A NEWSLETTER
CREATED TO KEEP
OUR COMMUNITY
UPDATED ON
RECENTLY AWARDED
GRANTS

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# BROKFIELD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

#### Winter 2015

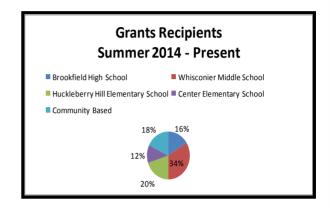
Dear Friends and Neighbors,

What an incredible year for the Brookfield Education Foundation! Thanks to your generous support, the BEF provided over \$47,000 in funding for eleven grants enriching education throughout the entire Brookfield community. While amazing in their diversity and scope, all adhere to our mission to marshal and provide resources for lifelong learning by Brookfield residents of all ages.

The Brookfield Education Foundation extends its most sincere gratitude to everyone who has made these programs a reality... from our very generous contributors to those who envisioned and brought these projects to life. We are truly a reflection of a community invested in and giving back to itself!

Best wishes, Colette Sturm, President

#### Thanks to our generous contributors!



#### **Brookfield CARES Hope & Support Group**

Brookfield CARES was awarded a major grant to support the start up costs for the professional facilitation for its *Hope and Support Group*. This is a newly formed support group for the parents, grandparents and caregivers of adolescents and young adults struggling with addiction and other risky behaviors. The goal of the group is to offer weekly meetings of support, education and resources to help caregivers help their children uncover paths to treatment and ongoing recovery .





#### Recently Awarded Grants - Over \$47,000 Granted!

Positive Discipline in Schools Making Music Come Alive Book Search Kiosk Tablets for Moby Max Video Equipment for Schools Peaceful Playgrounds World Drumming Brookfield CARES Fit Club Confessions of a Bully Online Personal Finance Brookfield Public Schools
Huckleberry Hill Elementary School
Whisconier Middle School
Christian Life Academy
Brookfield Public Schools
Center Elementary School
Whisconier Middle School
Brookfield Cares
Huckleberry Hill Elementary School
Whisconier Middle School
Brookfield High School

## Playgrounds play nice!

Grant champion and music teacher Lynn Orzolek was awarded a BEF major grant to fund a program spread across all of Center Elementary School. Volunteers, teachers and high school students painted the playground! Peaceful Playgrounds allows children to play cooperatively in an outside unstructured environment. It empowers children and teaches them to work together in the classroom as well. Peaceful Playgrounds will foster interpersonal dynamics, and bring a sense of shared experience to all those that play. And it's fun!



#### **Book Search Kiosks**

Students at Whisconier Middle School will find searching for books at the school library easier, thanks to a BEF mini grant funding a dedicated book search area. Championed by 21st Century Skills teacher Sue Crean, the project both facilitates students' access to the online catalog and allows them to post their own reviews of book selections.

#### **Tablets for Moby Max**

A mini grant is introducing Moby Max's comprehensive learning system to Brookfield's Christian Life Academy through the funding of seven Moby Max tablets. Championed by Principal Joan Freeman, the project will assist in both intervention for students requiring supplemental instruction in literacy and math, and enrichment for those needing a greater challenge in the classroom.

#### Fit Club

A major grant is helping kids at Huckleberry Hill Elementary School stay fit and physically active! Grant champion and PE teacher Matthew Cudney introduced The Fit Club, a morning exercise program designed to increase students cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, & flexibility.

#### Confessions of a Bully

A major grant is enabling Whisconier Middle School teachers to proactively teach students about bullying. This topic of growing concern has evolved from discussions with teachers, students, guidance counselors and health educators. This is especially important for the WMS fifth-graders as they transition into Middle School.

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#### **Video Program for Brookfield Schools**

A major grant championed by Technology Specialist Stephen Clark will allow Brookfield students the opportunity to develop knowledge and ideas into clear, logical presentations with the provision of video equipment at all four public schools. This project works in tandem with an existing state grant to provide high quality video streaming service and all equipment necessary to produce live and recorded video, improving communication between the schools' community of learners, the Brookfield community, and the world.

#### Positive Discipline in Schools & Classrooms

A Brookfield Education Foundation major grant funded a program that trained 38 Special Education teachers and related service staff from Brookfield High School and Whisconier Middle School. Participants attended two training sessions in June and the fall of 2014 in Positive Discipline in the School and Classroom. These trained staff are the resources for the General Education teachers to utilize Positive Discipline techniques throughout the two schools. Positive Discipline has been established in the community. Establishing the program within the schools gives a consistency to the relationships developed within the home, school and

#### **Making Music Come Alive**

Grant champion and music teacher Margaret Fitzgerald was awarded a BEF major grant to fund a program spread across the music departments of Center Elementary School, Huckleberry Hill Elementary and Whisconier Middle School. The Music Department will receive funding allowing them to record and playback student performances in music classrooms throughout the district. Through this technology, students will be able to evaluate their performance and gain insight and immediate feedback to improving their skills. The grant will also allow the Brookfield Public School Music Department to share the wonderful talent of BPS students with the community through the district website and Channel 17.

#### **World Drumming**

Whisconier Middle School and music teacher, Leah Grace, was awarded a major grant that will enable students to gain a new perspective on how music impacts children from around the world. Music is a universal language and had the power to unite a classroom and an entire community.

#### **Online Personal Finance**

Brookfield High School and grant champion Sue Troupe was awarded a major grant to fund the first ever online learning course at BHS. The class will prepare students in grades 9-12 for life skills required after graduation. This online course offering will build vital money management and budgeting skills.