



Arlington
Education
Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Arlington Education Foundation Awards Fall Innovations Grants
Nearly \$14,000 Awarded**

The Arlington Education Foundation (AEF) recently awarded \$13,788 in Innovations in Education grants to teachers across the district. Innovations in Education grants support programming, materials and professional development that allow students and teachers to expand upon current classroom learning or explore a new element within the curriculum. Often, a single Innovations in Education grant serves as a pilot program that is later rolled out to other classrooms or schools.

The grants awarded include:

- **Breakout EDU, Bishop and Hardy:** Critical thinking and complex problem-solving games will encourage student teamwork.
- **Engaging the Whole Student: Ready, Set, Calm! Ottoson Middle School:** One sixth grade cluster will learn mindfulness practices through yoga techniques and training.
- **Traverse Rock Wall, Brackett School:** The physical education curriculum will be enhanced with a new, challenging yet non-competitive sport for all students.
- **Programmable Wearable Computers, Ottoson Middle School:** Digital Media & Literacy students will build, design and code CodeBugs, connecting computer science with communication.
- **Thermal Imaging Project, Ottoson Middle School:** Eighth grade science will be enhanced with thermal imaging adapters that will allow students to visualize heat as well as observe the flow of thermal energy.
- **Mindfulness-Based Practices, Thompson School:** Teachers will receive training on mindfulness-based practices as a self-regulation tool for students.

AEF president, Amy Speare, commented, “The grants we awarded in this cycle epitomize the breadth of programs AEF has funded over the past twenty-five years. From mindfulness practices to technology to innovative ways to approach physical education, our grants give teachers the support they need to explore new curriculum ideas. ”

Supported solely through individual donations and local business sponsorships, AEF raises and awards over \$100,000 in grants annually to the Arlington Public Schools. AEF is dedicated to enriching public education in Arlington. AEF is not directly affiliated with the Arlington Public Schools. The spring Innovations in Education grant cycle will close April 15. For more information or to donate, visit www.aefma.org