

FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TO TEACHERS

By Patricia A. Bickel

(Award Categories and Descriptions below photo)



The Cumberland County Public Schools Foundation held its annual Awards Banquet on Monday, May 12 at the Cumberland Elementary School Cafeteria. Pat Bickel, Foundation Board officer and Grant Committee Chairman, announced that the Grant Committee received ten (10) requests totaling \$8,000. The Foundation fully awarded all ten (10) Grants for the 2008– 2009 school year:

CUISINE FOR KIDS: Learning with Food, (Kindergarten), \$296.36 awarded to Cumberland Elementary School – Melissa Brandt

This grant will be used to purchase a Cuisine for Kids program to expose Kindergarten students to various types of learning styles via the preparation of food and to enhance a literature and SOL-based curriculum. The use of this teaching methodology will expose students to many new experiences– following directions, asking questions, counting, adding and subtracting, investigating and understanding the five senses. For instances, the popping of popcorn will explore the five senses, as well as the science of why popcorn pops and estimating how much popcorn is in a jar. Making Johnny Cakes will explore Native American culture supported by the book “Journey Cake, Ho!

DVDs to VHS TAPES, (Grades K – 5), \$75.00 awarded to Cumberland Elementary School – Melissa Brandt

VHS tapes will be replaced by 200 educational DVDs so that elementary school students may view DVDs that cover many SOLs in history, science, oral language, reading, writing and math. Offering diverse methods of learning will instill a love of school by making learning fun and memorable.

CENTERED ON SUCCESS, (Grade 2), \$998.83 awarded to Cumberland Elementary School – Stephanie Hammond & Laurie Shelton

This learning-center concept will help struggling second grade students by incorporating multiple intelligences and differentiated instructional needs. Students are given hands-on independent practices to reinforce concepts that may be confusing. Rotations through the learning centers allow time for teachers to provide one-on-one remediation to develop and master basic skills

STUDY ISLAND TEST PREPARATION PROGRAM (Grades 6 - 8), \$1,346.00 awarded to Cumberland Middle School Science Department – Judy Chambliss

Grant funds will purchase a web-based, self-paced program to help students master SOL Science content as a part of classroom rotations or as remediation tools. To address the different learning styles, students may choose between traditional tests or interactive games as their learning method. Students interact with thousands of ever changing questions causing the student to learn the concepts, not just memorize the answers. The program provides automatic e-mail feedback (or real-time report card) to teachers as well as parents with internet access. Cost includes site license and on-site training.

THE POWER OF POWERPOINT (Grades K – 12), \$209.65 awarded to Cumberland Middle Schools History Department – Carrington Light

The Science Department will purchase this program so that PowerPoint presentations may be accessible for use by all history classes as an instructional/review vehicle to enhance knowledge of the history curriculum. Presentations may be edited by teachers or students to align with current SOL objectives. Each presentation offers speaker notes, photographs, audio and video clips, student activities and maps on United States history topics from contact until present-day. In addition, learning to assemble more effective PPT presentations will prepare students for Senior Project.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN! (Grades K – 12), \$74.85 awarded to Cumberland Middle Schools History Department – Carrington Light

This grant will fund the purchase of technology where classrooms work in cooperative learning groups to reach a shared goal – driving down the field as teams successfully answer questions on United States history from contact until present-day. This technological learning experience appeals to different grade levels and supports Marzano’s learning strategies.

DIGITAL CAMERAS for CROSS CURRICULUM (Grades 9 – 12), \$1,187.88 awarded to Cumberland High Schools English Department – Claudia Blauvelt & Rebecca Doroshenko

Purchased cameras will be integrated into the 9-12 English curriculums and will facilitate the use of “the wheel” model of classroom instructional design. Cameras will be used for the production of student-edited newspaper to provide opportunities to develop writing skills, Senior Project to catalog intern experiences, – all of which will meet SOLs for English. Other goals include improving vocabulary, addressing teen issues through writing, developing cultural awareness, building self-esteem as writers, increasing writing proficiency and expression and incorporating technology. In addition, experiencing real-life writing would introduce a career involving writing.

SUSTAINED SILENT READING (Grades 9 – 12), \$1,139.08 awarded to Cumberland High School English Department – Claudia Blauvelt & Rebecca Doroshenko

This grant will fund the purchase of high-interest books to engage students in silent reading. The book collection will include novels, biographies, poetry, drama and non-fiction. Selections will be cross-curricular and multicultural, building comprehension skills and using vocabulary that prepares students to take the SATs. Some selections will have audio versions to meet the needs of all students. This project will be

integrated into the English curriculum, facilitate “the Wheel” model of classroom design and meet SOL English requirements.

ART EXHIBIT DISPLAY (Grades K – 12), \$1,200.00 awarded to Cumberland High School Art Department – Janice Stanley

Art exhibit display materials will be purchased to allow for the presentation of K-12 student art throughout the school year. Students become motivated and empowered by seeing their artwork displayed and the utilization of specialized mechanics will present student artwork in a profession manner.

GERIATRIC MANNEQUIN (Grades 9 – 12), \$1,472.43 awarded to Cumberland High School Health Occupations and Nurse Aide Department – Deborah Guyer

A Geriatric Mannequin will be purchased to prepare health occupations and nurse aide students for a career in healthcare. A patient care mannequin that actually resembles a geriatric patient will provide hands-on opportunities for realistic patient positioning, will simulate over 35 nursing and medical procedures, replicate physical changes in the male or female geriatric patient and may serve as a model during CPR and First Aid Training. The mannequin may be used by the Art department as a model, Biology for anatomy and physiology, or English/Drama as a character.

The Foundation Grant Committee includes: Chip Jones (Elementary School Principal/Foundation Board), Mark Mabey (Middle School Principal), Wendy Lyle-Jones (High School Principal), Van Petty (Foundation member) and Pat Bickel (Committee Chairman/Foundation Officer). The Committee wishes to thank the teachers who submitted remarkable and innovate grant requests. Each reflected the desire to bring quality educational tools into the classroom to motivate the students to learn and excel.

PICTURE:

Front row left to right: Melissa Brandt – Cuisine for Kids and DVD tapes, Cumberland Elementary School; Stephanie Hammond and Laurie Shelton – Centered on Success, Cumberland Elementary School; Judy Chambliss – Study Island Test Prep Program, Cumberland Middle School Science Department.

Back row left to right: John Brandt accepting for Carrington Light – The Power of Power Point and Let the Games Begin, Cumberland Middle School History Department; Claudia Blauvelt – Digital Cameras for Cross Curriculum and Sustained Silent Reading – Cumberland High School English Department; Deborah Guyer – Geriatric Mannequin, Cumberland High School Health Occupations and Nurse Aid Department; Janice Stanley – Art Exhibit Display, Cumberland High School Art Department; Rebecca Doroshenko, Cumberland High School English Department.