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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Piscataway Education Foundation Awards Grants for Innovative Teaching

Eight Grants Awarded to Teachers Spanning Elementary School to High School

Piscataway, NJ, December 4, 2018 – The Piscataway Education Foundation (PEF) is pleased to announce the grant winners for its 2018-2019 Teacher Grant Program. This is the fourth year the PEF funded teacher grants through a competitive process. Grants are awarded for innovative teaching practices and non-traditional teaching methods

Eight grants were awarded to teachers in elementary school through high school. Curriculum areas included Literacy, STEM, Fine Arts, Music, Whole Arts Learning, Media Literacy and Wellness.

“We’ve seen tremendous successes in this grant program,” noted Dr. Frank Ranelli, Assistant Superintendent of Schools. “Some of our most successful grants act as pilot programs within our schools. We’re grateful for the funding from the Piscataway Education Foundation that allows our teachers to implement some very creative ideas for teaching and learning.”

The following teachers and programs will be funded by PEF Teacher Grants for the 2018-2019 school year:

Randolphville Elementary School

Teacher: Jackie Erickson

Randolphville Reads

This “after-hours” Family Book Club brings parents and children together for book discussions about middle grade novels they read together.

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Grandview Elementary School

Teachers: Sarah Kovacs and Chris lee

Whole Arts Learning – An Exploration and Connection of Visual, Performing and Language Arts

Students will connect language arts ideas and curriculum to visual and performing arts curriculum through creating their own products, and then creating commercials to sell those products. Students will learn green screen editing, learn to evaluate and critique each other's work, and bring other elements of the elementary school curriculum into the culminating "Grandview Film Festival Night."

King and Arbor Intermediate Schools

Teacher: Karen Fleming

Lunch and Learn

This weekly program brings students together at lunch for presentations from local experts in diverse fields such as philanthropy and public speaking, followed by discussion.

Conackamack Middle School

Teacher: David Weiss

Cool Heads Indeed Love Learning (CHILL) Room

This designated space for mindfulness will be accessible for all students. Decorated for calm, with non-florescent lighting, adaptive seating, and soothing sounds, students will be able to use this space when they need a few minutes to calm down, self-regulate, or take a break.

Quibbletown Middle School

Teacher: George Batalas

How to Hydro

The third phase of the evolution of the Hydroponic Garden, students will explore energy resources, including solar, wind, and human motion. Students will test and research methods to discover the most efficient energy systems.

PHS

Teacher: Megan Suozza

iPads in the Choir Rehearsal

This grant infuses technology into the choir curriculum with software that develops pitch and ear training as well as sight reading. Additional resources allow students to record performances and practices for instant evaluation.

PHS

Teacher: Paul Mazur

Electronic Game Design

Students will fuel their passion in the fields of Engineering and Program Coding as they work in small groups to develop ideas and solutions to STEM problems while building electronic game concepts.

- More -

PHS

Teacher: Adrian Lojko

Newseum Trip 2019

Student in the Media Literacy course will deepen their understanding of media communication and ethics with a trip to Washington DC's Newseum. Students will share their experience with other PHS students by creating a follow-up presentation to convey their new understanding and insights learned through this trip.

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About the Piscataway Education Foundation

The Piscataway Education Foundation is a non-profit, independent, charitable organization committed to establishing and maintaining a positive relationship between the Piscataway Township School district and corporate, business, community, individual and government entities. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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