



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

GCCISD Education Foundation awards 65 innovative teaching grants

Excitement was in the air as members of the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation (GCCISDEF) recently boarded school buses, joined by Goose Creek administrators and other employees, cheerleaders, and drum lines, representing all three high schools, to deliver 65 innovative teaching grants to deserving educators throughout the District.

In its fourth year of existence, the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation has awarded more than \$350,000 in innovative teaching grants with the help of many generous donors from the community and the school district.

The mission of the GCCISDEF is "to partner with the community to provide resources to enrich teaching, inspire learning, and provide opportunities for excellence in education for all students in the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District."

This spring, the Grant Committee for the Education Foundation, chaired by Gilbert Santana, vice president of programs, considered 105 grant applications.

"One of the most rewarding parts of working with the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation is seeing the excitement on the faces of our grant recipients and their students when our lively group arrives, accompanied by cheerleaders and a drum line, to award them the grant money for programs about which they are so passionate," said David Frazier, president of the Education Foundation.

Desirae Henry, a science teacher at Robert E. Lee High School, was a recent grant recipient when the Grant Surprise Patrol traveled to the schools. She was awarded \$2,906.85 for her grant, "Oh! Now I See It!," which involves purchasing digital microscopes and premade slides to teach cell structure and function, mechanisms of genetics, biological evolution and classification, and scientific process skills.



[Photo Gallery](#)

"These are four of the six reporting standards on the STAAR Biology EOC exam," said Henry in her grant application. "It (the grant) is innovative because often the students have a difficult time knowing what to look for in their own microscopes, and at times a quick example in a lesson is all that is needed to increase student engagement and understanding. I had a student this year tell me that she didn't believe in cells because she couldn't see them."

Beverly Johnson from James Bowie Elementary also received a visit from the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation Grant Surprise Patrol to award her \$2,059.10 for her innovative teaching grant, "Engaged in Learning." The purpose of this grant is to purchase games to improve the literacy and math skills of all kindergarten and first grade students at Bowie, so Johnson will share this program with other teachers at Bowie.

"We have over 200 students who would benefit from these fun, educational games," said Johnson in her grant application. "With the new rigor of STAAR, we need to have students engaged at every moment they are in our classrooms."

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