

Mini Grants–2011

The BFEE awarded funding for Fall grants totaling \$7,194.44 The following grants were awarded:

1. Technology Supported Literacy: Using Audiobooks to Enhance Reading

submitted by Kirsten Hett–
J. B. Nelson School

4 MP3 players will be purchased with cases and a subscription to *audible.com*.

2. “Are You Choking Kid?”

submitted by Laura Abraham and Debbie Clasen–
Rotolo Middle School

Funding will provide for the purchase of two child choking manikins. The Foundation previously funded a project entitled “Are You Choking?” in 2010, and RMS is one of the few middle schools in Illinois to provide a comprehensive first aid class to include American Red Cross certification.

3. Balance Boards for the Classroom

submitted by Kristy Giesen, Dee Mallie,
Jody Stoneberg and Jeffrey Thomas–
Rotolo Middle School

Balance Boards are a tool that teachers can use to help students to concentrate, listen, learn and enjoy the process. These boards are manipulated by the feet under desks and larger boards are in the room to be stood on while other boards allow students to sit in their seat while receiving sensory input.

4. Girls on the Run

submitted by Stacy Nalley–H.C. Storm School

Funding will provide for the start-up costs for this experimental learning program for 3rd-5th grade girls. This program combines training for a 5K running event with an interactive curriculum targeting girls’ physical, emotional, mental, and social well-being.

5. I Listen

submitted by Taylor Ryndak and Diane Kispert–H.C. Storm School

This proposal includes two MP3 players for two of the fourth grade teachers, two IPOD docking stations, six headphones and a one year subscription to *audible.com* that would allow teachers to download up to 24 audible books for the year.

6. AGS has the Write Stuff

submitted by Tamra Ashby, Jennifer Mackey,
Marcie Mefford and Kristy Vanderloon–
Alice Gustafson School (partial funding
for non-consumables)

This project provides funding for the creation of the AGS Publishing Center.

After students work very hard to write a book or long story, the piece would come back to them typed, set, and professionally bound with a dedication page and information about the author. This AGS Publishing Center would serve all students by allowing them the opportunity to have a published piece of writing by the end of the year.

7. Home and School Literacy Connection

submitted by Jennifer Mackey
and Elaine Dugan–Alice Gustafson School

To promote reading outside of school, it’s important to partner parents and children in engaging reading practices. Funding will promote parent involvement with their students Literacy reading by sending “We Both Read” books home to read nightly. Three sets of books will be shared among the teachers. All first graders and their parents will have access to these books. One side of the book has a more complicated page for the parent to read, and the reverse side has an age-appropriate page for the student to read.

8. Tablet Technology for Speech/Language Therapy

submitted by Mary Ellen Adkins–Alice Gustafson School

Students with identified speech/language impairments will benefit from the purchase of the iPad 2. iPad 2 speech/language applications will be used with up to 50 students, not limited to use with only students with speech/language needs, but also with students identified with special education disabilities as their primary label. Purchases will also include a Smart Cover, and funds for iTunes purchases.

9. iPad2 for Speech Language Therapy

submitted by Linda Presternon–
Batavia High School

Funding will be given to purchase an Apple iPad2 for use by high school students who receive speech language therapy services at BHS. Purchases include an iPad 2 w/cover, and funding for App purchases on iTunes.

10. At-Risk Freshmen iPads—Screen Covers

submitted by Brian Gamlin
–Batavia High School

This grant request is an extension of the At-Risk Freshmen iPads grant

awarded by the Foundation in the spring of 2011. The iPads are currently being used by approximately 96 at-risk freshmen in both Core Algebra & Core Intermediate Algebra. Monies will be used to purchase covers from Sam’s Club.

11. At-Risk Freshmen iPads —HMH Fuse Algebra 1 App

submitted by Brian Gamlin – Batavia High School

This grant request is an extension of the At-Risk Freshmen iPads grant that was awarded by the Foundation in the spring of 2011. Of all the Apps that were found and tried, Houghton Mifflin Publishing Co. has available a collection of outstanding Apps paired with their Algebra 1 textbook to create an iPad based curriculum. Funding will provide for the partial purchase of 24 licenses of this App. Since mini grant awards are \$700 or less, the additional monies will be made through the math departments supply budget.

12. Virtual Author Visit: Reaching Reluctant Readers

submitted by Daniel Russo, Haley Nickolaou, and Tom Demos–Batavia High School

This grant will bring a young adult author, Paul Volponi, to the Batavia High School for a classroom visit using Skype video conferencing. BHS has not previously hosted a virtual author visit so this grant will provide an opportunity to pilot this format. This project will target approximately 60 freshman and sophomore students. Funding includes the author visit and classroom books for literature circles.

13. Grizzly Grippers—Fine Motor Grant Proposal

submitted by Marcy Biage, Chad Clarey, Carol Kessler,
Jill Maercker, Barbara Spence, and
Debbie VonOehsen–McWayne School
(for non-consumables)

The McWayne kindergarten and first grade teams will purchase fine motor resources to enhance fine motor development that is critical to ensure future success as students. These resources will also be available to special needs students at McWayne School at all grade levels. Funding covers only non-consumable items.

You are invited to make excellence happen!



Thanks to such a supportive community, the Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence had a fabulous year attracting funds. The spring talent show, **BPS 101’s Got Talent**, was a sellout, attracting over 600 spectators. The collaborative **Bulldogs Unleashed** project, that ignited Batavia, raised nearly \$25,000 for each of the three foundations involved in the project. The annual golf outing continues to be a successful and fun event for the Foundation. The money raised from these fundraisers and the contributions from donors add to the Foundation’s endowment, allowing us to award more grants for each of the two yearly grant cycles.

The staff and students of Batavia Public Schools are looking to the Foundation with increasing need. Last spring the Foundation received over \$100,000 in grant requests, awarding nearly \$40,000 of those requests. While the applicants that received financial

funding for their projects are grateful and are putting the funds to great use, BFEE wants to increase the endowment to help fund more great ideas and projects.

The mission is clear...“to enhance the educational programs in all the schools which comprise School District 101. By attracting private funds to supplement the regular educational revenues, the Foundation can provide support for the development of enrichment programs and services which make the critical difference between a very good education and an excellent education.” Make excellence happen by participating in the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Drive**.

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Please make checks payable to Batavia Foundation for Educational Excellence. Online donations can be made at bataviafoundation.org.

Thank you for your generous donation to our annual drive. The Foundation operates as a 501 (c) (3) so donations are tax deductible.