

Cumberland County Public Schools Foundation, Inc.
2013 – 2014 Grant Awards

The Cumberland County Public Schools Foundation received twenty Grant applications from the elementary, middle and high school teachers totaling \$21,747.36. Proceeds raised from the 2012 Walk for Education fundraiser totaling \$6,560.97 were available for distribution. In May 2013, the Foundation awarded Grants totaling \$3,703.00 to three elementary school teachers, two Grants totaling \$1,609.00 to middle school teachers/administrators and Grants totaling \$1,248.97 to five high school teachers.



Elementary School Grants totaling **\$3,703** were distributed to the following:

Reading Resource Room Development –Amanda Stoltzfus (CES/K-4 – Reading Specialist) - \$1,990.00. Reading has taken on the focus of a guided reading model as opposed to direct instruction. Moreover, teachers are beginning to use their guided reading groups to provide instruction tiered to student learning needs. These changes, as well as the new state mandated reading specialist position in the elementary school, provide significant need for the school to have a resource room for teachers to have access to materials to provide appropriate differentiated instruction for readers in all areas. Without leveled texts and learning aids, teachers will not have access to differentiated materials, especially when their readers are within a spectrum outside of the grade level they are currently in. This project will provide resources for teachers across multiple teaching levels to provide appropriate instructional text for their small group instruction, whereas any given grade level has readers across different reading levels - high or low.

Pictured: Elementary School: Left to right – Nicole Driggs (CES/K-4-Speech), Stephanie Baldwin (CES/K-4-Math & Science), Amanda Stoltzfus (CES/K-4-Reading Specialist)

Social Skills Builder –Nicole Driggs (CES/K-4 – Speech) - \$833.00. The educational goal of this project is to give children in the elementary school setting a strong foundation in social skills. With Autism becoming more and more prevalent, the need to teach social skills to children in a very concrete and visual format is growing. Social skills are the foundation of all our interactions, and regardless of how academically “smart” children are, without social skills their academic knowledge can only take them so far. Positive social skills will help to elevate the overall social climate in the classroom, thereby making teaching more effective. This project focuses on career and college access by giving our students the ability to interact with others appropriately. This will allow our students to market themselves to colleges, universities, and employers. These skills will also help our children to network with others and lead healthy, productive lives. Social skills are a huge part of the skillset necessary to become successful 21st Century learners. The materials provided through this grant will help to facilitate effective oral and written communication, collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving, accessing and analyzing information, curiosity and imagination, entrepreneurialism and initiative, and agility and adaptability (Wagner’s Critical Skills for the 21st Century Learner). All these skills will give our students the necessary resources to become active, successful, community members.

Aim for the Sky! - Stephanie Baldwin (CES/K-4-Math & Science) - \$880.00 (of \$1,759.95 requested). Students will become lifelong problem solvers using manipulatives to help them with a more hands on approach. In the world that we live in, technology is up and rising, and while the technology aspect is so important, the students need have access to all types of learning modules. The manipulatives will enhance their learning with kinesthetics and visual approaches. Students who have access to all learning modules are more life-long learners and prove to be more successful young adults. They will have the real world problem solving advantage over others because they will be exposed to different ways of seeing problems.

Middle School Grants totaling **\$1,609.00** were distributed to the following:

Middle Search Plus Database – Honor Zlewski (CMS/CHS Library) \$799.00. The educational goals of this project are to provide middle school students with online full-text periodicals, biographies, and historical essays, as well as primary source documents in American History. This subscription also includes Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia, American Heritage Dictionary, The Encyclopedia of Animals, and an image collection of photos, maps, and flags. This project will enhance the online learning experiences of students. Not only will it provide ample and sufficient opportunities for research, but it also provides reading for pleasure. Students will become more efficient users of information as well as more proficient at actually accessing this information. The more access students have to electronic resources, the more proficient they will become at using these resources in their college life as well as career and personal life.



Pictured: Charles Motter (CMS/5-8 Assistant Principal), Honor Zlewski (CMS/CHS 5-12 Librarian)

NBC Learn in the Classroom – Charles Motter (CMS) \$810 (of \$2,160 requested). The educational goals of this project are to: 1) support multiple grade levels and curriculums through enriching, real-world content. Subject areas such as Career and Technical education, STEM materials, History, and Language Arts artifacts are represented within the rich content of the NBC Libraries. 2. Make real world content more readily available to staff so that they can include these examples into their lessons. 3. Better enable students to make connections between what they are studying and what is happening outside of the school. By keeping students abreast of the most up to date content available, students can make informed decisions based on events that they can go outside and witness in the here and now. These are the opportunities which will hopefully lead to students having a more well-rounded and fuller vision of the world around them.



Pictured: Left to right: Margaret Korrow, Judith Mosby, Catherine Fleischman, Janice Stanley and Joan Tique.

High School Grants totaling **\$1,248.97** were distributed to the following:

Literacy Design Module – Judith Mosby (CHS English) \$135.00. The larger goal is to teach students to analyze the archetypal hero's journey in literature so that he or she will know how to become the hero of his or her own story. The student will read, comprehend, and analyze literary texts of different cultures and eras to: a) Identify main and supporting ideas. b) Make predictions, draw inferences, and connect prior knowledge to support reading comprehension. c) Explain similarities and differences of techniques and literary forms represented in the literature of different cultures and eras. d) Analyze the cultural or social function of literature. e) Identify universal themes prevalent in the literature of different cultures f) Examine a literary selection from several critical perspectives.

Drawing Models – Janice Stanley (CHS/CMS Fine Arts) \$256.33. Students will develop drawing skills using manikins as a reference for proportions. Students will establish accurate anatomy proportions which may be used in art careers involving figure drawing. (fashion design, animation, portrait artist, illustrator) Students will use the manikins to introduce proportion in figure drawing. The human, hands and animal manikins can be used for assignments throughout the school year.

Chemistry Laboratory – Joan Tique (CHS Science) - \$212.14. The goal of this project is to make students familiar with the use of scientific calculators in answering Chemistry problems. Students are aimed to get familiar with the equipment specifically the calculators that they will use during their SOL. This project focuses on

career and college access through their knowledge of the use of technology. Students should be well rounded in terms of the use of technology to get them ready for real world.

Human Body: I Did Not Know That – Margaret Korrow (CHS Science) \$280.50. Our nursing program is one of the best in our school. This project will support what the students are learning in the nursing program: Understand the importance and be able to use sterile techniques in nursing; analyze how each body system is intertwined with all other systems; evaluate results and discuss possible problems with each problem shown; report results with accuracy and show where possible errors could occur in real life settings; support the nursing program. This project focuses on the Human Body anatomy and physiology. Physiology is the part of this course that is so very hard to understand without hands on projects. Each Item listed will teach them lab techniques and information about a specific human body system.

Bird ID and Outdoor Classroom – Catherine Fleischman (CHS Special Education) \$365.00. The educational goals of this project are to Include project based learning initiatives by participating in the citizen science Cornell lab curriculum. This will also provide students with curriculum to promote ASOL science investigation standards. We will also help maintain, utilize and enhance the outdoor classroom. The students will gain employment skills when filling in data using on line questionnaires.

The Foundation's goal in awarding Grants to Cumberland County public school teachers since 2001 is to allow teachers and administrators to use funds to support new, improved and/or creative educational opportunities for students. All Grant requests must focus on academic, career/college prep. Projects must be integrated into the curriculum and may be shared by more than one classroom/school. Each project awarded must have the potential to be ongoing and/or have long-term effects.