

Over the Fence

The Fraser Educational Foundation 2015-16 Grants

The grant program of the Fraser Educational Foundation supports funding for all levels within Fraser Public Schools. This unique program is funded through generous donations from staff, parents, community members and local businesses. Since its inception in 1987, the Foundation has awarded over \$300,000 in grants to enhance teacher creativity, student enrichment, and community involvement through activities and programs that go beyond the scope of normally funded school budgets and responsibilities. All teachers within Fraser Public Schools are provided the opportunity to apply for grants through the Foundation. This school year, the Foundation awarded the grants to the Fraser teachers listed below. Congratulations to the following staff members on receiving a Fraser Educational Foundation grant for the 2015–2016 school year.

Grant Amount: \$3,000

Who Requested It: Amanda Danek

Building Name: FHS

What Grant Will Be Used For: The media center is looking to address the needs of the students, their passions and their educational pursuits that are not addressed in the classroom. The list included: exercising, 3D painting, board games, movies, crafting, puzzles, Legos, robotics, stock market and coding, among many others. In the '14-'15 school year, we worked on the appearance of the Media Center. In '15-'16, it is our hope that we can build culture, educational opportunities and new experiences for our students.

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Who Requested It: Kristin Reilly and Shannon Descamps

Building Name: Eisenhower

What Grant Will Be Used For: We would like to create a MakerSpace (a zone of self-directed learning) in our school media center. This area would provide hands-on, creative ways for students to design, experiment and invent as they engage in tinkering. A MakerSpace fosters creative thinking and critical thinking skills through inquiry-based learning.

Grant Amount: \$461.70

Who Requested It: Pam Czartoryski

Building Name: RMS

What Grant Will Be Used For: I would like to have six ball chairs to help students that need to move and have difficulty staying on task. I expect improved attentiveness for ADHD students and sleepy students who should sit more upright.

Grant Amount: \$874.81

Who Requested It: Miriam Catenacci

Building Name: RMS

What Grant Will Be Used For: Five Ray Boxes — Students use Ray Boxes during multiple labs within our 8th-grade science Waves Unit. During the labs, students send light beams through transparent blocks of various shapes and discover patterns of reflection, refraction and transmission.

Grant Amount: \$2,998.63

This grant was completely funded personally by Delia Martin, member of the Fraser Educational Foundation and her family.

Who Requested It: Andrea Filip

Building Name: Disney

What Grant Will Be Used For: The creative idea and innovative approach I have for enhancing my instruction and providing an amazing learning experience for all students at Disney supports our journey that Sean Smith (Teacher as an Architect/Modern Teacher) has led us on over the past year. This grant will cover materials to support my students' need for costumes and props while using creative use for technology in the classroom, for flexible seating within the 3rd-grade classrooms, a new Prize Wheel to encourage and support our strategic use of positive praise, and for purchasing student copies of the novels, *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* and *Flat Stanley* to connect with our students through shared literature.

To make a donation to the Fraser Educational Foundation, please [click here](#) or call **586.439.7004** for more information on how to become involved with the organization.



FPS Teachers Awarded Excellence in Education

Congratulations to 4th-grade Eisenhower teacher Mr. Joe Rybicki and elementary curriculum Salk teacher Mrs. Kim Keith on being recognized with the Excellence in Education Award, sponsored by the Michigan State Lottery. The award aims to acknowledge Michigan K–12 public school teachers and staff who are making a significant impact in the lives of Michigan students.

As winners, Mr. Rybicki and Mrs. Keith will receive a \$500 cash prize and a \$500 grant for their schools. All Excellence in Education Award winners will also be automatically considered for the Michigan Lottery's Educator of the Year Award and a grand prize of \$10,000, chosen at the end of this year.

Mr. Rybicki and Mrs. Keith were recognized on a Channel 7 news broadcast and received their awards from Michigan State Basketball Coach Tom Izzo on September 29. This is a well-deserved award for both teachers and we congratulate them on their success, and for making a difference in the lives of Fraser students.

FRASER PUBLIC SCHOOLS UPDATES TO CURRICULUM & TECHNOLOGY

1:1 PERSONALIZED LEARNING AND iPADS

It is with great excitement that we announce that in the upcoming weeks, every Fraser Public Schools student, K–12, will have a dedicated iPad. This will complete our 1:1 iPad program District-wide!

Our kindergarten, first, and second grade students and teachers have been very enthusiastic about the opportunity for each child to have an iPad of their own. The Board of Education recognized an opportunity to make this a reality, using remaining 2011 bond funds. New devices were purchased for students in third, fourth, and fifth grades, freeing up iPad2 devices for our Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students.

Previously, each K–2 classroom had a set of nine devices that were shared in each room. The classroom sets, utilized since 2012, have allowed teachers to actively infuse technology into student learning. Going 1:1 will enable K–2 teachers to further leverage technology for innovative teaching and learning. Teachers will also be able to improve student engagement and ownership of their learning.

K–2 iPads will stay in the classroom. However, students and teachers will be able to personalize the devices to each student's strengths, interests and preferences.

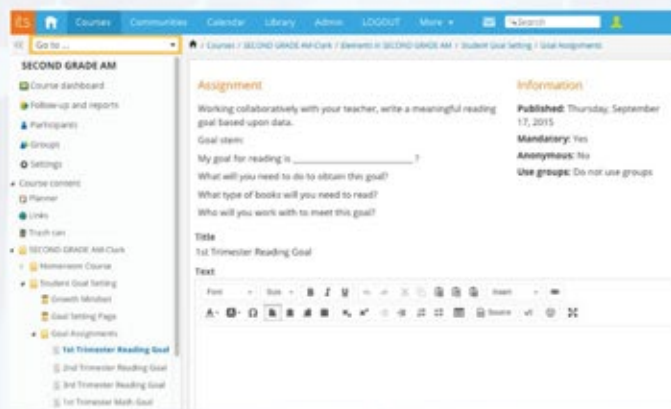
GRADES 3-5 iPad UPGRADE

Grade 3–5 students will be turning in their iPads and chargers and receiving new iPad Aird. Please remind your child that his/her charger needs to be returned. A new charger will be issued with the new device. Before they receive their new device, students need to save their work to Dropbox so they can retrieve these items on their new device.

We will be redeploying devices throughout the month of November and December.



This Fall, K–6 teachers and students have begun accessing curriculum and instruction via *itslearning* – fraser.itslearning.com. *itslearning*, the District's Learning Management System, provides teachers with a one-stop shop to house and manage functions for creating and delivering courses, assessments, standards management, attendance, grades and more!



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR STUDENTS?

- Students will be able to access content, resources, and class materials via their Homeroom Class with *itslearning*. For grades 3–6, students have access to all of their science curriculum and assignments as well starting first trimester. Throughout the year, we will continue to build the *itslearning* learning management system with additional grade level materials.
- Students will be able to submit classwork and assignments through *itslearning*.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO FAMILIES?

- Families will also be able to access these resources via *itslearning* using your son or daughter's login information.
- Families should login to review assignments, projects, content, and feedback that is being provided by the teacher.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

- Go to fraser.itslearning.com and log in using child's login information.

DO I STILL NEED TO GO TO PARENT PORTAL?

- Yes, parents will access the ParentPortal to view grades and attendance for their child.



Richards Middle School Spirit Week

RMS celebrated a few very exciting days during the month of October. In support of homecoming at the high school, RMS sponsored their own spirit week complete with fairy tale day, MSU/U of M rivalry day, and pajama day (to name just a few). During Spirit Week, RMS students and staff were busy showing their school spirit. On

October 20, RMS put on a pep assembly to showcase athletes, clubs, leaders and even a surprise dance from the RMS teachers. Rumor has it there was tumbling, stunting and some awesome moves from some very spirited staff members. Fire up, Knights!

Fraser Public Schools Named Apple Distinguished Program

Fraser Public Schools is pleased to announce that it has been recognized as an Apple Distinguished Program for 2015–2017 for the District’s implementation of Apple technology in grades K–12.



Distinguished Program

The Apple Distinguished Program designation is reserved for programs that meet criteria for innovation, leadership, and educational excellence, and demonstrate a clear vision of exemplary learning environments.

“The selection of Fraser Public Schools as an Apple Distinguished Program highlights our success as an innovative and compelling learning environment that engages students and provides tangible evidence of academic accomplishment,” said Dr. David Richards, Superintendent of Fraser Schools.

Fraser Public Schools is proud to offer students a technology-rich environment with flexible learning spaces, student-paced learning, and hybrid classes that feature both online and in-person instruction. In Fraser, the District’s 21st-century literacy instructors work with teachers and students District-wide to integrate technology into the curriculum. The technology offerings in Fraser Public Schools include one-to-one iPads for grades K–12 and student iMac stations. Additionally, Fraser teachers are equipped with MacBooks and iPads.

“Fraser Public Schools has truly seen a transformation of learning among our students, and our one-to-one environment has certainly aided us in that transformation process,” said Dr. Richards. “We will continue to use our technology offerings as one of the many tools we offer for our students to gain access to deeper learning opportunities.”

For more information on this program and the other offerings in Fraser Public Schools, visit www.GoToFraser.com or call 1-877-94-FRASER

FRASER STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO INTERNATIONAL MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society on October 8. The Tri-M Music Honor Society is the international music honor society for middle/junior high and high school students. It is designed to recognize students for their academic and musical achievements, reward them for their accomplishments and service activities, and to inspire other students to excel at music and leadership.



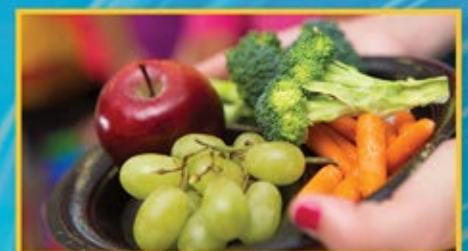
Tri-M Music
HONOR SOCIETY

- Parker Authier
- Stephanie Bedore*
- Cassia Burley*
- Kayla Compton
- Brenna Darden*
- Peyton DeSchutter*
- Emme Drouillard Zielinski*
- Emily Eskuri
- Breanna Fibranz*
- Matthew Jacobs*

**Member of the Fraser Performing Arts Academy*

Free Student Meals!

To help relieve some financial pressure, families can apply for free or reduced meals through the USDA’s School Lunch Program meal benefits. Apply online at www.lunchapp.com. If needed, free computer use is available at the Administration building to complete the online application.



Are You Smarter than a Bulldog?

Emerson students had a fun and meaningful positive behavior assembly featuring Rocky the bulldog. The students were asked questions about the school expectations in a game show format.



Positive Behavior at Edison

Edison students learned about the four school rules. All students learned about being an awesome Edison student — be safe, be responsible, be respectful, and be motivated!



Twain Walk-a-Thon

Mark Twain's annual Walk-a-Thon was a huge success this year. The event raises money for parent club activities that are held throughout the school year. In addition to the Walk-a-Thon, it was "Wear Your Wacky Socks Day." After the whole school walked four laps around the building, they had a fun time dancing to music from a volunteer DJ and enjoyed Kona Ice treats. The Walk-a-Thon was held near the end of the day this year so more parents could attend and cheer on their children during the walk.



Grandparents Day at Salk

October 2 was Grandparents Day at Salk Elementary. Once again, the school was filled to the brim with students and their grandparents. The turnout for this day was fantastic! The day started for visitors in the gym where coffee and donuts were served. PTO members were also on hand selling raffle tickets for the Seahawk Walk baskets. Then, the grandparents found their way to the various classrooms. Many were amazed by the technology available in the classrooms and how it has enhanced our students' learning. There were many different activities happening in the classrooms and students were able to give their grandparents tours of the building, too. Students were very happy to have their grandparents visit. It was an exciting day for everyone at Salk Elementary.



Special Reception at Salk



On Tuesday, September 29, the Salk Student Council hosted a reception for all new students. New Salk students were invited into the media center for a meet and greet. They were able to meet new friends and hear about the wonderful happenings at Salk. This was a fun and friendly event where the new students could ask questions or share their ideas about their new school. The student council members did a fantastic job making our new friends feel welcome!

Super Hero Super Behavior Day

Super Hero Super Behavior Expectation Day was celebrated at Eisenhower Elementary on September 29. The students dressed in their favorite superhero outfits or t-shirts as they participated in a Behavior Expectation Circuit. The circuit included Bus, Recess, Hallway, Morning Lines, Assembly, and Bathroom rules and expectations. Students and staff discussed super behavior and what it looks like at Eisenhower.





Metro Jets Hockey Team Scores an Assist at the Salk Seahawk Walk

Members of the Metro Jets Junior Hockey Team surprised the students at Salk Elementary by participating in the Salk Elementary Seahawk Walk. The players shared experiences, offered encouragement, and raised the excitement level of this fun-filled day.

The Metro Jets Junior team is made up of 18- to 20-year-old players who have completed high school. The Metro Jets Junior team helps players transition from high school hockey to NCAA college hockey careers. Many of the players posed for pictures and spent time assisting the students at the Seahawk Walk.

The Salk students were in awe of this exciting team visit. The Metro Jets Juniors play at the Fraser Ice Arena. Every student at Salk received a free ticket for a game this season. Salk Elementary would like to thank the Metro Jets Junior Hockey Team for their help and look forward to seeing them play.



Salk Sixth-Grade Camp

Sixth-grade students at Salk Elementary had a wonderful time at Camp Howell, September 23 through 25. Sixth graders were asked to “challenge by choice” by setting goals and working towards achieving them. The camp agenda included playing games, dancing, zip lining, rock climbing, canoeing, archery and completing a high ropes course. They also learned how to use a compass in a scavenger hunt, how to build a fire, and about birds of prey. “The experience brought us all closer together,” stated sixth-grade student, Ryan Zepp.

A special thank you to the chaperones: Mr. Fishburn, Mr. Hill, Mrs. King, Mrs. Langolf, Mr. Martoni, Ms. Mullin, Mr. Rocho, Mrs. Scally, Mrs. Sikorski, Mr. Tapp and Mr. Vahovick. Also to Dr. Anderson, Mrs. Blanck, Mrs. Chambers, Mr. Hitchings, Mrs. Kowalkowski, Mrs. Provost and Mrs. Smitka for making an appearance!



Latchkey Ready for Fall



The Edison Latchkey Little Artists have created a wonderful craft this month that can stay out not only for Halloween, but also for the entire fall season. This month, they hand-painted their own pumpkin faces — using their imaginations and personal expressions — to create a pumpkin block that will last a long, long time. Each Edison Latchkey Little Artist had the opportunity to decorate their pumpkin however they wanted, and each pumpkin is as unique as the artist that

created it. The best thing about this pumpkin ... you don't have to worry about it spoiling. It can last a lifetime!

So, from the Edison Latchkey Staff and Little Artists, we wish you a frightfully good Halloween!

Human Sundae



Edison Elementary students participated in their annual Walk-a-Thon on September 24. This event is the PTO's largest fundraiser. The entire school walked around the soccer field. Afterward they gathered outside

where prizes were distributed. The highlight of the event was turning Edison's principal, Dr. Weiss, into a human sundae!

Flexible Seating at Disney

Disney 1st-grade teacher Mrs. Monahan has created a learner-centered classroom with flexible seating. As demonstrated in the many classrooms at Disney that now feature flexible seating, these options in the classrooms give students a choice in what kind of learning space works best for them. It helps them to interact, work collaboratively, communicate and engage in critical thinking.

The students love flexible seating and they love sitting in a comfortable place, which is different for each child.

"I have several students who prefer to sit at a regular table to do their work. Others like to sit on the benches, under the table, or on cubes using clipboards to do their work. A few kids have even altered the seating I have provided — kneeling on the floor and using the cube as a writing surface, using the cushions to sit on the floor, or up against the bookcases so they are more comfortable," said Mrs. Monahan.

Mrs. Monahan embraced flexible seating for herself, too; she no longer has a traditional seat in the classroom. Instead, she sits at a student table in the middle of the room. She finds herself moving around and sitting wherever she is needed, sometimes kneeling on the floor next to a student, sometimes sitting next to them at their table, or pulling up a cube so she can chat with them.

"It has allowed me to 'conference' with students in a variety of ways, in a multitude of places," commented Mrs. Monahan. "My students and I enjoy the same thing about flexible seating ... the freedom it provides."



Disney 6th-Grade Camp

The 6th-grade students of Disney had an amazing teambuilding experience at Camp Copneconic of Fenton, September 14–16. Students were asked to step outside of their comfort zones, work with their class peers, and depend on each other to accomplish various challenges throughout their three-day, two-night stay.

There were classes chosen as "Challenge by Choice," where each student was able to complete the task to their personal extreme and comfort level. Some of these included Creek Freak (Zip Line), Tree Tops Challenge (high ropes), Kayaking and Giant Swing. Then there were other classes where students were asked to work as teams with their peers to complete a task or challenge. They were given basic directions and had to work as a team to figure out together how to complete the task. Some teamwork challenges included the Low Ropes Challenge, Peanut Butter/Alligator Swamp, and Lost.

The teachers, principal and parent chaperones, who were privileged to attend with the students, could not have been more proud of the students this year. Their positive attitudes, perseverance and teamwork were inspiring. This class of Disney 6th graders has had a wonderful start to their year. Building on this experience and referencing their ability to work together and never give up will surely help each and every one of these students throughout this school year.



Disney Students Plan Escape

Disney 5th-grade students, Lily Schuch and Kurston Schroeder, enjoyed a ride on a fire truck after winning their classroom's "Fire Escape Plan" contest. The event occurred at the Clinton Township Fire Department on October 11. Well done girls!

It's Fall in DK

As part of their fall unit, DK students at Dooley are studying apples. They learned that Michigan grows a large variety of apples and that all of them are delicious and healthy for us. One of their projects for this unit was to color a tree, cut out apples and glue them onto the tree. They practiced their cutting, coloring and gluing skills in this three-step project. They are working hard and having fun in DK and can't wait to sample some of Michigan's yummy apples!



Red Wings Visit Disney

Disney students enjoyed a back-to-school PBS assembly from the Red Wings School Assembly program. The assembly focused on education and dedication in setting goals. The theme was making good decisions to reach your goals through education and dedication.



The Illitch Foundation funds the Detroit Red Wings School Assembly Program. They donated floor hockey equipment to the school and each child received a back-to-school Red Wings folder. The students had a chance to try the new floor hockey equipment with a friendly teacher vs. student competition. The students had a blast with the competition, discussing goals and making good choices!

Electronic Recycling

Over two tons of electronics were collected at the first Salk Electronic Recycling Event. Keeping electronic products out of landfills is important to our environment. The recycled electronics can now be re-purposed and re-used as parts for existing systems. The Salk Elementary Electronic Recycling Event was held on Saturday, September 26. Teacher Erin Smitka, as part of the Macomb County Green Schools program, organized the event. Members of the Salk Student Council were also present to help collect the electronic items. It was a very busy day as a steady stream of cars waited in line in the Salk Elementary parking lot to unload their electronic items. Between 4,000 and 5,000 pounds of electronic items were collected.



We look forward to our next Salk Elementary Electronic Recycling Day!



Peer to Peer

Twain Elementary School is excited to announce the implementation of the Peer-to-Peer Program for this school year! The Peer-to-Peer (P2P) program was created to pair students with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and students with other social challenges with student peer models. The program is based on research that shows students identified with ASD benefit from positive peer modeling and demonstrate significant social growth. The Peer-to-Peer program has been established and thriving at Fraser High School, Richards Middle School and at all the elementary buildings.

Mrs. Stanzola and Mrs. Henson, the school social workers, introduced each classroom to the District program and it was met with an outpouring of support from staff and students. Many students volunteered to be role models to their peers with social challenges. Three groups were developed based on grade levels.

Mrs. Stanzola and Mrs. Henson educated each group by reading a storybook about Autism and having a dialogue with the students about the communication, social and sensory challenges that a student with Autism may face in their classroom. The students were very receptive and enthusiastic about being peer role models.

The Peer-to-Peer program will officially begin on October 6. Mrs. Stanzola and Mrs. Henson are looking forward to a rewarding experience for all.



Draw Your Destiny at Emerson

Cartoonist Duane Abel visited Emerson and Edison elementary schools to share the four words of ongoing success that helped him become the youngest syndicated cartoonist in the world at 15.

His "Draw Your Destiny" assembly promotes goal setting and the value of education. Students learned the importance of work, study, learn and try, which will be valuable as they create their own personal goals this year for reading and math.

Little Bakers

Preschool students at the Dooley Center are preparing for their upcoming trip to the apple orchard. They are learning about how apples grow, when it is time to harvest them, how healthy they are, and various ways to prepare them. The little bakers used their creativity to make apple pies out of paper and Play Doh!



FRASER ATHLETICS ORGANIZES INAUGURAL YOUTH CHEER CLINIC

Fraser Varsity Cheer hosted its inaugural Youth Cheer Camp on September 15. During the school year, the Athletic Department will offer several clinics through various sport programs to elementary students. The Youth Cheer Camp was the first of these clinics.

"We hope to build a connection between these students and the high school kids," said Shane Redshaw, FPS Athletic Director.

The camp was open to students from grades 1-6. Each camper received 1.5 hours of cheer instruction for three days. During that time, the campers learned a routine, which they performed during halftime at the Fraser Varsity Football game on September 18.

With 74 participants, the camp was a great success. Both students and parents had a great time.

"Thank you so much for this opportunity for these girls. My daughters haven't stopped talking about this experience yet. This boosted their confidence so much!" commented one parent.

Another parent noted, "The girls worked so well with each and every child, as if they were their own family or sister."

Coach Danielle Leone said that the camp filled a need within Fraser for Youth Cheerleading and that it was so rewarding that she would like to offer another camp in the near future.



"We hope to build a connection between these students and the high school kids."

SHANE REDSHAW,
FPS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

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presents

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