



The Duxbury Education Foundation

Annual Report 2008

Presidents Message

Presidents Message
DEF Fundraisers
DEF Grants Awarded
DEF Financials

2008-2009
Duxbury Education Foundation
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For almost two decades, the Duxbury Education Foundation has been raising money to fund innovative educational programs designed to enrich the academic experience of students in our public schools. Over the years, many words have been written about the projects funded by the DEF, as well as the generous donors who made those grants possible. In a slight break from tradition, I would like to turn the spotlight around and recognize the people who faithfully fulfill the DEF's mission year after year after year: the members of our Board of Trustees.

The DEF Board consists of 16-18 Duxbury residents, who volunteer to serve three-year terms. Each year, roughly one-third of the Board is replaced with new members. The entire group meets every month to discuss fundraising events and review grant applications. The activity "behind the scenes," however, is a non-stop whirlwind of planning, organization and execution. From baking cookies and stuffing envelopes, to creating detailed spreadsheets and soliciting corporate donations, each Board member contributes a significant amount of time to the DEF's mission of providing our public schools with much-needed financial support.

I served with almost 30 people during my three years with the DEF. Many of my fellow Board members had strong personalities, along with deeply-held opinions about the needs of our public schools. Nevertheless, our lively debates over the details of fundraising and grants were never rancorous, and each person respected the views of his or her peers. We did not always agree on the issues, but once the Board reached its decision our disparate positions dissolved into a group consensus. Perhaps it was our charitable purpose, or the natural camaraderie of fellow parents in a small town, but it was truly a pleasure to work with so many considerate, talented and hard-working individuals.

As the DEF approaches its 20th Anniversary, well over a hundred residents of Duxbury have served on the Board, and each of them has made a substantial contribution to the cause. My guess is that the past and present Board members would prefer a donation to the DEF over these words of recognition. Still, it never hurts to say, "Thank you!" And my check for the 2008 Annual Appeal has already been delivered. Please join me!

Marty Desmery
President 2007-2008

Quick Links

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MISSION AND OVERVIEW

The mission of the Duxbury Education Foundation is to provide grants that will enrich and encourage innovative educational programs for students in the town of Duxbury.

The DEF is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1989 after proposition 2 ½ budget cutbacks forced the Duxbury school system to cancel many fine arts and enrichment programs.

Managed by a board of 15-17 volunteers, the DEF meet regularly to organize fundraising activities and consider grant applications. Any teacher or administrator in the Duxbury schools, or anyone with a program designed to enrich the educational experience of Duxbury students, may apply in writing for a grant.

It is the DEF's belief that great public schools are both a basic right and a community responsibility. With that spirit in mind, we would ask you to please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the DEF before year-end.

DEF Fundraisers

DIVOTS FOR DUXBURY

The DEF's largest fundraiser is a scramble style golf tournament that allows competitive and non-competitive golfers to enjoy 18 holes of golf, dinner and prizes, while raising funds for grants that will enhance Duxbury public schools.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Each year we contact every household in Duxbury, highlighting the DEF's past year's accomplishments and asking residents to continue their generous support of our schools and children.

GIFTS FOR LEARNING

Simply contact the DEF to make donation on behalf of a teacher, administrator or significant person whose has made a difference in your child's life.

SPELLING BEE

The Spelling Bee is a popular community event that attracts spellers of all ages. Teams dress up, 'smarten up' and compete in a friendly and challenging competition. All teams are divided into 'hives' that spell against one another before a crowd of cheering spectators. Be a participant or Bee a sponsor!

DINNERS FOR DUXBURY

This social fundraiser uses creative entertaining to raise funds for education. Parents organize a social event of their choice and the attending guests contribute with a donation. Interested in hosting? Visit info@duxburyeducationfoundation.org

5K ROAD RACE AND KIDS' FUN RUN

The 5K Road Race and Kids' Fun Run race has become a Duxbury family favorite. A healthy fun filled event that will jumpstart your festivities on Memorial Day weekend!

FLAMINGO FLOCKING

Front lawns across Duxbury are "flocked" with pink flamingos. Residents contact the DEF with a donation and a request to have someone anonymously "flocked" under the cover of darkness. A colorful way to show DEF support!

DEF Grants 2007-2008 -\$143,600 Awarded This Fiscal Year

Fall 2007 Grants

Science Mobile Learning Project – The DEF provided funding for a complete set of PC tablets, virtual labs, online textbooks and robotic capabilities impacting 13 chemistry classes, 10 physics classes and 2 computer science classes a year. In total, more than 500 **DHS** students a year will benefit from this learning experience, which closely resembles the science in college and industry. The virtual lab software component of this grant allows students to work with concepts currently not demonstrable in the school lab. Examples of labs include a space docking mission and piloting a craft to Mars. Additionally, this grant provides the means to develop robotics as a viable curriculum tool in physics and computer science, as well as launch a Robotics Team at DHS.

Cyber-bullying Peer Training –Thirty **DHS** students attended the World of Difference Institute Peer Training Program presented by the Anti-Defamation League. The program model focuses on strategies to combat various forms of bullying; this year's focus was cyber-bullying. The 30 DHS peer leaders will be responsible for outreach programs within the **DHS, DMS and parent communities**.

Artist in Residence – Jan Zabliski, a local portrait artist, taught an AP studio art class at **DHS**. The teacher and the students trained for 3 weeks in specific portrait techniques which will be implemented into the curriculum, benefiting students for years to come.

Digital Video Camcorders – The DEF funded the purchase of six new digital video camcorders for use in two growing **DHS** video production electives. About 150 students enrolled in the Video Production and TV Studio courses at DHS benefit from the ability to cover more events and create more programming, while allowing increased hands-on learning in video production.

Executive Functioning Skills Seminar – The DEF funded a speaker to present **parents and teachers** strategies to help children improve organizational and decision making behavior to learn more efficiently.

Classroom Amplification System – **Alden School** received an additional FrontRow Pro Digital sound system. This system ensures clear communication throughout the classroom, enabling students to have equal access to each lesson.

Response to Intervention Programming – This grant provides **Chandler School** with a library of scientifically based high-quality intervention offerings to promote a system of standards-based instruction and intervention that is matched to each student's academic, social-emotional and behavioral needs. This proactive system integrates general and special education services for all Chandler School students.

Digital Cameras – The DEF financed the purchase of three digital cameras for use at **Alden School**. Using IPhoto programming, the students download and organize photos to create digitally enhanced reports and projects. With the addition of these 3 cameras, teachers at Alden can "check out" a camera for project use from the library.

Respect and Responsibility Speaker – The DEF funded the return of Ed Gerety to **DMS** to speak to 7th and 8th grade students on issues such as drug and alcohol prevention, peer pressure, bullying and making a difference.

Art Archive – This archive houses a collection of art reproductions protected in a visual arts portfolio used by over 380 **DMS** art students per year. These students benefit by seeing the works of art before creating their own art. Visuals support student learning by bringing a piece of world culture to the classroom and linking lessons to art history and well-known artists.

String Ensemble Composition Commission – This grant provided a unique opportunity for **DHS** musicians to be instructed first-hand by a well-known living composer. Composer Paul Salerni was commissioned to compose a piece specifically for the DHS string Ensemble; the orchestra then rehearsed the piece under the guidance of Composer Salerni and later performed the piece in concert.

Professional Development Grants

Co-teaching Inclusionary Workshop– Sponsored by the Bureau of Education and Research, this workshop for **DHS** teachers highlights best practices in co-teaching, consultation and collaboration. A co-teaching instructional model will be piloted in US History and English classes at DHS.

National Science Teachers Association Annual Convention – **DHS and DMS** staff attended this Boston convention to research materials and methods, strategies and best practices in science curriculum and teaching.

Spring 2008 Grants

Go Talk Devices – The **Chandler Preschool** obtained DEF funding for these devices which provide visual and voice output for targeted instructional topics. The devices are intended to be used to augment teacher instruction as a technology tool to enhance auditory, tactile and visual learning.

Calculus and Algebra II Text Packages and Smartboard Technology – The DEF funded the purchase of a cutting edge technology algebra and calculus program which affects all students at **DHS**. This program provides an opportunity for the interactive learning of algebra and calculus via software and textbook packages in combination with Smartboard interactive whiteboards. Students can access their textbooks online at school and at home. This new approach helps students understand complex math by displaying step-by-step problem solving, graphic animation, and allowing for the creation of custom-designed, interactive worksheets. The package also includes “MathSpeak” for visually impaired learners. This grant funded 3 Smartboards, Calculus and Algebra II textbook and technology supplement packages and LiveMath and Sketchpad math software programs.

Simple Machine Unit Science Materials – **Fifth graders** love to see how things work! This grant funded the purchase of science materials on the study of Simple Machines and included Lego manipulatives, the use of inclined planes, pulley sets and gear sets. Hands-on investigations and labs is a proven technique for students to gain a stronger understanding of science content, reasoning and thinking skills.

High School Advisory Program – This grant funded the costs of a program coordinator and start-up materials for a new advisory program at **DHS**. The program develops small grade-level advisory groups who meet with a staff member advisor every two weeks for 30 minutes throughout their high school career. DHS students will have the opportunity to develop a connection with an adult advisor, provide support and be supported by fellow advisory group members, improve problem-solving and decision-making skills and gain an appreciation for individuality of fellow advisory group members.

Advanced Microscopes – This grant funded the purchase of 10 advanced microscopes (magnification @ 1000x) for use by students in Introductory Biology, AP biology, Biology II and Biotechnology courses at **DHS**.

Lighting Board for Goodknight Theater – This grant contributed to the fundraising effort to replace the 20-year old lighting board which controls lighting for each performance at DHS’s **Goodknight Theater**. Students involved in acting classes and the co-curricular group Drama Club have the opportunity to learn to operate this lighting board.

Colonial School House Program – The DEF and the Alden PTA funded this grant to allow **Alden’s** third graders to experience what it was like to be educated in early America. This program tied in with the 3rd grade Social Studies unit. Students participated in daily lessons using era appropriate tools such as horn books and slates.

B-Informed Data Collection System – The DEF funded the purchase of this data collection system which allows families to easily and efficiently stay informed of what is going on in their school community. This system enables **all Duxbury Public Schools** to send email newsletters, allowing for easy and accurate online registration and updates.

Professional Development Grants

Instructional Program Development for High-End Learners – This grant covered the cost for five Duxbury educators to participate in a week-long professional development conference on Enrichment Learning and Teaching at the University of Connecticut. The focus of the conference was program development that addresses differentiated instruction, high-end learning and enrichment teaching. The grant also covered fees for a consultant in the field of high-end learning to assist the Duxbury faculty as they pilot differentiated instructional programming to small groups of high-end learners clustered within regular classrooms this fall at the **Alden School**.

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) – This grant funds additional staff training for **DMS’** second year of the WEB program, an 8th grade peer-leader transition program that welcomes 6th graders to the school. In its first year, 60 eighth grade WEB leaders welcomed 230 sixth graders to DMS and provided positive role models demonstrating what it takes to be successful in middle school.

Ron Clark Academy Educator’s Conference – This grant provided funding for one **Alden** teacher to attend a conference with workshops such as: how to have a creative classroom in a time of increased accountability, math methods for raising test scores, hands-on science and innovative strategies for connecting with parents.

Annual Institute for Experienced AP Teachers – This grant provided funding for the **DHS** Spanish and French AP teachers to attend a 2-day workshop providing instruction on developing innovative, revitalized AP coursework and gathering updated AP test information.

The Duxbury Educational Foundation, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
Unaudited
As of June 30, 2008

	Operating Fund	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Assets			
Cash	\$ 32,413		\$ 32,413
Investments, at Market	\$ 22,932	\$ 67,108	\$ 90,040
Total Assets	\$ 55,345	\$ 67,108	\$ 122,453
Liabilities			
Grants Payable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Assets – Unrestricted	\$ 55,345	\$ 67,108	\$ 122,453
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 55,345	\$ 67,108	\$ 122,453

The Duxbury Educational Foundation, Inc.
Statement of Activities
Unaudited
As of June 30, 2008

	Operating Fund	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets			
Contributions	\$ 31,885		\$ 31,885
Fundraising Events, net	\$ 62,534		\$ 62,534
Increase/Decrease in Investments		\$ 6,713	
Investment Income	\$ 194	-	\$ 194
Total Revenue	\$ 96,613	\$ 6,713	\$ 94,613
Expenses			
Grants	\$ 84,590	\$ 59,000	\$ 143,590
Printing, Mailing & Non-Program Costs	\$ 12,306		\$ 12,306
Total Expenses	\$ 98,896	-	\$ 96,896
Decrease in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ (2,283)	-	\$ (2,283)

Duxbury Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1264, Duxbury, MA 02331

www.duxburyeducationfoundation.org