BEYOND THE BOOKS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

...is a not-for-profit corporation whose goal is to provide a long-term, self-sustaining financial base to fund innovative academic programs in Unit 5 and District 87 public schools which are beyond the limits of normal tax support. Organized in 1992, the foundation is a group of private citizens and is not part of either school district. The Boards of Education of both districts encourage the Foundation's formation and strongly support its efforts.



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2006-2007 GRANT AWARDS

Educators in Unit 5 and District 87 submitted <u>sixty-two</u> applications requesting a total of <u>\$49,584</u>. The Foundation awarded **\$27,400** toward **forty-two** projects. Since 1992, \$220,094 has been awarded to support 312 projects.



Elementary Schools

Sue Blume, Denise Myatt, Julie Vesper; <u>Bent</u>; **\$675**; <u>BKIND</u> – <u>Bringing Kids Into New Dimensions</u>; <u>BKIND</u> provides new students with a safe, positive, guided induction into a new school environment conducted by staff and diverse student role models using leadership training and Character Counts.

Denise Myatt; <u>Bent;</u> \$198; Visiting Professionals Series; Professionals will visit 4th and 5th grade classes to share about their professions. Students will learn how education is important to different fields.

Kathy Hernandez; <u>Bent</u>; **\$200**; Gel-Board Writing; Kindergarten students will experience the joys of writing their names, letters, numbers and sight words on gel-boards.

Connie Young; **8184**; *I See Me! Multicultural Library*; I See Me! is a library featuring children of color in realistic situations. It will help students relate classroom skills to real community life.

Karen Showalter, Nancy Pye; <u>Carlock</u>; \$200; <u>Books are for Talking Too</u> – Take home bags containing picture books and materials to supplement retelling of the story by the student will help foster improvement in oral language complexity, story comprehension, and understanding of story structure

Julie Laudeman; *Fairview*; \$115; *Exploring the World* – Second grade students will gain access to on-line field trips, audio-visual resources, and books to explore the geography, history, and cultures of other countries.

Angela Mahoney; *Fox Creek*; **\$160**; *Letterbugs* – Students will use the computer software program 'Letterbugs' to develop and improve phonics skills.

Jamie Oliver; *Fox Creek*; **\$200**; *Putting the Brain to Work with Sport Stacking* — Speed Stacks will be purchased to use with all grade levels to teach kids to use both sides of their bodies and brains.

Amy Schumacher; *Fox Creek*: **\$550**; *In the Groove – Dance to Success!* – Dance mat fitness and brain-training curriculum allows students to gain greater academic success, increased technology skills, mentoring skills and higher self-esteems.

Jennifer Gibson; **Glenn**; **\$200**; **Increasing Student Reading Fluency with Reader's Theatre** – A variety of Reader's Theatre scripts will be purchased that students will be able to use in the class to increase their reading fluency.

Colleen Moore; <u>Glenn;</u> \$941; <u>Heart Exploration and Challenge Course</u> – Students combine science with physical activity as they journey through chambers of the heart and supply the body with oxygen needed for healthy lifestyles.

Peggy Dunlap; *Irving*; \$1,205; *Visualizing Cultures with Art Images*; Equipment and video resources to teach multi-cultural art appreciation.

Joe Ferguson; <u>Irving</u>; \$200; A Year on the Mackinaw: A Study of the Merwin Preserve; Students will take several field trips to conduct scientific research in the Merwin Preserve.

Joe Ferguson; *Irving*; \$188; *Literature Circles: A Study of Places and People*; Studying human relations and places through award winning literature.

Karen O'Shea; *Irving*; \$370; *African Music and Culture*; Students gain an awareness of and appreciation for cultural diversity through the study of African music and culture.

Cathy Haas; *Oakland*; \$178; *ABC Orientation Books for Parents*; To make alphabet orientation books for new parents and parents of English Language Learner students.

Janenne Scott, Leslie Frizzell, Shari Cooper; <u>Oakland</u>; \$400; State for Stevenson; Academically Talented Students will work on a project to present to the Governor to have an Adlai Stevenson Day named in Illinois.

Carol Johnson; *Prairieland*; \$1,305; *Renaissance Responders* – Renaissance Responders can help involve and engage every student in the lesson. Each child holds a responder and simultaneously answers the question.

Carol Johnson; *Prairieland*; **\$200**; *Using Math Manipulatives and Games to Support Instruction* – The math curriculum will be supported by using various manipulatives or games to coincide with each lesson.

Barbra Franklin; *Sarah Raymond*; **\$200**; *Cut It Out!*; To help students learn to cut, using adaptive scissors and techniques as needed. This skill is used throughout a student's school career.

Debbie Armendariz; <u>Stevenson</u>; **\$200**; <u>Puppet Math Show</u>; Connecting English Language Learners with math books and the puppets to retell the stories.

Debbie Armendariz; <u>Stevenson</u>; **\$500**; <u>Picture Books of Black and Latino Americans</u>; Providing classrooms with Coretta Scott King and Thomas Rivera Award winners to celebrate Hispanic Heritage and Black History Months.

Debbie Armendariz; <u>Stevenson</u>; \$720; Cozy Reading Environments; Creating cozy environments that foster the love of reading, expose students to Latino literature and connect diverse families with the public library.

Carolynne Scott; <u>Stevenson</u>; \$187; ABCs to Kindergarten Success!; These literacy center activities will support and build on each child's level of phonemic awareness and give them the tools to succeed in Kindergarten.

Susan Hurliman, Susie Casey, Peggy Ninness; <u>Washington</u>; \$196; <u>Magnet Magic</u>; Children will explore math concepts using the magic of magnets by creating structures on a flat surface or in 3-D form.

Junior High / Middle Schools

Lis Hiltabrand; <u>Bloomington Junior</u>; \$300; Writing Enrichment; Students will explore, investigate, design, and create projects by using technology; to enhance and enrich current curriculum by embedding the expanded use of classroom computers.

Linn McDonald; *Bloomington Junior*; \$200; *Graphic Classics*; This grant will enable the purchase of famous classic novels in graphic (comic) form, with wide appeal for English as a Second Language and lower level readers.

Michelle Sapp, Jamie Wolf; <u>Bloomington Junior</u>; **199;** <u>Dramatic Interpretations</u>; All four elements of literacy: reading, writing, speaking, and listening are used by purchasing props that can be used in dramatic performances to interpret literature.

Jamie Wolfe, Michelle Sapp; <u>Bloomington Junior</u>; **\$863**; <u>Reaching Students Through Roundtable</u>; Today's teens face many tough issues and life changing decisions. Incorporating '7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens' materials into roundtables will help them develop skills to face issues.

Tina Thomas, Kathy Cook; <u>Bloomington Junior</u>; \$1,250; Experiencing Culture; Students will become familiar with heroic people from various ethnicities. They will also experience other cultures through literature, music, drama, writing, and art.

Matthew Willey; <u>Bloomington Junior</u>; \$1,363; "Get in the Zone"; To promote healthy lifestyles for students in the 6^{th} , 7^{th} , and 8^{th} grades – through the use of pedometers and heart rate monitors.

Michelle Glatt; <u>Chiddix Junior High</u>; **\$200**; <u>Guys Read</u>: <u>Podcasting 101</u> – Podcasting equipment will be used by junior high boys in the Guys Read program to promote recreational reading.

Eric Hadden, Kari Hennenfent; <u>Kingsley Junior High</u>; \$1,399; <u>SMARTer Math Makes SMARTer Kids</u> – Using SMART Board Technology, Students are Participating in Engaged Learning Activities.

Martha Kindred; <u>Kingsley Junior High</u>; **\$2,808**; <u>Smart Angles</u> – Project to increase geometry skills by incorporating the study of angles with SMART Board technology.

Jennifer Ritchason, Angelica Delatorre-Im, Pam Isaacs; <u>Kingsley Junior High</u>; \$189; <u>Picture Books are for Middle School Kids Too!</u> — Picture books in social studies and language arts enhance student learning of abstract concepts, targeting English Language Learner students and visual learners. Plus picture books are fun!

High Schools

Kathryn Gillespie, Tom Thakral; *Bloomington High*; **\$1,112**; *Totally Real Math*; Totally Real Math uses calculator-based lab activities to integrate technology, data collection and math concepts.

Keran Johnson, Rob Behrens, Sondra Vogel, Natalie Miller, Bob Loy, Mary Pat Brady, Aimee Thacker, Scott Foley; *Bloomington High*; \$812; *Cultural Diversity*; Students and teachers choose books to read and discuss at monthly book club meetings. Selected titles become popular throughout the school population via discussions.

Christine Jones; <u>Bloomington High</u>; \$128; Current Events; This grant will give my students the opportunity to read and learn about current events through the use of an adapted newspaper.

Stanley Otto; *Bloomington High*; \$875; *Projector*; It will enable the integration of additional technology into the Advanced Placement and regular classrooms to better meet the differing needs and abilities of students.

Kevin Suess, Gretchen Snow; *Normal Community High;* \$1,000; *What is Reality?* – Using perception goggles that distort vision (upside-down, sideways), teams of psychology students will apply perception concepts to adapt to a series of challenging student-created tasks.

Valentine Walker, Mary Walker; <u>Normal Community West High</u>: \$3,600; <u>Fuel Cells: The Energy for the Future</u> – Fuel cell technology is one of the most popular evolving alternative sources of energy. Hands-on learning with fuel cell car kits provides an understanding for this future technology.

Joint Grant - Unit 5 / District 87 High Schools

Developed through the collaborative efforts of teachers from both Districts

Melissa Brown; <u>Bloomington High</u>; David Hirst; <u>Normal Community West High</u>; \$1,430; <u>Pod-casts bring the World to Advanced Spanish Students</u> – Advanced Spanish students at BHS and NCWHS will bring the Spanish speaking world into the classroom via Pod-casts from the Internet.