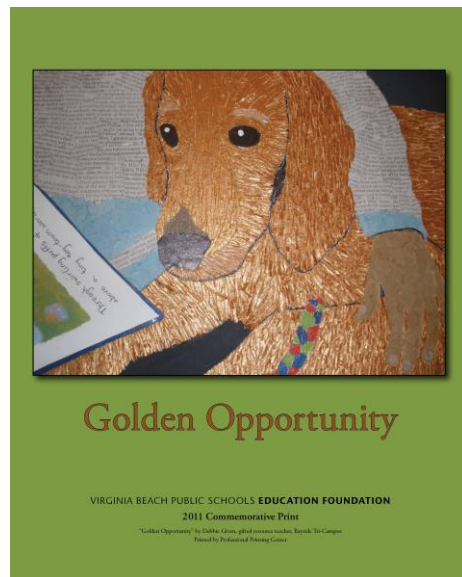


# 2011-2012 Virginia Beach Education Foundation Grants

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The Virginia Beach Education Foundation is awarding \$100,000 in grants to support the teachers and students in Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

This funding support is the result of community collaboration with the Virginia Beach Education Foundation.





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Greetings!

On behalf of the Virginia Beach Education Foundation (VBEF), I wish to congratulate the recipients of the 2011-2012 Building Futures and School-Wide Grants.

This year, the Education Foundation awarded \$100,000 to support 87 projects created by teachers to enhance the learning experiences of students enrolled in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools. Over the past nine years, VBEF has awarded nearly \$1 million in grants to Virginia Beach teachers to fund innovative projects. Tens of thousands of students benefit each year from the generosity of those donors who have contributed to the Education Foundation's mission of supporting visionary teachers who create exemplary learning experiences for our young people.

Through the Building Futures Grants Program, the VBEF provides teachers with awards of up to \$1,000 to cover the costs of materials, supplies and other expenses needed to implement short- and long-term programs, activities, experiments and other innovative learning opportunities for students.

These grants expand student opportunities for acquiring knowledge and critical thinking skills. The grants also enable educators to provide opportunities for hands-on experiences such as conducting an archeological dig to search for and identify Native American artifacts; constructing environmentally sustainable gardens; and engineering robots, just to name a few.

All projects encourage student self-growth and discovery in a quest to learn what they can achieve in our world. At one school, female students will be inspired to embrace careers in engineering through interactions with professional female engineers; African American male students will learn college planning, career choices and community participation with adult mentors; and special education students will grow and harvest vegetables that they'll use in their own recipes.

On behalf of our teachers and our students, "**Thank You**" to the individuals, businesses, and organizations that have generously contributed to the Virginia Beach Education Foundation.

Mike Ross

President

## 2011-2012 School-Wide Grants

### Christopher Farms Elementary School

*Growing a Garden of Knowledge*

**Co-Directors:** Cynthia Shutter and Elizabeth Shovelin

**Team:** Sherry Terpening, Stacy Beebe

**Amount:** \$5,000.00

**Description:** This project is more than a "greenhouse" in its cross-curricular approach to extending the classroom. Hundreds of students will explore, experiment, analyze and problem solve while taking responsibility for promoting a "greener" future.

### John B. Dey Elementary School

*QRious Codes*

**Co-Directors:** Jody Carroll and Leslie Law

**Team:** Susan Hardesty, Amber Hester

**Amount:** \$4,825.76

**Description:** QR codes, encoded squares that are the newest tech link to the unlimited information highway, will be used by students in each grade, K-5, to create their own codes to link others instantly to information about the school.

### Kemps Landing Magnet School

*Phoenix Communications Cast*

**Director:** Rebecca Newland

**Team:** Mikaela Bruce, Monica Petrilli, Ed Fitzgerald

**Amount:** \$2,763.99

**Underwriter:** Lifetouch

**Description:** In order to build interviewing, journalistic writing, public speaking and technology skills, students will work with their librarian, CRS and English teachers to produce weekly school newscasts to be broadcast in school and out using MySchoolMail.

### Ocean Lakes High School

*Viral Video Instructional Projects (V.V.I.P.)*

**Director:** Jim Cartwright

**Team:** Leslie Peate, Ashley Wright, Beth Hubbard

**Amount:** \$4,959.50

**Underwriter:** The Nigel Holland Foundation

**Description:** Students will create instructional videos for each class, then share them via the school's YouTube channel. After 15,000 hits, the channel becomes a YouTube partner and generates advertising revenue, donated back to the school to invest in new equipment.

### Old Donation Center

*GRACE Society*

**Director:** Sharon Boudreau

**Team:** Amber Phillips, Mary Ann McCammon, Erik Helke

**Amount:** \$3,214.95

**Underwriter:** CH2M HILL

**Description:** Three hundred-fifty fourth- and fifth-grade girls will be immersed in the world of engineering through activities involving STEM-related topics, guest speakers and technology. Participants will demonstrate knowledge they gained in an Engineering Fair for peers and parents.

### Princess Anne Middle School

*Mobile Learning*

**Director:** Donna Irish

**Team:** Elisa Zajac, Kerry Felter, Paula Doyle

**Amount:** \$5,000.00

**Description:** Teams of students will be mathematicians, biologists, meteorologists, geologists and astronomers, using information provided by teachers on a website, in podcasts, via videos or pictures to create a planet outside our solar system that can sustain life.

## Beach Fund Awarded Grant

### Bayside Tri-Campus

*Triple E (Eagles Excel in Education)*

**Director:** Jeneshia Ferebee

**Team:** Shirley Haywood, Molly Swan, Dawn Carlucci, Sandy Stallings, Melissa Craft, Kirsten Rutkowski, Stephen Orr

**Amount:** \$5,000.00

**Underwriter:** Beach Fund of the Hampton Roads Community Foundation

**Description:** One night per week for 10 weeks, 60 students along with their parents and siblings will participate in this school-based program designed to strengthen and support the educational needs of the students, and improve family functioning and address communication styles, mental health issues, community resources, and parent/teacher relationships.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### Alanton Elementary School

*Astros Soar Into Reading*

**Co-Directors:** Brianne Nelson and Heather Thomas  
**Team:** Ashley Thornton, Linda Gardner, DeeDee Ortiz, Susan Anderson, Lisa Anthony and Sarah Anderson

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Cherry Bekaert & Holland

**Description:** Books, along with reading activities and strategies, will be given to first graders at school to take home to complete with a parent. In addition, a "reading buddy" from a feeder high school will meet weekly with each student.

### Alanton Elementary School

*Skip the dip by making every day count!*

**Director:** Melissa Taylor

**Amount:** \$992.70

**Description:** An Every Day Counts Calendar Math interactive whiteboard and other materials will provide students with daily exposure to high level math concepts such as place value, measurement, estimation, graphing and coin counting.

### Alanton Elementary School

*Virtual Problem Solving*

**Director:** Melissa Taylor

**Amount:** \$829.95

**Description:** Fourth- and fifth-grade students will use game pieces, called Hands-On Equations, that represent algebraic concepts to understand the abstract nature of the symbolism used in algebra. Interactive whiteboard software will enhance what they learn.

### Bayside Elementary School

*CIS (Club of Investigative Science)*

**Director:** Mary Anne Decker

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Student teams, grades 3 to 5, will collaborate with high school science students, staff and parents to create projects from their investigation of a new or existing scientific theory from one of their science units.

### Bayside Elementary School

*Digging Through Time: A Study of History through an Archeologist's Lens*

**Co-Directors:** Heather Schweitzer and Pam Gaut

**Team:** Adrienne Kravchak, Amy Moore, Sheila Wilson, Wanda Green

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Fifth-grade students will conduct an archeological dig on school grounds and classify and categorize items dating from the early Native American era through that of 20<sup>th</sup> century Virginia.

### Bayside Elementary School

*Garden Buddies*

**Co-Directors:** Mary Anne Decker and Catherine Malley

**Amount:** \$700.00

**Description:** Teachers and students will design hands-on gardening experiences to include garden design, plant life-cycle experiments, the effects of weather and changes in weather, sustainability, habitats and the Earth's ecosystems.

### Bayside Middle School

*"C" Straight: A Vision for College, Career, and Community*

**Co-Directors:** Robert Lanz and John Chowns

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** GEICO

**Description:** Students, particularly African American males, will learn college planning, career selection, and community participation. They will be mentored weekly by faculty to discuss topics such as goal setting, coping skills, and study habits.

### Bayside Middle School

*Civics Leaders of Today and Tomorrow*

**Co-Directors:** Deborah Welker and Sonya Bennett

**Team:** Christine Bullard, Shannon Watts

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Norfolk Kiwanis Club

**Description:** While completing three service projects, students will learn productive group skills, responsibility, critical thinking, problem-solving, and how to become school and community leaders.

### Brandon Middle School

*Play Dough Economics*

**Director:** Michele Powell

**Amount:** \$700.00

**Underwriter:** BB&T

**Description:** Students will use play dough modeling clay to make sculptures of goods and people performing services as a way to learn about economics. This inductive approach to learning will help students derive an understanding of concepts from examples and data generated in the simulations.

### Cooke Elementary School

*Gardens from Garbage*

**Director:** Julie Laidlaw

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Jake's Smokehouse Barbeque

**Description:** Students will learn sustainability through gardening, recycling, reducing and reusing. Goals include planting and growing food to give local people in need, and turning trash into valuable compost and reusable objects.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### Corporate Landing Elementary School

*From the Garden to the Table, Healthier Living Through Sustainability*

**Director:** Barbara Bullock-Smith  
**Team:** Laura Irvine  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Underwriter:** GEICO  
**Description:** Special needs students will design a garden, purchase the necessary items, plant, care for and harvest vegetables that will then be used in their own cooking. They will document the progression from seed to plant to harvest to table with a journal, flip video and photography.

### Corporate Landing Elementary School

*Kindness is Kontagious*

**Co-Directors:** Heidi Kaiktsian and Marissa Adcock  
**Team:** Susan McCarville, Sharon Fussell and Amy Fitzgerald  
**Amount:** \$882.00  
**Description:** Each month, student club members will meet to identify and address the social needs of the school's student body. They will maintain a kindness website, produce public service announcements, and reward students who are "caught being kind."

### Corporate Landing Middle School

*Hands on History*

**Director:** Dawn Garvey  
**Team:** Mike Herold, Mike Dunvan, Leanne Pauley and Amy Tomasulo  
**Amount:** \$542.00  
**Description:** In six monthly after-school sessions, 30 students will construct and explore items related to American history prior to 1865. They will use the items to examine problems that existed for the people of the period, then make connections to today's problems.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

*LunchBox Labs*

**Co-Directors:** Sherry Kelly and Rhonda Tuck  
**Team:** Amanda Wilson and Shelly Norris  
**Amount:** \$435.00  
**Description:** Students will check out a lunchbox equipped with lab materials and instructions to conduct a lab activity with a parent or guardian at home. Teachers will review student findings, writings and their reflections about the experience to reward students for each lab completed.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

*Stories of Extinction*

**Co-Directors:** Sherry Kelly and Rhonda Tuck  
**Amount:** \$320.00  
**Description:** Students will study the concept of extinction and research the extinction of a species, and its impact on evolution and change in life on Earth over time. They'll write a research paper, create a storyboard, make a powerpoint and paint murals along with "stone wall" rock stories in the school.

### Corporate Landing Middle School

*TRUNKS2 (Teaching, Relating, Understanding Nurtures Knowledge of Social Studies)*

**Director:** Amy Tomasulo  
**Team:** Dawn Garvey, Michael Dunavan, Michael Herold, Leanne Pauley and Tara Dembitz  
**Amount:** \$985.00  
**Description:** Sixth-grade students will collaborate to create a time period-themed trunk by analyzing and evaluating the environments, artifacts and personalities associated with U.S. history themes; i.e. Colonial Regions, Revolutionary War, Westward Movement, and Civil War.

### Cox High School

*Phenomenal Women of Standards Mentorship Program*

**Co-Directors:** Dr. Vera McLaughlin and Erica Francis  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Underwriter:** Jostens  
**Description:** African American female students will become empowered for success with visit to colleges, museums, nursing homes and an elementary school where they'll mentor/tutor a student with their reading. They will also participate in other service-learning opportunities.

### Creeds Elementary School

*Life in Pictures through 1st Grade Eyes*

**Co-Directors:** Diane Marx and Tammy Humphreys  
**Team:** Jenni Goldstein  
**Amount:** \$900.00  
**Underwriter:** Lifetouch  
**Description:** First-graders will take pictures to document seasonal changes; plant and animal lifecycles; and discoveries in an outdoor classroom. Photos will be used to create books, slideshows, and animated films with captions.

### John B. Dey Elementary School

*What Do You Stand For?*

**Director:** Leslie Law  
**Team:** Amber Hester, Alice Parish, Scott Kamholtz, Nicole Bailey, Nicholas Kimpan and Pam Cohen  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** Fifth-graders will initiate character building in a year-long pilot program that encourages students to ask, "What do I stand for?" and then discover the answer through self-examination prompted by various activities.

### Diamond Springs Elementary School

*You Have the Power to Recycle!*

**Director:** Brandon Thompson  
**Amount:** \$485.00  
**Description:** Students will learn about the battery recycling process and its importance to our environment. Clear battery recycling tubes will show students the progress of the school and community recycling efforts.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### Fairfield Elementary School

#### *Stepping Out*

**Director:** Jennifer Mazur

**Amount:** \$655.00

**Description:** Third-grade students, working in teams, will produce stepping stones in the style of the ancient Roman mosaics. The stones will reflect images from nature and serve as a sustainable walkway connecting the school building to outdoor gardens.

### Fairfield Elementary School

#### *Virginia Geography From A-Z*

**Co-Directors:** Krystina Morgan and Jennifer Mazur

**Team:** Gary Lennon, Susan Villanueva, Katie Luehers and Rebecca Schnekser

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Fifth-grade students will publish an alphabet book that will help increase reading literacy for the student body. The book will include original stories, factual and historical information, and illustrations based on Virginia geography.

### First Colonial High School

#### *Kick Off Freshman Year!*

**Co-Directors:** Donna Draeger and Matt Hotaling

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Norfolk Kiwanis Club

**Description:** Juniors and seniors will serve as mentors for every entering freshman. Mentors and mentees will meet each month to develop a year-long relationship in hopes of creating a more comforting environment to support freshmen.

### Glenwood Elementary School

#### *Digging Deep into our Past: A Hands-on Archeology Experience*

**Director:** Barbara Kimpan

**Team:** Teresa Rushford, Debra Vickery, Christine Fisher, Julia Flaherty

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Second through fifth graders will hunt for artifacts in archeological pits and analyze the artifacts to understand the culture they are studying. Students will appreciate the importance of archeology in understanding history and other cultures.

### Green Run Elementary School

#### *Financial Literacy - Lessons Learned Early*

**Director:** Rebecca Atkins

**Team:** Amy Courtwright

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** In collaboration with Virginia Beach Schools Federal Credit Union, students will learn about saving, spending, income and expenses in fun, hands-on lessons that use reading and math as vehicles for teaching personal finance topics.

### Green Run High School

#### *Leadership Workshop - "Creating a Path"*

**Co-Directors:** Wendy Baylor and Ashley Karunaratne

**Team:** Ryan O'Meara, Andrew Stone and Sarah Corey

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Jostens

**Description:** This workshop will incorporate key leadership skills to prepare 75 future leaders in decision making, group dynamics, effective meetings, team building, project planning, communication and understanding diverse styles and philosophies.

### Green Run High School

#### *Read and Reduce*

**Co-Directors:** Patty Caskill and Cheryl Foster

**Team:** David Abbott, Michelle Jacobs and Candice Gibson

**Amount:** \$990.19

**Underwriter:** GEICO

**Description:** Students will participate in an after-school walking and reading club. They will track walking with pedometers and listen to audio books. Guest speakers will discuss nutrition and the importance of regular exercise.

### Holland Elementary School

#### *Who Wants to Go to College?*

**Co-Directors:** Melissa Asaro and Micah Harris

**Team:** Krista McNulty, Mary Clifford, Carrie Carey, Joanne Pereira and Lisa Bairos

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Youth Services Club

**Description:** Fifth-grade students will learn about colleges and careers by studying curricula on a collegiate level, being exposed to authentic class instruction administered by college professors, visiting colleges and completing writing assignments and career-based reading.

### Kellam High School

#### *Big Futures from Small Engines*

**Director:** Tim Kennedy

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Students will form companies and use the technical skills, tools and resources necessary to operate a small engine repair shop to diagnose and repair small engines. They'll keep records including "virtual" profits earned for each job.

### Kellam High School

#### *Thistle Dew: A Budding Collaboration*

**Co-Directors:** Chris Freeman and Paula Miller

**Team:** Kathy Sarosdy

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** HBA Architecture & Interior Design

**Description:** AP English Language, Foods, Catering, and AP Environmental Science students will collaborate to build an "edible" school garden. This project will increase their knowledge of current local, national, and global issues, as well as farming practices.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### **Kempsville High School**

*Adding the "WOW" Factor to 21st Century Education*

**Co-Directors:** Dr. Nancy Savenko and Kathy Fernandes

**Team:** Michelle Carpino, Bridget Mariano and Laurie Ranz

**Amount:** \$963.00

**Description:** Students in social studies classes will use a device that can answer a question, ask for help, vote in a poll and engage in other applications when paired with an interactive white board. This project will help student engagement.

### **Kempsville High School**

*Rock Hound Guide*

**Co-Directors:** Dr. Nancy Savenko and Kathy Fernandes

**Team:** Julia Foust, Bridget Mariano, Laurie Ranz

**Amount:** \$734.95

**Description:** Teams of Earth Science ninth- and tenth-graders will produce a rock/mineral prospecting guide. Using digital microscopes with built-in cameras, students will identify major rock-forming and ore minerals based on physical and chemical properties.

### **Kempsville Middle School**

*Student Leadership Workshop: Be the Change*

**Co-Directors:** Adrian Hayes and Lisa Masisak

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** In a two-day leadership workshop, students will form councils to form an identity and explore leadership concepts. Delegates will learn concepts like group dynamics and the decision making process.

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

*GRACE Club*

**Co-Directors:** Gloria Jefferson and Mary Routten

**Team:** Bryceleigh Royster, Cathryn Beasley, Patricia Ciechon and Sharon Miller

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** GEICO

**Description:** Fourth- and fifth-grade girls will consider science, technology, engineering, and math as potential career choices. They will hear from female engineers who will visit their club and will compile scrapbooks and electronic portfolios for their own presentations.

### **Landstown High School**

*Building Global Citizenship: A Study of Great Decisions*

**Director:** Virginia James

**Amount:** \$329.40

**Underwriter:** Beach Windows & Siding

**Description:** Ten students, grades 10-12, will attend 8 Great Decisions programs, hosted by the World Affairs Council then read corresponding text prepared by Foreign Policy Association and conduct research to create a PowerPoint to defend 1 of 8 issues.

### **Landstown High School**

*Clean Can Be Green*

**Co-Directors:** Kay Gramling and Nancy Dowding

**Team:** Anthony Alfonsi, James Barger, Debbie Myers, Sue Hitchings and Suzette Johnson

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Beach Windows & Siding

**Description:** Students in four Technical & Career Education courses will collaborate to produce, market and sell eco-friendly laundry detergent, stored in recycled bottles.

### **Landstown High School**

*GIS & Geocaching in the Environment*

**Co-Directors:** Brent Horner and Paula Stone

**Team:** Melissa Calaman

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Ninth-grade Earth Science students will learn the importance of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and different environmental issues into which GIS can be incorporated. They will also set up a navigation (geocaching) course to lead others to areas of interest within the ecosystem.

### **Landstown High School**

*NASCAR Student STEM Initiative*

**Director:** Dr. James Barger

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** BB&T

**Description:** Tech Ed students will team up to learn about aerodynamics, engineering, alternative energy vehicles through their hands-on experiments using NASCAR-designed radio-controlled cars.

### **Landstown High School**

*Web Development and Internet Marketing Collaboration Project*

**Co-Directors:** Kelly Krause and Vernon King

**Amount:** \$580.00

**Underwriter:** Beach Windows & Siding

**Description:** Forty students will create websites and marketing plans for businesses. They will interview the client, develop a design and plan for the client and present their final project to their client.

### **Linkhorn Park Elementary School**

*Green Garden Group*

**Co-Directors:** Dena Sciacchitano and Gina Foresta

**Team:** Jacquie Shaefgen, Mandy Wade, Pam Zettervall and Laura Habr

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Youth Services Club

**Description:** Thirty students, parents and teachers will collaborate to maintain a garden, explore sustainable and environmental practices, nutrition and health education, and provide community service.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### Lynnhaven Middle School

*Wear Your Art Out. Fashions Go Green!*

**Co-Directors:** Carolyn Brown and Susan Marr  
**Team:** Carol Smith, Sharon Clohessy, Hope Costanza, Susan Craig and Kimberly Tucker  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Art and teen living departments will engage students in a "Design Challenge." Classrooms will become design studios and students will be artists and fashion designers to construct wearable art garments on washable synthetic paper featured in a runway event.

### Malibu Elementary School

*Increasing a Love of Literacy Through Technology*

**Director:** Kelly LaRue  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** Students will access Bookflix, a computer-based program, to listen to, read along with, review vocabulary, at school and at home and test reading comprehension on a variety of fiction and nonfiction books.

### North Landing Elementary School

*Smart by Nature*

**Director:** Rebecca Wallace  
**Team:** Carrie Sims and Eric Wood  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** A wildlife refuge and a new construction site will be outdoor classrooms for 47 second and third graders. They will investigate how breaks in the food chain alter life and build and install birdhouses to enhance neighborhood ecosystems' food chain.

### Ocean Lakes High School

*Learning with LumaVues*

**Co-Directors:** Jim Cartwright and Brooke Thompson  
**Amount:** \$991.99  
**Description:** Students of mixed academic abilities will peer-teach while designing, creating and displaying promotional ads for various organizations throughout the school using LumaVues, energy-efficient backlit LED color boards.

### Ocean Lakes High School

*Mod-Earn Art*

**Co-Directors:** Jim Cartwright and Rachel Herbst  
**Amount:** \$998.50  
**Description:** Business and arts classes will collaborate so that students experience real-world lessons about the marketplace, including supply and demand, equilibrium points and promotional strategies. Students will create art with intent to display and sell their art pieces.

### Ocean Lakes High School

*Mr. Roboto Goes Wireless*

**Director:** Charles Thomas  
**Amount:** \$999.69  
**Description:** Students aren't playing, they're learning while doing. In an effort to gain practical experience about the newest technological devices, students will take apart Play Station 2 controllers, add robot parts and meld them into an operating wireless robot.

### Ocean Lakes High School

*Pathways to Possibilities: Creating an Electronic Career Wheel*

**Co-Directors:** Karen M. Leak Simmons and Eugenia Bell  
**Team:** Donna Assion, Elizabeth Labiak, Cecelia Hess, Tracy Bruce and Bryan Everett  
**Amount:** \$995.87  
**Underwriter:** BB&T  
**Description:** This collaborative learning culture framework will promote students' employable skills needed in the 21st century. Students will be trained on how to acquire knowledge and skills and will research their chosen career.

### Pembroke Elementary School

*A Ticket to Read*

**Co-Directors:** Tara St. Clair and Cathy Jones  
**Team:** Kristen Grayson, Gina Spencer, Jane Cason, Nicole Ziernicki and Cheryl Small  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** With this web-based reading program, 65 students will build phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension skills. Students will be motivated by and engaged in reading while building these skills.

### Pembroke Elementary School

*Creative Thinking with Storyworks*

**Co-Directors:** Tara Martel and Karen Dragon  
**Team:** Katie Kuhn, Cathy Hull and Cady Pinell  
**Amount:** \$560.00  
**Description:** Subscriptions to *Storyworks*, a monthly magazine, will allow fifth graders to explore current issues, read works from award-winning authors and poets and learn about historical events. Follow-up reading activities will include mapping, creative writing, and interviewing.

### Pembroke Elementary School

*Growing a Community Garden*

**Co-Directors:** Karen Dragon and Cathy Jones  
**Team:** Evelyn Campbell, Kristen Grayson, Lorraine Miller, Karen Drosinos and Judy Scarry  
**Amount:** \$350.00  
**Underwriter:** Youth Services Club  
**Description:** This community garden will reach middle schoolers, too, who will grow their knowledge about sustainability, science, math, writing along with the elementary school community of students, parents and partners.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### **Pembroke Meadows Elementary School**

*Go Green!*

**Co-Directors:** Liama Dean and Meredith Hill  
**Team:** Debbi Johnson, Lena Barone, Helen Stitzel  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** Twenty-two students will comprise the Green Club, with goals to lead a greener life and help other students to adopt greener habits. Students will maintain a recycle center, start a "No Waste" lunch program and hand out "Caught Being Green" stickers for rewards.

### **Plaza Middle School**

*What's the Buzz? Sustaining Biodiversity*

**Director:** Alexandra Khalaf  
**Amount:** \$903.00  
**Underwriter:** Atlanta Bread Company, Lynnhaven  
**Description:** A study of the interrelationship between genetics and pollination will lead students to investigate how the decline of honey bee colonies could threaten crop production. They will then propose solutions if food scarcity became a political tool.

### **Point O'View Elementary School**

*Panther Book Buddies*

**Co-Directors:** Deb Bonner and Kellee Kraft  
**Team:** Patty Fesser, Kim Johnson, Jacki Pfeiffer, Brenda Bacie, Karen Tyree Laurel Anderson  
**Amount:** \$999.75  
**Description:** Third and fourth graders will "buddy up" with first and second graders to help them read with improved fluency and comprehension. Teachers will train older students how to choose the right book to help their buddies develop "voice" while reading.

### **Princess Anne High School**

*Government Alive! Power, Politics and You*

**Co-Directors:** Christine Campbell and Roderick Zano  
**Amount:** \$513.00  
**Underwriter:** Norfolk Kiwanis Club  
**Description:** This program will provide hands-on lessons on the structure and function of government. Students will be challenged as they work in groups to analyze and assess information on civic matters and Constitutional issues.

### **Princess Anne High School**

*ROAR: Reach Out and Read*

**Co-Directors:** Victoria Wilson and Maureen Mitchell  
**Amount:** \$896.20  
**Underwriter:** Norfolk Kiwanis Club  
**Description:** Seventeen students requiring a multi-modality approach as well as concrete instruction with guided reading will create books with words paired with realistic, colored pictures that include motivating age-appropriate topics.

### **Princess Anne Middle School**

*Web-Based Learning in Math Using [www.classmarker.com](http://www.classmarker.com)*

**Director:** James Arnett  
**Amount:** \$400.00  
**Underwriter:** Cherry Bekaert & Holland  
**Description:** Sixth-grade math students will complete assignments online, at any time and receive immediate feedback on parts they had trouble understanding. Students will collaborate with each other or in groups to submit projects collectively.

### **Providence Elementary School**

*Journey Through Hallowed Ground - A Legacy Project*

**Co-Directors:** Melissa Knight and Denise Adams  
**Amount:** \$720.00  
**Description:** Twenty-two fifth graders will select a topic of interest in the area of Virginia Studies, research and investigate the topic, then create a "Museum Box" to share with classmates and keep for next year's fifth graders as well.

### **Red Mill Elementary School**

*Everyday's a Holiday*

**Director:** Susan Jusell  
**Team:** Lisa Alconcel, Sue Thuma  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** No holiday will go unrecognized by these students, who will even celebrate Cesar Chavez holiday, through various activities including art projects and print materials shared with their school and videoconferencing with students from other countries.

### **Red Mill Elementary School**

*Happy Helping Hands*

**Co-Directors:** Janice Hart and Jennifer Caton  
**Team:** Michele Walters, Susan Tobin, Terry Matalon, Sally Mattocks and Janice Stewart  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Underwriter:** Youth Services Club  
**Description:** Seventy students, grades 3 to 5, will engage in community service projects and incorporate writing and technology to reinforce their experiences and share ideas with the entire school. The overall goal is to produce more active community members.

### **Rosemont Forest Elementary School**

*Data Detectives*

**Co-Directors:** Barbara Imrich and Linda Lotz  
**Amount:** \$998.01  
**Underwriter:** Cherry Bekaert & Holland  
**Description:** Forty to fifty fourth-grade reading club members will evaluate, analyze and share information they read from high interest non-fiction books and magazines. They will further explore each topic through experiments, team-based activities and interaction with experts.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### Rosemont Forest Elementary School

*Do You See What I See?*

**Director:** Brad Ward

**Amount:** \$997.60

**Underwriter:** Lifetouch

**Description:** Twenty professional microscopes with cameras will aid student "lab assistants" in viewing animal and plant cells to determine their correct kingdom, characteristics and habitats. Students will then describe their findings in writing.

### Rosemont Forest Elementary School

*Information Investigators at Work*

**Co-Directors:** Barbara Imrich and Linda Lotz

**Amount:** \$588.57

**Description:** Forty percent of the school's third graders will meet at lunch to discuss, compare and contrast high interest nonfiction books, magazines, and eBooks they've read. At each meeting, students will work in groups to complete a related hands-on activity.

### Rosemont Forest Elementary School

*Let's Hear it for Playaways!*

**Co-Directors:** Barbara Imrich and Linda Lotz

**Amount:** \$984.59

**Description:** Audio books in MP3 player format will enable fourth and fifth graders to listen to books in a very appealing medium, to develop skilled and highly-motivated readers, listeners and learners.

### Salem Elementary School

*Fetch a Good Book*

**Co-Directors:** Kathy Rheinhart and Elizabeth Batty

**Team:** Lindsey Olinda, Andrea Payne

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Norfolk Kiwanis Club

**Description:** Students will read weekly to an invited therapy dog and write responses to their reading to post on an online blog. These activities will emphasize literacy development.

### Salem Elementary School

*Lambs Branch Into 21st Century Learning*

**Co-Directors:** Nancy Martin and Andrea Payne

**Team:** Patti Simmons, Bobbi Williams, Claudia McConathy, Jill Reigelsperger, Julia Harrell, Lindsey Olinda and Peggy Philbrick

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** Four times this year neighborhood preschoolers and their parents will be invited to evenings at school where they can explore all areas of the curriculum. Each night will be centered around a themed book they can take home and will include technology and music.

### Salem High School

*Greenville USA*

**Director:** Jeff Kline

**Team:** Charles Kinnison and Damarie

Lopez-Troche

**Amount:** \$422.00

**Description:** Seventy-eight Technical and Career Education students will construct an operational scale model of a small village powered entirely by renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power.

### Salem High School

*Vocabulary Videos - Bringing Words to Life!*

**Co-Directors:** Cynthia Kube and Lacy Krell

**Team:** Sarah See, Marie Finnegan-Copen, Kristi Patton

**Amount:** \$974.98

**Description:** English students will create vocabulary videos using flip cameras, modeled on videos that reinforce SAT vocabulary. The student-created videos will be posted on the school's website and will be available for SAT tutoring programs.

### Seatack Elementary School

*Window into Green - "No Child Left Inside"*

**Director:** Marie Culver

**Team:** Coleen Bowels and Jessica Grell

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Underwriter:** Youth Services Club

**Description:** The school's Certified Wildlife Habitat will be the focal point for developing a school culture committed to sustainable living. Through individual and collective actions, skills in science and technology will be developed.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

*Kindle Connection*

**Co-Directors:** Melissa Follin and Christina Troxell

**Amount:** \$711.82

**Description:** Fifth graders will use Kindles to download books and then will form discussion groups. Kindle features promote vocabulary study and reading fluency.

### Shelton Park Elementary School

*Meaningful Meteorology: Using Data to Make Predictions*

**Co-Directors:** Melissa Follin and Christina Troxell

**Amount:** \$818.85

**Description:** Students will create a weather station and study graphs, analyze data and predict future weather. The project will enhance their science and math skills.

## 2011-2012 Building Futures Grants

### **Strawbridge Elementary School**

*Operation Oyster*

**Director:** Katie Catania  
**Team:** Elizabeth Miller  
**Amount:** \$999.00  
**Underwriter:** Beach Windows & Siding  
**Description:** Twenty-five second graders will participate in a year-long habitat restoration project. They will serve as environmental stewards and raise community awareness of habitat restoration, replenishment and conservation, collecting data to share with other schools and organizations.

### **Thoroughgood Elementary School**

*Scientists Do Wear Pink*

**Co-Directors:** Susan Ruhl and Terri Darnell  
**Team:** Michelle Jenkins and Lori Rose  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** Fourth- and fifth-grade girls will focus on three global issues—a safe water supply, electricity usage, food and health—to deepen their understanding of experimental design and scientific principles. They'll meet professional women through virtual and onsite field trips.

### **Trantwood Elementary School**

*SALTIER: Sustaining A Link to Interdependent Ecosystem Restoration*

**Director:** Kathy Dungan  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** This hands-on marine science project will allow fifth graders the chance to be scientists, mathematicians, and historians. They will maintain and observe oysters that will help improve the sustainability of the Chesapeake Bay estuary.

### **Williams Elementary School**

*Got Girls? Got Engineers?*

**Director:** Debbie Given  
**Amount:** \$968.48  
**Underwriter:** GEICO  
**Description:** Practicing female engineers will consult with and mentor elementary school girls to expose them to engineering as a career choice. Together, they will design solutions to problems involving math, science, technology and engineering.

### **Woodstock Elementary School**

*Action Based Learning: Moving 2 Learn*

**Co-Directors:** Laura Harrington and Cherie Flora  
**Team:** Karen Johnson, Tom Zimmerman, Sara Duplain, Laurie Gordon, Shelly Bozza  
**Amount:** \$1,000.00  
**Description:** Kindergarteners through third graders can increase reading skills with the help of physical activities designed to prepare the brain for input and processing. Academic concepts will be reinforced and levels of fitness will increase.

## 2011-2012 Replicated Building Futures Grants

### Fairfield Elementary School

*Just Troutin' Along*

**Director:** Rebecca Schnekser  
**Team:** Gary Lennon, Sharil Martin and Teresa Austin

**Amount:** \$500.00

**Description:** Students in the school will become globally aware about local conservation and learn science, math and language arts--all while raising trout, from eggs to adults, then releasing them into a freshwater stream in Virginia.

### Kellam High School

*Science Now*

**Director:** Chris Freeman

**Team:** Eriks Apelis

**Amount:** \$1,000.00

**Description:** AP Environmental Science, Biology and Chemistry students will create video news reports on current and future environmental stories. These stories will be broadcast to other countries whose viewers can post comments via Wikispaces.

### North Landing Elementary School

*Imagineering: Science in Action*

**Director:** Rebecca Wallace

**Team:** Wendy Nyamweya and Claudia Hooks

**Amount:** \$865.00

**Description:** Fourth graders will electronically design and construct theme park attractions. They'll investigate the scientific principals at work in theme park rides and determine how to apply those principals to their own designs.

### Plaza Middle School

*Cultivating Curiosity in the 21st Century Victory Garden*

**Director:** Alexandra Khalaf

**Amount:** \$900.00

**Description:** This interdisciplinary project will task students with researching the history of victory gardens and how the gardens can impact themselves, society and the world. They'll monitor their growth of raised bed gardens, post blogs and publish their research.

### Thoroughgood Elementary School

*From Sea to Shining Sea*

**Director:** Susan Ruhl

**Amount:** \$554.83

**Description:** In this exciting unit of study, students examine the challenges and successes faced historically by United States immigrants. Using primary source documents and photographs, students think and act as historians and as a culminating activity, students explore their own genealogy.

Front cover art

2011 VBEF Commemorative Print, *Golden Opportunity* by Debbie Given, gifted resource teacher, Williams Elementary School



2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456

Phone (757) 263-1337, fax (757) 263-1009

[www.vbef.org](http://www.vbef.org)

[Debbie.thomas@vbschools.com](mailto:Debbie.thomas@vbschools.com)