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PRESS RELEASE

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North Kitsap Schools Foundation Awards Classroom Grants

North Kitsap Schools Foundation (NKSF) announced today the award of grants totaling \$4,387 to North Kitsap School District teachers and staff. Grant amounts ranged from \$150 to \$540. A grant evaluation committee of NKSF Board and community members evaluated the grant applications and selected 13 from 34 applications.

Grant recipients represent six of the seven elementary schools in the North Kitsap School District, and four of five secondary schools.

The intent of the NKSF Mini-Grant Program is to provide funding for innovative and creative learning opportunities unfunded by other means. These are the types of projects that teachers often fund partially or entirely out of their own pockets.

North Kitsap Schools Foundation is a non-profit organization established to promote and help fund the best possible learning opportunity for all students of the North Kitsap School District. As a community-based organization, the Foundation is independent of the North Kitsap School District. However, programs supported have the approval of the District, and are consistent with the curriculum objectives and mission of the North Kitsap School District.

NKSF welcomes donations and volunteers. You can find more information at www.nkschoolsfoundation.org.

The following projects were funded this year:

English Language Learner Newcomer Support Materials. NK School District English Language Learner (ELL) Program Coordinator, **Suzy Rau**, will purchase a new series of books for ELL teachers to use with the increasing number of non-English speaking high school age students arriving in North Kitsap Schools.

Culture Kit of Peru. Poulsbo Elementary School librarian, **Nancy Bale**, is assembling a "culture kit" containing materials that she purchased last summer in Peru. The kit will be available in the library for all grades. Funds will be used to reimburse her for her purchases.

Storypath – “The Struggle for Independence in Colonial Boston.” Vinland 5th grade teacher, **Deborah Kidder**, will purchase a Rand McNally Storypath kit that will be used by all 5th grade students in a four to six week role-playing unit where they will be confronted with historical events and cultural attitudes and practices that prevailed at the time of the American Revolution.

Guided Language Acquisition Design - G.L.A.D. To Do Science. The First Grade Teaching Team at Poulsbo Elementary, led by **Lisa Hawkins**, will purchase materials to build a unit to teach biological life cycles, using the G.L.A.D. method of teaching, which focuses on visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning.

Response to Intervention Program Supplemental Books. Poulsbo Elementary Learning Specialist, **Joyce Schultz**, will purchase a series of books from the Reading Recovery Program for her new reading intervention program, which seeks to accelerate the progress of struggling early readers.

Rosetta Stone Headphones. North Kitsap High School teacher, **Ann Almond**, will purchase headphones with built-in microphones to use with the Rosetta Stone software purchased by the English Language Learners program so that students will not interrupt others using adjacent computers.

Reading Comprehension Toolkit Bundle. Wolfle Elementary teachers, **Stephanie Pugh and Trang McGillivray** will purchase primary (K-2) and intermediate (3-5) level reading comprehension toolkits to use with their 1st and 5th grade students in a pilot program to improve their students' reading comprehension skills across the curriculum.

Pearson Rhythm In Drumming Ensemble (P.R.I.D.E.). Pearson Elementary music teacher, **Tamera Rabura**, will purchase four African style drums to be used by the newly formed P.R.I.D.E. group and in music classes.

English Language Learner Books for Middle School Readers. Poulsbo Middle School teacher, **Janet Kragen**, will purchase a set of books specifically intended to assist ELL students to improve their nonfiction/academic vocabulary and reading level.

Rolling Reader Program Books. Suquamish Elementary Rolling Reader Program Coordinator, **Terri Day**, will purchase books for the 76 students enrolled in their reading tutoring program. Adult volunteers and secondary school volunteers tutor Suquamish students year round.

Sports, Play, and Active Recreation for Kids (SPARK) Curriculum. **Robert Webb**, physical education teacher at Breidablik Elementary, will purchase this curriculum, which is specifically designed for kindergarten through second grade students. The curriculum includes nutrition instruction units which will enable the students to understand the relationship of nutrition to physical fitness and body composition.

Listen, Read, Learn Program Headphones. Poulsbo Elementary 1st grade teacher, **Carolyn Robinson**, will purchase headphones for all of the 1st grade classes to use in the school computer lab when they are using their Internet based curriculum, Listen, Read, Learn.

“Airliner” Wireless Computer Control Tablet. Kingston High math teacher, **Corey Burchill**, will purchase a hand-held wireless tablet that can be used from anywhere in the classroom to input material to be projected to the front of the room. It can be used by the teacher as he moves around the classroom or by students so that they do not have to go to the board at the front of the room.