

EPHRATA AREA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
803 OAK BOULEVARD
EPHRATA, PA 17522



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
July 9, 2010

Ephrata Area Education Foundation Awards over \$4,500 in Grants

July 9, 2010 – The Ephrata Area Education Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners of *2010-2011 Teacher Venture Grants* totaling over \$4,500. Five grants have been awarded to Ephrata Area School District teachers to help enhance and expand educational experiences and opportunities for students. The grants provide funding to support creative and innovative programs that would not normally be funded through the school budget.

- **Where Am I? Using GPS to Determine Location** is a \$1,000 grant awarded to Lisa Brimhall, an Ephrata High School Social Studies teacher. The grant will be used to purchase hand-held global positioning systems (GPS) to assist students in learning to use and navigate with the device. The project will serve as a classroom extension to expand students' knowledge of geography themes.
- **Organizing Photos with *Photo Mechanic*** is a \$1,000 grant awarded to Ephrata High School Technology Education teachers Jeremy Bischoff, Joel Bischoff, and Landon Hunter. The grant will fund the purchase of *Photo Mechanic*, a computer program used by professional photographers to organize their work. The program will allow students to apply their skills on a professional level, will improve the quality of their work, and give them a greater sense of achievement.
- **Incorporating Kinesthetic Learning and Sensory Integration into the Primary Kindergarten through Grade 2 Learning Support Classroom** is a \$975 grant awarded to Jami Loercher, a Fulton Elementary School teacher. The grant will be used to purchase therapeutic equipment and sensory integration materials to provide Kindergarten through 2nd Grade Learning Support students with opportunities to use engaging strategies on a daily basis.
- **Speedwell Forge Watersheds and Buffer Zones Education** is an \$860 grant awarded to Charles Ohline, an Ephrata Middle School Science teacher. The grant will fund educational trips to Speedwell Forge Recreation Area for hands-on, interactive learning. The trips will help 7th Grade students make real world connections between classroom instruction and the community around them.

-- More --

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- **Say Cheese: Intermediate School Digital Camera Lab** is a \$720 grant awarded to Todd Ream, an Ephrata Intermediate School teacher. The grant will fund the purchase of six digital cameras, memory cards, and storage bags to create a mobile digital camera lab for use by 5th and 6th Grade students. Students will have opportunities to add images to digital stories, visual presentations, research projects, and the newly created school newspaper. Teachers will also be able to incorporate photography into daily classroom projects to aid and enhance the teaching of writing and research.

Since its inception in 2004, the Ephrata Area Education Foundation has supported the Ephrata Area School District by funding nearly 40 *Venture Grants*. The number of grants awarded annually is dependent upon donations received to fund the grants. Alumni, community members, and businesses can support the Foundation with tax-deductible donations. Donations can be mailed to the Ephrata Area Education Foundation, 803 Oak Blvd., Ephrata, PA 17522. Please contact Stephanie Gingrich at (717) 721-1589 or s_gingrich@easdpa.org for more information.

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