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## 2011 Newsletter

### Computer Access for Everyone (C. A. F. E.)



The Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation is grateful to AT&T and Senator Robert J. Garagiola for the support given to enhance two technology related programs selected by the Foundation's Grants Committee led by Mrs. Penne Abramson.

One of the grant awards was made to Jeff Baker, teacher, Seneca Valley High School for his grant program entitled *Computer Access for Everyone* (C.A.F.E.). The goal of

C.A.F.E. is to enable parents and guardians in the Seneca Valley Cluster and community members to access computers and learn skills, conduct research, and monitor student grades using Edline. Fifty-six parents were separated into either an introductory level lab or a moderate experience level lab. Those with no computer experience focused on common tools and programs; managing folders and files; and customizing the desktop. Those with some computer usage skills were introduced to Excel, PowerPoint, and advanced Internet use for educational and career or vocation purposes.

### PEPCO Guiding Light Leadership Program

PEPCO and the MCPS Educational Foundation partnered to find three outstanding students for the PEPCO Guiding Light Leadership Program for the 2011 school year. To qualify, students must have graduated from an MCPS high school in June 2011 with a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average. A special and mandatory aspect of the program was that students attend 3 one-day sessions, during the school day,

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The Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Educational Foundation, Inc., is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code established in 1989 by the Montgomery County Board of Education. The MCPS Educational Foundation receives funds from estates of deceased persons, charitable foundations, government granting agencies, local businesses, and helpful citizens. With those funds, the MCPS Educational Foundation carefully awards funds for projects designed to:

- Establish scholarships for MCPS students
- Provide academic-enriching opportunities for students and staff
- Provide grants to schools for after-school extended technology programs

## Scholarship Programs

### Academy of Finance Scholarships

The Academy of Finance (AOF) introduces students to the broad career opportunities in the financial services industry and, in the process, equips them to make sound choices for the future. AOF seniors are eligible to receive scholarships to continue their postsecondary education in a finance-related field.

### Begelman Scholarship

The Begelman Scholarship, established in 2011, is awarded to a MCPS graduating high school student who demonstrates financial need and academic promise. The award is given annually to one new student.

### Hazel M. Bratt Language Scholarship

This award is for a graduating senior from Montgomery Blair High School who is interested in pursuing a four or two-year degree in language.

### Joseph Byrd Revocable Trust

This trust provides college scholarships for students with financial need who show talent or promise (academically or in the performing arts). The Byrd family also seeks students with an interest in environmental studies. The scholarships are awarded to students at Poolesville High School.

### Cafritz Family Foundation Scholarship

This award is given to a previous Paul L. Vance or Progress Club Scholar who has shown exemplary academic progress in order to continue for two more years of school.

### Elizabeth M. Choate Memorial Scholarships

Mr. Thomas Choate made this gift to the Foundation to establish a scholarship fund named after his mother, Elizabeth M. Choate, who was accepted to attend college, but was prevented from doing so because of the Depression of the 1930s. The scholarship provides two \$1,000 scholarship grants each year to students who attended Thomas Edison High School of Technology.

### Dr. Brenda Hammond Scholarship

In 2011, Dr. Brenda Hammond, retired staff development teacher, William Tyler Page Elementary School, established a scholarship for an African American female student graduating from the MCPS, who exhibits excellence in mathematics and has an interest in a future career such as nursing/medical, engineering, teaching math, or accounting. The award is given annually to one newly graduating student.

### Kenneth Logan Memorial Scholarship

The Logan Memorial Scholarship was established in 2011 to honor the memory of Gaithersburg High School teacher Kenneth Logan. Students and alumni selected for this award must have a reasonable

chance of success in college and must exemplify the "spirit" of Mr. Logan. Students must be accepted into an accredited postsecondary institution or program. Award sums vary.

### Joy Odom Mathematics Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Joy Odom, who was a longstanding employee of Montgomery County Public Schools. The scholarship is for a female graduating senior from John F. Kennedy High School.

### MCPS Retirees' Association Scholarship

Scholarships are awarded to employees with financial need who are taking coursework to meet academic requirements that would assist them in pursuing goals that would benefit MCPS. The award may be used toward the cost of tuition, books, or other academic expenses.

### Dr. Thomas Peters Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship provides support for Montgomery County Public Schools employees to continue their education.

### Barbara Rossi Community Service Scholarship

This award was established in memory of Barbara Rossi, a former parent volunteer from the Rockville Cluster, who died of cancer in 1996. The scholarship award is given every year to a graduating senior at Rockville High School who has devoted a significant amount of time in service to the community and/or to the school.

### Ezra Salop Scholarship Award

This scholarship award is made in honor of Ezra Salop, in honor of his graduation and in recognition of the importance of continuing education for young students.

### Sniper Victims Scholarships

This scholarship was established to provide some support funds for the children of the sniper victims to attend a college of their choice.

### The Don and Mitzie Solberg Scholarship

In 2005, Don and Mitzie Solberg established a scholarship program for graduating students from Richard Montgomery High School to attend a college or university of the students' choice.

### Wilma Watkins Ulmer Scholarship Fund

This scholarship was established to help Gaithersburg High School students attend college. Wilma Watkins Ulmer was a dedicated teacher at Gaithersburg High School and retired from her position as assistant principal in 1966.

### Steve Wolford Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is for a graduating senior from Rockville High School who will pursue a career in construction or, more specifically, carpentry. The student must have financial need and plans to attend

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# Educational Foundation Funds 63 Innovative Projects

Grants totaling \$51,103.05 have been awarded to MCPS staff for 63 innovative projects to enhance education for children in the 20th year of a program sponsored by the MCPS Educational Foundation.

Below is a list of the Small Grant recipients and a brief description of the projects, which were completed in the 2010–2011 school year:

**Autism Unit**—Stacy Ellis, instructional specialist: \$568 for *Laureate Special Needs Software*, a computer program that supports the vocabulary development of words learned during an instructional lesson. This program provides highly structured training of early developing nouns and verbs and will continue to provide the added benefit of technology for children who have a difficult time with expressive language.

**Autism Unit**—Tina Garland, special education teacher: \$956.86 for *Sensory Integration Materials* to purchase sensory integration materials to increase focus and concentration, body awareness, balance, and coordination in children with autism who have significant sensory needs. This program increases the students' availability for learning and decreases behavioral problems.

**Autism Unit**—Lisa Grant, special education program specialist: \$568 for *Laureate Special Needs Software*, a computer program that supports the vocabulary development of words learned during an instructional lesson.

**Autism Unit**—Jennifer King, special education elementary program specialist: \$989.89 for *Programs for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Since reinforcement is vital for students in the autism programs, an applied behavioral analysis (ABA), an instructional model, was purchased to increase student motivation to learn and achieve.

**John T. Baker MS**—Patricia Sullivan, special education teacher: \$400 for *Enhanced Math—Using Manipulative and Virtual Learning*.

**Lucy V. Barnsley ES**—Christa Gordon, gifted and talented/learning disabled teacher: \$720 for *Gifted and Talented/Learning Disabled*. This program serves third, fourth, and fifth grade students and provided students with access to a rigorous curriculum while providing accommodations and compensatory strategies and increasing skills.

**Bethesda ES**—Melissa Donaldson, special education teacher: \$667.46 for *Bethesda Elementary School Special Education* to help struggling students to learn how to manage perceptions about thoughts and feelings. Social skills and strategies are an integral part of successful cooperative work in the school setting.

**James Hubert Blake HS**—Patricia Kompare, ESOL teacher: \$250 for *Blake's International Authors* to expand Blake High School's International Authors program. ESOL students create poems and vignettes in class while participating in the complete writing process. The students brainstormed, composed drafts, proofread their own work, and provided peer editing before completing and publishing their work.

**Cabin John MS**—Kara Farrell, special education teacher: \$700 for *Increasing Cognitive & Motor Development with a Treadmill* to provide frequent opportunities for students to practice walking at a continuous pace to increase their mobility. Students who have limited mobility need additional opportunities to walk and perform weight-bearing exercises.

**Clarksburg HS**—Megan Hartman, teacher: \$969 for *Brain Pop*, an internet application, animated short segment lesson that includes a video segment on specific topics related to all core subjects and topics related to the MCPS curriculum.

**College Gardens ES**—Wendy Eldred, ESOL teacher: \$500 for *Family Math Night at College Gardens ES*. The goal of this program was to make families aware of how math is taught, how manipulatives are used, and how to talk about math using math discourse. Families were provided with take-home materials and manipulatives.

**Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Science, Technology and Engineering**—Amy Gensemer, content specialist: \$956 for *Advanced Technology Courses*, a program with four study components of the Designed World, including information technology, agriculture and bio-related technologies, medical, and entertainment/recreation, with each unit offering specific lessons.

**Dr. Charles R. Drew ES**—Helen Weisel, special educator: \$515 for *Word Problems with Critical Thinking* to purchase wooden cubes and art materials for 140 students who participated in a unit that included concepts of symmetry, equality, and sameness, as well as math concepts of equivalence in word problems.

**Thomas Edison HS of Technology**—Amy Johnson, job placement coordinator: \$1,000 for *SkillsUSA*, a program that provides students to prepare and participate in competitions at the local, regional, state, and national level as members of SkillsUSA, a national organization for Career Technology Education programs.

**Thomas Edison HS of Technology**—Amy Johnson, job placement coordinator: \$1,000 for *Restaurant Management*. After completing a two-year course in restaurant management, students must take the ServeSafe Food Protection Managers' Licensing Exam. This program allowed 22 students an opportunity to take the exam.

**Albert Einstein HS**—James Colihan, teacher: \$1,000 for *Foundations of Technology*. Students used Kelvin Kubes to learn mechanical sketching used in design. Students explored and developed a deep understanding of the attributes of design and developed skills by using the design process to solve technological problems, while learning about safety.

(continued on page 4)



**Blair G. Ewing Center**—Dianne Bisselle, special education resource teacher: \$1,000 for *Model Learning Center* to purchase dictionaries and vocabulary resource materials to support instruction at the Model Learning Center.

**Fairland ES**—Amanda Williams, physical education teacher: \$979 for *Head Start: Building Better Brains through Physical Fitness*. This program provided opportunities for children to develop their fitness levels, self-awareness, self-esteem, and social skills while establishing neural pathways to enhance their reading and writing skills.

**Forest Knolls ES**—Susan Michal, teacher: \$458.82 for *Hot Off the Press, Our Environment is Under Stress*, a program that educated students through a comprehensive, scientific journey about our environment and our role as citizens.

**Robert Frost MS**—Michael McGough, teacher: \$468 for *Bumper Project for 6th Grade Sudden Impact Unit*. Students invented, designed, and built prototype bumpers. The requested equipment was used to test and collect critical data to help students understand velocity and impact force in a collision.

**Georgian Forest ES**—Nsombi Brown and Kendra Jeffers, teachers: \$800 for *Inquiring Minds Want to Know*, an innovative school and community-based program to foster scientific inquiry at an early age which will enhance student achievement and igniting and maintaining an interest in science. Students developed testable questions.

**Georgian Forest ES**—Matthew Wells, teacher: \$200 for *Accelerated Math Technology Integration* to enhance student's skills and learning new approaches to express answers, using graphing calculators and the school's Promethean Boards.

**William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES**—Traci Blumberg, special education resource teacher: \$969.91 for *Corrective Reading and Read Naturally Intervention*. This program implemented a home school model delivery of special education services, serving students with mild to moderate disabilities, including learning disabilities, autism, attention deficit disorder, and language impairments. The goal of the program was to bring the students up to grade level.

**William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES**—Dana Walker, occupational therapist: \$579.17 for *Preschool Education Program and Pre-Kindergarten* to purchase Handwriting Without Tears materials to support the prewriting and emergent skills in children in the preschool/prekindergarten classes at William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES. The site's occupational therapist trained the teachers and paraeducators to effectively incorporate the use of the materials in the daily lives of students.

**Goshen ES**—Crista Horn, reading specialist: \$997.83 for *Goshen Grizzly Let's Move Club*, an after-school program for Grade 3 through Grade 5 students, modeled after Michelle Obama's National campaign to raise healthier kids. Students were educated about nutrition and were given a take-home log to record their exercise and eating habits for a week. The program taught students about healthy living and goal setting.

**Goshen ES**—Kristina DeBold and Tammy Monarch, teachers: \$944.56 for *Goshen Grizzly Basic Facts Masters*, a program that provided kits to parents with hands-on materials, flash cards, manipulatives, and games to support first grade activities while engaging parents.

**Greenwood ES**—Susan Newman, art teacher: \$565.32 for *Sculpture* to purchase of wood pieces and bases to teach students about Alexander Calder's asymmetrically balanced wire sculptures in a MCPS science unit to enrich the students' concepts about balance.

**Kemp Mill ES**—Adrienne Browne and Brenda Browne, special education resource teacher: \$930 for *Writing Across Curriculum* to implement Alpha Smart Neos in the curriculum for students with disabilities and special education needs. Through this assistive technology students improved their writing skills.

**Kingsview MS**—Rosemary deRosa, teacher: \$500 for *Family and Consumer Sciences* to purchase polar fleece fabric to make baby blankets, hats, gloves, and scarves for the homeless and puppets for children at the Children's Place in Bethesda. Four hundred students rotated through the program.

**Stephen Knolls Center**—Lucy Nolan, physical therapist: \$2,775 for *Moving with Ease* to purchase a piece of equipment to allow a student to sit with a tray that permits 'desk' activities. The equipment enables the student to transition from sitting to an upright standing position, allowing increased social interactions with peers.

**Lakelands Park MS**—Kay Caviness, alternative teacher: \$1,000 for *Get Smart at Lakelands Park* to purchase online courses Brainology® for 20 students who are enrolled in the ALT 1 program. Through the program students learned concepts through the use of technology. Self-efficacy and motivation to learn were enhanced.

**Col. Zadok Magruder HS**—Kelly Gallo, science teacher: \$1,800 for *Solar Car Races*, a program that was enhanced by a special one-time grant from AT&T to purchase solar car kits to instruct students about alternative energy sources. Students were paired and they collaborated on drawings of their final solar car designs, a summary of their car's performance, an explanation of solar technology, a prediction of how solar cars could help humans reduce fossil fuel use, and a description of the drawbacks or difficulties in producing a solar car.

**Maryvale ES**—Jenny Cangilla, special education teacher: \$900 for *Comprehensive Autism Preschool Program* to expand therapeutic equipment to provide vestibular input for preschool children who have autism to activate the central cortex and regulate body awareness. This program helped improve students' processing and availability for learning to enable them to strive to achieve their full potential.

**Maryvale ES**—Leah Drozdowicz, school counselor: \$575 for *Anti-Bullying Program* to provide anti-bullying assemblies to increase awareness about bullying and provide students with an understanding and skills to stop bullying behavior from occurring at school and elsewhere.

## Kids on the Block



Miss Leah Drozdowicz, school counselor, Maryvale Elementary School, was awarded a Small Grant for her program entitled, *Kids on the Block*. The purpose of the program was to provide students with a fun and informative assembly about bullying. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade were included and the program served over 550 students.



Students were taught skills for conflict resolution, to be more caring, and to understand how some behaviors they may demonstrate could be perceived as bullying. Puppets were used in the performance and the students were very engaged. The staff at Maryvale Elementary School noted that students were more conscientious of their behavior and became more considerate of others after attending the assembly.

## Second Grade Sculpture Unit



Under the direction of Mrs. Susan Newman, art teacher from Greenwood Elementary School, the second grade students had a lesson in building sculptures. The lesson was closely related to their science unit on balance. The MCPS Educational Foundation provided funding for the materials that were used for the students to design their creation. In addition, the classes discussed the properties of sculpture as a three-dimensional art form and how to use a variety of materials.

## Solar Cars



Mrs. Kelly Gallo, science teacher, Col. Zadok Magruder High School, received funding with additional support from AT&T for her program entitled *Solar Car Races*. Students enjoyed working in teams to construct their cars from kits, collaborating on their solar car design, and making predictions about how solar energy could impact society by reducing the use of fossil fuel. The goal was to teach students about alternative energy sources and to consider the obstacles and ideas for improving how a solar car could be produced. Although race day met with weather misfortunes, students shared in a fun learning experience and witnessed their solar car's performance.





**Maryvale ES**—Rosalind Sawadogo, teacher: \$646 for *Terrarium Ecosystems*. Supplies were purchased to create four ecosystems used in the science curriculum, connecting other science units with ecosystems. The four ecosystems, marine, bog, woodland, and organisms, gave students an opportunity to observe different environments and their interactions.

**Mill Creek Towne ES**—Eric Celarier, art teacher: \$310.92 for *Christo and Jean-Claude Recycling & Probability Cylinders*. This project brought together diverse concepts that integrated academic subjects and enhanced counting skills for younger students while older students learned about volume and area concepts. Environmentalism was a focus of this project.

**Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program—Children’s Resource Center (MCITP)**—Lisa Kwak, teacher: \$916.95 for *Montgomery County Infant and Toddlers Program* to provide a highly structured group entitled “Sunshine Kids.” The program addressed the needs of students who learn best in a one-to-one setting and have needs related to social interactions and communication.

**MCITP-Emory Grove**—Bonnie Endick, teacher: \$1,000 for *Outreach - Screening Information at County Fair*, an outreach program that provided information to families about typical child development. This program targeted families with children, birth to three-years-old, who are at risk of having developmental delays.

**MCITP-Emory Grove**—Tara Lewerenz and Andrea Singer, occupational therapist and teacher, respectively: \$998.39 for *Sensory Processing Tools/Infants and Toddlers Program* to purchase family-friendly assessment tools and treatment modalities for the children in the MCITP program. This program targeted children with sensory processing disorders.

**MCITP-Emory Grove**—Rachel Henry and Tamara Karver, occupational therapist and teacher, respectively: \$990.36 for *Feeding Kits*. This early intervention program focused on addressing the reasons why children perform poorly at mealtime. The feeding kits were used to help promote independence, work on language, social skills, postural control, and fine motor skills in a relaxed and functional manner.

**MCITP-Neelsville Site**—Rachel Henry and Janet Schnabel, occupational therapists: \$220.90 for *Infants and Toddlers Program* to purchase Sensory Processing Measure, a program that increased readiness for preschool and kindergarten by identifying the areas of sensory processing dysfunction that affect the acquisition of early literacy, numeracy, communication skills, and social participation with peers.

**MCITP-Neelsville Site**—Nancy Kasner and Randy M. Kurjan, teacher and speech pathologist, respectively: \$1,002 for *Infants and Toddlers Program*. The program helped assist parents/families in observing their child’s play, choosing culturally and developmentally appropriate toys and activities that encourage communication, social skills, and cognitive functions, using play to facilitate higher order thinking.

**Montgomery Knolls ES**—John Alcoba, parent community coordinator, \$1,000 for *Parent Resource/Computer Center*.

This program provided opportunities to ESOL parents to help them attain computer skills to enable them to navigate the Internet, create personal e-mail accounts, and to better assist their children with their homework.

**Montgomery Knolls ES**—Vincent Fazzalare, assistant principal: \$1,000 for *After School Program Scholarships*, to help fund disadvantaged students to access after-school, fee-based programs.

**Newport Mill MS**—Ellen Turverey, school counselor: \$1,000 for *Outdoor Interactive Science Classroom* for the continued development of an interactive outdoor classroom. Students learned about ecological practices; habitat data for plants native to Maryland; and weather patterns, shadows, and measurement data.

**Oak View ES**—Sandra Eichler, music teacher: \$480 for *Everything Old is New Again*. Eighty students worked with the instrumental music teacher in analyzing new musical arrangements to create updated themes.

**Paint Branch HS**—Arjunia Oakley, academic support teacher: \$750 for *Academic Reading*, a program for students in self-contained classrooms or general education classes who struggle academically due to low reading ability.

**Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents (RICA)**—Michelle Schultze, assistant principal: \$494.95 for *Dynamic Data!* to purchase a software program, Fathom, to teach data analysis to students struggling with Algebra. Students learned how to plot values and functions on top of data, build simulations that illuminate concepts from probability to statistics, and demonstrate standard statistical analyses, including multiple linear regression, sampling process, and sampling distributions of any statistic.

**RICA**—Michelle Schultze, assistant principal: \$1,122 for *Stand Up for Learning*, to purchase the AlphaBetter Desk, an adjustable height desk that allows students to stand, move their feet, or sit on stools during class. The desks have a swinging footrest and have proven to be an asset for children with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, allowing them to pay attention and learn.

**RICA**—Michelle Schultze, assistant principal: \$402.82 for *Understanding Math*, to purchase software, Neufeld Learning System, for a math intervention. The students focused on Algebra, equations, exponents, fractions, graphing, whole numbers & integers, measurement & Geometry, and probability.

**Rock Creek Valley ES**—Maureen Walthall, Cecilia Wett; teachers; and Tara Lawrence, media specialist: \$1,000 for *Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing*. The objective was to raise the standards for all students and close the achievement gap by supporting early literacy for the deaf and hard of hearing. A workshop for parents was presented in English and Spanish to provide methods/strategies for reading to their children to build literacy skills.

**Rock View ES**—Kristen Schroeder, school psychologist: \$932.87 for *Behavior Clinic*, an opportunity for teachers and specialists to collaborate and consult with one another

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regarding student behavior. Behavior Clinic met the specific needs of at-risk students and provided secondary benefits to all students in the classroom.

**Rolling Terrace ES**—Michelle Spatafora, teacher: \$1,000 for *Spectacular Science Centers*, to stock the science center with tools, artifacts, and books. Students expanded their knowledge of science vocabulary and practiced key oral language skills.

**Sligo MS**—Christina Camp-Abdoun, teacher: \$1,000 for *Sligo Middle School Art Program: Unity Murals*. The ceramic tile and mosaic mural project provided students with an opportunity to research, design, and construct a series of mosaic and ceramic tile murals with themes pertinent and inspiring to the learning environment.

**Springbrook HS**—Steven Kaatz, media assistant: \$989.70 for *Audiobooks*, a program that allowed students who are struggling with reading to have an opportunity to listen and understand a story, an integral part of helping at-risk students in overcoming their reading and writing shortcomings.

**Stonegate ES**—Anita Elaraj, staff development teacher: \$306.53 for *After-School Academy* provided teacher volunteers with resources and materials to use during After-School Academy sessions. The program focused on the needs of at-risk students or students who need a little more encouragement or interaction with their peers.

**Stone Mill ES**—Alicia Thompson, teacher: \$408 for *Literacy through Technology*, a hardware and software program that consists of a three-part process: staff training, team meetings during implementation, and skill assessment of teacher-selected students. Students learned about the reading process and how to express themselves.

**Takoma Park MS**—Ann Spera, art teacher: \$1,000 for *Mosaic Art*, to fund a mosaic project, supporting the cost of materials and supplies. A community artist worked with students to create a mosaic for the school cafeteria. The program included at-risk students, special education students, and magnet students.

**Julius West MS**—Davina Placella, special education teacher: \$300 for *Knitting Club/Sewing Club*, to purchase materials for students who could not afford to buy them. Knitting supports many educational skills, such as math, reading, following directions, and problem solving. Students also were taught some decorative sewing and learned embroidery and cross-stitch.

**Westover ES**—Anitra Butler, special educator: \$1,000 for *Olympians Opposing Obesity*, to help curb obesity in children with Autism by joining the Special Olympics of Maryland. Exercise and healthy eating habits were taught as independent and healthy living skills to reinforce functional skills.

**White Oak MS**—Maria Nazario, parent community coordinator: \$452.74 to fund *After-school Connections for ESOL/LEP students (ACES)*, an after-school program for students to receive academic support four times a week. This program increased the academic achievement of the children that participated.

**Earle B. Wood MS**—Dave O'Shell, English teacher: \$1,000 for *Wood Comic Book Club*, to apply to the printing costs of a comic book the children created. Students learned drawing skills, pictographic language from graphic novels, comic art, and the rudiments of Web design.

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#### PEPCO Guiding Light Leadership Program (continued from page 1)

between the months of February 2011 and May 2011 at PEPCO's headquarters for a mentoring program with PEPCO business executives and to expose them to one of Greater Washington's largest employers. The Foundation was pleased to identify three outstanding students: Nicholas Muggee and Jennifer Lien, James Hubert Blake High School; and Mariatu Fornah, Watkins Mill High School. Students were delighted to participate in this exciting opportunity.



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## Extended Technology Hours Program

Grants totaling \$20,415 have been awarded to MCPS staff for eight innovative projects to enhance education for children in the 10th year of a program sponsored by the MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc.

Below is a list of Extended Technology Hours Grant projects which were funded in 2010–2011 school year:

**Montgomery Blair HS**—Jacob Scott, teacher: \$1,560 for *Edline After Hours*

**John F. Kennedy HS**—John Ekelund, resource teacher: \$2,970 for *Kennedy Extended Hours*

**Redland MS**—Erin Martin, resource teacher: \$3,093 for *Extended Technology Hours*

**Seneca Valley HS**—Jeffrey Baker, teacher: \$4,860 for *Computer Access For Everyone (C.A.F.E.)*

**Sherwood ES**—Nancy Bailey, media specialist: \$1,848 for *Study Our Way to Success*

**Sargent Shriver**—Alicia Allou, media specialist: \$2,394 for *Technology Time*

**Summit Hall ES**—Heather Hunter, teacher; \$680 for *FASTT Math Club*

**Earle B. Wood MS**—Michelle Hunsicker-Blair, media specialist: \$3,000 for *Parent & Student Computer Smart*

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## Increasing Cognitive and Motor Development with a Treadmill at Cabin John Middle School

The MCPS Educational Foundation supported Ms. Kara Farrell, special education teacher, Cabin John Middle School, for her program entitled *Increasing Cognitive and Motor Development with a Treadmill at Cabin John Middle School*. The program goal was to provide frequent opportunities for students to practice walking at a continuous pace to increase their motor skills. The students in the program have severe and profound physical disabilities, and many are in wheelchairs and have limited opportunities to walk or perform weight-bearing exercises. As the students grow, the challenge for staff includes assisting them physically, due to their size. At least two staff members transfer them from one piece of equipment to another and also assist them with weight-bearing exercises.

The funds that supported Ms. Farrell's program were used to purchase a narrow foldaway treadmill for use in the classroom. The equipment provided opportunities throughout the day for all of the students in the program, including those who are wheelchair-bound and those who have gait problems. They used the treadmill and increased not only their balance and endurance, but also their cognitive skills as well. Many students showed dramatic improvement over the course of the school year.

Two students in particular benefitted from the equipment. One student who is physically challenged also is blind and has a seizure disorder. This year, she had foot surgery, and in addition to her other challenges, she was unable to bear weight. After surgery, she used the treadmill to increase her tolerance for bearing weight. She is now able to stand more erect and can walk with a walker with little assistance. More recently, the student has been able to hold her water bottle using both hands; whereas before the treadmill experience, she did not use her nondominate hand.

Another student, who has Angelman's Syndrome, benefitted from the treadmill program. He has balance issues and needs assistance with walking. His hip is misaligned, causing his left leg to be turned toward his right knee and causes him problems with balance. This student now has more endurance and has gained strength in his legs. In addition, he is able to navigate crowded hallways and his attention span has increased.

The equipment has significantly impacted the quality of life for many students. All students who had the opportunity to use the equipment have had positive results and been able to tolerate increased time for motor activity throughout the day.



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# Educational Foundation Scholarship Awards

## MCPS Educational Foundation Awards over \$501,000 in Scholarships for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012

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ROCKVILLE, MD—The Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Educational Foundation, Inc., founded in 1989, has completed its selection process for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 scholarship program. The Foundation, with the support of Montgomery County legislators, including delegates and senators, awarded \$235,000 for 100 graduating Montgomery County high school students and previous awardees that are continuing their education and are in need of financial assistance. During FY 2011, collectively we awarded \$266,000 in scholarships to 144 students and have funded over \$501,000 in scholarships, which underscores the growing financial need for students who are pursuing their future career goals.

Again for FY 2012, District 15 delegates Kathleen M. Dumais, Brian J. Feldman, and Aruna Miller pledged all of their funds in support of scholarship awards to students who have the most critical financial needs. In addition, District 18 senator Richard S. Madaleno, Jr. and delegates Alfred C. Carr, Jr. and Jeffrey D. Waldstreicher, District 20 senator Jamin B. Raskin and delegate Sheila E. Hixson have again partnered with the Foundation and pledged funds for student scholarships which also were based on financial need. This year, District 14 delegate Eric G. Luedtke and District 39 delegate Shane Robinson joined in pledging financial support for students.

Mr. Larry A. Bowers, chief operating officer for Montgomery County Public Schools said, "We have continued to see a significant increase in the number of applications over the past few years which underscores the importance of our overarching goal of helping financially disadvantaged students. We are appreciative of the support provided by so many Montgomery County legislators who have worked with the Foundation to help graduating seniors have a chance at a college education."

For over a decade, the MCPS Educational Foundation has been helping Montgomery County students by awarding partial and full scholarships. The majority of the scholarships are for students who attend Montgomery College. Montgomery College provides special counseling support to our scholarship recipients. Some students have received funding for other Maryland state universities and colleges.

The MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc. scholarship program was established in 1999, in honor of Dr. Paul L. Vance, former superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools, as a retirement gift in perpetuity. Dr. Vance attended college on scholarships. The MCPS Educational Foundation has as an objective that no student should forego a higher education for financial reasons. The scholarship program is for students who are academically successful and financially deserving, and it provides an opportunity for students to pursue their career goals to enhance their future.

The MCPS Educational Foundation also awards other scholarships on behalf of a number of private family foundations. Many scholarship awardees have pursued degrees from four-year institutions and entered graduate school.

To qualify for an Educational Foundation scholarship, a student must be a graduating senior from a Montgomery County high school and must show financial need. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded \$1,325,000 scholarships in addition to nearly \$1,075,000 in grants.

The Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation also provides funds for special and innovative MCPS programs that the annual school budget cannot support including our Small Grant program that funds innovative programs and special equipment; and the Extended Technology Hours Grant program that funds at-risk students.

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## Schiffman Technology Scholarship

Long time supporters, Doug and Suzanne Schiffman, provide a one-year scholarship to a deserving graduating MCPS senior who demonstrates an interest in a technology-related career and who needs financial assistance. The MCPS Educational Foundation matches the Schiffman's contribution each year.

Mr. Akira Horiguchi, a graduate of Thomas S. Wootton High School, received the Schiffman Technology Career Scholarship. Akira demonstrated a significant interest in furthering his education in a technology-related program with a specific interest in environmental engineering. He plans to attend the University of Maryland, College Park.

Through Akira's essay, he shared his interests in programming, that led him to a summer internship at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab (APL). Akira worked on developing a Blackberry Java program that sends wireless messages via Bluetooth to control a prosthetic arm. He quickly learned about Bluetooth and became engrossed in creating code and independently did some research to achieve his goal over a period of weeks. Through his experience with the APL and visits to science exhibits, he ultimately concluded that he would like to help solve some of our world's problems by advancing clean energy technology to make undependable energy sources one less problem in the world.

Akira is a friendly, bright, hard-working, and motivated young man with strong analytical skills who has demonstrated a good grasp of the requirements involved in advanced work. We congratulate Akira for his dedicated commitment to improving our environment and wish him every success in his college pursuits.

The Foundation is deeply appreciative of the ten years of dedicated support shown by Doug and Suzanne Schiffman.

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### Dr. Irene Glaser's Sponsors Internship for the MCPS Art Program

The MCPS Educational Foundation is pleased to announce that Dr. Irene Glaser, retired visual arts coordinator, is sponsoring a program through the Foundation that will fund two student interns from Towson University. Although Towson University had many requests for these two placements, Ryan Ives and Erica Riccardelli have been identified as the interns to work closely with MCPS art teachers during the 2011-2012 calendar year.

Dr. Glaser has long been committed to mentoring future teachers and to fostering a professional learning community which supports and better prepares upcoming teachers. She will work closely with Ms. Linda Adams, Fine Arts supervisor, and Miss Lisa Stuart, Fine Arts content specialist, to discuss placements and expectations.

The interns also will develop important planning and organizational skills, differentiated teaching strategies, and substantive lesson ideas that they will use in their future teaching assignment.

*(continued from page 2)*

Montgomery College as a "Building Trades Technology" major or a carpentry trade school.

#### Dr. Paul L. Vance Scholarship

The Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation, Inc. established the Paul L. Vance scholarship Fund in honor of the former MCPS superintendent of schools. The scholarships are granted to MCPS graduating seniors who plan to attend Montgomery College full time, demonstrate financial need, and show academic potential with an earned GPA of at least 2.5.

#### Legislative Scholarships

The Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation, Inc. partnered with several Montgomery County senators and delegates for the past three years to help identify students for legislative scholarships. This initiative provides an opportunity for the school system to encourage financially disadvantaged students to continue their education.

# SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Ahold Financial Services  
American Bank  
American Reprographics, Inc.  
AT&T  
Borders, Inc.  
Buffalo Board of Education City of Buffalo  
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Montgomery College Foundation, Inc.  
Montgomery County Business Roundtable for Education  
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Wal Mart Stores, Inc.  
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Washington Bullets, LP  
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The Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation, Inc. participates in both the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) as well as United Way and genuinely thanks those who donate through these campaigns.  
Our numbers to participate in these campaigns:



**CFC**  
**27185**



**United**  
**Way**

If you are a nonfederal employee, look for The MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc. in your workplace campaign brochure.

If we are not listed as one of the agencies in your local directory, you can still designate by providing our number, name, and address to your employer.

## **Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation: A Few Cents Today Makes A Lot of Sense Tomorrow**

Few places in the nation value education more than Montgomery County. Residents demand quality public schools and leadership that provides excellence. Citizens are willing to pay for top-notch instruction. Many students continue their formal studies at some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the nation. Almost all seek additional education and training to enter the work world.

Despite a committed Board of Education, County Council, county executive, and superintendent of schools, there is only so much money available from local, state, and federal sources. While these tax dollars provide a solid and contemporary curriculum and instructional program, there is not enough to underwrite the "extras" that so many children need. These extras often mean the

difference between an average student or an excellent one.

That is why the MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc. seeks funds to provide academic-enriching opportunities. With these funds, talented students are able to participate in advanced programs, many of which are available only in the Washington, D.C. area; struggling students are able to secure help from mentors and special programs; and instructors can become master teachers through specialized internships.

The Foundation is able to make a big difference as a result of the money it receives from philanthropic organizations, government agencies, corporations, local businesses, and committed individuals. All know the value of a good education and the benefit of having knowledgeable people on the job. It is a dynamic combination for everyone.