



GPFPE

Grosse Pointe Foundation
for Public Education

WINTER 2019

THE TORCH

gpfpe.org

Join us for our Annual Spring Gala



GPFPE Annual Spring Gala



"Be the Beacon"

Saturday, April 13, 2019

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

6:00 - 11:00 PM

8:30 Live Auction

Raffle and Wine Pull

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A Letter From Our President

This issue of The Torch, the newsletter of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education (GPFPE), is filled with outstanding news and information about the work of the GPFPE. We hope you'll take a moment to read it over and learn more about all we've accomplished since the start of the new year.

We're delighted to recognize those who have given to our annual appeal as they help make all we do possible. Thank you!

We're also excited to share details of our upcoming Spring Gala taking place Saturday, April 13th at the beautiful Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. I hope you can join us. Finally, you'll find in depth coverage of some of the grants we've supported recently and more about *The Leader in Me*.

Thank you for taking the time to find out more about our work and for your continued support in Enriching, Engaging, Inspiring our Future.

Warm regards,

Bob Bury

2018 Fall Grants Awarded

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Essential Early Elementary Intervention (Grades 1-3) Defer, Kerby, Monteith, Maire, Mason, Trombly (\$19,729) | Pierce (\$5,000) |
| 2. Story Champs: Teaching Narrative Language (Grades K-5) Defer (\$315) | 11. Gearheads Robotics (Grades 9-12) North and South (\$2,000) |
| 3. Yoga as a Restorative Practice (Grade 3) Poupard (\$158) | 12. Chromebooks for the Alternative Learning Center (Grades 9-12) North (\$1,312) |
| 4. Sensory Space (Grades K-5) Richard (\$1,500) | 13. Chromebooks for Art Department (Grades 9-12) South (\$9,261) |
| 5. Novels to Supplement ELA (Grades 6-8) Brownell (\$2,500), Pierce (\$2500) | TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED |
| 6. Lee Conmigo – Read with Me (Grades 6-8) Brownell (\$697) | THIS CYCLE = \$54,748 |
| 7. Disc Golf – (Grades 6-8) Brownell (\$2,924) | |
| 8. Field Tripping with Visual Reality (Grades 6-8) Brownell (\$352) | |
| 9. New Choir Uniforms (Grade 6-8) Parcels (\$1,500) | |
| 10. Drum and Percussion Instruments (Grades 6-8) Parcels (\$5,000) and | |



Photo courtesy of Erin DiLodovico.

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Make a gift to the GPFPE or join us as a volunteer. For more information, visit gpfpe.org or call us at (313) 432-3058.

Physics Grant Allows for More Classroom Experimentation

Grosse Pointe South High School's physics department received a grant from the GPFPE in October 2017 for motion sensor detectors on tracks used in science experiments. With more tracks available for experimentation, students in Todd Hecker's Physics classes have had access to more hands-on learning experiences. The additional tracks have made learning about Newton's Laws and Kinematics easier to understand as students study the motion, position, and velocity of carts traveling on a track. Hundreds of students will get a chance to use the carts each year in South classrooms.

As Mr. Hecker points out, being able to use the track and sensor system gives real data for graphing as opposed to the stopwatches and meter sticks that were utilized in the past. The motion detectors act like a radar gun and send sonar waves as the cart hits the object and bounces back down the track.

*"I don't learn as well with textbooks as I do with hands-on."
– Colleen, 12th gr.*



*"Using the tracks makes it easier to understand and get a visual...and they're cool to work with."
– Ben (12th gr.) and Bobby (11th gr.)*

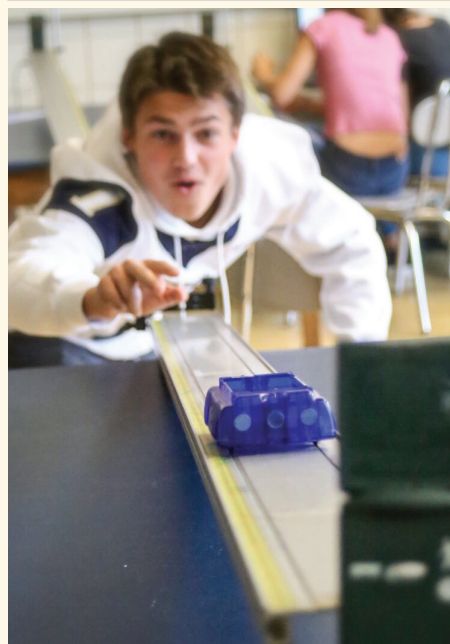


Photo courtesy of Erin DiLodovico.

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All photos courtesy of Erin DiLodovico.

Trombly LIM Fox Fables

A library activity for the multiage classroom at Trombly resulted in fables with the moral of the story being one of the *Leader in Me* seven habits.



The Fox and the Cat

One day, a cat was working hard in the garden. The cat didn't know there was a hole in the garden fence. But she set a genius trap to protect her flowers just in case. The next day, the unsuspecting fox came in through the hole in the fence. The cat hid behind the trap and was ready to push the button to unleash the trap. The fox crept into the trap and SNAP! The fox was captured. "Sorry but not sorry, Fox! Bye!" said the cat sassily.

Moral: Be proactive!

Matilda

Bebe

Declan

Emily



The Fox and the Mouse

One day Fox and Mouse saw an ice cream parlor, and they went into crime to steal some ice cream. They said "Let's go get some!" Then Mouse said, "I see a hole. I can crawl through the hole and get the ice cream without any one seeing me!" So, Mouse went through the hole and got a giant waffle cone with four scoops and whipped cream and a cherry on top. But, when he tried to pull the ice cream back through the hole to share with Fox, the cone shattered and the ice cream fell with a SPLAT!

Moral: Begin with the end in mind!

JORDAN

Lydia

Bella

NORA



The Fox and the Crayfish

Once, there were four crayfish at an amusement park. They all wanted cotton candy from the fox who was selling it. But if the fox saw them, he would gobble them up. They all had their own idea of how to get the cotton candy. They started bickering, and then one crayfish said, "We should work together!" "Nahh," they all said together and they started bickering again. They each wanted to do it themselves. The fox saw them and chased them away, and they never dared to come back for the cotton candy.

Moral: Synergize!

Ben S.

HENRY B.

GORDON W.



The Fox and the Turtle

One day a fox and a turtle went to a library. They both wanted to get the same book. But the fox went and played video games on the library computers while the turtle found the book and checked it out. When fox was done playing video games, he saw turtle walking away with the book.

Moral: Put first things first!

Jack

PHOEBE

CLAIRE

Defer Elementary School - *Leader In Me*

Signs that Defer Elementary has embraced the *Leader In Me* are evident all over the school. Defer is in its second full year of the program, and everything from the morning student announcements, to the wall art, to the way the children interact, demonstrates they are living the seven habits. Funded by the GPFPE, *Leader In Me*, is a whole school transformational model that allows educators to unleash students' full potential based on the idea that every child can be a leader.

On a recent visit, GPFPE board members watched the Student Leadership Team conduct the monthly all-school Town Hall assembly in the morning. After lunch they visited Dragon Dens, which are small groups of students from all grades that meet to learn more about one of the seven habits or do an all-school project. In between those two structured events GPFPE representatives were able to take in all the student-designed murals and other hallway decorations that reflect LIM habits, as well as participate in some lunchtime enrichment.



"Implementing a common language across all classes and all grades in the school has made this the most effective program we've ever used."

– Jane Nugent, Defer Teacher

What is Your Favorite Habit?

- "Be Proactive – To do something without being asked." (Kindergartener)
- "Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood – You have to know someone before you can make things work with them." (3rd grader)
- "Begin with the End in Mind – This helps you plan so things can work the way you want." (4th grader)
- "Synergy – we can all help each other because we're good at different things." (2nd grader)



Why is Leadership Important?

- "Leadership helps you with your schoolwork, your friends, your teachers, everything. Instead of just telling the kids to behave well, we have these actual seven habits that we follow to help us." (5th grader)
- "To be a leader means to be kind and do the right thing." (1st grader)
- "Our program doesn't just rely on one leader. Things like kindness and other habits promotes more people to be leaders. When there's multiple people to follow and each person is different and unique, there's someone for everyone to relate to." (5th grader)



389 St. Clair Avenue
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*Enriching, Engaging,
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Photos courtesy of Lisa Vreede.



GPFPE

Grosse Pointe Foundation
for Public Education

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education brings our community together to fund extraordinary educational opportunities for our children.

Our Guiding Values

We strive to demonstrate the following in all that we do:

Collaboration: We search out and develop partnerships to better serve our students and community.

Responsibility: We pledge to be accountable to our partners, donors, volunteers and the students we serve.

Innovation: We strive to be forward thinking and inclusive.

Impact: We enhance our school system, our greater community and as a result, our world.

Empowerment: We fund programs that help each student realize his or her full potential.

gpfpe.org