



BOXFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS TRUST, INC.

www.bestforboxford.org

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**B.E.S.T. Grants Over \$8,000 in to Boxford Schools for
Educator-in-Residence Programs and Technology**

“Think Green” Initiative to Bridge Curriculum and the Environment Underway

Boxford, MA – DATE, 2009 – Boxford Elementary Schools Trust (B.E.S.T.), the town’s non-profit educational foundation, announced that it has granted over \$8,000 to Boxford’s Elementary schools for new educator-in-residence programs and technology to be implemented this winter and spring. The educator-in-residence programs include a “Nature of Animals and Art” sculpting program and a “Dixieland/Modern Jazz Band” performance and workshop which is geared towards advanced band participants. An additional SMART Board has been granted for a 5th grade classroom at the Spofford Pond School. All grants are sponsored by Cuvée Storage Systems, B & G Cabinet, Heartwood Kitchen & Bath Cabinetry, Howell Design & Build, ND Landscaping, Inc., Northway Builders, CEM Home Maids and Jackson Pools.

B.E.S.T. volunteers have also been busy bringing its “Think Green” campaign to life which will focus on environmental enrichment programs. As part of this effort **B.E.S.T.** is selling reusable grocery bags featuring artwork from Boxford Elementary school students. To purchase your green bags today please visit the B.E.S.T. website at www.bestforboxford.org.



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The Nature of Animals and Art Educator-In-Residence

Sculptor and certified early childhood educator Sarah Seabury Ward, will spend two weeks, **March 2nd – 13th**, at the Harry Lee Cole School working hands-on with all Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade students to create sculptures which connect art and science curriculum areas. Her work is currently part of an exhibit at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA called “Polar Attractions”.

“Working with Sarah is an amazing opportunity for the students at Cole,” said Pam Dalton, art teacher at Cole. “By creating sculptures, the students will be connecting art and science in a very natural way, while further understanding animals, their natural habitat, and awareness of our environment.”

Each grade level at Cole will be instructed through a unique sculptural process directly by Sarah, working in some sculptural form with wet clay or paper clay. This grant support’s B.E.S.T.’s new “Think Green” initiative to help fund programs for Boxford’s schools that infuse environmental awareness into the curriculum.

Dixieland/Modern Jazz Band Educator-In-Residence

A seven member Dixieland/Modern Jazz band will perform for the Spofford Pond Elementary School children during an all school assembly, followed by 1 - 1.5 hours of master classes for 6th grade advanced band participants with the professional band members. The event will occur on **April 13th** to coincide with America’s annual Jazz appreciation month. This program will help bring a uniquely American style of music to life, provide a positive social interaction with students, and enhance band participants’ knowledge and skills with hands-on learning with actual performers.

“Our most sincere thanks to B.E.S.T and the Boxford Cultural Council for their support of our goal to bring music to all children at Spofford Pond,” said Andrea Monty, music teacher at Spofford



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Pond School. “This funding will allow us to teach students about Dixieland music and its contributions to modern American jazz in an enjoyable forum.”

SMART Board for Spofford Pond

B.E.S.T. continues to support Boxford educators in leveraging technology teaching tools for curriculum enrichment. All Boxford classroom teachers were provided with laptop computers and nearly all classrooms were provided with installed SMART Board technology in 2009 through grants provided by B.E.S.T. with support from P.T.O. B.E.S.T. granted an additional 5th grade classroom will a new SMART Board which was installed in January.

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