



*Enhancing Educational Excellence
Since 2000*



Fowler School



Maynard High School

Maynard Education Foundation's
2019
Annual
Report



Green Meadow Elementary School

Photos courtesy of Ann Stachowicz Photography



Letter from the President

The Maynard Education Foundation (MEF) is proud to be celebrating 20 years of enhancing educational excellence in the Maynard Public Schools!

Since its inception, MEF has funded more than \$240,000 in grants to teachers, administrators, and students in the areas of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics), ELA (English Language Arts), Physical Education, and Professional Development.

Each year, I am inspired by the teachers, students, and staff who apply for grants and turn their ideas into a reality in their classrooms. While the scope and size of the requests vary—all of the applicants share a common vision—making Maynard Public Schools a vibrant and engaging learning environment.

MEF's grant program is made possible because of generous support from corporate sponsors, individual donors, community members, and the Maynard Public Schools. Your investment makes a positive difference in the educational experience of current and future generations of students. Thank you!

MEF has long believed schools are the heart of our community. It is an honor to be part of an organization with such a long-standing history of celebrating innovative thinking and excitement about learning in the Maynard Public Schools.

In gratitude,
Fiona Nauseda

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 pilot programs, 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 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.

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2018-2019 Grant Highlights

LEGO Artist Leads School-Wide Creation

Green Meadow students worked collaboratively on a school-wide LEGO project run by instructor/brick artist Cody Wells. The “Snow Village Project” provided a unique way for students to learn design and building strategies from an expert brick artist, practice math skills, and improve their problem solving skills. Work from this LEGO project was displayed at the Maynard Library for the entire community to enjoy.

Students also participated in LEGO building activities connected to the library curriculum. Most recently, after reading the classic book *Where the Wild Things Are*, by Maurice Sendak, students worked collaboratively to construct a new and improved boat out of LEGOs for Max, the main character of the story.

“Students did an amazing job with this project, creating clever and innovative designs for Max to sail to ‘where the wild things are.’”

Sarah Paisner
Green Meadow Elementary School

Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion Through Literacy

When two Fowler teachers began discussing different ways to introduce culturally diverse literature to the school community, the idea of a “March Madness” Battle of the Books was born! In this “Battle” students started with 16 book titles—all of which promote diversity and inclusion.

Teachers read the books aloud to their students, after which students voted on what they liked best—narrowing down the list to their own favorite; debating and predicting the winner in the hallways as the battle went on! The winning book was *El Chupacabra* by Adam Rubin, a whimsical re-telling of the chupacabra folktale, written in a blend of English and Spanish.

“It was a fun way to introduce new, culturally diverse literature to our community of readers. Students were very involved following the results, which were posted weekly on the bracket wall. We would very much like to do it again!”

Maria Soler
Fowler School

Convention Attendance Support Speech and Communication Skills

Green Meadow’s Speech Language Pathologist used grant funds to attend the ASHA Convention for Speech Pathologists, enabling her to bring the latest research, tools, resources and techniques for teaching literacy and language skills back to the district.

As a result of attending the conference this teacher was also able to revamp and edit teaching and therapy materials to better serve Maynard’s diverse student population; collaborating with her teaching team and strengthening and developing IEPs based upon the most current literature.

“My students LOVE the new ideas and the new therapy activities! I am thinking ‘outside of the box’ and excited to collaborate with more educators at the Green Meadow School.”

Cheryl Feinstein
Green Meadow Elementary School

Maynard High School Broadcasting Gets a Boost

WAVM—the completely student-run radio and TV station at the High School—used grant funds to further their success in producing a more professional weekly newscast. Funds helped purchase much needed portable teleprompter stands, light kits, graphic software, subscriptions to courses and classes, and more.

“The entire school and Maynard community enjoys and anticipates watching our High School newscast—which is now in its fifth season! The community has been so impressed by the enhanced quality and professionalism of our school show, and our views and reach have never been higher. All of this is due to the equipment, props, sets, and software that have all been made possible due to grants and support from the MEF throughout the years.”

John Ogden
Maynard High School

Digital Frog Dissection Kit Broadens Science Classes

One Maynard High School student used her Senior Project to help provide a pathway for students not wanting to perform dissections on animals for ethical reasons or physical issues such as allergies. To solve this problem, this student used grant funds to purchase a “Digital Frog 2.5 Dissection CD Set;” opening the door for all students to learn the anatomy of animals through this innovative technology.

MEF by the numbers

Total # of Grants for 2019

23



Total # of Student Grants for 2019

7



Total # of Grants Since 2000

199

Total # of Student Grants Since 2010

39

Total \$ of Grants for 2019

\$17,639



Total \$ of Grants Since 2000

\$254,945



Total # of Staff Applying for Grants in 2019

27

Total # of Staff Applying for Grants Since 2000

285

Total # of Students Who Have Benefitted in 2019

11,615



Total # of Students Who Have Benefitted Since 2000

104,987



Total \$ Raised During the 2019 The Taste, MEF's Annual Fundraiser

\$11,856

"The Maynard Education Foundation has a tremendous impact on student and teacher success. I have seen students become more enthusiastic about school and engaged in lessons due to grants I have received. In math, students are able to "see" the relationship between temperature and time using graphing calculators and electronic temperature sensors in heating and cooling activities. Students have first hand experience building, operating, and programming with robots from Vex Robotics. Students ask "why" and "how" more than ever before because of how engaged they are. Situations like this happen year after year to many teachers because of the support of the MEF grant program. I am proud to be a grant recipient and supporter of the MEF."

Mark Sinopoli, Fowler and Maynard High School Teacher

