



Total for 2011-2012: \$139,192

Professional Development Grants

1. Teachers as Scholars, Judy Hession and Sue Costello, 35 McCall and WHS Teachers \$15,250, and 15 elementary teachers, \$6,650

This is WFEE's 12th year of support for TAS, a highly regarded professional development program that allows teachers to attend seminars in the content area of their choice. New teachers and veterans return to the classroom to become scholars taught by professors at top colleges and universities.

2. Brain Frames, All Schools, Betsy D'Alelio, Jen Foundas and Kristin Keegan, \$7,700

This grant funds training for up to 60 teachers from all Winchester schools in a methodology designed to help students organize their thoughts in preparation for writing. Brain Frames teaches the use of flexible graphic organizers used by both typically developing students and those with executive function disorders. The School Department is participating in this grant by paying for the purchase of some materials.

3. International Dyslexia Association Conference, Muraco, Susan Borges, Pat DiFranco and Laurie Kirby, \$2,910

This Conference focuses on techniques for teaching reading and writing to children with a variety of learning styles. This grant funds attendance at the Chicago conference by 2 teachers and the principal of Muraco Elementary. The grant recipients feel their attendance will benefit the entire district as all serve on a town-wide advisory committee for new reading initiatives.

4. International Society for Technology in Education Conference, Elementary, Joanne Najarian, Stephanie Golas and Katya Vigil, \$2,610

The ISTE conference is considered one of the premier educational technology gatherings in the world for educational technology professionals and teachers. This grant funds conference attendance and travel to Philadelphia for 3 instructional technology specialists.

5. National Council for the Social Studies Conference, WHS, Katy Rees, \$640.

This grant funds travel and attendance at the NCSS for 1 WHS teacher who will present a workshop on teaching about Islam and Africa, a topic Ms. Rees studied as part of a Fulbright group that visited Egypt and Tanzania. Ms. Rees is supplementing her WFEE grant with additional support from Boston University and Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

6. NCSS Conference, WHS, Allison Kangas, Jen Baker and Kristen Ritchie, \$2,795

These WHS teachers anticipate presenting a workshop on Service Learning in the Social Studies Classroom at the NCSS Conference. The three day conference is focused on themes involving human diversity, environmental issues and using current events in the classroom.

7. Metals Fabrication and Finishing Workshop, McCall, Laurie Schmidt, \$1,640.

This two week workshop at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts focuses the design and manufacture of both functional and sculptural objects. Ms. Schmidt is building on techniques learned at previous workshops and intends to use her experience to expand the curriculum at McCall Middle School.

Round One Professional Development, grants awarded in December 2010 : \$2,210

American Choral Directors National Conference, Joel Buford, \$1,610.00

This grant funds Joel Buford's attendance at the Conference plus educational materials for Winchester students. The ACDA National Conference is a bi-annual event for choral music educators from around the nation designed to help teachers achieve the highest quality choral music program. Mr. Buford plans to integrate what he learns at the conference into his classroom teaching immediately and will survey students to help determine the overall success of his new ideas.

Meditation and Visualization, Michele Fitzpatrick and Martha McDonough, WHS, \$600.00

This grant will fund 2 teachers' participation in a two day accredited training workshop offered by Harvard Medical School. The workshop's goal is to "integrate Eastern meditation traditions with self-hypnosis and visualization practices from Western psychotherapy traditions." Ms. Fitzpatrick and Ms. McDonough will teach the techniques they learn to Special Education students at WHS. They will also renovate the Learning Center space at WHS to create a calming environment for students.

TOTAL Professional Development : \$43,255

Educational Grants

1. Authorfest, district-wide grant, Community Schools Association, \$7,500

For the 8th year, WFEE will support the Authorfest program run by the Community Schools Association to bring 22 authors and illustrators to visit Winchester's elementary schools, McCall Middle School and Winchester High School followed by a book sale and signing at the Town Hall.

2. Drum Circle, Lynch Elementary School, Irian Chelnokova, \$2,480

Music teacher, Irina Chelnokova will purchase a set of drums and other percussion instruments and will implement a drum circle in music classes at the Lynch School. In a collaborative setting, students will develop percussion playing techniques, conducting skills, active listening skills and leadership skills.

3. Core Values – A Mural for the Ambrose Elementary School, Basil el Halwagy, Tara Tully and Maggie Jackson \$3,100

Ambrose art teacher Basil El Halwagy along with mural artist Alex Cook will design and produce a mural for the Ambrose school in a collaborative project with the students. The mural will express the core values of the Ambrose School; sharing, respect, responsibility, belonging and trust.

4. Ambrose Vegetable and Herb Garden: Seed to Plate, Anne Pace, Barbara Manfredi, \$7,000

4th grade teacher Anne Pace will be working with Ambrose parent and well known chef Vittorio Ettore to build a vegetable and herb garden. Working in the garden will expand the 4th grade study of plant growth and development. In the first year the project will culminate in a fall harvest and grade-wide potluck supper. WFEE is making this grant in the honor and memory of longtime Trustee Diane Brewster, a champion for innovation and excellence in our public schools.

5. Robotics Club, Winchester High School, David Petty, \$4,000

This grant will fund the purchase of parts and materials so that the Robotics Club can build 30 pound battling robots and enter the BotBall autonomous robotics competition. Students and teachers will attend a two-day workshop to learn the basics about the competition. The design and fabrication of robots provides an excellent opportunity for students to learn the principles of engineering.

6. Increasing Reading Motivation and Comprehension, Sarah Gannon, Lynch Elementary School, \$1,968

The reading specialists at the Lynch School will purchase 32 Playaway titles, self-contained digital audiobooks to use with reluctant readers and students who struggle to read at their interest level.

7. STARLAB Renovation, McCall Middle School, All Elementary Schools, Katie Hebda, \$1,160

WFEE purchased this portable planetarium more than a decade ago. It is an interactive classroom experience for students, available to the entire school district. It is used to teach mythology, astronomy, and the 8th grade science curriculum including ocean currents, global winds and plate tectonics. The STARLAB is a victim of its strong success and due to heavy use now needs significant renovation.

8. Updated Listening Centers, Dina Jacobson, Muraco Elementary, \$1,136

Designed to strengthen the reading skills of all developing 1st grade readers, this grant will purchase 4 CD players plus 8 MP3 players with headphones. Students will listen to a story being read on the CD or MP3 player while following along in the printed book. The listening center will allow teachers to individualize instruction for each student regardless of the reading competency of the entire classroom.

9. Sign Language Support Program, Elaine Kakambouras, Lynch Preschool, \$2,880

Working with a specialist, Lynch Preschool teachers will learn to incorporate sign language into daily lessons, helping all students improve language acquisition and other communication skills. Children, teachers and other staff members will work monthly with the sign language specialist throughout 2011-2012. Going forward, Lynch Preschool teachers will teach signing to new hires.

10. iPads for Music at WHS, Dr. John McCann, interim Director of Music, \$7,810

This grant will purchase nine 8G Apple iPads, 2 desk top computers, keyboards, music notation software and iPad music applications. The iPads will be used with 240 WHS students studying music theory, jazz improvisation and composition. The apps will both function as a digital instrument and for recording and mixing of music.

11. Art Partnerships, Geography and English, Erika Guckenberger, Sara Stenson, McCall Middle School, \$3,900

Funding will allow a team of seventh grade students to participate in the ArtLink Plus program which matches U.S. classrooms with students across the world. The students exchange letters and artwork pertaining to a common universal theme, also participating in activities to learn about the cultural traditions of their partners. The final project culminates in a video conference between the American and International schools.

12. Metalsmith, Laurie Schmidt, McCall Middle School, \$3,991

Building on previous grants awarded to Ms. Schmidt, this grant funds the purchase of equipment including an enamel kiln that will support the creation of a three year metal craft program for grades 6, 7, and 8. Units will include metal forming, fabrication and coloration.

13. Reading and Raz-Kids, Leah Ferullo, Muraco Elementary, \$1,409

This grant is designed to assess student performance, allowing for a curriculum tailored to individual needs while promoting interactivity in the acquisition of skills. It purchases a multi-year license for Raz-Kids, an online leveled reading library, and funding for instant response “clickers” to assess student understanding. “Clickers” are electronic devices used by students that provide teachers instant, anonymous feedback on performance.

14. Document Cameras for World Geography, Ellie Stroud, Annmarie Miagusky and Erika Guckenberger, McCall Middle School, \$1,350

Support for this project will allow 7th grade teachers to partner document cameras with existing LCD projectors to create multimedia classrooms. Teachers anticipate projection of maps, photographs, student work and primary sources will enhance learning while significantly decreasing the need for photocopying.

15. Document Cameras for 2nd Grade Classrooms, Kate Scanlon, All Elementary Schools, \$23,865

This grant purchases LCD projectors and document cameras across an entire grade level to enhance the curriculum for all 2nd grade students. Teachers anticipate use of the cameras will both enhance existing technology and support the sharing of lesson plans across the district.

**16. Bringing Physics Labs into Real Time, Elisabeth Angus, Scott Carlson, Peter Law, WHS,
\$9,888**

This grant will take the WHS Physics Labs to the next level of “real time” physics labs. Teachers will purchase 12 “all in one” HP computers to run, graph and analyze data. They will bring teachers to a new level of technology based instruction.

Total Education grants: \$83,437

Total Professional Development and Education: \$126,692

System wide Initiative

1. Wireless Initiative, Lincoln, Lynch and Muraco, \$12,500

Support for a district wide initiative to make all school buildings wireless. Town funding will support the installation of wireless hardware at Town Hall and school buildings not covered in the WFEE grant.

Total System wide: \$12,500

Current Grant Total for 2011-2012: \$139,192