



President's Letter

Like New England, a Foundation has its seasons. And, like New England, our seasons are predictable—but full of surprises. In the fall, our Hingham High School ambassadors man our annual Phonathon, calling our generous supporters to remind them that another school year has begun. This year, we had the largest number of student volunteers ever. Their enthusiasm for their schools was clearly contagious—as you generously pledged a record \$20,000 to the Foundation!

Like good New Englanders, we busy ourselves indoors in winter, our grant season. Visits to each school remind teachers and administrators of how our process works, and encourage them to reach for the stars. The arrival of the grant applications begins several weeks of sorting, reading, discussing and reflecting. Each application is reviewed with care and discussed in full, with decisions carefully weighed and balanced.

Then, as spring finally blooms in Hingham, we meet with so many of you at our Entertaining for Education parties. Like our dry March and rainy May, this year's event was both surprising and not surprising. We were gratified—but not surprised—to hear again how very much our community cares about its schools. We were surprised—and gratified!—at a record turnout that raised over \$60,000 to flow into public education in Hingham.

On May 10, we were delighted to award grant funds to scores

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“Entertaining for Education” a Record Success!

Over 1,000 residents were entertained at 33 homes throughout Hingham in April for the HEF's annual “Entertaining for Education” fundraiser. The event raised a record \$62,000 for the Hingham Public Schools. Each year, volunteers get together with their friends to co-host small dinner parties or large cocktail parties at their homes across town, raising funds for the Foundation.

Event co-chair Chris Falvey noted that “the success of ‘Entertaining for Education’ simply depends on our gracious hosts, opening their homes to their generous friends.”

Proceeds from the event will directly benefit the Foundation's Major and Mini Grant Programs. These grants provide funding for innovative classroom projects, development of teaching strategies, special programs, new books and materials, and improving technology in each of the Hingham Public Schools. Teachers, faculty and staff apply for grants in February each year and the Foundation awards as many as possible at the Hingham Schools Staff Appreciation Reception in May (see story, page 3).

The Foundation would like to thank hosts Cindy and Robert Barrett, Mary Ann and Stanley Blackmur, Heather and Garrett Bradley, Joan and Charlie Chittick, Connie Cummings and Edward Walters, Caryl and Paul Falvey, Amy and Terry Farrell, Katherine and Frank Forbes, Sue and Rob Giblin, Melissa and Chuck Goldman, Avis and Hal Goldstein, Cheryl and Josh Hartley, Katrina and Jeff Hartwell, Stacy and Matt Havens, Tricia and Michael Ide, Kim and Gordy Juric, Kathy and Paul LeBlanc, Allison and Rich Lemanski, Andrea and John Lundy, Anne Marie and Peter Mulieri, Mary O'Connell and Terry Troyer, Leslie and Owen O'Neil, Robin and Warren Pelissier, Amy and Jay Quinn, Mary and Andrew Semjen, Sherry Schilb, Julie and David Sorgi, Margaret and Brian Stack, Wendy and Rob Thompson, Gail and Jeff Tocchio, Kirsten and Tom Ward, Lindsay and Richard Watson, and Christine and Neil Wood.

Many friends joined in as co-hosts including Margaret and Brian Curtis, Maureen and Steve DeMenna, Ellen and Bob Garrow, Jackie and Craig Hartnett, Susie and Eric Hill, Nancy and Paul Hickey, Kim and Brian McGeoghegan, Nancy and J.P. Marjollet, Liza O'Reilly, Liz and Tim Perkins, Tara and Phil Redman, Tammy Ruggiero, Jill and Brian Setian, Christine and Peter Smith, Judy and John Sneath, and Rosario and Thomas Trogele.

The Foundation would also like to thank all who participated for their generous support along with the Hingham Journal, Burke Distributors, Curtis Liquors, Peacock Press, Hingham Greenery and the Hingham Middle School Jr. Choral Spectrum.



Enjoying themselves at “Entertaining for Education” in April were (top, l. to r.), Dr. Steve Nielson, Diane Nielson, Martin O’Neill, Carol O’Neill and John O’Connell, and (bottom, l. to r.), Christine Wood, Jim Robichaud, Michelle Robichaud and Jill Setian.

President's Letter

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of Hingham teachers—both veterans and newcomers—and to community members with good ideas for the schools. Your generosity keeps our classroom technology up to date with new “smart boards” and computer driven projectors. It expands and enriches our budding China program, and allows eight HHS juniors to attend Boys and Girls State, the statewide mock legislature. Because you care, professional jazz musicians will perform with our students at the high school, a history lesson on Ernest Shackelford can encompass an entire grade, with differentiated materials for children of all ability levels, and a new computer will be arriving for the young journalists who edit and publish Hingham High School's *The Harborlight*. At the elementary school level, we've expanded library collections, purchased tone bells to introduce the very youngest to the joy of music, and provided new materials for the occupational therapists whose work helps so many of our children.

And soon it will be summer. Like the schools we support, the Foundation will slow down and recharge, ready to gear up again with the first hint of fall in the September air. With new members and new energy we will, like our children, turn back to the exciting task of learning, working and accomplishing together. As we turn the page on this busy and successful year, we are reminded once again that strong communities aren't an accident. They are nurtured and preserved by caring people—like you.

Happy summer!

Mary O'Connell, President

Mini and Major Grants of 2006

We are thrilled to present the grants that have just been awarded for 2006. More than 30 grants were awarded, totaling \$64,346. Your donations make it possible for us to fund these amazing programs. Thank you for your generosity.

For All Schools

- Reading consultant, Dr. Brendan Walsh, will conduct motivational programs for elementary students and seminars for parents and teachers.

Hingham High School

- Lewis Stewart and five professional musicians will rehearse and perform Gershwin's “Rhapsody In Blue” with members of the HHS Band.
- Equipment will be purchased to set up a simulated Hingham Harbor ecosystem, allowing long-term studies of local plants and animals.
- Four boys and four girls will go to Boys' and Girls' State to represent Hingham and gain working knowledge of municipal government.
- “Harborlight,” the student-run newspaper, will purchase a new computer.
- Video editing equipment will be purchased to expand video production capabilities, benefiting students in TV production class, making class video projects and working on the “Friday Show.”
- Teachers will have access to “Turnitin.com” to detect plagiarism in students' writing and raise awareness of how to avoid plagiarism through research and proper methods of citation.
- One teacher will be sent to China to study Chinese art and poetry; her learning will be integrated into the English curriculum.
- Initial funding will be provided for a vocal jazz ensemble, including professional coaches, recordings, sheet music and a sound system.
- Support for the debate team will include transportation, league dues and research materials.
- A program will be funded to integrate visual arts into social studies and literature classes.
- Classroom materials will be created based on a teacher's summer work with Builders for Peace in Bosnia.

Hingham Middle School

- “Quizdom” technology will be purchased to help 7th and 8th grade science students.
- An LCD projector will be purchased for the art department.
- “Ernest Shackleton” books will enable 6th grade students to relate what they read to social studies, science and math concepts.
- DVDs and exercises will be purchased to improve middle school study skills.
- An interactive whiteboard will be purchased to be used in 6th grade math, science, social

studies and ELA/reading classes.

- 3 LCD projects will be purchased to be used in social studies classes.
- The “World of Difference” program, which was initially funded by the HEF in 2004, will be completed this year.

All Elementary Schools

- A teacher will create a web quest based on her travels on China's Silk Road. The quest will be used to enhance the study of ancient China.

Foster School

- Funding for the Technology in Reading project will provide software and other materials to help meet district-wide individual reading needs.
- A library of audio books will be created to engage reluctant readers. “Mystery readers” from the community will share their favorite stories.
- Tone bells will be purchased for the music department to introduce note reading and harmony to all grades.
- A smartboard interactive whiteboard will enable classroom notes to be highlighted, converted to text and printed for later use.
- An elaborate “time line” will be created in 1st grade to investigate people and events in American history.

Plymouth River School

- A digital camera will be purchased and used for school events, teaching photography and integrating digital photos into presentations.
- A multi-media A/V presentation system will be purchased and used in classrooms and the cafeteria.
- The “Clean Hands” project will educate students in grades 3-5 on the importance of hand washing and its effect on disease prevention.
- Sample math problems will be created by the 5th grade math specialist for MCAS preparation.
- The “1000 Books” program will provide quality literature to preschoolers and kindergartners while fostering a connection between home and school.

South School

- “Readers' Theatre” will use drama to improve students' comprehension in all grades.
- A footbridge and new permanent signage will be created for nature trails as well as information about activities on the trails.

Hingham Teachers Appreciated

Hingham Public Schools faculty and staff gathered Wednesday, May 10 for the Staff Appreciation Reception at South Shore Baptist Church. The annual event, sponsored in part by the Hingham Education Foundation, is an opportunity to thank all of the hardworking personnel for another year of accomplishments and to commend some of Hingham's longest-serving teachers by presenting them with a "Golden Apple" award. It is also a chance for the Foundation to publicly announce its 2006-2007 Grants.

As in the past, the School Committee and Administration recognized teachers whose careers have spanned thirty years with the "Golden Apple" award for their continued commitment to education. The 2006 "Golden Apple" award recipients were Patty Batchelder from Plymouth River School, Gerry Bliss from Hingham High School, Peter Edson from Hingham Middle School and Ann Levin from Hingham Middle School.

Newly elected School Committee chairman, Chrisanne Gregoire, honored each of the award winners by reading bios written by Superintendent Dorothy Galo, which highlighted each teacher's background, personality, career, teaching style and various contributions they have made to the schools both inside and outside of the classroom.

The Hingham Education Foundation announced the recipients of their 2006-2007 Major and Mini Grants. The grants were awarded and will be used for developing innovative teaching strategies, special programs, new materials and books, classroom projects and improving technology in the upcoming school year.

"When you have the honor of serving as the president of a foundation you learn pretty quickly that there are really only two words you ever need to say—thank you," Mary O'Connell, President of the Hingham Education Foundation explained. "So this is our thank you to those many teachers and community members who took the time and trouble to put together a grant application this year."

O'Connell encouraged the teachers to "continue to think about how the Foundation can help to support (their) creativity, (their) energy and (their) commitment to keeping education in Hingham excellent."



Hingham Middle School Teachers Brooke Davalos (l.) and June Gustafson received a grant on behalf of their 6th grade teaching team to purchase an interactive whiteboard. HEF board member Kathy Joyce (r.) presented the grant.



Some of the Hingham Education Foundation 2006-2007 grant recipients after receiving their grants at the Hingham Public Schools Staff Appreciation Reception.

Who We Are

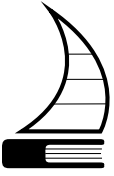
The Hingham Education Foundation is a non-profit, community-based organization committed to enriching the quality of public education in Hingham. Since its incorporation in 1992, the HEF has awarded grants to enhance educational quality throughout the system, providing funding for innovative classroom projects, development of teaching strategies, special programs, new books and materials, and improving technology.

Funds for the HEF's programs are generated through community contributions, and all monies raised are used to extend public funding for the schools. All donations, in-kind contributions, and volunteer hours are gratefully accepted. For further information, please call 781-740-8217.

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Thank you to Joe Costello for helping with our taxes, Margaret Hebert for maintaining our website, and Carol O'Neill for designing our newsletter.



Hingham Education Foundation
 P.O. Box 284
 Hingham, MA 02043

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Consider Donating to the Hingham Education Foundation

For those of you who have donated to the Hingham Education Foundation in the past, we thank you for your generosity. With your generous support, our schools are able to give our children a truly enriched education that goes beyond the general curriculum.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Hingham Education Foundation. Simply fill out the form at right and return it in the enclosed envelope, and you will receive an acknowledgement from the Foundation for your tax purposes. If you'd like to help in another way, you may indicate that also. We thank you for your consideration.

Please return this form to: Hingham Education Foundation
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I would like to help by:

volunteering my time for the Foundation or a Foundation-sponsored event

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\$1,000+

\$100-250

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Thank you very much!