



NEF NEWS 2018-2019

NORTHAMPTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 44 · NORTHAMPTON, MA · 01060 · WWW.NORTHAMPTONEDUCATION.ORG

NEF Highlights in the 2017-2018 Academic Year

- Thanks to all of you, we were able to award \$49,317 to the Small Grants to Teachers Program to fund 21 projects. These grants supported curriculum and program development in all subject areas and several projects in community building in Northampton.
- The Support Our Schools Book Fund awarded over \$20,000 to Northampton's schools to purchase books and digital aids.
- The annual Northampton Adult Spelling Bee raised over \$19,000 in support of the Small Grants Program.
- The Daniel Stephen Goldstein Fund supported a performance by Raquy Danziger, who performed Turkish and Arabic music with her band, and offered workshops for NHS students.
- The NEF Endowment Fund awarded almost \$50,000 in grants for the 2018-2019 academic year, with an additional \$19,000 for the two school years that follow.
- This spring we launched a campaign to raise an additional \$1 million for the NEF Endowment Fund. Thanks to the early community match of six generous lead donors, we are well over \$500,000 – more than halfway to our goal!

Presidents' Message

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Our Endowment Campaign is in full swing and we've raised over \$500,000, more than half-way to our goal of \$1,000,000. Thank you to Northampton and beyond! If you haven't already contributed, please consider donating to benefit Northampton Public Schools. See more about the Campaign on page 5 of the newsletter.

In addition to funding arts and STEM projects, this year our Small Grants to Teachers includes more projects based on social and emotional learning. These include "mindfulness" programs at Bridge Street School for both students and teachers, a collaborative program with Community Action Pioneer Valley Peacemakers at Jackson Street School, and a continuation of after-school programs that engage families at Leeds and Ryan Road.

NEF Endowment Grants are funding "Makerspaces" at Ryan Road, Jackson Street, and Bridge Street. The "Climbing Rocks" program at Leeds and Ryan Road will help children integrate adventure-based learning through rock climbing. The Sojourner Truth Project will develop an innovative curriculum on local history for all elementary schools.

The Northampton Education Foundation grants provide a continuous source of funding for the educational needs of our children. Your generosity allows us to continue to say YES to many of the wonderful and creative ideas that come our way from teachers and community members. NEF thanks you for your support! We look forward to another great school year and all that we can do, together.

Mandy Gerry and Jennifer Sanders James
Co-Presidents



Planting the seeds



Watering the plants



Eating the salad!

The Outdoor School Classroom and garden projects are now in all four elementary schools, providing outdoor learning, environmental education and nutrition programs.

NEF Annual Fund Donors, continued

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SOS PLANT SALE

Thank you once again to Robin Fredenfeld for chairing the Plant Sale and raising over \$11,000 for the SOS Book Fund! Robin and dozens of volunteers transplanted plants, lugged them to the sale, tagged them, set up the tent, helped customers, and did the cleanup. Although the weather did not cooperate this year, our customers certainly did! The NEF SOS Book Fund provides funding to each of our schools for books, periodicals and digital aids. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the plant sale. Please check the website for more details!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

October 16 Fall Small Grant deadline	March 27 Adult Spelling Bee
October 25 NEF/PTO gathering, 7 pm, A2Z	April 16 Spring Small Grant deadline
November 20 Daniel S. Goldstein concert	May 11 Plant Sale
March 3 Endowment Grant deadline	June 14 Showcase

Daniel S. Goldstein Concert

The 2018 Goldstein performance will be on November 20, and will feature a performance by the Sweetback Sisters and NHS students. *(Note: these performances are NOT open to the public.)*

Comings and goings on the NEF Board

Jason Berg stepped down after a 3-year stint as Co-President. Thank you, Jason! Mandy Gerry continues in that position and is joined by Jennifer Sanders James.

We say goodbye and a sincere thank you to Micheal Gorra, who served on both the Board and the Small Grants Committee for 6 years and will be staying on that committee. We say hello to Jennifer Sanders James, Lisa Papademetriou and Francie Lin. Lisa Papademetriou is the author of over 20 novels for young readers. She is a co-founder and current board member of Click Workspace and a proud Leeds parent. Jennifer Sanders James is the Licensing Coordinator and Assistant Procurement Officer for the Town of Hadley and is the parent of a 7th grader at JFK. Her weekends are often spent on the sidelines of a local soccer field. Francie Lin is a writer in Northampton. Her two children attend Leeds Elementary School.

Thank you to all our 2017- 2018 SOS Book Fund Donors for providing money to each of our schools for books, periodicals and digital aids!

- | | | |
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