

March 18, 2013

For Immediate Release

Branson R-IV Education Foundation awards more than \$5,000 in Fall grants

Four Branson school teachers received surprise visits on December 10th and 11th, 2012, from Branson R-IV Education Foundation (BEF) members who awarded \$5,207.79 in grants for their classrooms needs. Recipients of the classroom funds were Misty Moore, Krystal Isringhausen and Robin Mackey from Branson Primary, and Matthew Tombs from Branson Intermediate.

A grant of \$800 was given to Moore to purchase a Smart Document Camera for her Kindergarten classroom. "When I am teaching a concept it is sometimes difficult for them to see." She says it's also hard, at five or six years old, for them to "visualize or understand without having a visual aspect." The Document Camera would allow her entire class to be engaged in the learning process.

Isringhausen received \$490.79 to purchase Leap Frog Leap Pads and Tag Readers for her Kindergarten reading program. "During guided reading time, the students who are not in my group are in learning corners. Reading corners are difficult for students who are not reading yet. This project would provide the opportunity for students to have more direct reading instruction when they are not reading with me." The Leap Pad has literacy and math games as well as books for the students. The Tag Reader pen allows student to touch words they don't know and the pad reads the word.

Mackey received \$1,917 for three iPads for the Parents as Teachers program. In 2011 P.A.T. trained in a new "online only curriculum that is designed for programs to go paperless and make record keeping and collaboration of information a more uniformed task." She says the iPads would allow the Parent Educators to maintain accurate records and provide immediate delivery of the new online Foundational Curriculum.

A grant of \$2,000 was given to Tombs to be used in purchasing a new MacBook Pro laptop for his Sixth Grade iPad Classroom. “The major objective for my iBooks Author-e Textbooks Project is to effectively utilize technology tools to create meaningful, content rich iBooks for students.” Although the students currently have iPads in their classroom, the MacBook Pro “is necessary to download and utilize the free iBooks Author-e, which can only be downloaded on a Mac.” He intends to “design, create and publish content-rich nonfiction eTextbooks for student use in the area of social studies” and notes that the students will be able to do the same.

BEF’s primary funding comes from its Superhero Showdown 2 which raised more than \$31,000 in September of last year.

The Branson R-IV Education Foundation was founded in September 2010 by like-minded Branson community residents to establish a means for accepting financial donations and managing them under one roof. The Foundation is independent of the Branson R-IV School District, but serves to complement the district. As a 501(c)(3) organization, the Foundation will support and fund academic and vocational instructional programs and educational co-curricular activities for the Branson school district. The Foundation will also provide scholarships and grants, and other types of financial assistance to students and teachers.

To find out more about the Branson R-IV Education Foundation and how to make a difference in a young person’s life, go to www.BransonEducationFoundation.org.

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For more information, contact BEF chairwoman Karen Hall at 417-527-6721.



Bill Quigg, BEF Board member; Misty Moore, grant recipient; and Dr. Michelle Collins, Principal



Sally Meadows, BEF Board member; Krystal Isringhausen, grant recipient; Dr. Michelle Collins, Principal; Bill Quigg, BEF Board Member



Sally Meadows, BEF Board member; Janette Etz, P.A.T.; Robin Mackey, P.A.T.; Bill Quigg, BEF Board member



Sally Meadows, BEF Board member; Matt Dean, Principal; Matthew Tombs, grant recipient; Bill Quigg, BEF Board member; iPad classroom students