the WHS community. Funds will be used for fees charged by the program facilitator.
  
20. **Disability Awareness Book Collection**, Jenny Bove, Lynch, \$225. Grant funds would be used to purchase books to be housed in the office of the Lynch school psychologist, who would use them to help teach lessons on disability awareness.
  
21. **Authorfest**, District-wide, \$7,500.  
WFEE will continue to fund Authorfest organized by the Community Schools Association for the 7<sup>th</sup> year.

TOTAL EDUCATIONAL GRANTS: \$68,880 (\$39,896 technology related)

GRAND TOTAL: \$109,827