



LAST APRIL, over 130 students competed in our first annual Spelling Bee. So mark your calendar for April 5. All students from Grades 2-6 are invited to participate. *More details to come!*



Courtesy of The Lincoln Journal



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## “HATS” off to teachers and staff this holiday season!

The holiday time is the perfect opportunity to participate in the Honor-A-Teacher & Staff (HATS) Program. This is your chance to recognize teachers and staff members in a meaningful way while also financially supporting the LSF grant program. For a donation of \$15, a faculty or staff member will receive a certificate of appreciation which includes the donor’s personal message. For a donation of \$50, the LSF will recognize five special individuals. Donors will receive a gift card for each honoree which maybe presented as the holidays approach.

Say “HATS” off to our faculty and staff this holiday season. Donation forms were recently sent home in your child’s backpack. Additional copies are available at the school offices. Questions? Please contact Sarah Liepert at 781-259-9850.

### How Can You Support the Lincoln School Foundation?

The Lincoln School Foundation welcomes and relies on your financial support. Please help us continue to fund important grants that enrich our students and schools. Simply return this form with your check payable to **Lincoln School Foundation** and mail to: Box 256, Lincoln, MA 01773.

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Benefactor</b> | <b>\$1,000 +</b>     |
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# Lincoln School Foundation

*Advancing Education Through Innovation*

December 2008

Dear Lincoln Friends & Neighbors,

Each year the Lincoln School Foundation has the honor of reviewing a broad array of grants submitted by teachers, administrators and community members. It is here that we learn about the exciting and innovative ideas being proposed to improve the education of our children. Whether the focus is curriculum enrichment, professional development, faculty collaboration, or a partnership with the parent community, each grant is evaluated closely to determine which will deliver the most significant impact on your child's learning experience.

This past spring, the Lincoln School Foundation awarded \$60,000 worth of new initiatives for our current, 2008-2009 school year. These programs, spanning the K-8 grades and a wide range of subject areas, are underway and making a difference today. Please enjoy learning more about a few of these grants as you read our newsletter. In addition, you will find a complete listing of all grants awarded for our current school year. It is these programs (and virtually hundreds of others in our 20 year history) that you, our generous donors, have made a reality for our children. A gift to the Lincoln School Foundation is truly a gift that keeps on giving.

Our goal is to support the Lincoln Schools at the same financial level for the 2009-2010 school year by raising \$50,000 prior to the start of our grant review cycle in March. While we are on our way, we need your help to reach our goal. During this current economic downturn, we anticipate that our school administrators will be faced with difficult choices which may have a direct impact on our children's curriculum. This makes your continued support and the work of the Foundation even more important. Please help us do our part to ensure that the Lincoln Schools continue to be among the best. For your convenience we have included a donation form on the back of our newsletter. As you consider your year-end charitable giving, we hope you will agree that the Lincoln School Foundation merits your continued support.

On behalf of the entire Lincoln School Foundation, we thank you and wish you a wonderful holiday season!

Sincerely,

Susan Beard and Stacy Mach  
Co-Chairs



*P.S. Don't forget our Honor-A-Teacher & Staff program for year-end gift-giving. It's a perfect way to celebrate any or all of those special staff members who support your child at the Lincoln School. Details inside!*



**P.S. Save the date!**  
*The 2nd Annual  
LSF Spelling Bee  
Sunday, April 5, 2009*

# Grants in Action: 2008–2009 Highlights

## Technology Integration: New Frontiers in Existing Curriculum

(Cindy Matthes, Instructional Technology Specialist)

**K**eeping up with technology can be challenging considering how quickly things change and advance. This past July, teachers from both Lincoln and Hanscom campuses participated in a Technology Institute. The goal was to learn how to integrate more technology into various parts of the curriculum.

Here is a sampling of some of the projects developed during this two-day event:

- *Second grade teachers incorporated video and online activities into their earth/moon unit*
- *Kindergarten teachers worked on a wind unit while other elementary school teachers worked on incorporating interactive whiteboard technology into literacy units*
- *Middle School art teachers worked on WebQuest and on adding Photoshop into their curriculum;*
- *A fifth grade teacher developed a unit on immigration that will incorporate web sites, writing in Microsoft word and the use of blogs*

- *A math specialist organized online math resources for students in an easy to use format that is accessible to all Lincoln teachers*

“Having an opportunity to focus on the benefits of technology and how it can help us better serve our students. . . has been very helpful,” said one teacher. “It takes time to look through the numerous possibilities and find ways to better organize these sites for easy access. Having the time to work with colleagues in a relaxed and uninterrupted way for two days was wonderful.” Integrating online content into the existing curriculum allows faculty to engage students differently and enhance their learning experience. In recent years the schools have invested heavily in technology. One of the greatest strengths of this grant is that it optimizes that investment while also meeting the needs of a 21st century classroom.

## Read all about it!

(Keith Johnson, Faculty)

**H**ot off the press! Now available—*Knightly News*, the new middle school student newspaper! This grant supported the development and production of a student-run Lincoln School newspaper focusing on Grades 5–8. The first edition of the newspaper was distributed to all middle school families in November covering academic achievements, athletics, and the arts while also touching on local, national and international topics. The production of the paper serves many purposes. It helps foster a greater sense of school community by enhancing communication of what is happening at the school. And, it also creates a forum for students to focus and write on what they think is important to share with each other in today’s world.

The sponsor, Mr. Johnson wrote “Last spring I approached the LSF with a grant to create a student run newspaper. The goal. . . was to show off all of the good things that students and staff are involved in. The LSF enthusiastically supported the grant and as a result the newspaper staff is proud to present our first edition to the community.” Look for the next edition of *Knightly News* in the new year!



# A Conversation with Mary Sterling



**FOR THOSE OF YOU** who haven't met Mary, she has always had a special interest in promoting professional learning in teachers and her resume is filled with a broad range of experience from middle school teacher, literacy specialist, and elementary school principal. Mary is currently in her second year at the Lincoln Schools as Assistant Superintendent.

## How important is the work that the LSF does?

In any school system it is essential to have a strong partnership between parents and teachers. Parents give of themselves through their volunteer work or financial contributions and they directly enhance what happens during the school day. School districts have so many responsibilities. Financially, we can't quite always make happen what we would like to have happen due to budgetary constraints. The LSF steps in and makes that extra dimension possible.

## What kind of impact does the LSF have with the teachers and students?

The LSF encourages teachers to think big, to think outside of the box, and to imagine what they dream about for their students. The Lincoln School Committee is quite supportive of professional development. However, sometimes teachers' particular areas of interest lie out-

side of what the School Committee might consider important for the overall district. The LSF makes it possible for these teachers to pursue professional development programs tailored to their specific, individual interests. Students are the true beneficiaries of this greater thinking.

## What is one program that stands out to you this year?

The brand new foreign language program which started this week is a new program focused on bringing foreign language to younger children in the school system in grades four and five. While funds for extending the foreign language program had already been set aside in the school budget, funding from the LSF allowed for an expert consultant in elementary foreign language study to be hired. This individual served as a guide advising the curriculum leader and will also conduct a program evaluation. Bringing in an outsider's perspective is one way of truly enhancing program development. This kind of program enrichment makes a difference by empowering the teachers and creating a better learning environment for the students while also enhancing the value of the partnership between the LSF and the school system.

## Additional Grant Awards 2008–2009

- After School Library Program
- "Be Somebody" Rob Surette Performing Artist
- EMPOWER: A strategy for teaching Expository Writing, Guided Reading
- Expanded Reading Curriculum, Grade 4
- Engineer with NXT: LEGO pilot
- Family Math Nights
- Freestylin' Frisbees
- High Performing Students: Task Force Resources
- Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture
- Manipulate Math
- Marching with the Minute Men
- New Spanish Language Curriculum
- Raising the Flag
- School Science Fair/Science Share
- Technology Integration in the Arts
- The Great Plains: America's Crossroads
- Tough Topics: 3 Theatrical Performances
- We Both Read & Understand
- Whales Alive
- Wireless Headset Microphones



Coming soon. . . [www.lincolnschoolfoundation.org](http://www.lincolnschoolfoundation.org)