

D300 Foundation website gets a makeover

Submitted by District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence

Since 2002, the District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence has been enhancing and enriching education in Algonquin-based Community Unit District 300 by providing seed funding for innovative programs that serve our students.

Foundation Innovation Grants fund individual classroom programs and the Large Project Grants fund special projects which serve various populations across the entire school district.

These programs typically allow teachers to extend opportunities beyond their classroom curriculum, resulting in new educational experiences for their students.

Considering the foundation is quickly approaching two decades of service to the students of District 300 and all the changes and advancements that entails, foundation staff decided the website was in need of a fresh look!

The District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence invites you to visit our "enhanced and enriched" website at www.d300foundation.org.

The new site was designed so users can easily view all projects, programs and events the Foundation has funded and sponsored over the years.

The upcoming events are in plain sight, front and center and a handy interface was added making it easier than ever to make a donation to the foundation.

The donation page also features information about how you can offer a matching donation with your place of business or a donation in honor of a loved one or esteemed educator!

All donations go toward providing the educational grants and student-focused events.

The Innovation Grants go to a District 300 educator who has an innovative idea for a classroom project that will enhance the current curriculum, enrich student learning and costs less than \$1,000. This does not include furniture, such as alternative seating, desks, etc., or computers. In 2019, Innovation Grants included: "Raised Planting," "Calm Down Boxes," "Summer Book Buddy Bags," "Drums Alive: Music and PE Collaboration," "Cafe 10A," "Kids Run and Read," "After School STEM Club," "Tranzendesks," "Kid Studio," "Giving All Students a Voice," and "Polymer Pals: A Science Buddy Program."

The Large Project Grants are for programs which serve a particular population of students across District 300 (i.e. all sixth grade science classes). Large Grants start with a group of teachers within District 300 working together with at least one foundation trustee, who come together to propose a program for District 300 schools. Often times, these programs start out as classroom-based Innovation Grant program which has proved to be successful. In 2019, large project grants included: "Harmonic Instruction," "Sensory Supports," and "NIU Reductive Woodcut Workshop."

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts, your time or your treasure, email d300foundation@d300.org.