



*Enhancing Educational Excellence  
Since 2000*



*Kindergarten STEM Kits*



*Walking Classroom*

# 2018 Annual Report



*Grow to Glow Concussion Awareness*

## **Innovation. Opportunity. Enrichment.**

---

For the past 18 years, the Maynard Education Foundation (MEF) has been dedicated to supporting new learning opportunities for Maynard Public School students and staff.

Over the years, MEF's grant program has expanded to include teacher, student, and administrator grants, but the purpose has remained the same: to enhance educational excellence in the Maynard Public Schools.

MEF grants have wide-ranging impact, from providing kindergarten students with reading tools to improving language and comprehension skills to piloting an archery program for middle school students. Funds helped introduce a new history curriculum to high school students, expanding their world view. They also allowed teachers the opportunity to attend cutting-edge conferences, igniting their passion for teaching and enhancing their professional learning.

### **MEF grants make a difference!**

MEF is grateful to the corporate sponsors, donors, and individuals whose support enabled MEF to fund over \$30,000 in grants during the 2017 – 2018 school year. Thanks to your generosity, the Foundation continues to build upon its history of funding new initiatives and having a positive impact in the Maynard educational community.

Fiona Nauseda  
President

## **Grant Programs**

---

The Maynard Education Foundation (MEF) funds proposals that bring innovative ideas to the Maynard Public Schools and provides opportunities for staff and students that are not typically covered by the district budget.

MEF awards three different types of grants:

**Teacher Grants:** for materials, resources, guest speakers, enrichment activities, conferences, and professional development opportunities.

**Student Grants:** for student-initiated and student-led projects focused on improving the Maynard Public Schools (MPS). The student grant recipient works in collaboration with a MPS educator or staff member.

**Leadership Grants:** for administrators seeking to make a difference throughout the school system.

## **Mission Statement**

The Maynard Education Foundation (MEF) is an independent, non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that uses its philanthropic contributions to enhance educational excellence in the Maynard Public Schools by funding ideas and projects which promote and celebrate academic rigor and achievement, excitement about learning, and innovation in instruction.

## **Board of Trustees**

---

Ms. Fiona Nauseda, President  
Ms. Mary S. Brannelly, Clerk  
Ms. Gretchen Herault, Treasurer  
Ms. Karen Aroian  
Ms. Lauren Sumiko Campion  
Mr. Joseph Cioni

Mr. Marc A. DeCastro  
Ms. Sandra Hinds  
Mr. Reggie Hobbs  
Ms. Mary Kay Landon  
Ms. Julie Snyder  
Ms. Jennifer Wayne

## 2017-2018 Grant Highlights

---

### Kindergarten STEM Kits – Green Meadow School

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) is driving the future of the world and becoming more and more prevalent in the classroom, yet many students still struggle with STEM topics. To better prepare Maynard students for the future, the Kindergarten team used grant funds to purchase STEM kits with hands-on activities in which students explore building, magnetism, motion, and buoyancy. The kits are a valuable resource that teachers will continue to use with future generations of Kindergarten students at Green Meadow.

### Walking Classroom – Fowler School

Thanks to a MEF grant, Fowler students are using The Walking Classroom, an award-winning program that provides students with an innovative way to get exercise without sacrificing instructional time. Through the program, students take a brisk 20-minute walk while listening to audio devices that are preloaded with 167 different kid-friendly, educational podcasts. Students return from the walks in better moods, more focused, and are more likely to engage in post-walk discussions. Lesson plans, online resources, and assessments help effectively implement the program into existing curriculum while simultaneously offering an alternative learning-style option. The materials will benefit a variety of student needs at Fowler Middle School for years to come.

### Maynard High School Student Grant Program – Maynard High School

“The MEF student grant program is a game changer for Senior Project,” says Senior Project Team Leader, Jean Labelle. MEF’s student grant program enables Maynard High School students to apply for funds for their Senior Project. Projects give Seniors an opportunity to gain skills and experience writing grants. It also enables students to think more creatively about their projects by turning ideas that require funds for equipment and resources into a reality. MEF’s grant program has funded a wide range of projects including robotic kits, virtual reality goggles, classroom supplies, a traveling aquarium exhibit, and opportunities for students to attend student government conferences — all of which would not have been possible without MEF’s support.

### Grow to Glow Concussion Awareness – Student Grant Program

Raising concussion awareness was the goal of one Maynard High School student, who used student grant funds to support multiple events including a walk-a-thon for student athletes and their families. Participants heard first-hand from a family whose son suffered from a serious concussion that impacted his ability to participate in sports and engage socially with family and friends. The event raised \$800 that was used to fund a presentation by the Cantu Concussion Center about the causes of concussion, warning signs, and preventive measures to 200 student athletes and their families at the Fall MHS Sports Information Night.

### Administrator Grant Program – Senior Project Luncheon

The High School Senior Project is a powerful, authentic assessment of student learning in Maynard which highlights our exemplary students and programs. Integral to these projects are the many business leaders and community members who support the program annually. To express appreciation and encourage new business and community involvement, an administrators’ grant helped fund the “Leading the Nation, Business and Community Senior Project Luncheon,” which became the culminating celebration for Maynard and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Leading the Nation Campaign Week; celebrating Maynard’s success and securing funding and implementation for future projects.

*“As the principal of Maynard High School for the past seven years, it is hard for me to adequately express how much the Maynard Education Foundation has meant to our school. MEF grants have facilitated staff training, helped support student projects in the arts and technology, contributed to materials to help build a positive school climate and culture, and allowed for the acquisition of curricular materials that greatly augment the work of every academic department. Simply put, the MEF is a tremendous ally of every student and teacher at Maynard High School.”*

Chuck Caragianes  
MHS Principal

*“For years we have had educators with solid suggestions for new enrichment projects—and enthusiastic students with boundless energy. Yet there were missing links: sometimes it was a set of books ... or special paints and artist brushes ... or a piece of new test equipment ... and on ... Thus we started the Maynard Education Fund to provide creative faculty members, each year, opportunities to obtain project grants to fund these “missing links.” Now, what used to be but a passing thought, has turned into exciting learning experiences—stretching well beyond even the best curriculums—for hundreds and hundreds of Maynard youth.*

Donald Kennedy  
Past Superintendent, Maynard  
Public Schools & Founder of MEF

# MEF by the numbers

Total # of Grants for 2018

22



Total # of Grants Since 2000

176



Total # of Student Grants for 2018

8

Total # of Student Grants Since 2000

32

Total \$ of Grants for 2018

\$24,999



Total \$ of Grants Since 2000

\$237,306



Total # of Staff Applying for Grants in 2018

40

Total # of Staff Applying for Grants Since 2000

258

Total # of Students Who Have Benefitted in 2018

13,677



Total # of Students Who Have Benefitted Since 2000

93,372



Total \$ Raised During the 2018 The Taste

\$10,187

