

# School-Wide Grants and Building Futures Grants 2007-2008



In its ninth year of awarding funds through the Building Futures Grants program and the third year for the School-Wide Grants, the Virginia Beach Public Schools Education Foundation is providing more than \$119,000 to support the teachers, staff and students in Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

A total of 116 projects will receive funding for the 2007-08 school year. The Foundation selected recipients from a record 274 Building Futures Grant applications and 48 School-Wide Grant applications.

This funding support is the result of community collaboration with the . . .



*The mission of the Virginia Beach Public Schools Education Foundation is to raise private sector support to reward excellence and fund innovative, creative education programs to benefit students, teachers and staff of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools.*

## 2008 School-Wide Grants

### **Bayside High School**

**Director:** Kay Thomas **Co-Director:** Brian Jones

**Amount:** \$1,500

**Project:** *"Every Day Counts"*

**Description:** *Every Day Counts* is designed to improve student attendance by establishing connections and interpersonal relationships between the student and the faculty. There will be grade level competitions with special programs and incentives for the winning grade.

### **Bayside High School**

**Director:** Kay Thomas **Co-Director:** Randy Pate

**Team:** Brian Jones, Sara Dias, Alice Hundley, Meg Manugo, Denise Trombino

**Amount:** \$4,000

**Project:** *SOL Boot Camps*

**Description:** The purpose of this instruction is to boost student confidence during high stakes testing and to provide remediation for areas of identified weaknesses. Reading objectives will result in increased achievement and an increase in passing scores on SOL exams.

### **Lynnhaven Middle School**

**Director:** Lydia McNeal **Co-Director:** Mark Kinzel

**Team:** Shannon Farrell, Tamara Freeman

**Amount:** \$5,000

**Underwriter:** Chesapeake Bay Wine Classic Foundation

**Project:** *Lynnhaven Legacy*

**Description:** Students will investigate a local environmental issue by designing and constructing an outdoor classroom within a rain garden. This project provides an opportunity for students to get back to nature by giving back to nature.

### **Old Donation Center**

**Director:** Gloria Harris **Co-Director:** Camille Grabb

**Team:** Kelly Hedrick

**Amount:** \$4,000

**Project:** *IMAGE: Increasing Minority Awareness of Gifted Education*

**Description:** This program targets potentially gifted first grade students and their parents from four schools. It provides an engaging learning experience and offers parent strategies for encouraging children's thinking at higher critical and creative levels.

### **Salem Middle School**

**Director:** D. Alex Bergren

**Team:** Amanda Richardson, Katie Warnock, Michelle Richard

**Amount:** \$5,000

**Project:** *The Shark Bite*

**Description:** This program will provide at-risk rising sixth-grade students with the opportunity to experience an abbreviated middle school schedule for a week over the summer in order to acclimate them to the procedures and expectations of middle school.

### **Trantwood Elementary School**

**Director:** Nancy Lambert **Co-Director:** Janet Roewer

**Amount:** \$1,500

**Project:** *ABCD - Audio Books Complement Differentiation*

**Description:** This project will increase the reading comprehension and fluency of all students, but especially those who are reading below grade level. Younger students can check out a Read at Home Backpack containing a book, audio CD and activity sheet. Older students can take home a self-playing digital audio book called Playaway.

### **Virginia Beach Central Academy**

**Director:** Michael Bolton **Co-Director:** Janet Richardson

**Team:** Sherri Dobbins

**Amount:** \$4,000

**Project:** *Reading Counts*

**Description:** After reading a book students will take a computer generated on-line quiz designed to measure their comprehension. The quizzes provide assessment information to help motivate reading, monitor progress and target instruction to accelerate reading growth.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### **Alanton Elementary School**

**Director:** Kay Phillips

**Team:** Jeanne Crocker, Margaret Graf, Sarah Robinson, Stephanie Poole, Susan Anderson

**Amount:** \$993

**Project:** *ALL EARS FOR READING*

**Description:** This project is designed to promote literacy and targeting vocabulary development and reading comprehension. The funds will provide a subscription to Tumble Books Library, a Web-based collection of animated, talking books.

### **Arrowhead Elementary School**

**Director:** Jennifer Mitchell

**Amount:** \$392.19

**Project:** *Hats Off to Virginia Readers*

**Description:** *Hats off to Virginia Readers* is a high-interest way to introduce award-winning literature to primary grade students. The use of hats/visual aids assists visual learners in remembering these new classics. The students will connect the hat/prop with the story and will be able to visualize the story in their minds which in turn will aid in comprehension.

### **Arrowhead Elementary School**

**Director:** Beth Schlossberg

**Team:** Debbie Dunn, Jennifer Mitchell

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *No Mystery in History!*

**Description:** Famous figures highlighted in the Virginia SOLs will come to life! Student volunteers, serving as actors, will provide clues to their secret identities during daily morning announcements. The entire student body will then have the opportunity to "solve the mystery" and be entered in a weekly drawing to win a historical fiction book.

### **Bayside Elementary School**

**Director:** Cathy Malley **Co-Director:** Patty Waller

**Amount:** \$940.67

**Project:** *Guys Read*

**Description:** As research demonstrates, background knowledge is a key component for students to comprehend text. By providing community experiences, the project will give students a chance to develop background knowledge that will enhance their reading enjoyment.

### **Bayside High School**

**Director:** Clara Heyder

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Physiology Exploration through Technology (PET)*

**Description:** Students will work as teams in the classroom using handheld computers and probes to gather, analyze, explore and understand data of the physiology of the human body through technology. Students will also interact with health professionals in the classroom and in the field.

### **Center for Effective Learning**

**Director:** Linda Clark

**Team:** Nancy Habit, Elaine Lombardi

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Sunny Side Up: Integrating Life Skills with Artistic and Written Expression!*

**Description:** Art, teen living, and independent reading students, grades six through eight, will create pillows for senior citizens in Atlantic Shores Assisted Living Facility. In addition to using math, art, and reading to design the pillows, students will document their work process in a journal and describe the experience of giving their work to a senior citizen.

### **Center for Effective Learning**

**Director:** Diana Mond

**Team:** Debby Christian, Carole Melvin, Carrie Mathews, Darcy Parker, Darlene Watts, Gwen McMillan, Jerome Wasserberg, Nikki Grossman, Randall Forbes, Rebecca Herron, Vivian Moore

**Amount:** ~~Amount:~~ \$997.68

**Project:** *The Village: A Video Play in Three Acts*

**Description:** Students will develop a script, "The Village," which will display the importance of educating youth about bullying, and their responsibility as a "village" in following the Center for Effective Learning's motto: "Bullying: Not an Option."

### **Center for Effective Learning**

**Director:** Darcy Parker

**Team:** Teresa Pitts, Carrie Campbell, Denise Winters, Tina Bobo, Chris Livengood

**Amount:** \$904.67

**Underwriter:** Virginia Natural Gas

**Project:** *It's a Pond's Life- Part II*

**Description:** Middle school students will investigate the water quality at Back Bay and conduct lab studies to include microscopic examination of coliform bacteria and plankton. By identifying and analyzing both man-made and natural environmental problems, students will evaluate the risks associated with these problems and uncover solutions for solving or even preventing them.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### W. T. Cooke Elementary School

**Director:** Christa Alm

**Team:** Beth Lantz

**Amount:** \$500

**Project:** *Reading with Role Models*

**Description:** Students and their chosen role models will meet to discuss books that the club is reading throughout the year. During this time there will be Book Talks as well as a Blog space online for constant communication and comments about the reading.

### W. T. Cooke Elementary School

**Director:** Julie Laidlaw **Co-Director:** Janina Peters

**Team:** Janina Peters, Dana Sizemore

**Amount:** \$950

**Project:** *Ready Set Grow*

**Description:** Thirty third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students will participate in an after-school program to plant and maintain a winter and spring vegetable and flower garden. Students, faculty, community members, and parent volunteers will work together to provide instruction in math, spatial skills and the life sciences.

### W. T. Cooke Elementary School

**Director:** Cheryl Routh

**Team:** Jaqueline Barmore, Sheryl Cholish

**Amount:** \$400

**Project:** *Kindergarten Investigates Life Processes*

**Description:** Kindergarten students will experience life processes in the most exciting way possible, through hands-on and real-life study, just like true scientists! By helping provide food, water, air and care to living organisms, students will know and understand their needs. In real-time, students will observe firsthand, how organisms appear at different stages of the life cycle.

### Corporate Landing Elementary School

**Director:** Joan Harwin

**Team:** Joe Andreana, Lynda Gillikin, Anne James, Amy Brown

**Amount:** \$990

**Project:** *Metamorphosis Unlimited*

**Description:** Through observation butterfly habitats and larvae and ladybug habitats and larvae, students will observe first-hand how change occurs in different species of arthropods. They will then release the insects into the garden in a school-wide ceremony.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

**Director:** Charlene Dean

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Time Travels through Maps*

**Description:** Using detailed markable wall maps, students will complete activities that cover time periods in American history. In addition, students will create their own maps and projects using various art media to illustrate their mastery of the content.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

**Director:** Donna Easter

**Team:** Astrid White, Laura Folden, Amy Tomasulo, Joyce LeBlanc, Elizabeth Cigich

**Amount:** \$750

**Project:** *Jet Stream Smoothie Bar*

**Description:** Working closely with their diversity program peers, 30 mentally challenged students will learn appropriate social interaction and functional learning skills while being trained on how to make healthy smoothies. Students will select flavors of the month and participate in community based instruction to purchase smoothie ingredients.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

**Director:** Dawn Garvey

**Team:** Christopher Todd, Leann Pauley, Lori Wilson, Michael Dunavan, David Remer

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Landscape of American History*

**Description:** In order to gain a better understanding of the physical features of various geographical regions in the United States, students will create paper maps and then work in groups to sculpt 3D clay maps. Creating the maps will increase the sixth grade students' awareness of the relationship between geography and history.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

**Director:** Sherry Kelly

**Team:** Belinda Graeff, Tom Frohlich, Andy Prater, Stephanie Riddell

**Amount:** \$990

**Underwriter:** Virginia Natural Gas

**Project:** *Water Quality: Team 7's Improvement Plan*

**Description:** Students will share and compare data with students at other schools who are also studying local aquatic environments. Expert guest speakers will augment class discussions and analysis of data. A culminating activity will be a floating lab experience to seed oysters on a local reef.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Corporate Landing Middle School

**Director:** Amy Tomasulo **Co-Director:** Louisa Morrison

**Team:** JoAnn Baxter, Rick Miller, Shelly Norris, Brendan Flynn, Brien Egan

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Bridging the Gaps*

**Description:** During evening social studies review sessions at school, seventh-grade students will work with their parents to create high-interest review activities and take home a "bag of tricks" to review and practice pertinent social studies objectives.

### Frank W. Cox High School

**Director:** Karen Head **Co-Director:** Jay Cope

**Amount:** \$871

**Project:** *Preparing Exceptional Students for College Success*

**Description:** The transition from high school to higher education can often be overwhelming. Students with learning disabilities are often unaware of how college differs from high school, what support is available in higher education, and what financial aid is available. This information will be consolidated into a booklet to be distributed to students.

### Frank W. Cox High School

**Director:** Virginia James **Co-Director:** Robyne Borum

**Amount:** \$577.68

**Project:** *Making GREAT DECISIONS: A future voter's guide to world affairs*

**Description:** World Affairs Club students will attend the World Affairs Council, Greater Hampton Roads Chapter "Great Decisions Speaker Series" and receive the latest Foreign Policy Association study guide. Discussions with their peers will ensue and a first-time voter citizenry will hold a forum to prepare other new voters.

### Frank W. Cox High School

**Director:** Kellie Torrence

**Amount:** \$357.42

**Project:** *U.S. Exploration Team*

**Description:** Students gain first-hand exposure to historical sites and document their experience through the use of a travel journal. Relatives and friends throughout the country will share historical aspects of the region in which they live and then pass the journal on to the next friend or relative. This process will culminate in April 2008.

### John B. Dey Elementary School

**Director:** Jean Koch

**Team:** Janice Logan, Rae Cox, Joe Arcona, Judy Beckner

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *"Playaway" for Reading Enrichment*

**Description:** Playaway units provide a means to plug in to our students' interest in technology. The Playaway unit is matched with the printed version of the story and students can follow along and improve their fluency, expression and comprehension.

### John B. Dey Elementary School

**Director:** Kelli White

**Amount:** \$984

**Project:** *Zootrippin' A First Class Experience*

**Description:** First graders will climb aboard their virtual school bus for an interactive videoconference with San Diego Zoo educators to learn animal classification. In addition, small groups of students will research an animal and create a technological presentation to post on their class Web page.

### John B. Dey Elementary School

**Director:** Mandy Yates **Co-Director:** Karen Callis

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Mapping Our Way Through Science Aboard the Virtual School Bus*

**Description:** Pack your science kits and safety goggles for a fantastic virtual journey. Utilizing videoconferencing and Smartboards, 45 students will embark on a series of virtual field trips for live interaction with staff at aquariums, museums, and zoos. Students will log their experiences on the class Web site.

### Fairfield Elementary School

**Director:** Gary Lennon

**Team:** Julie Peperak, Terry Hembree, Kathryn Arn, Krystina Morgan

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Civil War On Scene Reports*

**Description:** Civil War reports will be videotaped using a chroma key background (green screen effect) and an appropriate picture or video showing a scene from the Civil War era will place students "at" the location that is included in or representative of their report.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### **Fairfield Elementary School**

**Director:** Rebecca Winner

**Team:** Mary Stoakley, Susan Ryan

**Amount:** \$480

**Underwriter:** Virginia Natural Gas

**Project:** *Science Mobile Labs*

**Description:** Two hundred and fifty-five students in the third, fourth, and fifth grade will experience Virginia aquarium life through workshops presented by the Virginia Aquarium staff. Workshops cover the scientific method using authentic scientific instruments and specimens, studying and exploring the zones of life in the ocean, and more.

### **First Colonial High School**

**Director:** Jeannine Jones

**Team:** Paul Bennett, Donna Draeger

**Amount:** \$290

**Project:** *Job Hunting Made Easy*

**Description:** Teams of three to four marketing students will be trained to teach groups of 15-29 students how to properly complete job applications and prepare for an interview. Each student will receive a copy of *The Job Hunting Handbook* as part of the 45-minute session, held during study blocks.

### **First Colonial High School**

**Director:** Carrie Knoche

**Amount:** \$850

**Project:** *Read, Respond, Recycle*

**Description:** Senior English students will select approved paperback books to read independently, discuss online on a SharePoint discussion board and in literary circles, read each other's posts and choose other books to read. The purpose is to encourage stress-free reading, improve reading and writing skills and expand student discussion about books beyond plot.

### **Glenwood Elementary School**

**Director:** Eva Bryant **Co-Director:** Carolyn Falor

**Team:** Kathleen Lee

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Young Writer's Celebration*

**Description:** Every student at Glenwood Elementary School will write and illustrate his or her own original book. Classes will collaborate with PTA volunteers to create rough drafts, sloppy copies, and Bare Books before the final works are published and displayed at a Young Writer's Celebration.

### **Green Run Elementary School**

**Director:** Rebecca Atkins

**Amount:** \$999.26

**Underwriter:** Supreme Council of America AASRM, Inc.

**Project:** *Playaways-Beyond Braille: Reaching out to the Visually Impaired*

**Description:** In order to serve a diverse population including the visually impaired, the library will offer new technology to second-grade students in the form of digital audio books called Playaways. Ear buds will be used so all students can experience engaging literature together.

### **Green Run Elementary School**

**Director:** Rebecca Atkins

**Team:** Amy Wisilosky

**Amount:** \$521

**Project:** *Financial Fitness Week*

**Description:** Virginia Beach Schools Federal Credit Union staff will help teach students about saving and spending, income and expenses in fun, hands-on lessons that use reading and math lessons as a vehicle for teaching personal finance topics.

### **Green Run Elementary School**

**Director:** Jennifer Vazquez

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Reading Across Time: Using Historical Fiction to Develop Enduring Understanding*

**Description:** Sets of historical fiction books will be purchased for four gifted cluster classrooms, grades two through five and cluster teachers will receive training in writing curriculum that integrates language arts and social studies objectives through historical fiction.

### **Green Run High School**

**Director:** Patty Caskill **Co-Director:** Cheryl Foster

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Book Club: Reading Leading to Succeeding*

**Description:** Male and female book clubs will meet during lunch periods and study blocks to read and discuss selected fiction and nonfiction literature. Students will be encouraged to blog and review books on the Library Media Center SharePoint.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Green Run High School

**Director:** Kathy Sargent

**Team:** Cindy Smith, Lee Cooper, Wayne Adamson, Lisa Krisik, Randy Vaiden (*posthumously*), Robin Watson

**Amount:** \$963.96

**Underwriter:** Virginia Beach Sheriff's Department

**Project:** *Kids to Kids (K2K) Internet Safety*

**Description:** With a goal of eliminating the communication gap between adults and pre-teens, 10 Future Business Leaders of America members will create and deliver an interactive presentation to area elementary school fourth and fifth graders about the importance of Internet safety. The older students will act as mentors as well.

### Green Run High School

**Director:** Cynthia Smith

**Team:** Mark Pacomio, Mary Jo O'Connor, Kathy Sargent

**Amount:** \$850

**Underwriter:** Virginia Society of CPAs

**Project:** *It's a Taxing Time!*

**Description:** Twenty accounting and advanced accounting students at Green Run High School will open an on-site tax preparation center for classmates with after-school jobs. Students will receive assistance from their teacher and an alumnus of the school who is currently an accountant.

### Green Run High School

**Director:** Caretha Walker

**Team:** Sandra Gaillard, Gineen Stine, Christine Ward, Diana Golub, Cheryl Foster, Marsha Warren, Anita Whitehurst, Jean Atkinson, Daryl Cherry, Shawn Wilson, Kevin Keogh

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Life Net*

**Description:** Fifty young men and women will work after-school with teachers and mentors to develop leadership skills while working on community service projects to promote academic excellence. The project includes college visits and constructing bears for young surgery patients at CHKD.

### Holland Elementary School

**Director:** Marie Culver

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *"Holland's Secret Garden" - Children and Nature Growing Together in Harmony*

**Description:** Young scientists will have opportunities for investigating, exploring, researching and creating authentic connections with the environment. "The Secret Garden" will provide students with an appreciation for natural resources in our world.

### Holland Elementary School

**Director:** Ann Piland

**Team:** Kathy Baise, Cindi Carter, Amy Dirks, Chris Dozier, Anna Cyr, Cindy Carter, Evette Eure, Carmen Witherington

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Husky Puppies (Jumpstart Kindergarten II)*

**Description:** As part of this continuing project, pre-kindergarteners and their parents will attend Husky Puppy Night at their future school to participate in a book reading session and related hands-on activities. Take-home materials are also available to improve the child's readiness for school.

### Independence Middle School

**Director:** Kellie Jordan

**Team:** Kenneth Edwards

**Amount:** \$951.25

**Project:** *"These Pedometers Were Made For Walking"*

**Description:** The use of pedometers in class will be used in conjunction with WalkSmart! With the use of pedometers in physical education activities, students will keep track of the number of steps they are taking during class or throughout the day. With this information, they can then examine their own personal activity levels and make necessary adjustments for improvement.

### Kellam High School

**Director:** Chris Freeman

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Underwriter:** HBA Architecture & Interior Design

**Project:** *Science Fair Projects for a Healthier, more Sustainable and "Green" Environment*

**Description:** Through conducting four separate studies, students will gain a better sense of how science and engineering can make the local and global climate healthier. Students will study eating habits of students, environmentally friendly designs, sand erosion, and global warming.

### Kellam High School

**Director:** Timothy Kennedy

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *U-Pod*

**Description:** Communications technology students will combine pod casting and You Tube to create digital video lessons. These lessons will guide students through classroom activities all in a digital video format which will allow them to play

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### **Kellam High School**

**Director:** John Merritt

**Team:** Barbara Devnew, Laura Howell

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Nonfiction Niceness: K! True Digital Stories*

**Description:** Seventy-six ninth-grade English students will plan and implement their own service learning projects to "change the world" in and around the school community. Based upon reading nonfiction accounts of people who change the world, students will publish *K! True Digital Stories* on the Web and in hard copy format which they'll present to their peers, parents, teachers and community organizations.

### **Kempsville Elementary School**

**Director:** Jennifer Quick

**Amount:** \$896.57

**Project:** *Rhythm of Life: World Percussion*

**Description:** In the music classroom, students will participate in rhythmic musical activities with percussion instruments purchased from grant funds. This will enhance their study of world cultures, specifically those of Africa and China, and help to develop their literacy skills and mathematical pattern recognition.

### **Kempsville High School**

**Director:** Meghan Timlin

**Amount:** \$500

**Project:** *We've Got Spirit! How about you?*

**Description:** Creating, purchasing and selling a product - that is what marketing is all about! Students will research, design, purchase, price and sell a chosen product, experiencing marketing functions first hand. They will actually immerse themselves in a business model of creating and selling a product.

### **Kempsville Middle School**

**Director:** Tammy Stafford

**Amount:** \$367.69

**Underwriter:** Virginia Society of CPAs

**Project:** *Mathematics Vocabulary - "Words Up!"*

**Description:** To improve the conceptual density of mathematics text for grade seven math students, parents and teachers will receive training to implement vocabulary building activities for the students. Teaching tools and textbooks will be available to parents and teachers at the school library. *Underwritten by Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants.*

### **King's Grant Elementary School**

**Director:** Gloria Jefferson

**Team:** Shannon Manning, Helen Gradwell

**Amount:** \$835

**Project:** *Focusing by Projecting*

**Description:** This project allows fourth graders immediate access to multi-media projectors during language arts instruction. Students will become more stimulated and focused. Note taking skills and basic computer skills will be enhanced.

### **Landstown Elementary School**

**Director:** Rhonda Coursen

**Team:** Melissa Taylor, Nancy Lindgren, Kris Haberdash, Cynthia Hodges, Kimberly Spruill, Kathleen Wirth, Lynne Jennings

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *WE BOTH READ*

**Description:** This projects is designed for parents to read with their children and share the reading experience. Parents read more complex text and the storyline found on the left-hand pages of the book. Children read the right-hand pages which feature leveled text specific to their developmental reading needs.

### **Landstown Elementary School**

**Director:** Marilyn Haste

**Team:** Marilyn Payne

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Read the Days Away!*

**Description:** Based on their individual reading levels, kindergarteners will participate with their parents and other family members in a home reading program. Reading logs and comprehension tests will measure student success.

### **Landstown Elementary School**

**Director:** Tressa Valentine **Co-Director:** Angela Bishop

**Team:** Lisa Weers, Alicia Kelly, Renee Leshner, Sharon Carey, Kevin Johnson

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Touch Screen Learning*

**Description:** Up to 30 special education pre-K students will have the opportunity to use "Touch Screen Learning" daily in our classroom to connect with classroom instruction and in a center to encourage students to work together to improve socialization skills, sharing and turn taking.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Landstown High School

**Director:** Ginny Baillargeon

**Team:** Ann Shufflebarger, Sandy Cameron-Adams, Doris Fisher

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *REACHing Struggling Readers: It's Still in the Bag*

**Description:** Using REACH specifications, students will become workers on an assembly line where they will custom design the outside pocket of book bags. Upon completion, students will deliver the bags to the REACH United Way agency and assist in filling them with books.

### Landstown High School

**Director:** Ginny Baillargeon

**Team:** Sue Hitchings, Suzette Johnson, Rev. Margery Howell, Tina Cutherie

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Lap it up! Students helping Seniors*

**Description:** 45 Students enrolled in the Introduction to Design Occupations I and II classes will design and create lap blankets for residents at a local nursing and rehabilitation center. During the community service project, students will use technology to custom embroider a design with the recipient's name on it.

### Landstown Middle School

**Director:** Diana Cotter

**Amount:** \$800

**Project:** *Ladies Club*

**Description:** The "Ladies Club" allows middle-school-aged girls to meet and interact with community volunteers and leaders who serve as mentors and role models. Among the program goals are to increase the students' self esteem and academic achievement.

### Landstown Middle School

**Director:** Mary Gunsalus

**Amount:** \$971

**Project:** *Trading Up!- Exchanging Textbook for Trade Book to Enhance the Teaching of American History*

**Description:** Through the use of trade books, 105 students will experience American History in a real and visually appealing way. The engaging pages of each book enhance motivation and open the young readers to endless learning possibilities

### Landstown Middle School

**Director:** Gary Jordan

**Team:** Marcos Christodonte

**Amount:** \$500

**Project:** *Gentlemen's Club*

**Description:** Students will meet bi-weekly for 90 minutes with staff, Virginia Beach police officers, military personnel, and community volunteers in order to gain knowledge in developing and maintaining a positive attitude. Stereotypes, media images, cliques, and prejudices are just a few of the topics that will be covered.

### Linkhorn Park Elementary School

**Director:** Jennifer Biange

**Team:** Jenny Sue Flanagan, Terri Darnell

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Underwriter:** Atlanta Bread Company

**Project:** *Got Science? Parents as Partners*

**Description:** This program will train parents to serve as facilitators in the classroom. In addition to improving self-efficacy for parents and teachers, the program will build relationships between parents, teachers and students.

### Luxford Elementary School

**Director:** Richard Kinsey

**Team:** Janene Gorham

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Positioning Students for Success with GPS*

**Description:** Fourth graders will use Global Positioning System handheld receivers to actively solve problems, collect and apply data and extend their understanding of geography and history content knowledge through higher-level thinking challenges. Students will be guided through progressively more challenging activities with a culminating activity at First Landing State Park.

### Luxford Elementary School

**Director:** Molly McHone

**Team:** Rich Kinsey

**Amount:** \$420

**Project:** *POWERful Instruction using Powerpoint with Qwizdom*

**Description:** Fourth-grade students will use ActionPoint software in conjunction with the existing Qwizdom Remote Response system to add a dynamic, interactive component to lessons that use PowerPoint slideshows. The instruction will support students in mathematics and reading.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Lynnhaven Middle School

**Director:** Carolyn Brown **Co-Director:** Robyn Johnson

**Amount:** \$999.80

**Project:** *Into the 21st Century*

**Description:** With the purchase of Wacom Graphics Tablets, digital pens and software, existing laptops will be made more "user-friendly" for middle school students enrolled in art as they explore the artistic potential of new technology.

### Lynnhaven Middle School

**Director:** Robyn Johnson

**Amount:** \$906

**Underwriter:** ABS Technology Architects

**Project:** *Art and Technology Academy*

**Description:** More than thirty students will create art and technology projects for residents of Atria, a school partner. Students will create sculptures for the school's outdoor classroom while developing confidence and self-esteem in this after-school enrichment program. Students will also explore art and technological careers.

*Underwritten by ABS Technology Architects*

### Malibu Elementary School

**Director:** Beth Estill

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Building Better Readers One Book at a Time*

**Description:** Two hundred students will have the opportunity to enroll in a Book of the Month Club. They will discuss their selections at "Chat and Chew" lunchtime meetings. Parents will be provided strategies for improving their child's language arts skills at a Literacy Night.

### Malibu Elementary School

**Director:** Beth Estill

**Team:** Jill Speasmaker, Kristin Peterson, Marilyn Anderson, Kelley Kasmak, Kathy Benson, Leslie Weaver, Kristin Shuman, Sue Moody, Kelly Brennan, Jan Roth, Laura Howell, Kathy Sands, Ellen Pontiff

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *The Keepsake Collection - Writing Our Family History*

**Description:** Children and their families will share personal memories as students create personal narratives as well as expository pieces based on family history. In addition, Parent Writing Clinics will be held to educate parents on how they can support their child's writing and in turn become better writers themselves.

### Malibu Elementary School

**Director:** Amy Furlich

**Team:** Amy Abbott, Jill Speasmaker, Jan Roth, Beth Estill

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Traveling the Virginia Divide: Civil War History Trunk*

**Description:** The Civil War in Virginia will come alive for students as they unpack the living history trunk. Students will synthesize the information and perspectives gained from artifacts, song, art, letters, diaries and photographs to write historical fiction writing pieces based on their research.

### Malibu Elementary School

**Director:** Amy Furlich

**Team:** Amy Abbott, Jill Speasmaker, Jan Roth, Nate Kinnison, John Maher, Wanda Johnson, Beth Estill

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Within the Waves*

**Description:** In an interdisciplinary project that humanizes the abstract concept of sound, students will act as scientific investigators to determine if evidence links the use of sound waves to whale stranding. Forty-five fifth-grade students will think creatively as they apply their findings in multimedia presentations.

### Malibu Elementary School

**Director:** Amy Furlich

**Team:** Beth Estill, Denise Williams, Kathy Benson, Leslie Weaver, Becky Starbuck, Marilyn Anderson, Amanda Jeffrey, Kelley Kasmak, Martha Putnam, Pat Mills, Kristin Peterson, Jill Speasmaker, Amy Abbott, Eileen Treon

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Digging Up the Past: Part II*

**Description:** *Digging Up the Past* will continue the transformation of our elementary school into an archaeological dig site. Students will apply their knowledge to the problem of finding, mapping and analyzing artifacts from ancient civilizations and the American past.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### **New Castle Elementary School**

**Director:** Keitha Havey

**Team:** Debbie Field, Michelle Krolikowski

**Amount:** \$897.38

**Project:** *All the School's a Stage!*

**Description:** This project will use Reader Theater to build fluency, improve listening and speaking skills, and encourage the enjoyment of reading. Small groups of students will perform the text of literature reminiscent of old time radio programs. Raise the curtain and let the fun begin!

### **North Landing Elementary School**

**Director:** Barney Barkey

**Amount:** \$998.99

**Project:** *The Minute Club*

**Description:** Students in grades two to five practice rereading short nonfiction selections at home with the use of a CD until they are able to read each selection fluently. Parents become active partners in the One Minute Reader fluency program by assessing and monitoring each practice session.

### **North Landing Elementary School**

**Director:** Barbara Messina

**Team:** Susan Hale

**Amount:** \$750

**Project:** *Let's Read! Talk! Think! And Grow!*

**Description:** Students in a first-grade inclusion class at North Landing Elementary School will have the opportunity to participate in whole language arts instruction using the Junior Great Books Read-Aloud program. This project will enable readers at varying levels and non-readers to work together using high-quality literature.

### **North Landing Elementary School**

**Director:** Rebecca Wallace

**Team:** Carrie Sims, Tracy Coffin, Marty Asire

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Underwriter:** Beach Bully

**Project:** *RISK*

**Description:** The program opens students' creativity and allows them to broaden their experience base through the use of many volunteers and experts in dynamic areas. *RISK* will develop the talent potential of young people by assessing strengths, enrichment, and flexible curriculum development.

### **Ocean Lakes High School**

**Director:** Jim Cartwright

**Team:** Erika Connolly, Robert Weisenbeck

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Smart Globes. Smart Kids.*

**Description:** This active hands-on tool is perfect for both students with disabilities and regular education students. This project uses the power of a high-tech computerized globe with geography and marketing classes to raise students' awareness of the world economy.

### **Ocean Lakes High School**

**Director:** Mackenzie Glassco **Co-Director:** Kimberly Montgomery

**Team:** Jim Cartwright, Cindy Copperthite

**Amount:** \$989.51

**Project:** *"The Marketplace" at OLHS*

**Description:** This integrated program is designed to assist students who have mild to moderate cognitive disabilities in mastering living and work skills needed to be productive citizens. Students will create and assemble items to sell in the school store, using spreadsheets, graphics, the Internet, and digital cameras to display and track their items.

### **Ocean Lakes High School**

**Director:** Allison Graves

**Co-Director:** Adrian Hayes

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Visual Persuasion: Redefining "Text" for Student Writers*

**Description:** Using new technology, two conventional elements of the eleventh-grade English curriculum—the persuasive research paper and the writing portfolio—will be transformed for students as they create their own persuasive "infomercials" and Web-based electronic portfolios.

### **Ocean Lakes High School**

**Director:** Beth Hubbard **Co-Director:** Jim Cartwright

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Future Teachers Portfolio Project*

**Description:** Students who have identified teaching as a career choice will develop a portfolio of teaching and instructional activities which can be used to gain acceptance into teaching programs across the state. The portfolios will include components which demonstrate a mastery of the professional, practical, and personal skills necessary for a successful teaching career.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Ocean Lakes High School

**Director:** Christine Thornton

**Team:** Yolanda Bothe, Jennifer Grinnell, Kathy Harcourt, Jack Harcourt, Hank Craft, James Prince, Ed Lowery

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Strength in Numbers*

**Description:** This project will have a success oriented fitness training component that will increase scores on standard fitness tests, while also teaching a lifelong skill to enhance healthy, fit and wellness-based lifestyles.

### Ocean Lakes High School

**Director:** Leeane Turnbull

**Team:** Amy Hunley, Nidia Miller

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Leadership Ingredients: Leadership Excellence Accountability Discipline*

**Description:** High school students will develop the skills necessary to assume leadership roles in their school, community and personal lives, including motivation, involvement, accountability and discipline, during several hands-on, three-day weekend training sessions.

### Old Donation Center

**Director:** Teri Davis

**Team:** Anna Cassalia, Sandra Chang, Frances Hatzopoulos, Nancy Jones, Pamela Knecht

**Amount:** \$986.18

**Project:** *Scrapbooks Plus!*

**Description:** Students will use technology to create their own scrapbooks of 13 writings over the course of the year. The students will learn the writing process through teacher modeling, shared experiences and individual attempts to pre-write, create a rough draft, revise individually with peers and create a final work publish to their scrapbook.

### Parkway Elementary School

**Director:** Tiffany Baldwin

**Amount:** \$695

**Project:** *Taking a closer look at learning-capturing it with a camera*

**Description:** Visual learning students, including special education and English as second language (ESL) students, will become more involved in day-to-day lessons through the use of a digital visualizer camera. The teacher will project up-close experiments, text, and manipulatives onto a screen, to enhance the experience of visual learners.

### Plaza Middle School

**Director:** Robert Carroll

**Amount:** \$670

**Underwriter:** Virginia Natural Gas

**Project:** *Students Restoring Oysters in the Lynnhaven River*

**Description:** In this pearl of a project, students will restore/grow 6,000 juvenile oysters and release them onto an intertidal reef in the Lynnhaven River. Using classroom aquaria and oyster habitat cages, students will monitor oyster growth, water temperature, and salinity throughout the school year.

### Princess Anne Elementary School

**Director:** Karin DeWispelaere

**Team:** Tammy Franklin, Kathy Thompson, Betty Tecson, Jill Barger

**Amount:** \$998.80

**Project:** *Fast Forwarding Fluency with Reader's Theater*

**Description:** To improve developmental reading, third, fourth and fifth-grade students will perform plays using Readers Theater materials. This will aid with their reading fluency, sight-word vocabulary and, ultimately, reading comprehension.

### Princess Anne Elementary School

**Director:** Amy Ellison

**Team:** Tammy Thrasher, Bev Berman, Windsor Shewbridge

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Literacy Work Stations*

**Description:** One hundred first-grade students will be given the opportunity to grow as readers, writers, spellers, thinkers, and learners by engaging in enriching reading and writing activities. Children will play games, read in small groups, and perform group activities in these guided reading small group clusters.

### Princess Anne Elementary School

**Director:** Amy Ellison

**Team:** Christine Dalton, Kristin Hildum

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *It's All About Kagan!*

**Description:** This school-wide initiative expands the use of Kagan Cooperative Learning strategies at Princess Anne Elementary School. Monthly S.A.M. (Structure a Month) club meetings, a Kagan professional library, and an additional set of dry erase boards for use in music, art, library, and P.E. classes will increase usage of Kagan structures throughout the entire staff.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### **Princess Anne High School**

**Director:** Susan Vierra

**Amount:** \$932

**Project:** *Shaping Young Minds*

**Description:** Through a multi-disciplinary approach, pregnant students will learn how the brain "grows and develops." The complex process shaping children's brains will be explored. Students will learn how to enhance their literacy, their child's growth and developmental requirements.

### **Princess Anne High School**

**Director:** Susan Vierra

**Amount:** \$999.80

**Project:** *Behavioral Strategies for Pregnant Teens*

**Description:** Through interactions, students will understand the decision making process, recognize the need for parenting information, support and assistance.

### **Princess Anne Middle School**

**Director:** Sherry Caruana **Co-Director:** Shannon George

**Amount:** \$648

**Project:** *Exploring Non-Fiction*

**Description:** Five hundred and twelve students will have reading brought to life through the colorful pages of *National Geographic Extreme Explorer* magazines. A variety of topics will appeal to the reluctant reader while offering a broader background of knowledge and a more extensive academic vocabulary development.

### **Princess Anne Middle School**

**Director:** Vickie Dean **Co-Director:** Donna Abrams

**Team:** Ann-Lee Hayward

**Amount:** \$985.27

**Project:** *Let's Make Reading Fun*

**Description:** Existing seventh-grade literature units will be enhanced through the use of parallel reading activities aimed at increasing SOL reading scores. A variety of additional novels will be available for each unit, exposing students to a multitude of authors and providing teachers with additional opportunities to adapt and differentiate learning strategies.

### **Providence Elementary School**

**Director:** Sarah Muth

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Underwriter:** Virginia Natural Gas

**Project:** *Schoolyard Habitat Project: The Growing Classroom*

**Description:** Students will create a school courtyard habitat with the assistance of faculty and community members and attend training by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to develop a wildlife and environmentally-friendly area to enjoy.

### **Red Mill Elementary School**

**Director:** Kyle Williams

**Team:** Jane Trueblood, Lauren Calcutt, Steve Strausbaugh, Donna Barba, Daniel Koach, Tina Patterson, Melissa Hill, Ann Hobbs, Michelle Young, Nick Boothe, Ryan Zimmerman, Lefty Barba

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *"Guys R Us" Book Clubs*

**Description:** To help reluctant readers become life-long lovers of books, this club targets male students in grades 2-5 who are below grade level in reading. Male mentors regularly attend the club's lunch-time meetings to read and discuss novels and nonfiction literature.

### **Rosemont Forest Elementary School**

**Director:** Valerie Frederick **Co-Director:** Barbara Imrich

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Audio-matically Tuned into Books*

**Description:** Students will increase their enjoyment of reading and understanding of historical events. Fifth-grade student and their parents will participate in this project, which encompasses a multifaceted approach to differentiation through learning styles.

### **Salem High School**

**Director:** Tom Clouser

**Team:** Barbara Whaley, Rosa Jones

**Amount:** \$500

**Project:** *Connecting to a Virtual World - Oh the Places We Will Go!*

**Description:** Through the use of videoconferencing, students in foreign language, history, and geography classes will gain a better understanding of world cultures, languages, governments, and historical events by interacting with students outside of the United States.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Salem Middle School

**Director:** Charleen Paxton

**Team:** Jackie Hassell, Toni Beth Kaup, Jeffrey Castonguay

**Amount:** \$961.25

**Project:** *Stained Glass Geometry Sun Catchers*

**Description:** This project will offer concrete experiences in geometry, improve student achievement, encourage enthusiasm for math and tap into the community for volunteers. These skills will be taught through the design of geometric sun catchers.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

**Director:** Marie Booz

**Team:** Becky Bates, Larry Burnsworth

**Amount:** \$774

**Project:** *Giving Voice to SharePoint*

**Description:** Through this project, teachers will use handheld digital voice recorders to create and post audio recordings on their class SharePoint sites. Familiar mnemonics will help students remember grammar rules, spelling mechanics, historical facts, and science concepts. In addition, students will create and produce their own audio recordings.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

**Director:** Marie Booz

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Get Smart with AlphaSmart Neo*

**Description:** Fifty kindergarteners will take home AlphaSmart Neo, a portable word processor, with guided reading questions that will guide students and parents to retell and discuss stories the children have chosen to read at home. Book bags with guides, writing prompts and a tangible object (number, letter, puppet) will go home with the student to aid with this parent-child learning connection.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

**Director:** Marie Booz

**Team:** Becky Bates, Janis Hurd, Shannon Haas, Kathy Rivers, Carrie Middleton, Stephanie Fay, Cathy Bowler

**Amount:** \$785

**Project:** *Digital Scrapbooks*

**Description:** Students will create vivid and meaningful digital scrapbooks of project-based activities. These reflections of their learning experiences collected from photo stories, videos, voice recordings and pod casts will be shared with their parents, as well.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

**Director:** Vanessa Richard **Co-Director:** Karen Bristow

**Amount:** \$567

**Project:** *CUBs*

**Description:** On three different occasions, parents and children will take part in a variety of activities which include listening to an author, building a book from a kit, making a musical instrument and crafting a puppet.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

**Director:** Carole Wasilewski

**Amount:** \$603

**Project:** *Building Lasting Connections Between Home and School*

**Description:** In an effort to meet the academic and emotional needs of some students and gain a deeper insight as to their home environment, a teacher will meet with parents at their home to discuss their child's academic performance, parent involvement opportunities and curricular expectation. The teacher will also provide a supply of homework tools to enable the student to complete homework.

### Tallwood High School

**Director:** LaMont Adger

**Amount:** \$756

**Project:** *A-Team Mentorship Program*

**Description:** The A-Team program will pair 58 ninth-grade African American males with African American male teachers who will serve as mentors throughout the year. Daily discussions and activities will foster good decision making, study habits and social interaction.

### Tallwood High School

**Director:** Linda Anderson

**Team:** Robert Anderson, Shannon Crum, Barrett Elliot

**Amount:** \$757.02

**Project:** *Tiptoe Through the Tulips in the Memorial Garden*

**Description:** This project will entail planting tulips in large heart-shaped designs on each side of the school's existing Memorial Garden. Students will observe the bloom on interactive maps, collect and share their own data, and note how seasonal climatic factors influence plant growth.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### Tallwood High School

**Director:** Bob Anderson **Co-Director:** Lydia James

**Team:** Lisa Walker, Toni Craig, Dora Granby, Michelle Hall

**Amount:** \$500

**Project:** *Time to Fly*

**Description:** Through a series of community based instruction trips, special needs students and their Peer Buddy gifted students will learn to use public transportation systems to find work, visit service agencies, keep doctor appointments, and attend recreational events. This co-operative partnership will increase student transition success.

### Tallwood High School

**Director:** Jo Ann Andrews **Co-Director:** Sherry Coates

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Timber Wolves and Lions Partners in Reading Part IV*

**Description:** This continuing program brings high school and elementary school students together for one-on-one tutoring aimed at raising the developmental reading assessment levels of the elementary students. In addition, high school students enrolled in the Child Care Occupations course will be exposed to work with younger children.

### Tallwood High School

**Director:** Cynthia Chadwick

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Tomorrow's Teachers Experience Excellence in Education*

**Description:** This course is to encourage exceptional and highly motivated students to consider the education profession by providing a glimpse into the classroom teaching experience through educational instruction and elementary school classroom field experiences.

### Tallwood High School

**Director:** Deb Plummer

**Team:** Ken Andrews, David Baumer

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Beyond Horizons: Our Maritime Heritage*

**Description:** High school language arts and social studies students will visit local naval bases, industries, museums, landmarks and points of historical maritime interest and share what they learn with students at several VBCPS elementary schools.

### Thalia Elementary School

**Director:** Nikki Smead **Co-Director:** Gaye Techanchuk

**Team:** Sylvie Barnett, Bill Dickerson, Ingrid Squires

**Amount:** \$300

**Project:** *It's All Relative, Families That Read Together, Succeed Together Family Night*

**Description:** As the culminating event to January's Reading Month, parents and students in every grade will participate in a special evening event which will include workshops that will instruct parents on how to encourage their children to develop a love of reading. The program will continue throughout the year with story tellers, book swaps, and door prizes.

### Thoroughgood Elementary School

**Director:** Anna McGinn

**Team:** Dr. Cheryl Zigrang, Leslie Horton, Christina McGinn

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Home-School Connection for Seagulls' Success*

**Description:** During five sessions, the Extended Day Kindergarten (EDK) teacher will meet with students and parents to provide instructional strategies and resource materials to work with their child at home, thereby increasing the education success rate for each EDK student.

### Thoroughgood Elementary School

**Director:** Troy Saunders **Co-Director:** Scott Howard

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Project:** *Looking at Weather Through a Meteorologist's Eyes*

**Description:** The weather station will provide many opportunities to extend and enhance the current curriculum. The weather station data will be available at the school's new media room, which will be supported by community volunteers and real-world ties at WTKR TV Channel 3.

### Thoroughgood Elementary School

**Director:** Jeanne West

**Team:** Kathryn Wilkens, Jean Krail

**Amount:** \$856.70

**Project:** *Fifth-Grade Science Enrichment*

**Description:** Fifth-graders will grow items such as body parts and bacteria and examine these to provide data for graphing practice. Students will also examine prepared microscope slides, as an illustration of real-world scientific application.

## 2008 Building Futures Grants

### **Trantwood Elementary School**

**Director:** Mary Hawley

**Team:** Sheila Teri, Nancy Lambert, Kassidy Vuyovich, Robin Birdwell, Jennifer Mello, Mona Farmer, Lynn Ashmore

**Amount:** \$997.94

**Project:** *Get Passionate About Learning*

**Description:** All 287 students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will meet weekly during a five-week period with 24 classroom teachers and school specialists, plus parents and community volunteers. They will engage in small group explorations of topics which they have chosen as an area of passionate interest, so that the students can acquire advanced-level content material.

### **Virginia Beach Central Academy**

**Director:** Bobby Huntley **Co-Director:** Paul Arrington

**Amount:** \$800

**Project:** *Gentleman's Club*

**Description:** Fifty-five young men enrolled in Virginia Beach Central Academy will meet with school staff, members of the police department, and community volunteers for activities aimed at building self-esteem and fostering respect for others.

### **Virginia Beach Central Academy**

**Director:** Nikki Steckroth **Co-Director:** Vivian Moore

**Amount:** \$650

**Project:** *"SOS: Saving Our Students - Suicide Prevention Program"*

**Description:** According to the U.S. Census, suicide is the third leading cause of death for 15-19 year olds. This nationally-recognized program has shown a 40 percent reduction rate in suicide attempts and will educate teens at Virginia Beach Central Academy that depression is treatable. The program will equip students to respond to a potential suicide using an action-oriented technique, ACT (Acknowledge, Care & Tell).

### **Windsor Oaks Elementary School**

**Director:** Deana Hubbell

**Team:** Corinne Cornwell

**Amount:** \$520

**Project:** *Amazing Animal Adaptations Assembly*

**Description:** Third-, fourth- and fifth-grade science students will participate in hands-on demonstrations at her school with scientists/instructors from the Virginia Living Museum during a program called "Amazing Animal Adaptations."

### **Windsor Oaks Elementary School**

**Director:** Noreen Skills

**Team:** Melody Copper, Debbie Simmons

**Amount:** \$1,000

**Underwriter:** Electronic Systems, Inc.

**Project:** *Audiobooks for Student Success*

**Description:** Self-contained digital audiobooks and corresponding printed materials will enhance the at-home learning experience for 25-50 special education, ESL, and at-risk students at Windsor Oaks Elementary School. Playaways audiobooks utilize MP3 players to store pre-recorded stories for recreational use at home during silent reading time.

### **Windsor Woods Elementary School**

**Director:** Mary-Ellen Davis

**Team:** Crystal Hodges, Becky Tillery, Marty Allen, Kawana Ansell, Dana Maurice, Pat O'Reilly, Jo Anne Hart, Stephanie Hathcock

**Amount:** \$650

**Project:** *Wildcat VoiceThreads*

**Description:** Approximately 120 kindergarten and first-grade students will become authors and use child friendly digital cameras to illustrate their original stories. Parents, teachers, and volunteers will work with students to identify topics appropriate for their learning level.