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December, 2022

Greetings

At Newton Schools Foundation, we continue to be in awe of the ways in which our community has shown up to support innovation in our schools. Last year, your generosity and optimism allowed us to fund **52 grants totaling \$191,000** which impacted students at every school in the district.

This year, we hope to build on the momentum of the last year, as we continue to provide meaningful support for programs and services that are having an immediate impact on students.

We want to share with you some of the tangible ways that your donations to NSF have made a difference by funding grants like these:

- **Fostering Lifelong Music Learning with the Ukulele** The Ukulele Project has engaged students with an accessible instrument and contemporary songs. Based on the pilot project funded by NSF, this program has now been implemented in all elementary schools.
- **Urban Improv: Rehearsal for Life** Implemented at Brown, Day, and Oak Hill Middle Schools, this program used improvisation to engage students and staff on preventing and addressing microaggressions.
- **New Media Communities** With funding from NSF, the New Media Communities team at Newton South purchased state of the art video camera equipment for students to create and produce professional and compelling stories on a wide range of issues. Not only has this project amplified the student voice, but it has given them valuable tools and increased confidence in their communication abilities as they move on to college or career.

Your support helps make these programs possible.

NSF's mission is to advance both excellence and equity in the Newton Public Schools by funding grants in three areas. These three pillars, and a sampling of recently funded projects, are described below.

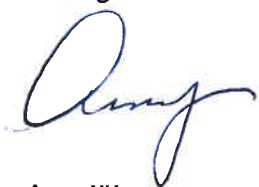
- **New Approaches in the Classroom**
 - **Math Challenge Boards** to assist in reaching the goal of 50% of all K-5 students submitting math challenge homework
 - **Digital Storytelling and Letter Recognition**, giving the same technology to all 1st and 2nd grades in all elementary schools
 - **Developing Global Curriculum**, an active learning curriculum, at Newton North
- **Professional Development for Teachers**
 - **Practical Trauma-Informed Strategies to Reduce Anxiety in Students** training program district wide
 - **Patterns of Power**, training on a new grammar program in all middle schools
 - **Enhancing Early Literacy Instruction by Incorporating New Research** training program for all elementary schools
- **Programs that Promote Equity for all Students**
 - **First Grade Social Justice Unit**, Underwood (pilot)
 - **Increasing Academic Access: Sensory Pathways**, multiple elementary and middle schools
 - Newton South's **Leadership for Social Justice** course, grades 10-12

Your gift to NSF's Annual Appeal is an important way to support the work of the Newton Public Schools. Grants from NSF allow educators to continue to strive towards the goals of excellence and equity in our schools.

We encourage you to make a gift, and to select the area that is most meaningful to you: new approaches in the classroom, professional development for teachers, or programs that promote equity for all students. You can also direct your gift to the area of greatest need.

We know that all of these areas are important for students, and we hope that you know your gifts are making a difference.

With gratitude,



Amy Werner
President, Board of Directors
Newton Schools Foundation

P.S. Make your year-end gift by returning the enclosed envelope with your check, by scanning the QR code on this letter or by visiting tinyurl.com/NSFDONATE. Thank you!

