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Westerly Education **Endowment Fund**



AN ENDOWMENT AT THE RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION











Our Mission

The mission of The Westerly Education Endowment Fund is to help meet funding gaps so the educational needs of our children are met to the fullest extent possible.

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President's Message

The Westerly Education Endowment Fund (WEEF) continues to grow and expand. In order to continue this growth, the Board is currently developing a long-range plan that incorporates events, fundraising, directed giving, alumni and capital campaigns. We hope you can see from this brochure what a positive impact you are having on children's lives through your generous donations. We know these are difficult economic times, but we appreciate any donation to help our students - the future of our community! Thank you for your past support and feel free to contact us with any suggestions you may have. Sincerely,

Philip Friend WEEF President

Projects Funded in 2008 – 2009

The 22 projects funded in 2008-2009 total \$17,293. These projects not only enhance students' abilities in such traditional areas as reading, writing and math, but also include music, technology and life skills.

Experiential Learning Program/Field Trips: An experiential learning program including field trips to the Town Beach, Watch Hill Carousel, and Mystic Aquarium, with complementary reading assignments for students with special needs

Musica Dolce: Provides two programs with soloists and storyteller in the 14th annual music in schools programs at the Westerly Middle School.

Boston Field Trip: A fifth grade field trip to Boston to complement a Social Studies curriculum on the American Revolution.

I Have a Dream College: Exposes fifth grade students to the college environment, giving them an image to associate with the word. Students will visit the University of Rhode Island for a day and interact with students and faculty.

Salmon in the Classroom: Works in conjunction with the DEM to raise Atlantic Salmon and re-supply them in an area water supply. This project will also support the inclusion of a reading across curriculum component.

MP3-Audio Books: This grant is for the purchase of five MP3 audio players for special needs students to listen to phrasing and pronunciation while reading.

Photography Supplies: This grant is to fund photography supplies to assist in visual documentation or visual images in class projects.

Rooster Games: This grant is earmarked to support the "Rooster Games," an annual event that creates teams of fifth grade students from different elementary schools to find answers to questions based on reading materials they have covered during the year.

Reading Buddy Program: Connects fifth grade students as mentors with younger students, particularly those with special needs.

Father Involvement: This grant is earmarked for the Families Learning Together program, focusing on parenting skills for fathers to improve communication and interact with the child on a host of issues.





Project Oceanography: Enhances ocean literacy through the purchase of equipment for joint oceanography field trips for grades 6 and 8 with University of Rhode Island students.

Learning Down by the Sea: Provides an extended summer and fall learning experience for at risk students that includes a summer take home package of reading, writing and math activities, a week long beach camp, and fall after school program.

Caring for Myself: Provides books to students that focus on health care issues for girls and young women.

WMS Drama Club: This grant is earmarked for Westerly Middle School's drama club to purchase props and costumes for upcoming performances.

Experiential Learning: Supports field trips and experiential learning projects for students with special needs.

Growing Green Minds: A school-wide science initiative to create mini-ecosystems and vegetable garden beds on school grounds.

Colonial Life: Supports "Colonial Life" project to fund reading materials to enhance teaching and learning about the American Revolutionary War period.

Math Lab Classroom: Funds a Math Classroom: and a professional development opportunity for teaching staff, support staff, parents, students, administrators and other community members to increase their understanding of mathematics.

History Teaching Resources: A grant to purchase sets of book to teach the history of Westerly and Rhode Island and bring in speakers to the classroom to discuss local history.

Alternative Career Education: A Ropes Course program to challenge and improve social skills and self esteem for ACE students, directed at students with learning and behavioral disabilities.

Outdoor Adventure Learning: Improves social skills and resiliency of at risk youth through outdoor adventure and experiential learning. Working as a team, students with special needs will encounter physical and academic challenges that they will have to work together to solve.



