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

# BROKFIELD EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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# February 2012

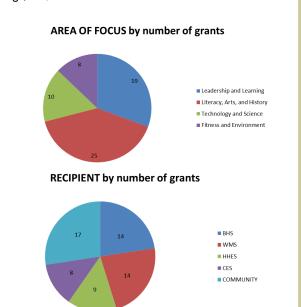
Dear Friends and Neighbors,

What an amazing year for the Brookfield Education Foundation! Thanks to your generous support, the BEF provided funding for nine grants within the Brookfield community. While incredibly diverse in scope and breadth, all adhere to our mission to marshal and provide resources for lifelong learning by Brookfield residents of all ages. We are indebted to our contributors, who continue to empower innovative education!

Best Wishes.

Colette Sturm, President

Thanks to our generous contributors, the Brookfield Education Foundation has, over the past eight years, awarded 62 grants totaling \$125,216.



## **Recently Awarded Grants**

Unified Theater
School Store
Sharps and Flats
The Writing Center
The Tina Meier Story
Race to Nowhere
Kindergarten iPad Program
Iditarod Dog Race Adventure
One School-One Book

Whisconier Middle School
Brookfield High School
Brookfield Senior Center
Brookfield High School
Brookfield ACTS, Inc.
Brookfield PTO / Brookfield ACTS
Brookfield Center School
The Brookfield Library
Brookfield Center School

# **Unified Theater**

A major grant awarded to Whisconier Middle School will allow for the implementation of "Unified Theater", a national program that teaches leadership and inclusion through the arts. Championed by paraprofessional Julie Oakley, this project will involve students of all abilities working together to write and produce their own show, fostering an atmosphere of both creativity and tolerance.

### **Sharps and Flats**

A mini-grant from the Brookfield Education Foundation has provided funding for the Brookfield Senior Center's "Sharps and Flats" musical group. Under the direction of Sharps and Flats coordinator Rita Zullo-Lubin, this innovative group looks to enhance music education and appreciation for the entire community.



# **Brookfield High School Store**

Brookfield High School is the recipient of a Brookfield Education Foundation major grant for the creation of a school store. Championed by Marketing Teacher Teresa Brooks, this funding will allow business and marketing students the opportunity to apply knowledge and content to situations outside the classroom. Through real-life experience, students will gain valuable skills in problem solving, idea creation, leadership, teamwork, and professionalism, better preparing them for college and beyond

### **Iditarod Dog Race Adventure**

The Brookfield Library has received a mini-grant to fund a presentation by columnist, oral historian and three-time Iditarod participant Karen Land. Championed by Assistant Library Director Katherine Van Leeuwen, this program explored the history of the Iditarod Dog Race, as well as the culture and geography of Alaska. Appearing with her sled dog, Borage, Karen Land spoke of how man and dog, with cooperation and teamwork, can survive in extreme conditions.

### The Tina Meier Story

The Brookfield ACTS Inc. has received a mini-grant for "The Tina Meier Story". Championed by members Angela Haselwood and Gary Gramling, this program featured presentations to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders of Whisconier Middle School by nationally recognized speaker Tina Meier about the issues surrounding, and results of, bullying and cyberbullying. Workshops were additionally offered to parents, community members, and WMS staff.

# **Brookfield High School Writing Center**

A major grant by the BEF has been awarded for the creation of the Brookfield High School Writing Center. Championed by BHS teachers Michael Smith, Erin Dillon,

Liz Spencer, Trish O'Connor, and Carol Zinser, this project allows individualized one-on-one instruction to BHS students by trained peer-tutors, helping to promote writing skills as a key aspect of students' success. Funding provides for all technology and materials required to support this valuable literary resource.



### One School-One Book

Center Elementary School was the recipient of a major grant for the One School-One Book Program. Under the leadership of CES Principal Carrie Kilian and Curriculum Specialist Krys Salon, this literacy initiative brought the entire school community together around the presentation of several different cultural versions of the story "Cinderella". Using a blended curriculum of literacy, art, music and theater, the program promoted text comprehension, increased awareness of cultural diversity, and involved students, teachers, and families alike in a community literary experience.

### Kindergarten iPad Program

Students at Center Elementary School are combining learning with technology thanks to a BEF major grant funding iPads to a kindergarten classroom. Championed by teacher Michele Tuck, this program uses a myriad of applications to work on literacy and numeracy skills, allowing the students to learn attitudes and skills which are a vital foundation for later years.

### The Race to Nowhere Presentation

The Brookfield Education Foundation has awarded a major grant to a joint venture of the Brookfield PTO and Brookfield ACTS Inc. for "The Race to Nowhere", a documentary exploring the burgeoning stressors on students, educators, and parents. Under the leadership of Brookfield parent and PTO member Jacqueline Ondrey, this program encompassed both a community-wide screening and a facilitated panel discussion on the documentary and its implications.