



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### GCCISD Education Foundation Grant Surprise Patrol

With all the fanfare of a holiday parade, the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation Grant Surprise Patrol traveled across the District recently awarding innovative teaching grants to 55 teachers. Education Foundation members, community members, District administrators, cheerleaders and a drum line exited yellow school buses, marching down hallways to the delight of the students, and stopping to surprise the winning teachers.

Since 2009, the Education Foundation has awarded more than \$460,000 in grants. This year, more than \$111,000 in grants was presented to teachers to enhance classroom instruction. Many creative ideas have become realities with the assistance of the Education Foundation, and the members love to see the grants in action. Although the teachers receive the grants, it is the students who reap the benefits.

Diane Joaquin at Alamo Elementary School, who teaches the Structured Integrated Learning Class, accepted her grant through tears of joy in front of a gym full of students who were watching a talent show. Her grant, "Project SILC Communication: Give Us a Voice," for \$1,000 is for two iPads for her special needs students.

"This will help our students have a voice," she said, emotionally thanking the Foundation members.

Education Foundation President Gilbert Santana is always ready to parade through schools, "high-five" students down the hallways, and surprise deserving teachers with oversized checks representing the amounts of the grants they are receiving. This is the culmination of a year of hard work by the group to raise money for the teacher grants, and it is worth all the effort to see the excitement on their faces when they realize that the dreams they have for their students will come true, thanks to the Foundation.

"For those of us who don't spend our days within the school buildings, it's like seeing a whole new world that is happening right here every day. The fact that we get to go in and do things most kids get in trouble for is great!" said Santana.



Jay Langlois (middle), teacher at Robert E. Lee High School, surrounded by Lee cheerleaders, receives a check in the amount of \$917.15 for his grant, "Interact With World History," from Jim Wadzinski (right), vice president of development of the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation. View photo gallery [here](#).

"We are literally knocking the dust off the ceiling tiles as we parade through the schools looking for the grant winners and letting the children see that we are excited about their future. I would say that it is the highlight of my Education Foundation service, and I look forward to the Grant Surprise Patrol every year."

Most of the materials purchased by the grants will be used by teachers and their students beginning in the fall of 2014, but the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation will already be hard at work raising funds for the next grants to be awarded in May of 2015.

To donate to the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation, please visit the Goose Creek CISD website at [www.gccisd.net](http://www.gccisd.net) and click on Education Foundation.

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