



# Lincoln School Foundation

*Advancing Education Through Innovation*

May 2009

## Community Service, Science and Technology showcase 2009/2010 grant awards

It's been a busy spring for the Lincoln School Foundation. Today we are excited to announce twelve new grant awards, totaling over \$39,000 in funding, for the 2009/2010 academic year. Highlights include an important community service initiative for middle schoolers, enhanced science and composition curriculum for grades 2–4, faculty professional development in key technology areas, even a week-long, in-residence Circus Smirkus program as part of the K–3 physical education program. Take a few moments to read about all of these exciting programs, and more inside our newsletter. They underscore the important role the LSF plays in enhancing your child's learning, as well as the expertise of our faculty and staff.

Meanwhile, our spring fund-raising programs are in full swing. If you've already made a donation this year, thank you. If not, take advantage of the opportunity to **donate on-line** at our new website: **lincolnschoolfoundation.org**. There you'll be kept up-to-date on all LSF news and events. Also, don't forget the Honor-A-Teacher & Staff (HATS) program for year-end teacher gifts. This is a terrific way to say thank you to faculty for a great year of learning while also contributing to the important work of the LSF. A HATS donation form is included inside. Finally, the Old Town Hall Exchange is sponsoring an LSF Shopping Day on Thursday, May 28th. 10% of sales go directly to the LSF, so stop and shop on the 28th! Thank you, in advance, for your support.



Check our new website at **www.lincolnschoolfoundation.org** to donate on-line and keep up to date on LSF news and events.



Courtesy of The Lincoln Journal



### This Year's 2nd Annual Spelling Bee Created Quite the Buzzzzzzz . . .

On Sunday April 5th, more than 150 students in grades 3–6 from both the Lincoln and Hanscom campuses competed against their grade-level peers in teams of three. The competition was stiff but it was a great learning experience for all!

*(More photos on back page)*



*LSF Shopping Day!  
Old Town Hall Exchange  
Thursday, May 28th  
8 a.m. - Noon*

*Birthday gifts? Graduation gifts? Come by for coffee and shopping. 10% of sales benefit the LSF!*

# New Grant Initiatives for 2009–2010

## Service Learning

### Civic Engagement Conference for Grades 6, 7, & 8

The middle school social studies faculty has recently developed a community service learning initiative for inclusion in the social studies curriculum beginning in the 2009–10 school year. The goal is to engage middle school students on both Lincoln and Hanscom campuses in a “sustained effort to explore, understand and respond to current issues faced by our local, national, and world community.” These issues include conservation, climate change, homelessness, hunger, population growth, and literacy, among others.

As part of this initiative, the LSF is funding a Fall 2009 Civic Engagement Conference presenting a keynote speaker and a variety of breakout sessions involving (but not limited to) Project Bread, Water for People, Oxfam, The Food Project, Free the Children, and the Sudanese Educational Fund. Following the conference, students (with teacher support and guidance) will work as a class or in teams on a selected service learning project that will require some level of activism and culminate in a final presentation. The goal of this conference, and the more detailed exploration that will follow in class, is to help students recognize their individual role as citizens of the world, foster belief that one person’s efforts can make a difference, develop moral and civic responsibility, and learn from the experience of helping others.

*Author: Janice Fairchild, Social Studies Content Specialist*

## Technology Initiatives

This summer, the LSF is funding three important **Faculty Technology Workshops** in an ongoing effort to optimize the district’s significant investment in state-of-the-art software and hardware. Each 10-hour workshop will focus on a specific technology and provide hands-on demonstrations of how each can enhance student learning within the existing curriculum.



- **Creating & Editing Video** will train faculty in the use of a variety of software tools for video recording (Flip video cameras), searching and downloading from external sources (Discovery Education), and video editing (iMovie & Powerpoint).

*Instructor: Lisah Rhodes, Technology Integration Specialist*

- **Interactive Whiteboards** will demonstrate, through the use of Easiteach software, the power of the interactive whiteboard as a tool for simulations, games and other activities. Faculty will be able to customize content for their specific curriculum.

*Instructor: Monica Albuixech, Technology Integration Specialist*

- **Creating Teacher Websites** will train faculty on creating class websites in order to improve school-home communication. Through First Class software tools, faculty will design, create and format web pages, including a home page, class calendar, class newsletters, photo galleries and podcasts.

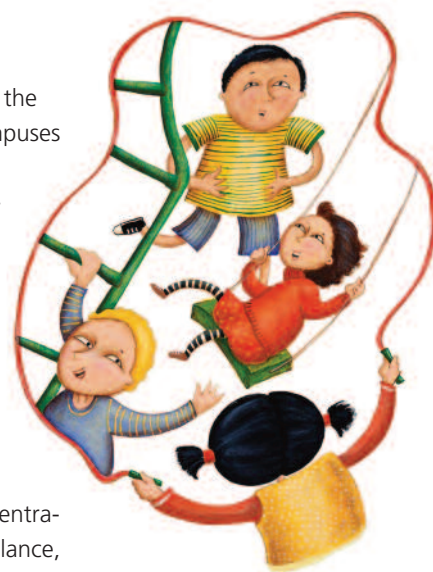
*Instructor: Mark McDonough, IT Specialist*

*Author: Mark McDonough, Instructional Technology Specialist*

## Health & Wellness

**Circus Smirkus** comes to the Lincoln and Hanscom campuses with a week-long in-residence program for all students in Grades K-3. A professional circus coach will introduce a broad range of circus arts including juggling, rolling globes, spinning plates, euro rings, trix sticks, diabolos and more designed to improve concentration, develop patience, balance, rhythm, reflexes, and fine motor skills. Students will be coached to employ the 10 “Circus Secrets”: try, try again, try a new way, go slow, step-by-step, stop and visualize, watch, wait, read, and listen. The grant provides for equipment, curriculum guides, plus an instructional dvd so that physical education staff may continue the curriculum for years to come.

*Author: Stacey Clarkin, Physical Education Faculty*



**Project Interface Mental Health Resource** funds access to a customized website of mental health professional services in order to meet the ever-increasing needs for 3rd party referrals within the Lincoln School community. Designed to improve the integration between school-based mental health services and those available in the community at large, Project Interface, will allow designated staff access to a much broader range of specialized outside service providers. Additionally, Project Interface offers a richer library of

information on mental health issues affecting children and families, including event listings and free resources. Staff will receive training on the uses and protocol for helping families navigate available services.

*Author: Ilene Spiro, Social Worker*



## Science Curriculum Enhancement for Grades 2, 3, & 4

The 2008/2009 academic year saw the addition of numerous new science units at the younger grade levels. With these additions comes the need to reflect, refine and enhance the curriculum to meet the needs of a diverse set of learners, including more advanced students. To that end, the LSF is funding three science grants designed to offer faculty uninterrupted time for the development of new and improved lesson plans which incorporate more advanced technology. As one faculty member put it: "Through this careful examination of our curriculum, we will affirm our commitment as teachers of science to allow our students to not just read about or listen to information, but to act as scientists who investigate the world around them—to do science!"

- **Grade 2: Earth's Movement in Space and Simple Machines**
- **Grade 3: Rocks & Minerals and Magnets**
- **Grade 4: The Sun, Earth & Moon and Life Cycles: Plants**  
*Authors: Debbie Carpenito, Grade 2; Scot Dexter, Grade 3; Terry Green, Science Faculty*

## Language Arts

**Writing for Upper Elementary Grades** funds the development of several language arts units of study designed around a project-based, long-term writing model. Initially targeted to 4th grade students, projects may include: personal narrative, persuasive writing, fiction, research, poetry anthologies and others. Lessons on style, grammar, mechanics, voice, and organization will be key components of each unit's design.

*Author: Jeffrey LaBroad, Grade 4 Faculty*

**SoundTree Technology** funds the professional training of Lincoln and Hanscom foreign language faculty (Spanish and French) on Soundtree, a new technology designed to record student pronunciations and facilitate group dialogues on line. Soundtree enables advanced instruction in interpersonal language skills and the ability to customize activities for a specific curriculum.

*Author: Karena Hansen, Language Content Specialist*

## Teacher/Parent Partnerships

**Fostering the Home School Connection** funds a series of four evening workshops for 5th grade Hanscom parents, students and teachers designed to increase involvement among the more-transient Hanscom parent community. Workshops will focus on four curriculum areas (reading, writing, math and social studies) presenting key concepts as well as activities for parents and children to do together. Take-home curriculum guides will also be made available.

*Author: Loretta D'Alessandro, Reading Specialist*

## Professional Development

**Crossroads of Empire: Cultural Contact and Imperial Rivalry at Old Fort Niagara** (National Endowment for the Humanities American History Summer Workshop) funds faculty participation in a NEH program on the interaction between Europeans and Native Americans in the struggle to control North America during the colonial era and the early years of American independence (currently part of the 8th grade history curriculum).

*Author: Steve Cullen, Gr.8 Social Studies Faculty*

**Children's Literature New England Second Colloquy** funds participation by a Library staff member in a half-week Children's Literature New England (CLNE) colloquy. CLNE is a non-profit educational organization designed to promote awareness of the significance of literature in the lives of children. During the colloquy, eight award-winning writers of children's literature present lectures whereby participants can explore the best in children's literature and its relationship to the developing child.

*Author: Nancy Rote, Librarian*



# Students spell S-U-C-C-E-S-S !

Competition was fierce as over 50 teams squared off in a spelling extravaganza. Congratulations to all the teams and especially these exceptional spellers: Grade 3 champions: Ruby Carmel, Isaac Newell, Chloe Graver Pingeon. Grade 4 Champions: Trishla Gandhi, Anite Ge, Tiffany Wu. Grade 5 Champions:

Avianna Carmoega, Claire Telfler, Nikki Yang. Grade 6 Champions: Jake Fox, Benjamin Liepert. "The day was, once again, filled with some nail-biting teamwork and wonderful competition", said Bonnie Higgins, Bee Co-Chair. "Thanks to all students, judges and volunteers for making the day a terrific success."



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< Clockwise from top left: Third-grade bee winners, "The Spell-binders" with their trophies; kids get psyched for the competition; fourth-grade bee winners, "The Rose Blossom Girls;" Bee organizer Betty Green briefs contestants with the rules; the fifth-grade bee winners, "The Honeycombs;" bee contestants patiently wait their turn; the sixth-grade bee winners, "Piggly Wiggles;" bee volunteers help with the judging