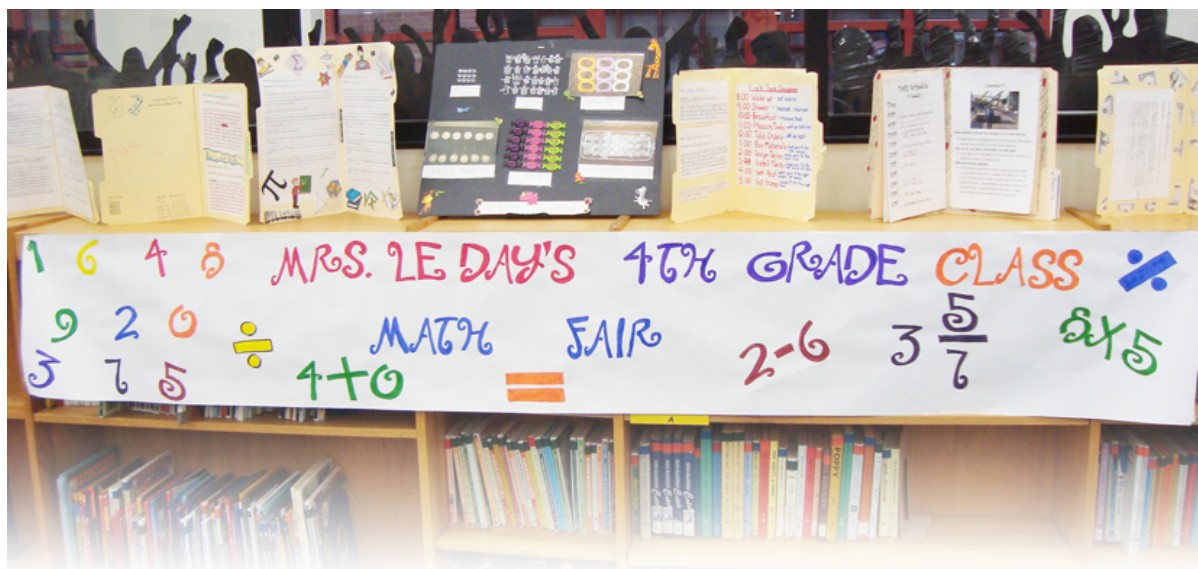




# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



## GCCISD Education Foundation fund-raising effort still seeking donations

Money well spent.

That's the best way to sum up donations to the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation.

Why? Because the Foundation is vital to Goose Creek CISD, bridging the gap between funds the state provides for basic education and the dollars schools need to prepare students for success in school and life.

For instance, without business and community donations to the Foundation, there would have been no elementary science camps, specialized math-learning kits, egg incubators for first-graders to record life-cycle changes, storytelling hand puppets to help bring literature alive, opening a school store, floral shop, creating book swap program, accredited nursing program, and many more.

The Foundation, a nonprofit charity that operates collaboratively with the Goose Creek CISD and its Board of Trustees, is one of those groups that work quietly in the background assisting our most precious members of society — young people.

This spring, the Foundation will shell out \$120,000 in grants to Goose Creek CISD teachers, bringing total contributions to the district to \$225,000 since 2010.

The Foundation's fund-raising campaign runs through May 31 with a goal of raising \$150,000.

When you consider the state's reduction in state aid to schools and that Goose Creek CISD has more than 21,500 students and 26 schools, it's clear the need is great.

To date, the Foundation is short of its goal.

"We believe great schools are everyone's business," said Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation President David Frazier and CEO and President of Community Resource Credit Union. "Community members and business owners have always responded to our cause in a big way; now we just need to keep that positive momentum going."

Goal or no goal, the Foundation's ambition remains to fund innovative teaching grants to expand resources that enrich teaching, inspire learning, and maximize opportunities for all students in Goose Creek CISD

The Foundation also funds efforts to recognize teacher excellence in Goose Creek CISD.

Making a difference and informing donors of how funds are being used is also important to the Foundation. Over the years



- Sterling High School teacher Stephanie Cottle was awarded a \$1,408.32 for "StrataLogica," a revolutionary web-based program that gives students a personal interaction with a program that makes the world available in 3D and promotes critical thinking and mapping skills. The program brings things to life and allows students to build confidence and become comfortable working with materials allowing them to be successful in the classroom and on end of the course exams.

"This project has been great for my students. It has allowed them to think critically about different areas of the world and has let them become actively engaged with the material they are learning," said Mrs. Cottle.

"The project has been a great success. Students have learned a great deal about making connections between places and people. They love using it!"

- Carver Elementary School teacher Harry Barber was awarded a \$1,000 grant for "Claude Monet Traveling Art Exhibit."

The grant money turned the school into an art museum with the Monet Traveling Exhibit allowing the students to gain experience of a master artist's work and explore the world of art. Through this project, students will be given the chance to understand art history and culture as records of human achievement without having to pay the cost of visiting an art museum

the Foundation has contributed to a variety of projects, all in keeping with its mission.

Here are a few of the contributions to Goose Creek CISD the foundation has made:

- Harlem Elementary School teacher Linda Leday was awarded a \$1,000 grant for her "Knowing our Place and Finding our Way," a project that incorporates hands-on classroom activities, school, and parent involvement utilizing environmental education.

The highlight, Mrs. Leday says, was the Science Fair that the students conducted for Harlem's parents. Parents and students were able to visit each station and leave with useful information about energy conservation at home.

"Capitalizing on my student's love for science they learned about energy and resources and steps we need to take now to conserve energy. The end results were to plant the initial seed of knowledge that will be carried in the future."

"Thank you Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation. The excitement and the knowledge that my students as well as their parents gained cannot be measured," said Mrs. Leday.

museum.

"The project connected art with writing and science. The students gained insight into the artist but also how the artist impacted the world and how the students can make an impact on our world today," Mr. Barber said. "The project helped teach art history in a way that interested the kids and left an impression on them as well."

The Foundation has awarded a total of 88 grants to teachers since May 2010.

"Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation supporters and community partners should be commended and admired for their sustained commitment to support Goose Creek schools despite the negative effects of the recession. Our donors understand the importance of educating the next generation of Baytown and Highlands citizens," said Dr. Toby York, Goose Creek CISD superintendent.

A group of 32 individuals serve on the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation Board of Directors, representing areas of community, corporate, parental and educational opinions.

The Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit charitable organization, is solely supported through the donations. If anyone would like to be a part of the Foundation, contact the GCCISD Education Foundation office at P.O. Box 8081, Baytown, Texas, 77522; by phone at 281-420-4813; or check out its website at [www.gccisd.net/educationfoundation.html](http://www.gccisd.net/educationfoundation.html).

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