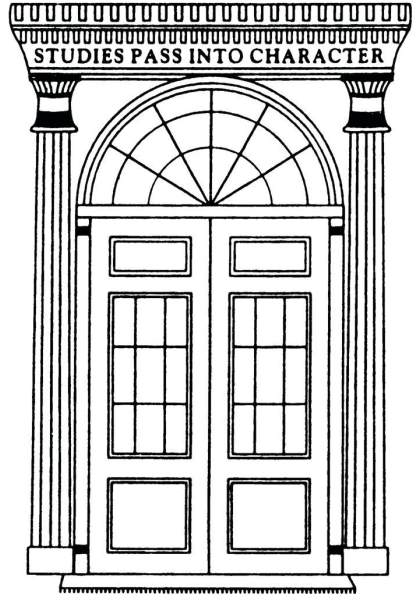
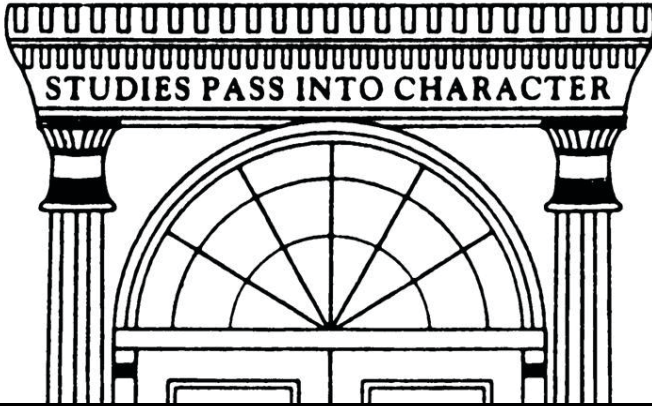


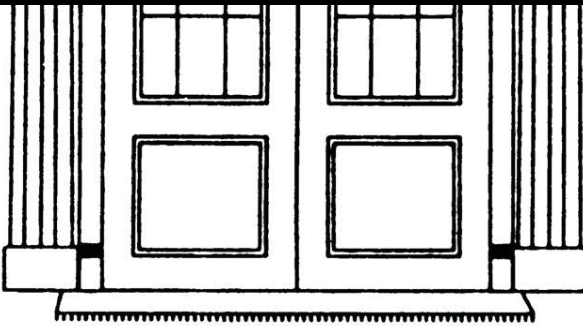
The Essex Fells  
Foundation  
for Educational  
Excellence

*Annual Report*  
*2015-2016*





A Personal Commitment  
to Public Education





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June 2016

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The Essex Fells Foundation for Educational Excellence would like to thank you for your continued generosity and support of the Essex Fells School.

The Foundation has the good fortune to work closely with our superintendent, Michelle Gadaleta, as well as school administrators, faculty, the Board of Education and the PTA, all playing pivotal roles in our school. It truly is a team effort.

This past year has been an exciting one for the Foundation. We have been proud to fund many wonderful programs for the children at our beloved Essex Fells Elementary School. Examples of a few of the wonderful programs that the EFFEE has funded through grants are a 3-D printer, a chick hatching program, TREP\$ marketplace to encourage entrepreneurship in young children, "Pick a Packet" and "Stories with Holes" to foster critical thinking, logical reasoning and challenge children to solve challenging problems, computer literacy and coding clubs, co-funding the pilot STEAM with the BOE, and the annual school musical production of "Peter Pan". As you can see, it has been a very busy and really exciting year for the Foundation and the students at Essex Fells School! We are always so proud to be able to fund these incredible programs for our children and be able to enhance their educational experience at EFS.

The Foundation's success would not be possible without an ongoing collaborative effort from the entire school community and Essex Fells residents. It is because of your financial support that we are able to continue to offer such innovative and essential programs to the children and we are so grateful for this.

I am so thankful for the continued generosity of our incredible community and the tireless dedication of the Foundation's Trustees.

Respectfully yours,

Maggie O'Connor  
President

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

### **Income:**

<i>Gifts Received</i>	36,847	
<i>Estate Sale/June 4th BBQ</i>	5,816	
<i>Peter Pan Income</i>	571	
<i>Variety Show</i>	515	
<i>Afterschool Enrichment</i>	13,704	
<i>Interest Income</i>	13	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>57,466</b>

### **Expense:**

#### Grant Disbursements:

<i>Student Enrichment</i>	19,894	
<i>Classroom</i>	16,548	
<i>Cultural Arts</i>	16	
<i>Math and Science</i>	1,605	
<i>Technology</i>	7,562	
<i>Will Redmond Learning Center</i>	1,917	
Total Grant Disbursements	<b>63,089</b>	
Administrative Expenses	<b>3,372</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>66,461</b>

### **NET PROCEEDS (EXPENDITURES) FOR THE YEAR \$ (8,995)**

Fund Balance June 30, 2013 \$ 62,945

Fund Balance June 30, 2014 \$ 53,950

# ***Grants Approved***

## **Student Enrichment Grants 2015 - 2016**

### ***Student Store: J. Whitman***

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will continue to operate the student store, selling pens, pencils, erasers, bookmarks, notepads, crayons, colored pencils and material for various projects. Funds raised go to a charity selected by the students at the end of the year.

### ***Art Club: K. Mc Nish, J. Trogani***

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be working on an art enrichment activity that will involve designing, developing, and painting of the hallway mural. The half year activities begin in October – December will be adding the mural on the hallway going down to the music room. This is an ongoing project with each year's 6<sup>th</sup> grade adding to the mural.

### ***2016 Variety Show: N. Buonomo, J. Trogani***

The annual Variety Show includes participants from Grades 3-6. Students show off their best talents: singing, dancing, comedy, and more! This is a great way for the children to explore performing arts in a fun and engaging way.

### ***Yearbook Club: S. Dalton***

A new Yearbook Club for the 6th graders is being formed to begin working on the 2013-2014 yearbook using Entourage Yearbooks online. Six sessions of the Yearbook Club will be held during lunch hours once a week. Students will work with the teacher to complete as much of the yearbook as possible before turning the project over to the PTA for completion.

### ***Recorders: J. Trogani***

This grant represents an annual rite of passage for our EFS 3rd graders as they are introduced to the baroque recorder. The grant will purchase 30 TD 200 recorders with case and cleaning rods.

### ***Bingo/Grades 1 to 3: D. Hromoko***

This lunchtime club offers bingo to Grades 1 to 3 during the winter months, from December to March. Each class will select five students per week to take part in bingo.

### ***Stories with Holes and 24 Club: J. Whitman***

"Stories with Holes" introduces logic stories that stimulate critical and creative thinking skills for students in Grades 4-6. 24 Club is a gifted and talented math club that is open to all students in Grades 4-6. The students use mental math to arrange the math cards and arithmetic signs into a formula that makes 24.

### ***Newspaper Club: K. McLain***

This grant will fund a pilot program for Grades 4-6 to design and create one newspaper publication per marking period. If there is sufficient student interest, the program will extend to become a bi-monthly publication.

***Art Club: K. McNish, J. Trogani***

This Sixth Grade activity will include the development of both individual paintings on the ceiling of the art room as well as touch up existing hallway murals.

***Yearbook Club: S. Dalton***

This grant will continue the Yearbook Club for the 6th Grade students as they work together to produce the yearbook.

***“Pick a Packet”: D.Hromoko, L.Massaro, L.Brutman***

The students will be put into groups and move from table to table solving challenging problems, requiring them to work together to complete a number of higher level thinking activities, word scramble, analogies and math problems. Teams earned points based on their work.

***Family Math Nights: D.Hromoko, J.Whitman***

Five nights of Math Family Night to help teach the children how to explore and strategically solve problems in the world.

***TREP\$: S.Dalton, S. Hacker, M. Craveiro***

Award Winning Entrepreneurship Education Program for Grades 4 - 6. The TREP\$ Program teaches kids in grades 4-8 how to start their own businesses in 6-8 weeks. They learn the lessons in the 6 weekly workshops, and apply them at home as they build their business with the help of their families. The whole school community comes out to enjoy the TREP\$ Marketplace, held right at the school, where the young entrepreneurs launch their businesses together. TREP\$ can be offered as part of the curriculum or as after-school enrichment and can be taught by teachers or by volunteers in the school community.

***STEAM: Co-funded with the Board of Education***

The philosophy of STEAM revolves around the concept that: STEAM = Science & Technology interpreted through Engineering & the Arts, all based in Mathematical elements. STEAM Education provides the framework used for connecting the growing network of educational disciplines, businesses and communities to create adaptable citizen-involved, globally-responsible, reality-based programs for developing for life-long FUNctional literacy for all. STEAM is a way to teach how all things relate to each other, in school and in life. It's more fun than traditional learning styles and makes more sense to all types of learners because it is based on the natural ways that people learn and are interested in things. STEAM provides an avenue for formally teaching the inter-relationships of how subjects relate in real-life. STEAM-style education can be enjoyably and meaningfully delivered in more engaging and deeply embedding ways within the already well-established realm of education.

***Computer Literacy: M.Craveiro***

Computer literacy and word processing clubs for students in Grades 2-3.

***All School Party “As We Swim Together”:* C.Codella*****Co-funded with the PTA***

The co-funding for the All School Party. This year it is a field trip for the entire school to the SplashPlex water park in East Hanover. The theme of the school year was “As we Sim Together” and throughout the year at each monthly spirit meeting the students are encouraged with a different message each month to “swim together”. It is character building and team building throughout the year that culminates in a celebration for all the students at the end of the year in June.

**Classroom Discretionary Grants 2015 - 2016*****Study Hall: N. Buonomo, M. Craveiro, S. Dalton, C. Belmont, S. Hacker, J. Whitman, M. Barshay, E. Calistri***

The Study Hall program is available to students in Grades 4-6 who feel they need extra time in order to stay current with their class work and homework. Participation is voluntary. Study Hall runs for the 50 minute, recess/lunch period and has proven to be beneficial to the students.

***Creative Writer’s Club: M.Craverio***

Creative Writer’s Club is a 6 week program designed for 10-15 students who have a passion for writing. The Springtime Creative Writing Club is a fun way for young author’s to come together to write, improve and share their work. They explore different writing topics based upon the student’s interest.

***Quiver Farms Chick Hatching: J. Whitman***

Quiver Farms comes to the school and brings all the necessary chick hatching equipment. They supply eggs, an incubator and a brooder box to the school and the children are able to monitor the hatching progress. The chicks hatch a week after the eggs arrive at the school.

***Pottery Wheels for the Art Room: K. McNish***

Funding to purchase two pottery wheels for the art room for students to learn hands on how to create pottery.

***3-D Printer: J.Castellano***

The purchase of a new 3 D Printer, 3 D Scanner and filament. This will implement a new level of technology by having the students invent, designing create objects in 3 D form. 3 D Printing is a process that creates a physical form from a digital design,

***Stamp and Ink Pads for the Art Show: K.McNish***

The purchase of stamps and ink pads to keep with the theme of an ‘All around the World’ art show. The students will have passports that will be stamped as they visit the various countries represented in the all school art show.

***Sketchbooks/Journals for Kindergarten Classes: K.McNish***

A program for Kindergarten students that would be utilized during art class and class meeting. Each student is given a sketchbook/journal to use during specific lessons in class. This journal will be kept in school and used each year as they grow through 6th grade. At the end of 6th grade it will be given to the student to take home as a memory book.

**Math and Science Grants 2015 - 2016*****Buehler Challenger & Science Center: M. Craveiro - 5th Grade***

The Buehler Challenger & Science Center provides a simulated space mission entitled "Rendezvous with Comet Halley," where a scientific probe is launched into the tail of the comet. Student work in teams to problem solve and to make decisions beneficial to the entire mission. The Challenger Center experience increases the students interest in science, math, and technology. It also helps students develop realistic processes of cooperation, communication, critical thinking and problem solving.

**Cultural Arts Grants 2015 - 2016*****Annual School Musical: D. Banek***

The Foundation has approved a grant request to fund the annual school musical, which will include participation of Grades 4-6. The production for this year was "Peter Pan".

***Microphones: D.Banek, J.Trogani***

Funding for the purchase of 5 new wireless microphones to be used for the school play and other performances.

***Author Visit - Diane DeGroat: K.Trafford***

Diane deGroat is an award-winning illustrator of over 130 books. She has also written and illustrated the best-selling series about Gilbert - everyone's favorite opossum.

***All School Assemblies: C.Codella***

Hip Hop Fundamentals, Freestyle Repertory Theatre and Pushcart Players all came for assemblies that were presented to the entire school.

***AIMSWEB: D.Emma***

A pilot program for students in Grades K-2. This is a computer based tool which is used to universally screen, progress monitor, and maintain data records regarding student's foundational skills in reading, writing, and math. The information gained from AIMSWEB assessment helps teachers identify students that might need early intervention. AIMSWEB assessments are administered three times a year for all students and used on an individual basis for progress monitoring.



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## DONATIONS IN KIND

A very special Thank You to the following individuals:

**Ron Scalici**

“Peter Pan” Ad Journal Artwork

**Dawn Farese**

Design & Production of “Peter Pan” T-Shirts

**Midnight Media Group**

Production of “Peter Pan” Video and DVD

These lists have been prepared with great care. However, despite our sincere efforts to avoid omissions or inaccuracies, we know they can occur. If any are noted, we hope you will accept our apology and advise us of the error.

The Essex Fells Foundation for  
Educational Excellence  
thanks you for your generosity  
and continued support.

The Essex Fells Foundation for  
Educational Excellence's  
fiscal year runs from  
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

