

Easton Learning Foundation News

Welcome back to school!!! ELF welcomes new and returning families as they begin a brand new school year. We hope everyone had a relaxing and fun summer. Over the summer, ELF was hard at work collaborating with teachers and administrators to help make this an exciting academic year.

ELF welcomes new President and Board members

ELF is delighted to announce that Bernadette Waterman is our new President! Her energy, intelligence and passion for education make her a wonderful leader for ELF in its 5th year. Also, Lisa Knopf is ELF's new Secretary. Thank you to Ann Leibell, our past president, and Barbie Powell, our past Secretary, for their outstanding service and continuing support as board members. They are joined by new board members Lisa Glynn and Sue Torres. Thanks for bringing your talents to ELF!

SMARTboards in Every Classroom!

With the tremendous financial support of Easton residents and their employers, businesses, friends and families, ELF has funded the installation of SMARTboards in every classroom at SSES and HKMS! ELF and its sister organization, The Redding Education Foundation, also co-funded 29 SMARTboards at Joel Barlow High School.

Teacher training has taken place over the summer and will continue. We will support the use of this technology through professional development and grants. The 2008/2009 school year will be an exciting time of innovation and learning for students and teachers alike.

New "Green Grant"

ELF is excited to launch a "Green Grant" program. We are making grants available to fund educational projects that promote the town wide commitment to protecting our environment and making Easton a more environmentally friendly place to live. The purpose of the Green Grant is to encourage Easton citizens and school employees to become involved in solving environmental problems.

Mission Accomplished: Grant highlights

- DNA Necklaces – Nancy Culliton (HKMS)
- Social Studies and Election 2008 – Darcy Scholz (SSES)
- Take a Walk in My Shoes – Carol Weinsel (HKMS)
- One Book One Community – Easton Public Library
- Lakota Jewelry Project – Lee Skalkos (JBHS)
- Skywatch Telescope – Linda Maggi (HKMS)
- Easton to Uganda – Karen Woodford (SSES)
- Gardening is Elementary – Amy Fulton (SSES)
- Redesigning the American High School : Harvard University - Thomas Kilbourne (JBHS)
- Exeter Technology Summer conference- Fred Barna (JBHS)

How You Can Help ELF

Support our fundraisers -- Become an ELF committee member -- Recognize your child's teacher with a STAR award -- Match donations through your or your spouse's employer -- Encourage your child's teacher to apply for an ELF grant

Website nears completion

We are nearly ready to "unveil" our new website – new, improved, and up-to-date. We'll keep you posted.

Vision

Founded in 2004, ELF is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization of community volunteers dedicated to enriching Easton's strong commitment to quality education and lifelong learning. To that end, the Foundation strives to secure financial and human resources for innovative educational projects and programs by:

- **FUNDING** initiatives that fall outside the school budget
- **PARTNERING** with the school district to help it achieve its vision
- **BUILDING** community wide support for the benefit of our schools

See reverse side for info about our Super Sports Sale!