Foundation approaches $50,000 given to Gateway classrooms!

Huntington – The Gateway Education Foundation’s Board of Directors is pleased to announce the funding of four new projects totaling $2,230 through its Funds for Learning program.

Two applications from Littleville teachers were funded: a Family Math Night, submitted by Ginny Lee, will receive $985. Two family math nights (one for grades k-2, the other for 3-5) will be held at Littleville in March, with a goal of helping families learn math activities that they can use at home to help their child(ren) with math literacy. A second grant of $750 was awarded to teachers Gail Gingras and Margaret Petzold, to further support this year’s Pawsome Reading Challenge. This year’s school-wide reading challenge is enjoying widespread support. This grant will fund a second dog assembly, new books to give out, and other incentives (including this year’s very popular “dog tags” and charms) to reward students. An average of 130 students are reaching their reading goals each month this year!

Two applications from high school teachers were also funded. Choral Director Jeri Beauregard will receive $120 to pay for a WICKED Choral Workshop on Broadway, as part of a day in New York City for the music department in March. Choral students will be able to take part in a workshop put on by the cast of Wicked, before actually attending the matinee that afternoon. A second grant of $375 was awarded to the AP U. S. History Class of the high school, to purchase study guides/workbooks for this year’s AP test. This grant was submitted by teacher James Duggan and student Kilee Holmes.

All of the applications submitted this year were funded, thanks to the generous donations of staff, families, alumni and community members; successful fundraisers arranged by the Board; and a $4,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts.

Since the Gateway Education Foundation started raising and disbursing funds in 2012, it has awarded 76 projects totaling $47,390 to Gateway classrooms, schools and students!

Please support the Gateway Education Foundation by attending Gateway Night at the April 14 Springfield Thunderbirds game. Puck drops at 7:05 p.m. at the Mass Mutual Center. This is the final home game of their regular season and they will face arch rival Providence—so it promises to be a great game! Tickets for the game are $15, with a portion of each ticket going to the Gateway Education Foundation. Flyers for the game will be posted throughout the Hilltowns, and have a QR code that can be scanned with your smartphone to order tickets. Order forms are also going home in red folders (elementary schools) and will be available in the Gateway school offices as well as the security booth in the Gateway main entrance. Tickets may also be purchased from Katie Force at (413) 417-2296 or kforce@springfieldthunderbirds.com, but mention “Gateway Night” when you call to order.
Other ways to support GEF include registering on Amazon Smile before your next online order; the Amazon Foundation will donate a percentage of all orders made online to the Foundation. In addition, the Gateway Education Foundation will again be taking part in Valley Gives Day on May 1—a day of online generosity to non-profits in Western Massachusetts. Finally, donations may be made any time by mailing a check to the Gateway Education Foundation, 12 Littleville Rd., Huntington, MA 01050.

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*Photo: Littleville student Jackson Renaud got to meet and pet “Cooper”, handled by Jim Helms. Helms brought his program “Dog Pals” to an assembly in December to reward students who were completing their monthly reading as part of this year’s “Pawsome Reading Challenge”, sponsored by the Gateway Education Foundation.*