



BEST supports the long-term needs of the Boxford elementary schools by funding grants for innovative teaching techniques, tools, professional development or teaching strategies that create substantive positive improvement in our schools.

Past grant awards are as follows:

Summer of 2014:

- \$15,000 - A state-of-the-art science pilot in grade 5 - **Science from Scientists** - that brings actual scientists into the classroom to run experiments and provide enhanced instruction every two weeks throughout the school year, with generous support from *New England Biolabs*
- \$15,000 - A **complete 1:1 iPad classroom** for Ms. Sheldon's 6th grade class, with generous support from *Institute for Savings*.
- \$11,000 - A comprehensive teacher development course called the **Power of Words**, which will be implemented at both Cole and Spofford Schools. It focuses on verbal communication in the school environment and how word choice impacts student development and confidence;

Spring 2014

1. Construction of the **greenhouse and the weather station** at Spofford School
2. **Smartboards** in every classroom at both Cole and Spofford School
3. iPads and TV monitors for the **digital art studios** at both Cole and Spofford schools
4. iPads for small group instruction in **Mrs. Suther's 1st grade class**
5. A complete 1:1 iPad classroom in **Mrs. Puglisi's 2nd grade class**

Fall 2013

Enhanced Learning Initiative - \$65,901

Fundraising for the [Enhanced Learning Initiative](#) began in the fall of 2013 and continues. So far we have funded:

- \$18,087: **iPads for each student in Ms. Thaya Puglisi's Grade 2 classroom**. This is the first one-to-one iPad classroom in the district. Some of the funds for this grant were acquired from the *Perley-Parkhurst-Cole Trust Fund* and *New England Biolabs*. Ms. Puglisi is planning to use the Stanley travel log project, Educreations, Doodle Buddy, and Show Me to allow students to create presentations and demonstrate their learning in cooperative ways. She also will use Tell Time, Splash Math, and Learn Money to extend mathematical learning. And applications like Sock Puppets in ELA to enhance comprehension, accuracy, fluency, and vocabulary development. Ms. Puglisi's grant included the following goals:
 - to utilize these innovative teaching and learning tools to enhance the current curriculum
 - to engage students in learning independently, with partners and within small groups
 - to allow all students to experience technology, meeting the CCSS, and preparing them for success in their technological world
 - to embrace the shift from learning to use technology to using technology to learn
- \$47,814: **iPads for each student for the Art rooms at both Cole and Spofford schools**. The iPads are used to teach Digital Painting, for viewing art references and examples, for taking photographs and making videos, and for building a digital portfolio of their work. A Television is colorful and clear, even in a bright sunny classroom, making it possible for students to really see the art. These grants were paid for through the *Harriet Ernst endowment*, which is managed by BEST.

Fall, 2013 - Spring, 2014 - \$10,310

- \$1,134 - Professional Development on Executive Functioning for SPED team (Spofford)
- \$2,608 - a Television for the Art room *Funded by Harriet Ernst Endowment Fund* (Spofford)
- \$3,680 - 6 iPads for Ms. Suther's class for small group learning (Cole)
- \$229 - Professional Development on iPad training for Ms. Frost
- \$2,659 for 4 iPads, applications, and cases for SPED small groups (Spofford) *Funded with help from the John Thomas Foundation*

Fall, 2012 - Spring, 2013 - \$27,763

- \$450 - iPad for Counselors to improve social/emotional learning
- \$200 - Speech/Language Therapy apps for iPad
- \$2,500 - iPads, apps, and JustStands for Kindergarten (Cole)
- \$3,066 - HD TV, iPad and AppleTV for Art (Spofford)
- \$832 - Math in Focus workbooks for Grade 2 (Cole)
- \$9,252 - iPads for Multi-Age Classrooms *Funded by Harriet Ernst Endowment Fund* (Cole)
- \$1,000 - Harriet Ernst Greenhouse *Funded by Harriet Ernst Endowment Fund* (Spofford)
- \$897 Smart Board Speakers for Special Education (Spofford)
- \$7,685 - iPads for Spofford Pond School (Spofford)
- \$1,881 - Cetacea Classroom Sound System pilot for two classrooms (Spofford)

Fall, 2011 - Spring, 2012 - \$14,348

- \$959 - iPad Technology Integration in Learning (Cole)
- \$5,033 - Using ELMO as a Tool for 21st Century Learning (Cole)
- \$2,400 - Boxford without Bounds: Connecting our Students with Nature (Cole)
- \$639 - iPad for Speech and Language Services (Spofford)
- \$302 - Interactive Comprehension: Games for Smartboard (Spofford)
- \$1,000 - Guided Reading – Professional Development (Spofford)
- \$1,220 - SPED Elmo – Innovative Teaching Tools (Spofford)
- \$1,500 - Social Skills iPad (Spofford)
- \$700 - 3rd and 4th grade SPED Learning Center ELMO (Spofford)
- \$595 - Third Grade Kindle (Spofford)

June, 2008

BEST finished the Touched by Technology Capital Campaign, donating \$180,000 to provide laptop computers to every classroom teacher and SMART boards with LCD projectors in every classroom.