



Port Washington
Education
Foundation

Grant Awards October 2003

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We are pleased to announce that thirteen grant applications have been approved for full or partial funding by the PWEF. We received a broad range of interesting and worthwhile applications and our choices reflect that diversity. The PWEF greatly appreciates the efforts of the school district, especially those of Dr. Geoffrey Gordon and Mrs. Emma Fraser Pendleton and all the principals, in helping to encourage so many applications.

Overview:

- 13 projects found to be worthy of grants
 - \$20,329 recommended funding
 - Type of grant: Little Dipper (\$350 and under) – 2 grants, Big Dipper (over \$350) – 11 grants
 - Grade level awards:
High School-6, Middle School-2*, Elementary-5*, Pre-K-1
- *One project covers kids in grades 4 – 6

Details of Awarded Grants:

Parent Resource Center Scholarship Program **\$1,880**
Julie Harnick, Parent Resource Center Executive Director, Pre-Kindergarten
This grant will enable the PRC to bring approximately eight at-risk families with young children to the PRC to participate in courses at reduced or no fee with the goal of helping with kindergarten readiness. These families are not currently served by the Outreach program.

KidsPort Creative Writing **\$350**
Marlene Selig, Executive Director, Port Washington Children's Center, Grades 4 – 6
A high-speed printer/copier will greatly expand the year-old creative writing program for the oldest group (30 children) served by KidsPort, a school-age childcare program for children in grades K – 6 run by the Children's Center, a quality childcare facility. With the use of a printer, this program can help retain and expand skills learned in school year round.

Linking Our Past to Our Present **\$587**
Kate Herz, Library Media Specialist, Schreiber High School
This oral history project will compare Port's history with their own history for 12 Schreiber ELL (English Language Learners) students, 30 of their family members and five community volunteers. Results will reach the entire Schreiber community and will also be posted on PortNet. Elly Shodell, the oral historian from the Port Washington Public Library, will provide guidance and two Schreiber teachers, Eric Begun (Social Studies) and Sandra Decker (ELL) will also be involved.

Early American Life **\$1,300**

Joan Brinkhuis, Barbara Bongiorno, Jane Tafarella, Joel Belser, Lourdes Mergler, Tessa Jordan, Fourth and Fifth Grade Teachers, Manorhaven Elementary School

120 Manorhaven 4th & 5th graders will visit Benner Farm to participate in a hands-on program at this working 18th-century Long Island farm. This program will not only enhance their 6-week study of colonial times but will also give in-depth awareness of their Long Island heritage.

Building Mathematical Literacy: Workshops for Parents **\$2,169**

Heather O'Shea and Chris Natale, Math Resource Teachers, Daly, Guggenheim, Manorhaven and Sousa Elementary Schools

Three mixed-grade (k-1, 2-3, 4-5) workshops for parents will be held at each elementary school to provide information about the changing face of mathematics and to offer ways to support kids at home in meeting math goals. Translators and babysitters will be provided at each school. Each workshop will be open to 40-50 people.

H.E.R.O. – Hands Eager to Reach Out **\$1,600**

Liza Nettleton and Kim Rosenbaum, 6th Grade Home and Careers and ELL Teachers, Weber Middle School

This after-school club for 15 6th-grade ELL students is designed to promote a stronger connection between home, school and the community through linked literacy and home economics lessons.

Theater/Drama Residency **\$2,500**

Dr. Linda Welles, Principal, Manorhaven Elementary School

Manorhaven's 2003-04 special theme is using drama & theater to merge arts with literature and writing. This project expands that theme with workshops for 150 3rd and 4th graders to develop and author their own plays, and one teacher workshop. Several Manorhaven teachers attended a BOCES theater program this summer and this project will enhance their training.

Health and Wellness/Cardio Kickboxing **\$2,783**

Robin Cooper, Physical Education Teacher, Schreiber High School

Cardio Kickboxing will be offered as part of the new phys ed "course strands" focusing on teaching lifetime skills. This program addresses physical fitness and will serve the entire Schreiber community. The Phys Ed Department will maintain all equipment.

Bringing Yoga into the Classroom **\$2,500**

Ronni Aronow, Yoga Instructor

Certified YogaKids instructor, former Daly teacher and Port resident Ronni Aronow will teach four 30-minute yoga sessions for up to 10 classes at Daly and Sousa elementary schools. This program's goal is to teach children how to relax, concentrate & focus as well as to increase strength, flexibility & coordination. A workshop for teachers will also be offered at both schools.



A Visit with Mel Glenn **\$250**

Mary Seligman, Library Media Staff, Schreiber High School

Award-winning young adult author and former NYC English teacher Mel Glenn writes novels specifically for teenagers that they can really relate to. Approximately 100 students will read Mr. Glenn's novels and participate in a discussion with him.

Writing Center Development Plan **\$750**

Evelina Zarkh, English Teacher, Schreiber High School

The PWEF is providing seed money to research and develop a working model and budget for a Writing Center at Schreiber that would then be proposed to the District.

Improving Time Management and Study Skills **\$2,250**

Site-Based Compact Committee, Schreiber High School

All freshmen will receive training in these important skills in small groups in their health classes. Conducted by consultant Dr. B. Loerinc Helft, these sessions will be interactive and are designed to positively modify behavior and therefore enhance academic success. There will also be faculty training sessions. This idea for this project is a direct outcome of results from a 2002 Schreiber student and faculty survey.

Workshops for Parents of At-risk 9th Graders **\$1,410**

Dr. Francis G. Banta, Principal, Schreiber High School

This program's goal is to assist the parents of at-risk students in developing strategies and behaviors to promote each student's success in high school. There will be eight 90-minute sessions. By offering this additional support, there is a greater chance to make a difference academically.

