

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION, INC.

## **GRANTS AWARDED - MAY 2012**

The **first** Grant for **\$3,000.00** will be shared by two elementary school teachers as follows:

- "Increasing Student Learning One Pad at a Time" (Tiffany Hurt 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science)
- "An Apple a Day" (Stephanie Baldwin 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math)



The educational goal of Ms. Hurt's "One Pad at a Time" project for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science will combine students' growing interest in technology with interactive tablets and Science-oriented applications that will bring to life concepts learned in class. Utilizing the tablets will help meet the needs of visual learners. They will also benefit students who no longer receive alternate end of the year assessments, providing another outlet for them to master skills needed to be successful on the SOLs. Funding of this project will allow the teacher to upload applications, sites and programs that can then be utilized in individual interactive centers within the classroom to target multiple struggling areas. This project will help broaden student knowledge of tablets and how to correctly use them for learning and help to prepare them for success not only in fourth grade, but for middle and high school and beyond. The project will be integrated into the curriculum in all subject areas.

The educational goal of Ms. Baldwin's "An Apple a Day" project is to prepare 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math students for the successful completion of the Math S.O.L.tests through an excellent review of the essential knowledge, skills, and processes required by the state in the fourth- grade Math Standards of Learning. The materials requested in this project will be used to reinforce the concepts taught in the S.O.Ls that are taught in the classroom. The materials can be used as small group centers, whole group learning, and individualized instruction for the fourth grade math classroom. The materials can be shared among grade levels and even subject fields in the fourth grade. The material available for the iPad can span over all subject areas and can offer a cross-curricular learning environment.

The continuing long-term effects of both of these projects will produce students who are confident in the use of technology-based learning, ensuring success in a workplace that is becoming more and more focused around the world of technology.

The **second** Grant for **\$4,000.00** will be shared by the Middle and High Schools as follows:

- "iPad Classroom" (Charles Motter 6<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)
- "iPad Tech" (Honor Zalewski 5<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Grades Library)

The educational goal of **Mr. Motter's IPad Classroom** project for  $6^{th} - 8^{th}$  **grade students** will enhance instruction by integrating real world problem solving, extending creative opportunities, and cultivating an already existent interest; 2) allow students to become more engaged in their learning; and 3) develop 21st-century skills using real world applications, resources, and tools. In order to participate in Project-Based-Learning in preparation for high school, students will be given the opportunity to create cross-curricular presentations to meet a variety of assigned objectives. Students will utilize the limitless apps, video capture technology, and overall power of the iPad 2 to help them meet these rigorous goals.

The educational goal of **Ms. Zalewski's "iPad Tech"** project in the **Library that serves 5**th – **12**th **graders** will help foster 21st century technology and research skills in the areas of e-book access, reading/research, using educational apps for school use, accessing the OPAC catalog as well as our research databases, and creating book trailers for anticipatory reading and accessing college and career sites. Students will be able to gain confidence in applying this technology within the framework of their educational curriculum as well as in personal reading pursuits. Teachers will be able to use the iPads in the library to assist them in teaching their curriculum.

The long-term effects of these projects will not only assist students in becoming lifelong learners, but will: 1) amplify a student's already existing creativity, 2) learn to communicate and collaborate with individuals in (and outside) their classrooms; 3) explore the variety of strategies that exist to solve a problem or complete a challenging activity; 4) think critically to act decisively; 5) utilize technology effectively and in a manner which leads to greater productivity within the curriculum.





The third grant was awarded by Wal-Mart to the Cumberland County High School for \$1,000 to help fund Students Objectively Achieving Results (SOAR) - a learning community which focuses on college preparation for minority/disadvantaged/first-generation college students. The SOAR funds have been used to purchase career readiness and workplace readiness testing.

The long term effects of a SOAR program would provide more rigorous courses and academic support, offering opportunities for the SOAR-educated student to achieve at higher levels and become well qualified to seek post-secondary educational opportunities.