

Milton Foundation for Education

Second Round of 2002 Competitive Grants Awarded

August 1, 2002

The Milton Foundation for Education is pleased to announce the results of the Second Round of its 2002 Competitive Grants Program. The Foundation received 9 proposals and will award six. Milton Foundation for Education President Herbert Voigt and the entire Board of Trustees are enthused to continue to fund an ambitious program that reflects the changing world our children are learning to live in. Voigt added "These Grants allow the Board to meet its mission to make possible innovative programs and opportunities that are beyond the reach of the school system's budget. The majority of these second round grants will supplement the curriculum established throughout the Milton Schools. "

This round of grants funds proposals in the social and physical sciences. They acknowledge the need to understand our environment as well as the diverse people and cultures we will need to relate to in the twenty-first century.

In a move that continues a previous grant to the Cunningham School, Fourth Grade teachers at Collicott, Glover, and Tucker Elementary Schools will each receive a grant for Exploring Cultures: China. This multi-disciplinary approach will link Chinese culture with math, science, philosophy, art and music. The students will directly experience and interpret the past, turning the study of history into an active and interesting process while using critical and creative thinking skills.

One cannot pick up a newspaper or watch the evening news without reading or hearing about events in the Middle East. And yet, there is still so much we don't understand of its region, its history, peoples and their cultures and religions. Librarian Lori Henry of the Glover Elementary School, and MFE 2002

Outstanding Teacher of the Year recipient, will receive a grant to establish The Middle Eastern Resource Collection, which will offer materials to help teachers and students gain insight into Middle Eastern cultures and allow the community to discover common ground that is shared with Middle Eastern people. These resources will be present fiction and non-fiction materials that examine contemporary political situations, customs and traditions through folklore and poetry.

The Big Dig is not the only project in Boston. The longest running project that continues is the cleanup of Boston Harbor. Mr. David Donovan has been taking his Oceanography students to Boston Harbor for the last five years during field trips to study the results of the harbor cleanup on water conditions and properties and sea life. This grant partially funds the trip in conjunction with a matching grant from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. This program allows the students to practice in the field what they have learned in the classroom.

Ms. Laura Waske of Pierce Middle School will receive a grant to supplement her Seventh Grade Biology Class curriculum in "Environmental Science" This grant will purchase a River Tank Eco-system, that will allow students to discover the inner workings of a delicately balanced ecosystem. In this hands-on science unit, students will construct and watch a dynamic, living habitat where plants, fish, frogs and reptiles interact in ecological balance.

To review these grants and make recommendation to the Board of Trustees of the Milton Foundation for Education a Grant Review Committee is formed with representatives from each of the Milton public schools. This year the following teachers served on the Foundation's Grant Review Committee: Debbie Aspen (Milton High School) – Stephanie Nephew (Pierce Middle School), Janis Powell (Collicot), Tanya Walsh (Cunningham), Carol Kenney (Glover), and Joe Dolan (Tucker). Also serving on the review committee from the Foundation are Jim May, chairman, Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter, Cathy O'Neil, and Stephen Morash.

The Milton Foundation for Education is an independent, not-for-profit corporation, separate and distinct from the Milton Public

Schools. The Foundation was established in 1995 to make possible innovative programs and opportunities that are beyond the reach of the school system's budget. Foundation Trustees are people from the community who donate their time to help the Foundation achieve its goals. The Foundation is currently running its Annual Appeal. Gifts are accepted in the form of cash contributions, will bequests, insurance policies, memorials and tributes, all of which are tax deductible.

The Foundation has just begun operations on its new web site www.miltonfoundationforeducation.org. Please visit the Milton Foundation for Education web site and discover the many activities the organization have been, and are, doing for our children. The guidelines and application for the Cichello Grants and the Third and final round of the 2002 Competitive Grants program are now on the website. And remember to **SAVE THE DATE TO CELEBRATE**, Saturday evening, November 23rd, 2002 at Lombardo's in Randolph for the MFE's "Celebration for Education."

For more information or to make a contribution, please write to Milton Foundation for Education, 532 Adams Street #162, Milton, MA 02186, or donate on-line! Invest in our children so that they might reach for the world.