



2015 Annual Report

dream

big

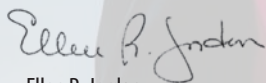
Dear Friends,

Fourteen years ago a small group of Cape Elizabeth parents and supporters had a vision to establish a sustainable, private source of support outside of the school budget for fostering innovation and excellence in our schools. That group wanted what we all want for our children: to have the best possible resources available to them. For the past fourteen years the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation (CEEF) has strived to bring to life the vision of our founders. With the help of friends, parents, and community supporters, we will continue to do so . . . and realize the ultimate vision of DREAMING BIG!

As adults we understand what it is like to have big dreams for children; we are fortunate enough to live in a community such as Cape Elizabeth with teachers and administrators who actively engage our youth and enable them to find their own dreams and passions. Thank you, our donors and volunteers, for your continued support and financial contributions; together we turn educational dreams and goals into reality. Thank you also to CEEF's Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication. They are an amazing group of individuals who are committed to our children and the work of the Foundation.

I encourage each of you to get involved with CEEF: whether it's making a donation, volunteering, "liking" our Facebook page, or signing up to receive our newsletter. We believe great things happen when we work together toward the shared goal of providing our children with the very best education in this ever-changing world.

Yours Truly,



Ellen R. Jordan
Executive Director



Did you know. . . CEEF projects are everywhere!

Would you be surprised to know that CEEF has been at work in Cape Elizabeth now for over 14 years? Would you also be surprised to know that critical components present in the High School, the Middle School and Pond Cove School – programs, spaces and resources that our students rely on each day – were the result of collaborations between visionaries within the school system and members of CEEF? Unless your child interacts with a CEEF grant funded initiative, CEEF may be an organization you simply recognize as having a positive impact on Cape's schools, but you may very well know little else.

The impact of grants – both large and small – across the entire Cape School System is extensive. The Pond Cove Math Lab, the Chewonki opportunity, and the High School Achievement Center are but three examples of large impact grants that have, and continue to have, a tangible impact on nearly every student in the course of his/her Cape Elizabeth education.

Three of last year's grants, the Freshman Academy imagined by Jeff Shedd and Nate Carpenter, Pond Cove's school wide celebration of Cape Elizabeth's 250th birthday, and the launch of the Open Minds Studio Makerspace in the Middle School, all have shown significant promise and have been lauded by students, faculty and parents.

Regarding grants approved this past fall, the initiative targeted to improve school nutrition, the Breakfast Smoothies program brought forth by Peter Esposito, and Elizabeth Johnston and John Holdridge's vision for a Middle School publication studio, could very well become mainstays in Cape's halls for years to come.

CEEF has remained on a steady and determined course for over a decade in its mission to foster innovation and excellence in Cape Elizabeth schools. Through a number of large grants and, just as importantly, smaller, targeted ones, CEEF has provided the necessary financial support to help our children push boundaries and learn in a myriad of ways that complements their classroom work.

CEEF – with your support and with the expertise and energy of our teachers and school leadership – is creating an exceptional school experience second to none in Maine. We are very glad that you are part of this, and we appreciate and encourage your ongoing support.

The CEEF Grants Committee has the distinct pleasure of reviewing grant proposals, listening to grant presentations, and recommending the approval of grant requests that fall within the guidelines of the CEEF mission. That mission is to award grants that are innovative and have great impact.

Innovative grants are those that bring something new and “outside the box” thinking to our schools. Grants that have a significant impact will benefit not just a handful of students, but a great many students and most likely will continue to benefit students beyond the current year. Whether it is creating the Achievement Center, hosting a TEDxYouth@CEHS event, or renovating the Middle School library into a dynamic and fluid Library & Learning Commons, innovation and impact is ever-present in Cape Elizabeth schools. With each grant cycle, we are reminded how lucky our town is to have such dedicated and inspiring teachers and staff.

Fall 2014 Grants

Open Minds Studio Makerspace: Mike Tracy, CEMS Principal, was awarded \$6,000 to reconfigure the Middle School’s Industrial Technology classroom into a new space, affording students and teachers the opportunity to explore, through hands-on learning centered around woodworking, textiles, electronics, computer programming and multimedia creations.

Original Band Composition: Tom Lizotte, CEHS Band Director, was awarded \$3,000 for an original composition by Andrew Boysen based on the book *The Devil and the White City*. Lizotte motivated students with this piece “to reach beyond the usual parameters of performance and propel them to new musical heights and insights.”



Takste International School Professional Development Program: Alina Perez, CEHS Psychologist, was awarded a \$2,000 stipend in support of her 5-week professional development program at Takste International School in Sikkim India. Through the program, Alina “stretched her communication and professional skills to their utmost.” She has shared her experiences with the community, and applied new learning to the curriculum, and welcomed Takste students to Cape Elizabeth. (see events)

dream globally



Interdisciplinary study of Cape Elizabeth History: Kelly Hasson, Pond Cove Principal, received a \$6,500 grant which funded an interdisciplinary study of Cape Elizabeth history through a study of Portland Headlight and marine resources for all six first grade classes. This grant fostered a greater appreciation among these young students for Cape Elizabeth’s natural marine resources and the community’s rich history by the sea.

locally

Spring 2015 Grants

Freshman Transition Coordination & Achievement Skills Program: Jeff Shedd and Nate Carpenter, CEHS Principal and Assistant Principal, received \$28,800 for a 2-year initiative integrating and improving several existing programs to aid students’ transition to CEHS. This grant funds a half-time coordinator to create and implement an Achievement Skills and Habits Program for assisting students with the leap from middle school, as well as an improved peer-tutoring program, and a refreshed Freshlinks which connects incoming Freshmen with upperclassmen.

High School and Pond Cove theatrical production: Richard Mullen, CEHS Theatre Director, was awarded \$2,000 to provide technical and/or design support for a musical extravaganza that involves roughly 30 CEHS and 30 Pond Cove actors and a myriad of other students for lighting, set design, stage production, costumes, etc. The Little Mermaid will be the musical production this spring.

Publication of individualized literary magazines: Allison Hawkes, CEMS teacher, was awarded \$1,500 which funded a published magazine for sixth-grade students. Each student wrote, illustrated, and designed his or her own magazine completed over the course of the year. They integrated a variety of writing genres, editing skills, art projects, photography, and desktop technology and shared a magazine of their own creation.





Creative Publications: Elizabeth Johnston, Instructional Coach, and John Holdridge, Volunteer/ Extended Learning Coordinator, received a \$1,900 grant for a Middle School publication studio where students produce newspapers, comic books, poetry chapbooks, original prints, and more. This project engages students and teachers in the creation/ production/publication of words, ideas, and images.



Fall 2015 Grants

Global Collaboration: Susan Dana, middle CEMS Foreign Language teacher, received a \$1,100 grant for Middle School students to plan, organize and implement collaborative projects and exchanges with students in Spain, Uruguay, and possibly Guatemala. This project ties into the World's Largest Lesson, created by the 2015 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and Unicef, and focuses on recycling, children and the environment.

School Nutrition: Peter Esposito, head of the School Nutrition Program, received a \$2,900 grant for student nutrition at all three schools through a new Breakfast Smoothies program. This project provides Vitamix Blenders in each school and benefit students through supercharged brain fuel, in the form of vitamin- and mineral-rich smoothies.

Musical History: Ted Jordan, CEHS Social Studies teacher, received a \$2,700 grant to fund a social studies program at the High School that introduces students to history through music. Concerts by two local bands shares historical stories behind their songs and engages in post-concert discussions. These musical experiences add new and unique context to the history the students have learned in class.

Teacher Awards

The Cape faculty and staff kick off each new school year at a district wide back to school breakfast. CEEF is thrilled to have that special opportunity to announce the Thompson and Brownell Awards.



Left to right: Cory Mosunic, Jim Clark, Amanda Kozaka (Brownell winner), Jonathan Werner (Brownell winner), Chris Supple, Elaine Brownell, Tim Thompson, Nancy Thompson, Ellen Jordan and Bri Gallagher (Thompson winner)

The Thompson Award, established by Tim and Nancy Thompson in memory of their son Timothy, recognizes a faculty or staff member who goes above and beyond the call of duty in reaching out and mentoring students. This year's recipient was Pond Cove Social Worker, Bri Gallagher. Nancy shared, "Bri Gallagher's enthusiasm and devotion to Pond Cove students embodies the spirit of the Thompson Award. She is insightful in her approach to all students whether with a lunch group or simply a welcoming smile."

The Brownell Award, named in honor of retired high school mathematics teacher Elaine Brownell, recognizes a faculty member who did an outstanding job implementing a CEEF grant during the prior year. Elaine presented the 2015 Brownell Award to Amanda Kozaka and Jonathan Werner in recognition of their work with the Middle School Library and Learning Commons. Jonathan noted, "It houses speakers and meetings and events of all sizes, can accommodate a group of quiet readers or many classes at once, and is constantly put through the paces as the faculty envisions new ways to utilize the LLC, our skills, and our resources."

Congratulations to these remarkable educators!



Alumni Awards

The CEEF Alumni Award seeks to identify recipients who, through their dedication and perseverance, have made significant contributions to their communities, professions or society. The recipient of this award is intended to be a role model for current high school students and motivate them to seek excellence in school-related pursuits and in their careers, families and communities.

The 2015 Alumni Award was presented to Henry Kramer '05. Henry is one of the most exciting young pianists on the concert stage today. His performances have been praised by critics as "triumphant" and "thrilling" (The New York Times), and "technically effortless" (La Presse, Montreal).

ceef events

CEEF has been busy this year participating and hosting various events in our community. We wanted to share some of our recent and future events.

Fundraising

CEEF wishes to express its gratitude to everyone who answered our request for support this past year. We understand that you have other groups and organizations that you support; adding CEEF to that list helps sustain innovation in our school system.



CEEF grant comes full circle

In January, CEEF held a reception to meet visiting students from the Takste School in Sikkim, India. Last May, Dr. Alina Perez received a grant for a fellowship to visit and spend five weeks at the Takste School, working and learning with their faculty and students. This winter the Takste Dean of Students, Ms. Malisha Chhetra, and four high school students spent 5 weeks visiting Cape Elizabeth Schools while staying with host families. During their visit they spent time at all three of our schools interacting with students and faculty. At the reception, students shared pictures, stories, and thoughts on their travels.

Harvest Festival

CEEF had a great time running the popcorn booth at the Harvest Festival this past fall with great help from volunteers from CEHS's Volunteer Club. "Big Red," the CEEF mascot, can be seen in the photo as he gets ready to join Pond Cove's Costume Parade around the Harvest Festival which took place in October on the Pond Cove and Middle School Campuses.



We only have 3 foursomes remaining, don't miss the opportunity to play at the beautiful Prouts Neck Country Club and support the education foundation. Call the CEEF office to register today 207-767-2333. We are so grateful to this year's sponsors, Bath Savings Institution, Taylor, McCormack & Frame, R.M. Davis, Port Property Management, SVN The Urbanek Group, Golf & Ski Warehouse and CSalt Gourmet Market for their support.



GOLF TOURNAMENT & AUCTION

Thursday, June 16, 2016 at Prouts Neck Country Club

Registration at 9am | 10am Shotgun Start

ONLY 3 FOURSOMES LEFT! Call to register today 207-767-2333!

Thank you, donors!

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