



SOUTHBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANTS 2015-2016

Stimulating Mathematical Learning

Paul P. Calnan and Caroline Flynn, **Algonquin Regional High School \$625.76**

An iPad Air 2 will be purchased for use in a co-taught Integrated Math II/Integrated Math II CP/sophomores, Algebra II/juniors and Algebra I/freshman classes. This iPad Air 2 will facilitate different learning styles in the classroom. It will allow the teacher freedom of movement to write on the board from anywhere in the classroom and enable lesson plans from the board to be stored and printed out for student class notes. The iPad would also allow for the sharing of student work with the teacher. The use of the iPad will stimulate visual learning and mathematical verbal learning skills for all academic levels of students.

Cafeteria Space Mural

Michelle Sheppard, **Algonquin Regional High School \$2093.77**

Students in the Algonquin National Art Honor Society Chapter will work with a professional mural artist to brainstorm, plan and paint a large-scale mural that reflects the identity, diversity and accomplishments of Algonquin students. This collaborative mural created in a prominent area of the school, such as the cafeteria, would portray the diverse talents, passions, interests and backgrounds of the student body while also providing aesthetic improvement to the school and visual pleasure for the students.

Vernier Melt Station for Chemical Identification

Catherine Burchat, **Algonquin Regional High School \$1931.48**

A Vernier Melt Station will be purchased for use in several Algonquin chemistry courses including: first year Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and AP Chemistry. Chemical compound identification and purity can be determined by accurately measuring melting points. This can be done for compounds with melting points below 100°C using a water-based system, but in order to determine melting points higher than 100°C, special equipment is required. The Vernier Melt Station can determine melting points up to 260°C. Students at all levels of the chemistry curriculum will learn by experience that physical properties, such as melting point, can identify compounds and indicate the level of purity of that substance.

Enhanced Circuit Labs for Physics

Nathan Largesse and Kevin Hausman, **Algonquin Regional High School \$1378.00**

The Algonquin Physics department was awarded a class set of breadboards and multi-meters that will be used to increase the depth of students' learning about circuit structure and relationships. This experience with breadboards and multi-meters will provide all students with much needed technical and logical hands-on experience and better prepare those students who go on to study AP Physics, Physics at the college level, or any engineering field which almost always incorporates a basic level of electrical engineering lab experience.

Learn to Code

Audrey Alenson, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$3055.00**

"Learn to Code" is a program designed to introduce Trottier middle school students to the exciting field of computer programming. Trottier will receive 10 Chromebooks that will be used in an 8th grade computer coding elective class. Students will use the online tools, *Codecademy* and *Scratch*, to experience such hands-on projects as making an interactive website, working with HTML and JavaScript, and creating computer animations and games. Learning computer coding will increase the students' fluency with computational creativity and computational thinking so they can draw on these concepts across disciplines and in all aspects of their lives.

Create Cooperate Communicate

The Margaret Neary School Faculty, **Margaret Neary School \$7132.87**

This grant will encourage students to create, cooperate, and communicate while learning by opening the doors to computer science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). ***WeDo STEM Legos, Dash and Dot Robots, and Spark Digital Microphones*** will be purchased and utilized to introduce the Neary Students to robotics and coding while integrating core subjects, developing interpersonal skills, and strengthening each student's oral presentation skills. Computer science education teaches students to think critically, use logic to plan complex tasks, communicate their

thinking in a clear coherent manner, write codes to solve problems, and organize, make sense and communicate data that is gathered. STEM activities have been found to increase student engagement by transforming a teacher-centered classroom to a student-centered one. Problem solving, discovery, and exploratory learning drive a STEM lesson. Using the digital microphones, students will then be able to articulate their thoughts and ideas orally for all to hear. Bringing ***WeDo Legos, Dash and Dot, and Spark Digital Microphones*** into the curriculum at Neary can help foster lessons incorporating communication, STEM and computer science theories into the classrooms.

Activities to Improve Executive Function

Gwen Robison, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$687.67**

The ultimate goal of this project is to improve students' executive function skills to facilitate their development toward capable, independent learners. This project will provide direct instruction and related activities for students related to executive function skills such as mental flexibility, working memory, organization and categorization, attention, concentration and self-control and monitoring. Student and teacher awareness of executive function skills will increase as it becomes embedded throughout their school day.

Board of Health, NEVER Bored of Health

Mary Ellen Duggan, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$1561.23**

This grant will provide Woodward with the resources to create a comprehensive health curriculum and in doing so, enhance the students' overall health literacy and wellness. Frames will be installed around the school that will hold a weekly flyer focusing on health and wellness topics. In addition, lesson plans for 10 different health topics have been created and will be presented over a two-year cycle during students' enrichment lessons. "Board of Health, NEVER Bored of Health" supports the basic premise that children need to learn to be healthy and be healthy to learn!

Calm as a Cucumber

Cathy Wilson and Jocelyn Bossart, **Mary Finn School \$1688.14**

The goal of this grant is to teach students to use positive communication habits to share their feelings, learn how to work through positive and upset feelings, and allow them to express emotions in a positive manner. The Mary Finn School has been awarded 13 Kimochi Cloud™ materials that will provide tangible tools to assist students with problem-solving, apologizing, and forgiveness. Kimochi Cloud™ can be incorporated into Finn School's Social Thinking and Zones of Regulation curriculum, as well as their Open Circle units. The social emotional learning provided by Kimochi Cloud™ will have a positive impact on school climate and promote academic, social, and emotional benefits for students.

Stand Up for Learning

Ann Thurber and Nicole McMahon, **Mary Finn School \$5982.00**

The Finn School has been awarded 30 AlphaBetter Student Work Stations, which are standing work stations. Research has shown that standing work stations have been found to increase stamina for learning and improve classroom management. It is believed that children are not getting enough movement throughout the day. A standing work station with a movement bar at a student's feet allows students to fidget their feet and body, helping them to focus. Standing work stations have been shown to be an effective tool to provide children with opportunities to move while doing their work throughout the day. This will result in the children's increased ability to pay attention and fewer disruptive behaviors.

Lights, Camera, Action

James Randell, **Mary Finn School \$3000**

The Southborough Education Foundation (SEF) will partially fund a more than \$13,000 project to install a new projector and screen into the cafeteria of the Mary Finn School. The Finn cafeteria is the space used for all major events at the school including whole school and CARE assemblies as well as professional development and faculty meetings. The addition of a new projector and screen will greatly enhance the meeting space at the Finn School.

F.I.T.: Future is Technology

Tiffany Goode, Tom McCabe, Melissa Nash, Stephen Felo, Ann-Marie Angus, and John Donovan, **Finn, Woodward, Neary and Trottier Schools - \$2400**

Each of the four Southborough elementary school Physical Education Departments will receive a FitnessGram 10 program. This computer program will enable the physical education teachers to both assess and track their students' health and fitness and they move throughout the schools within Southborough. The FitnessGram program allows students' fitness levels to be tested by conducting a variety of age appropriate assessments. The results of the assessments are entered into the database and that information can be shared with the students at the end of the year.

The FitnessGram program will allow the students to gauge their own fitness levels as well as monitor their progress from year to year and thus track their fitness levels as they grow.

MINI GRANTS 2015-2016

High School Green Screen Projects

Julie Doyle, **Algonquin Regional High School - \$499.00**

Green screen technology allows students to be transported to another location or time virtually. Students in a variety of classes have been using a new green screen at Algonquin to create videos for various class assignments. Videos have been made for such diverse subjects as U.S. History, Chemistry and Spanish Language. Students have been excited about the production of these videos and the use of the green screen will only continue to grow. The Padcaster Bundle was awarded to Algonquin to improve upon the current filming process. The Padcaster Bundle is a multifunctional iPad case with a wide variety of uses and attachments that can turn an iPad into an all-in-one production tool.

Trottier Family Cookbook

Lauren B. Infantino, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School - \$100.00**

This grant has been awarded to Trottier to allow for the printing of a cookbook that has been 7 years in the making. Family & Consumer Science teacher, Lauren Infantino, is retiring after teaching Culinary Arts at Trottier for 7 years. During that time she has compiled a treasure of tried and true, kitchen tested and child friendly recipes. Her students have spent countless hours compiling the recipes and editing the pages of this cookbook. This mini grant will provide the funding to print hard copies of the book to give to Trottier's 8th grade graduates who have spent 3 years in the school's test kitchens developing the recipes. A copy of the cookbook will also be available for downloading on the school website.

Neary School Store

Nicole Boloz, **Margaret Neary School - \$451.37**

This grant will provide Neary with the cabinet and cabinet dolly that it needs to open a brand new school store. The cabinet will have clear, acrylic doors and will be placed in the Neary dining room. Students will help to operate the store and will be responsible for inventory, sales and recommendations for new items. In addition, students will be able to use their "high 5 awards", which are awarded in recognition for displaying the CARE value of the month, to purchase items in the store. The funds raised by the store will go toward replenishing items for store and a portion of the earnings will go toward purchasing something for the school that would be decided upon by the students during the school year.

SOUTHBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANTS 2014-2015

Gas Chromatography in High School Science Classrooms

Christine Thompson, **Algonquin Regional High School \$6,348.00**

A state of the art Vernier Gas Chromatograph (GC) Mini will be purchased for use in several Algonquin science classes including: Biotechnology, AP Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, Forensics and a future Organic Chemistry elective. The GC Mini from Vernier, Inc. would analyze vapors to determine substance composition introducing students to higher-level separation techniques. The equipment is a portable instrument for the separation, analysis and identification of substances contained in a volatile liquid or gaseous sample. The introduction of these advanced separation techniques will better prepare Algonquin science students for college-level laboratory classes and beyond since GC analysis is used in many facets of society.

Improving Student Social/Emotional Learning Through Technology

Courtney Balacco, **Algonquin Regional High School \$2,610.00**

iPad Minis were awarded to the RISE program at Algonquin to provide students with a familiar and accessible tool for improving access to therapeutic intervention and support within their academic and therapeutic program. The RISE (Reaching Individualized Success Educationally) program is a substantially separate special education program for students diagnosed with an emotional disability. Most of the students enrolled in the RISE program struggle with severe levels of anxiety, depression, and other overwhelming emotional difficulties that prevent them from attending academic courses successfully without intensified support. The iPads will be loaded with applications designed to improve students' social/emotional learning and well-being. The devices will be utilized in individual counseling sessions, structured group activities and integrated into students' daily academic routine within the RISE program to support them in both academic, social and therapeutic learning.

Beyond Home Row

Rebecca Harvey, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$2,010.00**

Beyond Home Row is a program to help students learn to type with proper finger placement so that it becomes second nature to touch-type without looking at their fingers on the keyboards. 56 LessonBoard color-coded keyboards and 56 LessonBoard key covers were awarded to the Trottier Technology Department. The LessonBoard keyboard is color-coded by finger layout to show correct finger placement and reduce the formation of bad keyboarding habits. In addition to helping students achieve the Middle School state standards for typing, the development of proficient keyboarding skills will enable students to concentrate more on their assignments and work at hand and less on the mechanics of typing.

Click-it: The Ticket to Success

Rebecca Harvey, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$1,140.00**

This grant will introduce the use of a wireless Student Response System (SRS) as an instructional aid at Trottier. A Student Response System is a wireless response system that allows teachers to ask questions and for students to respond using a handheld "clicker" which sends their information to a receiver. Giving students the ability to respond to teachers instantly and privately allows teachers to see immediately how a student comprehends the material being taught. Since student responses are private, teachers can clarify instruction without calling attention to particular students who are having problems with lessons. The ability of the SRS to help the teacher conduct classroom surveys with instantly viewable answers and formative assessments of the material being taught will promote student engagement in the classroom.

Ms. Murdock's Morning Meeting

Kristin Theve and Kelly Farrell on behalf of entire Neary staff, **Margaret Neary Elementary School \$8,962.00**

To honor retiring Principal Linda Murdock and carry on one of her innovations, Neary School has been awarded a new sound system, a fixed projection screen and vinyl artwork for the gym wall. Following Principal Murdock's retirement, Neary School will continue conducting a whole-school morning meeting on a weekly basis. This meeting, held first thing on Monday morning in the school gym and implemented by Principal Murdock sets the tone for the week, includes all students and staff and provides an opportunity for students to be spotlighted. It encourages positive interactions between students and includes everyone in a safe, warm environment. The addition of the new sound system, projection screen and artwork, will greatly enhance the morning meeting experience for Neary students.

Spell

Mary Ellen Shields and Kathy Curran, **Margaret Neary Elementary School \$2,489.00**

An innovative approach to spelling instruction will be introduced in the 4th and 5th grade that uses more cognitive techniques rather than rote memorization. In order to implement this program, Neary will purchase “Words their Way”, a developmental spelling, phonics and vocabulary resource, and the web-based fluency program, “Read Naturally”. This grant will enable students to become more proficient readers and writers by improving their fluency and comprehension. They will then be able to apply and transfer their fluency and spelling skills into all reading and writing across their entire curriculum.

Facts on our Backs

Allison Garand, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$2,023.00**

Backpacks filled with engaging math games and activities will be created for 2nd grade students to borrow to practice their math facts at home. The addition and subtraction activities in the backpacks will be done to supplement the written math facts work that is already being done. Seven different sets of 5 bags will be created for a total of total of 35 bags. Each of the seven 2nd grade classrooms would be given a different set of 5 bags each month. During the month, the bags will be rotated among the children in the classroom. This program will provide a fun way for students to practice their math facts and make learning them more exciting and engaging.

Natural Learners – Outdoor Classroom

Lori Winer, Allison Garand, and Lisa Goulet on behalf of all 2nd and 3rd grade teachers, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$14,000.00**

An Outdoor Classroom will be constructed at the Woodward School. The Natural Learners grant is a project designed to provide the students at the Woodward School with opportunities to learn about and explore nature-related scientific concepts (such as weather, plant growth, pollination, force, and matter), as part of a specifically designed outdoor classroom environment. Typically, students study concepts related to the natural world around them while sitting in indoor classrooms. This project will greatly enhance the 2nd and 3rd grade science curricula by providing the students many opportunities to study and learn about nature-related topics through a teacher-created program that takes place in an authentic outdoor classroom. The classroom itself will be constructed by a professional landscaper and consist of bleacher-style seating for the students and a stone walkway with a designated presentation area for the teacher. The area adjacent to the classroom is spacious enough to allow for many hands-on learning activities such as growing and studying plants.

Getting in the Zone!

Cathy Wilson, **The Mary Finn School \$2,000.00**

The Mary Finn School will receive funding for a variety of tools to be used in their Zones of Regulation curriculum. The purpose of this curriculum is to help children recognize their emotional state, identify when they are emotionally dysregulated, and choose strategies to assist them with calming down when they are dysregulated. The goal of this grant is to assist students with the fundamental skill of emotional regulation and to help them learn the skills and strategies to do so independently. These skills are necessary precursors to learning. The tools that will be purchased with this funding include, but are not limited to, noise buffering headsets, weighted blankets, exercise balls, theraputty, relaxation bottles and fidget toys. These calming tools will provide the students with something tangible that they can use to regulate themselves as they learn to independently regulate their emotions.

Social Thinking Book Chats

Cathy Wilson, **The Mary Finn School \$1,877.00**

A library of books that relate directly to the social thinking concepts taught to students at the Mary Finn School has been awarded. The School Psychologist and the Speech and Language Pathologist will utilize these books as they provide direct teaching of social thinking concepts in small groups as well as large group classroom lessons. During these lessons key social thinking concepts will be introduced, a book related to the concept will be read, and a book chat will take place to address that particular area of social thinking. Social awareness impacts the development of social skills as well as a child’s ability to fully participate in curriculum that requires social thinking, such as reading comprehension.

MINI GRANTS 2014-2015

Efficient Delivery of the High Chemistry Curriculum Using Apple TV

Kenneth Wieder, **Algonquin Regional High School \$495.00**

Five (5) Apple TV units, one for each chemistry teacher at Algonquin, will be purchased to enhance the mode of chemistry curriculum delivery to the students. Apple TVs facilitate the connection of Apple products such as iPads, iPhones, and Mac computers to video viewing devices such as televisions and overhead projectors. Content can be wirelessly streamed from iPads or iPhones to the classroom projector, which makes them very useful where wiring other required electronic equipment is not convenient or possible. The wireless functionality would allow the teacher to move around the room with the iPad in hand while projecting what is on the iPad screen onto the overhead projector. Lecture videos available on iTunes U can be presented to the class using the Apple TVs. In addition, students can use the Apple TV to present their homework or classwork and to make PowerPoint or Prezi presentations.

Keep Our Cameras Running

Rebecca Harvey, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School -\$204.00**

The Trottier technology department recently received a grant for the purchase of 28 high-resolution digital cameras to be used by students for projects and reports in all of their subject areas. This grant provides for the purchase of a full set of rechargeable batteries for these cameras to avoid the constant expense of replacing disposable batteries. Furthermore, not having to wait for the purchase of new batteries will allow teachers to always have access to the cameras, not only when they "have good batteries".

Power Down to Upload

Rebecca Harvey, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$224.00**

To both conserve battery life of the technology department's digital cameras and to make uploads from the cameras to the computers much less complicated, a set of 28 SD card readers has been awarded to Trottier Middle School. SD card readers are self-powered by the computer and require no additional steps to upload photos other than inserting the SD Card reader into the computer. An SD card reader will be attached by a strap to each camera so that no matter which computer was being used, it could always instantly access the camera's photos.

SOUTHBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANTS 2013-2014

1:1 iPads in the Physics Classroom

Dan Welty, **Algonquin Regional High School \$7,665.90**

iPads, Apps and iPad accessories will be purchased for use in the Physics classroom at Algonquin Regional High School. 1:1 iPads (one iPad for each physics student) will facilitate a “flipped classroom” approach where students complete lower order thinking skills at home such as reading and note taking and progress toward the higher order thinking skills such as applying, analyzing, evaluating and creating in the classroom. Students can use various iPad Apps to create content such as explaining the solution to a physics problem using a digital whiteboard or producing a video to explain a physics concept. The iPad will provide the students with a great opportunity to delve deeper into the course content and support the higher order thinking skills in the classroom.

Electronics at Algonquin

Ken Wadman, **Algonquin Regional High School \$720.00**

12 BK Precision 2704C multimeters with the ability to measure capacitance were awarded to Algonquin Regional High School. These multimeters will allow the study of electricity and magnetism in a “hands on” manner at both the College Preparatory and Advanced Placement level Engineering and Physics classes. They will enable the addition of a lab component to the study of electrical circuits not commonly studied in high school physics courses. The Science Olympiad team, which was started in 2011, will also use the multimeters during their competitions.

Cardio Fitness Conditioning

Jean Fedak, **Algonquin Regional High School \$1,498.50**

Algonquin was awarded 15 Cardio Training Gloves and 15 Cardio Mitts for use in fitness conditioning elective courses. These pieces of equipment, that are usually only found in privately owned fitness facilities, provide an intense boxing-style workout. This addition to the physical education program will increase student interest and motivation and provide opportunities for students to learn a contemporary physical exercise.

Trottier School Garden

Shannon Souaibou, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$2,711.00**

The Trottier School Garden will provide a great resource as an outdoor classroom for Science classes at all grade levels. The outdoor garden will be maintained by the Trottier Garden Club and will provide students the opportunity to learn more about where their food comes from and about sustainability. It will be used in the 7th grade study of the plant kingdom, the 6th and 8th grade study of soil and compost formation and the garden would support the environmental learning that happens in the 6th grade at the Stone Environmental School. The Family and Consumer Science classes will be able to use the produce from the garden in their cooking classes.

Blackboard

Sandy Scordato, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$2,100.00**

This grant will implement Blackboard Collaborate as a pilot program at Trottier. Blackboard Collaborate is an online platform that creates a virtual classroom with many technological features and functionalities that are important to 21st Century teaching and learning but are not readily available in most K-12 schools. The platform would be utilized to provide students with support and access to learning opportunities in and out of the classroom enabling students to become more engaged and involved in their coursework. Blackboard Collaborate makes possible webinars, two-way audio and video sessions, use of voice threading for audio feedback on projects and assessments, online assessments, class based podcasts, project collaboration, lesson recordings aided by the use of interactive whiteboard demonstrations and online class discussions.

Digital Learning

Karen Fisher, **Margaret Neary Elementary School \$5,739.75**

In order to integrate the use of technology into all subject areas, The Neary School was awarded site licenses to both *Big Universe* and *Evan Moor School Portal* to be used for classwork and homework. *Big Universe* is an online library where students can read and create digital books in all subject areas. The *Evan Moor* license will allow access to the following titles: Daily Language Review, Daily Paragraph Edit, Language Fundamentals, Building Spelling Skills, Daily Reading Comprehension and Daily Math Word Problems. By using *Evan Moor*, teachers can personalize learning and give feedback to students on their progress.

I Like to Move it Move it

Allysun Stephen-Kenney, **The Mary Finn School \$2,145.00**

Preschool-appropriate outdoor play equipment and storage shed will be purchased for the courtyard at the Finn School. The equipment purchased with this grant will increase movement and exploratory play outside the walls of the integrated preschool classroom.

Climbing Wall

Thomas McCabe, **The Mary Finn School \$4,108.87**

A traverse climbing wall was awarded to the Finn School for use in Physical Education classes. Climbing improves physical skills (strength, balance coordination), interpersonal skills (communication, teamwork, conflict resolution) and cognitive skills (planning, decision-making, resolution). Traverse climbing allows students to climb horizontally rather than vertically while still getting the same benefits.

Enhancing Our Understanding of English Language Learners

Barbara Johnson, Katie Nordman, Lisa Guccione, Jennifer Matthews, Rhoda Webb, **Finn, Woodward, Neary and Trottier \$762.26**

This grant will benefit the more than 120 linguistically and culturally diverse students in our Southborough K-8 school community. Research based materials will be purchased and made available to all teachers at each of the four Southborough schools to help the staff develop an understanding of specific schooling traditions, practices, circumstances and expectations that influence students as they move to our country. The resources will also provide teachers with explanations of the important features of the students' home languages compared to English as well as provide practical strategies for assessment and intervention to better guide the students in their acquisition of the English language.

MINI GRANTS 2013-2014

Learning To Learn

Alisa Bernat, Jessica Anderson, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$499.00**

Ten Tutoring Enrichment guides and Ten Parent Homework kits were awarded to Trottier to initiate a pilot program that will improve the study skills of middle school students. Many students arrive in middle school with poor organization skills and little idea of how to study. Bright students can often get by without these skills in the younger grades but begin to suffer academically in 6th, 7th and 8th grade when the demands of schoolwork dramatically increase. This grant will provide a program for 10 students and their parents to work on improving these critical skills.

Creating "Social Thinkers"

Jennie Bogaert, Diane Georger, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$451.86**

A new 6-8 week Social Thinking Curriculum will be implemented into each classroom at the Woodward School on a rotating basis. This curriculum will facilitate inclusion of students with social skill deficits by bringing social thinking language to the classroom. Posters, books and videos are among the resources that will be purchased for this project.

iPads for Young Adult Space of Southborough Public Library

Michael Piekarz, Jane Cain, Naomi Magnoni, **Southborough Public Library \$500.00**

An iPad was awarded to the Southborough Public Library Young Adult Space for use by Trottier and Algonquin students. The iPad will be used recreational and educational purposes. It will increase the appeal of the new "teen space" at the library and will ultimately be loaded with educational apps used by middle school and high school students.

SOUTHBOROUGH EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANTS 2012-2013

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) and Bioinformatics in the High School Classroom: Wolbachia Investigation

Christine Thompson, **Algonquin Regional High School \$4,200.00**

A FotoDyne Transilluminator Digital Camera and reagents for DNA manipulation experiments were awarded to Algonquin Regional High School for use in the Biotechnology Classes. This equipment will be used as part of the Wolbachia Investigation, a laboratory investigation initiated at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole. Students will be looking to find insects infected with Wolbachia, a prokaryotic parasitic species. During this investigation, students will use many of the biotechnology skills they have learned including DNA extraction, PCR and gel electrophoresis. This real world inquiry investigates the problem of insect Wolbachia infection. It connects inquiry-based learning with real world issues, biotechnology and entomology.

Wireless Microphone for Public Speaking Course

Maura Morrison, Katie Salt, **Algonquin Regional High School \$529.99**

A wireless microphone was awarded to Algonquin Regional High School for use in a team-taught, cross-disciplinary public speaking course. Public Speaking students will have the chance to learn how to use a microphone and become comfortable speaking in front of an audience. The wireless microphone will allow students to take their communication skills to a higher level.

Senior Survival Course: Healthy Eating , Healthy Weight

Susan Halpin, **Algonquin Regional High School \$5,000.00**

iPADs and pedometers will be purchased for a course that focuses on healthy, independent post-high school living. The course will focus on understanding calories, energy expenditure, the effects of drinking alcohol on weight and diet, eating well on a budget, dorm room cooking, fast food nutrition, eating disorders and food safety and sanitation.

iPADs for ASSISTments Math Program

Palmina Griffin, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$16,000.00**

Trottier was awarded a total of 30 iPADs to be used by the ASSISTments program in math classes. The ASSISTments system is a web-based assessment platform that derives its name from blending tutoring "assistance" with "assessment" reporting to teachers. This program which is run through Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), will allow student data to drive teachers' decisions regarding instruction in the math classroom. The use of iPADs will provide students with immediate feedback as they proceed through their math problems and allow this tutoring program to be used on a daily basis.

Magic With Marimbas

Carolyn Alzapiedi, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$3,900.00**

A bass marimba, a baritone marimba and 2 global beat tomor xylophones will be purchased for the Trottier music department. Marimba music provides upbeat, energetic, active music to the students and is accessible to students of mixed abilities. These instruments will be used in the general music classroom for 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Eventually, an after school xylophone performance group would be started.

E-Books in the Middle School

Audrey Alenson, Lynne Maynard, **P. Brent Trottier Middle School \$1,188.00**

Twelve Nook Simple Touch e-readers will be purchased for the Trottier library. The Nooks will be available for students to sign out and will also be used by an after school book club. E-readers are helpful for students who have learning disabilities, particularly dyslexia, and may interest more students in reading for pleasure.

iLearn, iLove, iPAD :)

Patricia A. Lally, Mary Ellen Shields, Vicky Gardula, Joy Head, Dave Stubbart, David Finneran, Lisa Wagoner, Kristin Theve, **Margaret Neary Elementary School \$2,800.00**

The Neary School was awarded 7 iPADs to be used across the curriculum in both 4th and 5th grade classrooms. These iPADs will enhance the literacy program during Daily 5 and CAFÉ as well as provide a unique opportunity to access e-books containing multimedia to bring the curriculum to life. Using the iPADs, students will be able to create books and videos. iPADs also help to address multiple math learning styles through the use of Math Apps.

Unlocking Problem Solving

Karyn Fisher, Amy Brewis, Amy Dolan, Kelly Farrell, David Finneran, Kathleen Lord, Stephanie Paolini, Kristin Theve, **Margaret Neary Elementary School \$4,855.97**

The Math program in all 4th grade classrooms will be revised to improve students' problem solving skills. The 4th grade teachers were awarded an interactive software program called *Go Solve Word Problems*, a grade level subscription to IXL, non-fiction math readers and other hands-on materials. Using interactive boards and *Go Solve Word Problems*, teachers will engage the students in an enjoyable, kinesthetic and visual way while teaching math problem solving skills.

Band iPad Project

Stephen Curtis, **Margaret Neary Elementary School \$682.00**

An iPad was awarded to the Neary School music department. GarageBand on the iPad will be used to record music lessons and the school chorus, orchestra and band concerts. An accurate recording gives students immediate feedback and is excellent motivation to encourage students to practice more and learn their songs better.

iWrite – Celebrating Students Writing

Amy Benford, Jill Henebury, Kelly Lehane, Katie Nordman, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$2,100.00**

Woodward students will use iPads to create authentic and meaningful writing pieces, which can then be shared electronically with audiences both within and beyond the classroom. Using the iPad and Book Creator App, students can write with a versatile word processor, create illustrations and use digital photography to create a dynamic narrative that can be shared electronically. Having already received 20 iPads through the technology department, SEF awarded 25 Book Creator Apps and 5 additional iPads to create a complete classroom set that will be shared among all 2nd and 3rd grade classes.

OWWWLs - "Owl" Wake Up and Workout at Woodward Without Limits

Tiffany Goode and Mary Ellen Duggan, **Albert S. Woodward Memorial School \$481.76**

Woodward was awarded funding to purchase fitness iPad apps and awards and incentives for a year-long 45 minute exercise program that will be offered twice weekly before school. The program will incorporate technology and motivational techniques to help students embrace new physical activities and improve their overall well-being. A themed fun run or walk will take place 5 times throughout the year and will include certificates and incentives for participants.

Listen While You Read

Barbara Johnson, Nicole McMahon, Lisa Guccione, **Finn, Woodward and Neary \$1,003.00**

Forty-eight specially recorded audiobooks have been awarded to Finn, Woodward and Neary elementary schools to improve literacy skills for English Language Learners (ELLs). The audiobooks are recorded at a special pace and phrasing using a successful method developed by Dr. Marie Carbo. Timely pauses and good expression in the recordings help students to increase word retention and comprehension.