



## 2009/2010 Grant Awards

Since 2004 CAPE has awarded approximately \$125,000 to fund 58 grants. For the 2009/2010 school year, CAPE awarded \$32,000 to fund 12 grants.

In the spring, 2009 Grant cycle, CAPE awarded a total of \$19,351 to fund the following 8 grants to be implemented in the 2009/2010 school year.

### Spring 2009 Grant Awards

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| <i>Project Name:</i> | <b>Raised Bed Gardens</b>  |
| <i>School:</i>       | John F. Kennedy Elementary   |
| <i>Applicant(s):</i> | Elisa Blanchard, Isabelle Andrei, Nicole Baldelli, Barbara Carbone, Julie Davidson |
| <i>Cost:</i>         | \$2,000  |

The Raised Bed Garden Project will construct and establish two small growing areas. Observing, questioning, measuring, testing predictions, and conducting experiments will all be done in the living laboratory of a vegetable and flower garden. The overarching goal is to have all students be able to answer the following questions in meaningful ways: How do plants grow? and, Why are plants important to us? Science classes will observe growth and change, plant life cycles, pollination, fruiting, and seasonal decay. Upper elementary students will have direct experience of the transfer of the sun's energy in a food chain. The intention is that every student in the school, before they graduate the fifth grade, will have had direct experience in the soil, observing growth, flowering, wilting, and harvesting.

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| <i>Project Name:</i> | <b>Cultural Connections Day</b>    |
| <i>School:</i>       | John F. Kennedy Elementary         |
| <i>Applicant(s):</i> | Meredith Carey, Jennifer Henderson |
| <i>Cost:</i>         | \$600.                             |

Cultural Connections Day is an innovative and creative way to build upon the English Language Arts, Literature, Social Studies and Music curriculum while introducing many students to foreign languages, foreign cultures, public speaking and theatre. The grant would allow for the purchase of a greater depth and breadth of resources for students to utilize as they prepare their presentations. Students will also be provided with more hands-on-activities to participate in during the "Mix It Up at Lunch" portion of the day as well as further resources to create more in depth trivia questions to challenge what they have learned and to share with their family.

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*Project Name:* **Poetry Book Clubs for Fourth Grades**  
*School:* John F. Kennedy Elementary  
*Applicant(s):* Barbara Crowley-Carbone  
*Cost:* \$1,100.

This project introduces Poetry Book Clubs as part of the reading program: to immerse the students in the imagery and language of poetry, in order for them to read, respond and write poetry all year long rather than as a periodic response to a Standard. Ultimately the students will publish their poems and thoughts about theirs and others' poetry on our school writing gallery site. (This is a part of the National Day of Writing being organized by National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE))

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*Project Name:* **Leadership Seminar**  
*School:* Canton Public Schools  
*Applicant(s):* John D'Auria  
*Cost:* \$698.

For the 2009-10 school year, the focus for the Leadership Seminar will be on creating and sustaining an organizational climate that promotes learning and constant improvement. As a vehicle for increasing understanding of this topic and providing a basis for meaningful dialogue and discussion, we will provide each leader/supervisor with a copy of Michael Fullan's book, *The Six Secrets of Change: What the Best Leaders Do to Help Their Organization*.

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*Project Name:* **Readers and Authors**  
*School:* Peter M. Hansen Elementary  
*Applicant(s):* Lisa Hansen, Lauren Mahan  
*Cost:* \$3,185.

This grant will provide students with the tools they need to become exceptional readers. These tools are carefully chosen books that have high interest and appeal for a variety of readers. The fourth grade team uses a "reading workshop" approach to the teaching of reading. This approach entails the explicit teaching of reading strategies through whole group, independent, and small group practices. The program is based on the research cited in *Mosaic of Thought* by Susan Keene and Ellin Zimmerman, the research conducted by Stephanie Harvey and Anne Goudvis, as well as research completed by Gay Su Pinnell and Irene C. Fountas. The crux of teaching reading this way is the classroom library. Students learn how to choose books that are "just right" for them through self discovery, book talks, student-written book recommendations, and teacher recommendation (and enthusiasm!).

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*Project Name:* **JFK Entrepreneurs: One Hen Takes Over the Farm**  
*School:* John F. Kennedy Elementary  
*Applicant(s):* Elisa Blanchard, Barbara Carbone, Jaime Cuddeback, Theresa Grogan,  
Meredith Carey, Nancy Mark, Jennifer Henderson  
*Cost:* \$2,050.

The team is proposing a project to investigate the connections to the math standards and curriculum and the social studies economics standards and curriculum, specifically the aspect of entrepreneurship and weave this into our already established One Hen curriculum. Additionally, the lessons on entrepreneurship touch heavily on “team work” and many of our entrepreneurial goals will also occur during our team building time. We would like to purchase four BizWorld Kits which provide 13 lessons based on entrepreneurship. The lessons are directly tied to the state math standards or social studies standards. We would also like to have our students and staff investigate web based sites such as BizKidz.com which allow a child to design and create his/her own store “fostering financial and business literacy”

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*Project Name:* **Galvin Outdoor Classroom**  
*School:* Galvin Middle School  
*Applicant(s):* Greg Noble, the Galvin Middle School Science Department  
*Cost:* \$2,880.

The “Galvin Outdoor Classroom” is an idea designed by the Galvin Middle School Science Department which focuses on establishing a setting for the study of the natural world through use of an outdoor assembly area and trail system. This project aims to allow a number of academic disciplines the opportunity to broaden their repertoire of lessons by providing a safe, structured learning environment in the outdoors.

The Outdoor Classroom project has two primary goals:

- To establish a permanent gathering / assembly space for up to 30 people in an outdoor environment in order to address any number of curricular or extra-curricular topics.
- To establish a trail system which fosters interaction with the diverse natural areas of the school grounds and adjacent undeveloped areas in a number of different ways.

All students and classes at the Galvin Middle School will have access to the outdoor classroom throughout the year. Faculty in each department at the Galvin have submitted a diverse range of ideas for how they would utilize the assembly area and trail system.

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*Project Name:* **Write to Learn**  
*School:* Galvin Middle School  
*Applicant(s):* Jim Spillane, Maureen Holland  
*Cost:* \$6,838.

Write To Learn (WTL) is an innovative web-based tool providing students automatic feedback on their reading and writing skills. This powerful tool is state of the art in classroom



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*Project Name:*     **Aegom Software**  
*School:*           Galvin Middle School  
*Applicant(s):*     Colleen McCarthy  
*Cost:*             \$899.

This project is an enhancement to the current SMART board pilot that is occurring within the Galvin Middle School Mathematics Department. The software has been developed to work directly with the SMART Board software "Notebook" and is meant to be used immediately by the teachers to help them with their lessons. This not only allows the teachers to use the technology more but also allows them to begin to create lessons that are more diversified.

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*Project Name:*     **Let Freedom Ring**  
*School:*           Galvin Middle School  
*Applicant(s):*     Elaine McCarthy, Phyllis Morgan, Nancy Flood  
*Cost:*             \$1,400.

This year the 8th grade social studies curriculum was changed to be a bridge curriculum between 5th and 10th grade American History curriculum. It is our hope to continue the tradition of the CAPE funded Civil War reenactment within the scope of the new curriculum guidelines. The students will reenact the Battle of Lexington and Concord. Within this process students will learn about the beliefs in the democratic process and the revolutionary idea that common people can govern themselves. Within this interdisciplinary unit, students will study the primary documents, personal letters, art music, science and history that made this a pivotal and momentous time in our nation's history. The reenactment will provide a backdrop for a comprehensive look at what our nation stands for; how far it has come; and what we need to do to complete our promise to all Americans.