

Ballston Spa Educational Foundation Presents Grant Awards

The Ballston Spa Educational Foundation (BSEF) awarded nine grants to Ballston Spa staff members in support of their mission to provide enrichment activities for the children of the district. The foundation awarded a total of \$9,738 during this fall cycle of grants, which brings their total contribution to the schools to over \$182,000 during the past ten years.

The High School received a \$3,588 grant, awarded to Mr. James Weed, toward the purchase of a Texas Instrument Navigator system to integrate student graphing calculators in a classroom setting.

Middle School instructors Valerie Valla and Kyle Noonan received a grant of \$1,990 for weather station equipment to implement a science department proposal to integrate more weather data into the classroom. Ms. Michelle Strenk and the Health Department received a \$1040 grant to acquire a new sound system to use in classes as part of the seventh grade health class curriculum.

At Malta Avenue Intermediate School, Librarian Marie Rossi received a grant of \$825 to purchase an Elmo projector to use in the media center. Physical Education Instructor Kara Echandy received an \$1140 grant to fund heart monitors to use with students as they learn about physical exercise and their heart rates. Equipment for a video production studio was also funded with a \$1155 grant given to Sheila Gregoire and Angelo D'Annibale.

Current BSEF Chairperson, Ms. Katherine Culbert, presented Superintendent Dr. Raymond Colucciello and Board of Education President, Mrs. Kathy Jarvis, with a check for \$9,737.62 to fund the grant awards. The Foundation will offer an additional cycle of grant awards in the spring.

The Foundation's major fundraisers include an annual golf tournament, held this year on August 27, 2007, an annual fundraising appeal in the spring and the Taste of Ballston Spa, held in March, when over a dozen local eateries provide samples from their menus.

The BSEF, a volunteer, not-for-profit corporation, has an IRS 501 (c) (3) designation and is registered with the Office of the New York State Attorney General, Bureau of Charities. The volunteer community members from the BSEF conduct all fundraising activities with no professional fundraisers retained. Contributions to the Ballston Spa Educational Foundation may be included in estate planning. Memorial remembrances also may be made through the use of memorial cards available at each of the Ballston Spa funeral homes.

For further information visit www.BSEF.8k.com or contact the BSEF at Ballston Spa Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 276, Ballston Spa, NY 12020 or by telephone at (518) 884-7195, Ext. 402.