

FM Education Foundation Awards Two Lightning Grants and Four Additional Grants to Educators

It certainly was the most wonderful time of the year! Especially when almost \$6,000 was awarded by the FM Education Foundation to fund two lightning grants and four new grants! What innovative, creative learning will take place in our schools and in our community is truly inspirational.

Congratulations to Mrs. Carol Buchman and Mrs. Amy Riemenschneider, Mrs. Ashley Carducci and Mrs. Meghan Scott, Mrs. Teresa Wildhack, Mrs. Julie Gratien, Mrs. Barbara Grenga and Mr. Matthew Six.

Mrs. Buchman and Mrs. Riemenschneider will use their funding to purchase Cubelets, modular robotic cubes, that will allow third and fourth grade students at Enders Road Elementary to work collaboratively and improve upon their creativity and critical thinking by building and programming a robot from the blocks that will complete various challenges set forth by the students and teachers.

Mrs. Ashley Carducci and Mrs. Meghan Scott have received funding to create a Maker Space in the Eagle Hill Middle School library. Mrs. Carducci and Mrs. Scott hope to kickstart a community of learning through inspiring students to build and discover together through creative, technological and collaborative projects.

Picasso People's performance and Mrs. Julie Gratien's art classes at Fayetteville-Elementary School will help the students make connections between visual arts, dance, puppetry, mime and music. The FM Education Foundation is pleased to co-sponsor this grant with the Fayetteville-Elementary HSA.

The special education students in Ms. Katie Carlson's room at Fayetteville-Manlius High School will experience a new sensory wall to improve student outcomes in the areas of communication, motor, self-care and self-regulation. Utilizing meaningful tactile, visual and audio stimuli to provide sensory input, the students can achieve their individual goals in an independent way. With Mrs. Christine Aiello, Mrs. Jeannine Quirk and Mrs. Carlson, Mrs. Teresa Wildhack hopes to positively impact and encourage the students to achieve their educational goals. The Board of Directors of the FM Education Foundation is especially proud to support the special education program and personally sponsor the sensory wall. The Board has selected to fund this grant through the Board Sponsored Grant Fund, which is the result of the personal donations of board members. We are proud to have one hundred percent of our board members contributing to the FM Education Foundation annually.

The Fashion Design and Merchandising Students at Fayetteville-Manlius High School now sew their garments on the same advanced sewing technology that the fashion industry uses – a serger. Because of the FM Education Foundation's funding of these two sergers, students are able to use an industry-standard, authentic piece of equipment to create professional looking garments.

With funding for photography studio grade lighting, Mr. Matthew Six will be to show the students at Eagle Hill Middle School how and what kind of impact lighting makes in media. With these lighting kits, Mr. Six's Computer Application students will be able to produce photography, video and projects that are of superior quality. In addition, he will be teaming up with the Art Department to develop Claymation projects for video filing, production and editing.