



Rockland Education Foundation

THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE PROGRAMS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH GRANTS OFFERED BY THE ROCKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION OVER THE PAST YEAR. OUR THANKS TO THE TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR PROPOSALS.

"You have brains in you head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..." Dr. Seuss, Oh, The Places You'll Go!



DR. SEUSS COULD HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO THE MANY PATHS THE STUDENTS AND STAFF OF THE ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS WOULD TAKE DURING THE 2011- 2012 SCHOOL YEAR. WITH THE HELP OF THE ROCKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION, GRANT RECIPIENTS GUIDED THEIR STUDENTS IN MANY DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS AND EXPOSED THEM TO EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITIES THIS PAST YEAR.

District-wide, students benefited from the computer programs "Brain Pop" and "Enchanted Learning" thanks to the efforts of *Marcia Adams, Lisa McNamara and Rachel Zalocha*. Specialists *Freea Leaby, Lawrie Donovan and Judith Scarpelli* worked towards "The Stress-Free Student" in Kindergarten-Grade 12.

All students in preschool through Grade 8 were "Eyeing for iPads" thanks to *Kristin Butler, Brenda Elfman, Ruth Ann LoSciuto, Erin O'Duggan, Paula Pelissier* and *Margaret Wagner*.



All Kindergarten through Grade 5 students were the recipients of many grant programs.

Special Education teachers *Erin O'Duggan* and *Jennifer Roback* introduced "News 2 You" and the "Unique Learning System," and they also received a grant for "iPad apps for Education." School psychologists *Emily Kidd* and *Lisa Whelan* "Integrated Technology Into Social Skills Instruction" and they, along with *Erin O'Duggan* and Special Education teacher *Meghan Byrne* used "Michelle Garcia Winner's Social Thinking" while working with their students in Kindergarten through Grade 5.

Jefferson School students were "Reaching for the Stars Through Reading" thanks to Grade 4 teacher *Jean Page*. Also at Jefferson School, *Marian Camirand* and *Wendy Savage-Caprio* were able to implement the program "Turn, Talk, Teach" to enhance their Grade 1 students' learning.

At the Esten School, Principal *Carol McGrath* invited a "Poet in Residence" to the school to work with fourth grade students. *Mrs. McGrath* also brought "Global Education" to those students in Grades 1-5 with the painting of a world map on the Esten School playground.

Kathleen Ferry, Grade 2 teacher, facilitated in-house field trips for her students. She brought the “Birds of Prey” and “Amphibians and Reptiles” to all second graders at Esten School via the Blue Hills Trailside Museum, and Grade 2 students also learned through hands-on demonstrations about “Fossils and Dinosaurs with Walter Schell.” **Mrs. Ferry** also received a grant for “Daily Literacy Tools,” which she again shared with all Esten School second graders. Teacher **Linda McFarland** provided “Reading Eggs by Study Island” to Grade 1 and EPASS students at Esten School, and Grade 4 teachers **Karen Duffey**, **Diane Hayes**, **Melinda Learning** and **Susan Wells** “Empowered Students Through Written Expression” as a result of their grant award.

Memorial Park students in Grades 2-5 participated in “Destination Imagination” thanks to **Michele Bissonnette**, **Richard Gattine** and **Ruth Ann LoSciuto**. **Maria Castagnozzi**, **Michele Bissonnette** and **Monica Babcock** received two grants to share with their second grade students. They “Enhanced Students’ Language Skills Through Word Study,” and “Explored Living Things Through Time.” Grade 2 and 3 students at Memorial Park were “Biting Into the Common Core” with the help of their teachers **Rachel Mack**, **Mary Wells**, **Karen Nee**, **Caitlin Carey**, **Monica Babcock**, **Maria Castagnozzi** and **Michele Bissonnette**. In Grade 4 they were “Transitioning to the Common Core” through the efforts of **Caitlin Oakley**, **Kerri Blake** and **Kelsey Cooley**. These teachers also provided for “Hands-On Science Materials” and were “Using Picture Books to Teach Comprehension Strategies” to their fourth grade students. Also at Memorial Park School, **Theresa Walsh**, **Patricia Fallon** and **Elizabeth Jagiela** bought “Books for All” to encourage reading in Grade 5 classrooms.

Rogers Middle School students in **Patricia Netto’s** class received “Transportation Training” with the help of her grant award.

At Rockland High School, **Steven Casagrande** taught math with the help of “iPads in the Classroom,” and **Amy Woodward** brought the works of William Shakespeare to life at a “Shakespeare Festival.”

Mr. John Retchless, Superintendent of Schools, was also presented with a grant to help implement additional programs for the Rockland Public Schools in the coming year.



THE ROCKLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THE ORGANIZATION AND MADE THESE GRANT AWARDS POSSIBLE. BUSINESS DONATIONS, CENTURY CLUB DONATIONS, AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ANNUAL GUS LORDI GOLF TOURNAMENT ALL PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THESE WONDERFUL PROGRAMS.

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