

*"If kids come to educators and teachers from strong, healthy functioning families, it makes our job easier. If they do not come to us from strong, healthy functioning families, it makes our job more important." - Barbara Colorose*

## Scholarship Committee Announces 2009 FRCS Teacher Grant Program

The Scholarship Committee is again providing funds to help support the classroom. This wonderful initiative recognizes FRCS staff and their ideas for enhancing the educational experience of the students. The following is provided by committee member, Kristen Conroy:

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce a grant opportunity for all teachers at FRCS. In total \$2,000 will be awarded for classroom materials and/or fees associated with instruction and assessment focused on improving and enhancing the classroom environment. The grant recipients will be selected by a subcommittee of the Scholarship Committee. Announcement of the grants will be made after the FRCS Graduation June 4, 2009.

Upon receipt of the grant and completion of the program, the grant recipient will be required to share information acquired and provide practical applications for the classroom/the entire school. The core requirements of this program are as follows: (1) staff needs to be able to demonstrate how their proposal will improve or enhance the classroom environment and (2) provide practical applications for the classroom or entire school.

Last year funds were awarded to:

- Linda Noiseaux to purchase the Tom Snyder Company Software – *Choices* which teaches students to make smart decisions in real life situations—fully funded at \$249.
- Jamie Droste to purchase 4 sets of DVDs for the Introduction of Visual Art elective which supplemented the studio component of art history class—fully funded at \$272.
- Linda Morse to purchase 3 sets of DVDs to develop a greater understanding of the cultural differences found in the continent of Africa with history and anthropology classes—fully funded at \$682.

Other examples can include paying for course fees or purchasing materials. All proposed fees and materials costs are subject to the approval of the scholarship committee.

To be considered, faculty or staff must submit an electronically completed application proposal by the application deadline May 1, 2009 to Kristen Conroy at [kdconroy@comcast.net](mailto:kdconroy@comcast.net).

We are very proud and excited to be able to bring this opportunity to the school and look forward to reading many extraordinary proposals.

## FRCS Partners to Provide On-Site Graduate Degree Program for Faculty and Staff

We are pleased to announce our latest partnership to help our teachers develop their own professional knowledge and skills, while also directly and positively impacting classroom instruction. FRCS and Bay Path College have developed an on-site Master's in Education degree program which also provides licensure options and post-baccalaureate certificate programs for those not seeking the full degree. We are pleased to have teachers and staff participating from several of our sending districts and various charter schools.

Highlights include:

### Course Information:

- Classes start 2009 Spring Semester
- Held at FRCS, typically Wednesday afternoons/evenings
- Cohort model, accelerated courses, 36 credits, 2 ½ years to complete
- High quality faculty, state-of-the-art curriculum, affordable tuition
- Additional courses online, hybrid, other site locations
- Licensure in Moderate Special Needs - PreK-8, 5-12
- Non-licensure in Education with concentration in special education
- Additional licensure options available

### Core Course Titles:

- SPE 505 Inclusion, Consultation and Collaboration for Meaningful Access to Curriculum
- SPE 510 Managing Challenging Behaviors
- SPE 515 Issues, Laws, and IEPs for Special Needs Learners
- SPE 520 Learners with Special Needs
- SPE 525 Working with Struggling Readers
- SPE 530 Curriculum Design and Assessment
- SPE 558 Practicum: Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8)
- SPE 559 Practicum: Moderate Disabilities (5-12)

This represents another wonderful opportunity for our teachers to learn the latest in educational theory and instructional strategies, so they can directly support the learning of all students.