

2013-2014 Grants to Schools

The PEF Grants to Schools and Classrooms Program is designed to provide seed money towards the purchase of non-consumable equipment for innovative, hands-on, pedagogically sound projects that will engage and enrich students throughout the Lester B. Pearson School Board for years to come.

Beaconsfield High School



Musique Francophone

This project allowed teacher Melissa Daoust to introduce French culture and music to students. It was an opportunity for them to appreciate and learn French music, show off their strengths and express themselves through the making of a video in a second language.

Beurling Academy

Media Club

PEF supported BAM (Beurling Academy Media) club through the purchase of digital cameras. This club provides the opportunity to engage otherwise marginal students to be part of a project that hone in on their interests and talents. Students taking part also participated in the Youth Fusion media competition to see what other Montreal students created, opening them to new and different ideas.

Dawson Alternative

Writers in the Community

PEF is proud to partner with the Quebec Writers' Federation in sponsoring a writer in the school for a series of workshops. This is the third year of this successful project. Students are engaged in the writing process and learn to express themselves through poetry. Each year they produce a chapbook of the group's work. The project is part of the "Circle of Courage" philosophy at Dawson. This writing gives voice to students and allows them to write about the human experience through their own eyes.

Evergreen Elementary

Parents as Partners

In conjunction with Community Born to Read, PEF donated to this project aimed at promoting literacy in the home. Parents attended a mini workshop evening at the school and had the opportunity to learn strategies to help their children. Each parent left with a specially prepared "tool kit" that could be used at home.

Gordon Robertson Beauty Academy



Cosmetology Garden Project

Students at Gordon Robertson built a garden and planted the actual herbs they needed to create cosmetic products. These included perennial herbs as well as rosemary and basil. Students used leaves, flowers and stems to create the products and experiment with their effects on the skin.

John Rennie High School

Recording Studio

PEF approved a grant for recording studio equipment to be implemented into the music room. Students will continue to benefit in their music education with the use of the record and feedback system.

Lakeside Academy

Future Fashions

The aim of this project was to reach out to a specific group of technologically gifted girls with an activity which would appeal to them using science and technology. The concept is to use the emerging technology of 3D printing to produce designer costume jewellery and sell it via a website of the girls' own making.

LIFE Center



Yoga for Life

The Life Skills curriculum blends academics with daily living for a population of 18-21 year old intellectually challenged students. Each Thursday students from LIFE Center took part in yoga classes at the YMCA. It provided students with an approach geared especially for them. The students developed a greater awareness of their bodies through strengthening and toning. Some students are choosing to adopt a healthier lifestyle and incorporate exercise into their daily lives.

Macdonald High School

Cheerleading

Mac has always been known as the small school with the big heart. A cheerleading team is a valuable addition to the many extra-curricular activities that define the school. When a group of Secondary One and Two students approached staff members, the staff turned to PEF for help with this worthwhile activity.

Riverdale High School

Boys to Men

For the second year, PEF supported Boys to Men, a mentoring group open to all Riverdale boys that meets weekly to provide a safe place to speak openly and truthfully about common and individual challenges. The mentors, LBPSB staff and volunteers from Boys to Men Canada, model integrity, accountability, compassion and respect.

Springdale Elementary

Guitars for the Music Program

Students learned to play guitar in the regular music classes and in a weekly extra-curricular guitar program after school. The project touched many more students than anticipated and was keenly appreciated by the students.

St. Edmund Elementary

iPad Initiative

PEF contributed to the iPad initiative at St. Edmund by purchasing iPad minis to add to the school collection. This initiative will permit students to engage in hands-on learning that supports their literacy development.

St. John Fisher Junior



Sensory Awareness in Teaching and Learning

PEF provided material for the "Engine Room," a place where self-regulation training and sensory awareness with help special needs students.

St. Thomas High School



Cooking a Healthy Lunch

The cooking room was open for lunch four times a week. Students were learning about nutrition and techniques for cooking healthy lunches, as well as socializing over a good meal.

Sunshine Academy



Climbing Wall

A climbing wall offers a different physical activity in a cooperative and non-competitive setting. It fosters goal-building, mental and physical focus as well as a spirit of trust. Some of the students at Sunshine don't have the opportunity to participate in organized sports and are inactive. The rock wall may help them see a parallel between the activity and overcoming personal challenges.

Verdun Elementary

Lego Club

This provided opportunities for students with social challenges to join a club and form relationships. One student actually invited others to join. Siblings who were experiencing difficulties at home were able to enjoy each other's company in a non-threatening environment. Students shared not only lunches together but good stories.

John Rennie High School



Robotics

Robotics technology offers the opportunity to be engaged, successful and excited about learning. Students are challenged to invent, build and program robots that respond to specific tasks in order to solve problems. They learn how robotics is an integral part of society, its many functions and a way of the future. The higher order thinking skills required for robotics and the hands on experiences carry into other areas of learning. These schools are building on the training provided by Educational Services and are bringing the expertise and motivation to the student level. The following schools were given grants for Robotics:

- Allion Elementary
- Birchwood Elementary
- Clearpoint Elementary
- John Rennie High School

Mount Pleasant



- Lindsay Place High School
- Mount Pleasant Elementary
- Orchard Elementary
- St. Anthony Elementary
- St. Patrick Elementary
- Westpark Elementary