

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Corridor Nine Awards \$8,578.66 in Mini-Grants to Educators

At the November 19th membership breakfast with over 160 members and guests in attendance, the Corridor Nine Chamber awarded 25 mini-grants to educators totaling \$8,578.66. Grants were awarded for special and worthy projects that benefit students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The Chamber's mini-grant program is designed to support the development of innovative teaching ideas and increase student motivation and enthusiasm by providing funds for instructional experimentation and enrichment activities.

Since the mini-grant program's inception, 423 grants have been awarded totaling over \$129,138.25. Funding for the grants is dependent upon donations from the Chamber's business community and private individuals. There were 29 grant sponsors this year and they are: Platinum Sponsor: Berkshire Bank; Gold Sponsors: Avidia Bank, Marlborough Savings Bank, PENTA Communications, Inc., St. Mary's Credit Union, SMOOK Architecture & Urban Design, Inc.; Bronze Sponsors: Aalanco Service Corporation, BJ's Wholesale Club, Representative Hannah Kane, Central One Federal Credit Union; Cox Tutoring Group, Courtyard by Marriott Boston/Marlborough; Cumulus Global, Datachem Software, Inc., Digital Federal Credit Union, Doubletree by Hilton Boston/Westborough, Funutation Tech Camps, Glick Nissan, Marlborough Hospital, Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union, TCG Network, and Webster Five; Nickel Sponsor: HYPE9 of Corridor Nine; Copper Sponsor: UniBank, B2B CFO (Leo Casey), Business Coaches and Associates (Michael Mills), AFC Doctors Express Urgent Care of Natick and Marlborough, Keller Williams Realty of Greater Worcester (Jasmine Ortiz), and STEM Beginnings.

The 2015 mini-recipients are:

From Armstrong & Fales School in Westborough

Barbara Zinkovich, Librarian

From Armstrong in Westborough

Patricia MacMunn, Reading Specialist

Karin Puffer, Music Teacher

From Beal Early Childhood Center in Shrewsbury

Chris Girardi, Principal

From Floral Street in Shrewsbury

Heidi Richard, 2nd Grade Teacher

Robert Wilson, Art Teacher

From Gibbons Middle School in Westborough

Dan Strickland, Building Technology Specialist

From Hastings School in Westborough

Mary Hanlon-Stepanski, Math Plus Tutor and John Maxwell, Librarian
Lauren Kennedy, Kindergarten Teacher

From Mary Finn School in Southborough

Elizabeth Tinglof, Pre-K Teacher

From Melican Middle School in Northborough

Jessica Eisenlord, 6th Grade Science Teacher

From Oak Middle School in Shrewsbury

Donna McGrath and Daniel O'Brien, 7th Grade Social Studies Teachers
Kristen Minio, 8th Grade Adjustment Counselor and Jennifer Lencioni, 7th Grade Adjustment Counselor
Jason Ponticelli, 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher

From Paton School in Shrewsbury

Camille Viscomi, 1st Grade Teacher Teacher

From Proctor School in Northborough

Sylvia Pabreza, Reading Specialist

From St. Mary's School in Shrewsbury

Colleen Johnson and Maggie Corazzini, After School Directors
Patricia O'Brien, 2nd Grade Teacher

From St. Bernadette School in Northborough

Mary Anne Jezierski, Grades 6-8 Social Studies Teacher
Annette Dalbec, Kindergarten Teacher
Melissa Rotondo, 5th Grade Teacher
Teresa Dillenkoffer, Technology Teacher
Peg Lien, Art Teacher

From Woodward School in Southborough

Mary Ellen Duggan, School Nurse

From Zeh School in Northborough

Danielle Recinos, Behavior Specialist/Adjustment Counselor and Victoria Sokoly, School Psychologist