




FOUNDATION FOR
BELMONT EDUCATION
• MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS •

November 23, 2009

To: Dr. George Entwistle 3rd, Superintendent of Schools

From: Lynne Doblin, Senior Vice President 

Subject: Learning Excellence Grant Awards, Cycle 1

The Foundation for Belmont Education is pleased to announce and summarize the awards granted to date for Cycle 1 of the 2009-10 academic year. We are grateful for both the continued interest of teachers and administrators in the Learning Excellence Grants Program, and for the great care taken in the preparation of applications for these awards. Both the number and quality of grant requests submitted in this cycle were especially high. For the first cycle, 14 Learning Excellence grants, totaling \$25,784, are hereby awarded.

Including these grants, the Foundation has awarded, since its inception in 1993, a total of 471 grants totaling \$1,900,818. You and your administrative and teaching colleagues have our gratitude for your stewardship of these funds. It is the Foundation for Belmont Education's pleasure to provide this well-deserved support to the Belmont Public Schools. We look forward to making many more grants to our schools in the coming years.

cc: Mr. Denis Fitzpatrick, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Ann Rittenburg, Chair, Belmont School Committee
Ms. Janet Carey, Principal, Winn Brook Elementary School
Ms. Christine Francis, Principal, Burbank Elementary School
Mr. Mike McAllister, Principal, Butler Elementary School
Ms. Amy Wagner, Principal, Wellington Elementary School
Ms. Deborah Alexander, Principal, Chenery Middle School
Mr. Michael Harvey, Principal, Belmont High School
Ms. Janice Darias, Director of Foreign Language
Mr. James Davis, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, and Student Activities
Mr. Steven Mazzola, Director of Technology
Mr. William Pappazisis, Director of Fine and Performing Arts
Ms. Lindsey Rinder, Director of English
Ms. Patricia Soliozy, Director of Mathematics
Mr. Larry Weathers, Director of Science, Health and Technology Education
Dr. Gerald Missal, Director of Finance and Administration
Ms. Donna Pini, Secretary to the Director
Ms. Laurie Slap, Treasurer, Foundation for Belmont Education
Ms. Lynne Polcari, President, Foundation for Belmont Education

Attachment

Foundation for Belmont Education
Cycle 1 - Learning Excellence Grants
Approved November 17, 2009

Applicant & School	Project Description	Approved
Karen Duff/Denis Fitzpatrick (CMS)	"Author in Residence Program: Mitali Perkins: Life Between Cultures," to engage the author to provide a series of assemblies, hands-on writing workshops and virtual discussion groups for students in grades 6-8 on writing and the creative process.	\$5,000
Christine Francis (Burbank)	"A Desk Design that Focuses the Mind," to purchase 12 stand-up desks for use in second, third and fourth grade classrooms at Burbank. Project is based on research that people of all ages benefit from movement to enhance brain activity, concentration and memory. Adjustable height desks are equipped with a swinging foot bar and a high stool, allowing children to sit, stand, shift their weight and swing their feet while they work.	\$4,898
Mike McAllister, Brian Bisceglia-Kane (Butler)	"Mobile LCD Carts," to purchase and equip two mobile LCD carts to add to Butler's current two LCD carts such that there is at least one per grade K-3. The goal of the project is to begin to address substantial unmet demand for classroom and instructional technology at Butler.	\$3,728
Janet Flaherty, Sarah McSweeney (Burbank)	"6 + 1 Writing and Language Arts Support Materials," to purchase language arts mentor texts for new elementary "6+1 Traits" writing program for use in the third and fourth grades at Burbank.	\$2,957
Faythe Beauchemin (Butler)	"Inquiry Groups: An Education for the 21st Century," registration fees and materials associated with sending up to 5 Butler 3 rd and 4 th grade teachers and/or specialists to a workshop on inquiry circles. Inquiry circles use student curiosity to drive learning via independent research and collaborative working groups.	\$1,605
Mike McAllister, Justin Chiu (Butler)	"Mobile Document Viewers," to purchase two document viewers to be added to existing mobile LCD carts at Butler. These devices allow teachers to display on digital projectors images of real-time demonstrations and experiments, books, moving or stationary 3-D objects, etc. in such a way that the whole class can see.	\$1,595
Heather Blake (Burbank)	"Burbank Organic Garden," to purchase labor and materials associated with creating a 16' by 16' school garden plot on the grounds at Burbank. To be used to enhance the K-4 curriculum in such areas as environmental science, nutrition and healthy eating habits.	\$1,000
Jess Selden (Wellington)	"Historical Perspectives Presents the Life of Helen Keller," to present a dramatic reenactment of the life of Helen Keller for students in the 3 rd grade at Wellington.	\$995