



For Immediate Release

Stow Schools Foundation Awards Grants to Teachers Additional Grants Available for Graduating Seniors

STOW, OHIO—March 6, 2009—The Stow Schools Foundation recently awarded a total of \$5,700 to teachers for classroom grants and has budgeted an additional \$24,000 in student grants to be awarded this spring.

Teachers representing grades K-12 from several Stow-Munroe Falls School District buildings submitted project applications which included descriptions of how the requested funds would be used along with an explanation of how students would benefit beyond the current curriculum.

“We were trying to get the biggest bang for our buck for our children in grades K-12,” said Don Coughlin, Stow Schools Foundation chairman. “When considering the applications we looked at the number of students each grant would benefit.”

From foreign language teachers to librarians, the applying teachers submitted proposals with details indicating how their projects would be put to use to benefit students should they be awarded the grant request. Teachers representing Stow-Munroe Falls High School, Highland and Echo Hills Elementary Schools and Lakeview and Kimpton Middle Schools were among those who received the grants.

“Almost each of the applications indicated the multiplicity of classes and number of students the grant would benefit,” Coughlin explained. “It shows the teachers aren’t just looking out for their own classes, but also the students in the schools. The teachers highlighted that it wasn’t about ‘my class’ but about the kids and how the students could use the items requested.”

Some of the grants involved specialized text books, art supplies and maps for geography classes. From pattern blocks and T-shirts to chapter books and an LCD projector, more than 5,000 students stand to benefit from the teacher grants.

According to high school science teacher Mary Ruehr, Ph.D., “Receiving this grant to buy a projector means that I will have another teaching method to use in my classroom. This smart-board-like system should provide for more interactive instruction and should help keep my students engaged in the lesson,” she said.

Students have assisted with downloading software and trouble shooting problems with set up of the unique system which uses a Wii remote and individualized computer system. Ruehr, who plans to work at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation during the upcoming summer months, hopes to capture video footage of students working on research projects. “I'd like to put this video into my smart-board based lessons to use in my anatomy and physiology classes next fall,” she explained. “I hope that this will help show students a ‘real-world’ application of what they learn in class.”

Since its inception the Foundation has awarded scholarships to graduating seniors annually and mini-grants to teachers every other year. According to Coughlin, over \$24,000 is available for this year’s graduating senior class and will be awarded to students to assist with continuing education. Grant awards are based on need and can be applied toward technical schools, community colleges and public and private universities. Grant applications are available online at the Stow Schools Foundation Web site, www.smfcsd.org/foundation.html.

The Foundation began in 1985 with the purpose to help provide funds for programs which are not supported by public money. Support for the Foundation is through individual and corporate donations. For more information, visit www.smfcsd.org/foundation.html.

Stow Schools Foundation Awards Recipients

Applicant	School	Award
Carol Eiber/Tatiana Jordan	SMFHS	Digital Recorders
Lisa Heilmeier	SMFHS	World Geographical Maps
Gretchen Kaine	SMFHS	Mail Art
Kelly Lanci	SMFHS	Classic Graphic Novels
Mary Ruehr	SMFHS	LCD Projector
Michelle Surrena	SMFHS	Project Beautify Frames
Pamela Gillespie/Kirk Worcester	Lakeview	The City of Ember Literacy Set
Colleen Mahoney	Lakeview	LCD Projector
Diane Boyer	Kimpton	Character Counts T-shirts
Alissa Kruse	Highland	Pattern Blocks
Tiffany Collins	Echo Hills	Listening Station
Carrie Miller/Karen Barnes/ Marilyn Edwards	Echo Hills	Science-to-Go! States of Matter Presentation

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