



*Generating Assistance for Public Schools in
Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook & Washington counties*

CONTACT INFORMATION:

The G.A.P.S. Foundation
503-614-1252 | Fax: 503-614-1283
5825 NE Ray Circle, Hillsboro OR 97124
Toll-free in Oregon: 1-888-990-7500
www.gapsfoundation.org

PRESS RELEASE

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The G.A.P.S. Foundation awards \$40,000 to public schools in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, and Washington Counties

The Northwest Regional Education Service District's Foundation, The G.A.P.S Foundation (generating assistance for public schools), awarded forty two grants totaling \$40,000 for projects that directly affect special needs and at-risk students in public schools in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, and Washington counties Friday.

Since 2006, G.A.P.S. has awarded 289 grants totaling \$225,257 -- making a difference in the lives of 37,160 young children and students in local communities.

Support for the grants comes from the foundation's annual benefit auction. The 2012 event was presented by Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) www.nwea.org, and held April 19 (the 2013 fundraiser is scheduled for May 2, 2013 at Portland Community College's Rock Creek Campus Event Center).

Grants are earmarked for projects, supplies, activities, technology, and/or curriculum that enhance classrooms, programs, and services in these areas:

- At-risk Youth
- School-age Special Education
- Early Intervention/Early Childhood Education
- Outdoor Science School (Northwest Regional ESD)
- Vocational/Professional/Technical Programs
- ELL (English Language Learners)/Migrant Education

See following pages for a complete list of the awards.

G.A.P.S. stands for Generating Assistance for Public Schools. The foundation provides financial assistance to the public school programs of the ESD and component districts by funding projects benefiting young children and students with special needs and those who are at-risk in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, and Washington counties, Oregon. The Foundation is a fully qualified, nonprofit charitable organization. To learn more visit www.gapsfoundation.org.

SERVICE LEARNING GRANT

Thanks to support from State Farm Insurance

John Stables, Hillsboro High School: New roof and benching system for ADA accessible, student-run greenhouse*. The grant will be used to upgrade the facility so that the students can continue to learn in the greenhouse and grow plants used for service learning projects. (\$5,000)

**The horticulture program at Hillsboro High School serves a diverse population: ELL(English Language Learners), SPED (Special Education),and MRDD (Mentally Retarded and Developmentally Disabled), as well as mainstream students pursuing a focused program of study in horticulture. The program offers a third year science credit towards high school graduation as well as 12 community college credits that are articulated with Portland Community College.*

The current facility is outdated and is in serious need of repair and modification. The roof is literally coming off of the greenhouse and the old benching systems do not accommodate students in wheel chairs. By maintaining and improving this facility we can continue to offer the curriculum experiences for the diverse student population and provide access for all students in a safe working environment in the greenhouse.

JIM MABBOTT AT-RISK PROGRAM GRANT

Mike Rathfon – Warrenton Hammond School District: Supplies and materials for hydroponics growing system for students at South Jetty High School. South Jetty is located inside of the Oregon Youth Authority North Coast Facility providing an alternative high school experience for incarcerated youth. (\$2,500)

G.A.P.S. MINI-GRANTS – REGIONAL IMPACT

John Jackson, Outdoor School Coordinator: Microscopes to for the ESD’s Outdoor School program benefitting students in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, and Washington counties. (\$956)

G.A.P.S. MINI-GRANTS – CLATSOP COUNTY

NORTHWEST REGIONAL ESD STAFF ON BEHALF OF CLATSOP CO. DISTRICTS

Paula Mills, County Education Coordinator - NWRES D: Materials for parenting education program for parents of children, children birth to 12, with special needs and health challenges, and funds for training a facilitator to implement the program in Clatsop County. (\$950)

Jackie Bergerson, Autism Specialist - NWRES D: Instructional and student materials for a homework program for students with autism. (\$950)

ASTORIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bill Shively, Astoria High School Social Competencies Classroom: Start up costs for made to order picnic tables at Middle School behavior classroom. (\$965)

JEWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Don Anderson, Jewell High School: Laptop for use in the journalism classroom. (\$1,000)

KNAPPA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jan Johnson, Knappa Elementary: Books for the school's SOAR program (Support Our Active Readers) which helps students become confident readers through individual volunteer attention and new "take-home" books. (\$750)

SEASIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mike Brown, Seaside High School: Funding for the Seaside High School C.Y.B.O.R.G. Seagull Robotics Team to enter and compete with the robot that they build. (\$1,000)

WARRENTON-HAMMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Betsy Mahoney, Warrenton Grade School: Tuition for Outdoor Science School (\$1,000)

G.A.P.S. MINI-GRANTS – COLUMBIA COUNTY

NORTHWEST REGIONAL ESD STAFF ON BEHALF OF COLUMBIA CO. DISTRICTS

Cindy Jaeger, County Education Coordinator: Purchase and installation of a weather shield for the ESD's St. Helens Early Childhood Special Needs Pre-school playground. (\$1,000)

CLATSKANIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Timothy Kay, Clatskanie Middle/High School: Electronics parts kits for Engineering & Design Science course at Clatskanie Middle/High School. (\$700)

RAINER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Laurie Kash, School-age Special Ed: Portable swim station to improve accessibility for students with orthopedic disabilities as well as small students who cannot touch the bottom of the pool. (\$900)

SCAPPOOSE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kristie Freeman, Scappoose Middle School: 10 Kindle e-readers to increase, support, and promote literacy among struggling seventh grade readers. (\$931)

ST. HELENS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sheri Lee, McBride Elementary School: Two iPods for use with students with special needs to help with communication and reinforce fine motor skills. (\$995)

VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kari Hansen, Vernonia Elementary School: Books for Individualized Reading Program for struggling 2nd and 3rd grade readers. (\$1,000)

G.A.P.S. MINI-GRANTS – TILLAMOOK COUNTY

NORTHWEST REGIONAL ESD STAFF ON BEHALF OF TILAMOOK CO. DISTRICTS

Kim Durrer, County Education Coordinator: Materials for Building a "Safety Town" for the ESD's Tillamook Early Childhood Special Needs Pre-school. (\$1,000)

Dia Norris, Speech Language Pathologist: Two iPads for students with severe communication disorders to successfully access and participate in the school curriculum and environment in Nestucca Valley School District. (\$998)

NEAH-KAH-NIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Virginia Birkby, Nehalem Elementary School: Two laptop computers for a writing and reading literacy project for fourth and fifth graders, especially those at-risk of failure due special education handicaps and language acquisition (ELL). (\$1,000)

NESTUCCA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bobbie Stirling, Nestucca Valley Elelemntary School: Ukeleles for a new 5th/6th grade general music class offered to keep students engaged in music. (\$1,000)

TILLAMOOK SCHOOL DISTRICT

Melinda Rumage, East Elementary School: Bilingual English/Spanish books for students to read in their native Spanish or English, and to take home to include their parents and families in developing their love of reading. (\$300)

Jennifer Guarcello, Liberty Elementary: Books for the kindergarten take-home reading program to increase fluency and accuracy and build confidence in our very earliest readers. (\$1,000)

G.A.P.S. MINI-GRANTS – WASHINGTON COUNTY

NORTHWEST REGIONAL ESD STAFF ON BEHALF OF WASHINGTON CO. DISTRICTS

Val Arnold, Speech Language Pathologist: Multicultural play materials for the ESD's Early Childhood Evaluation facilities in Hillsboro. (\$998)

Peggy Fowler, Teacher: Glasses for a vision impaired child. (\$100)

Jennifer O'Donnell, Educational Assistant: Materials to create math and science centers at the ESD's Tualatin Early Childhood Center for children with special needs. (\$659)

Julie Pitcher, Orientation and Mobility Teacher: Trekker Breeze Hand Held Talking GPS for the Blind. (\$730)

Meaghan Gillmartin, Special Education Teacher, ADTP: Cooking and nutritional materials for at-risk youth. Lifeworks NW Children's Day Treatment Program serves an array of at-risk children with a range of behavioral and emotional disturbances and learning disabilities schizophrenia, developing psychosis. (\$500)

Jeanne Gering, Teacher, Special Education Teacher, ADTP: Digital Photography equipment and software for a digital photography course for students to earn credits in the category of applied/fine arts. (\$376)

BANKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Karin Bueffel, Banks Elementary: Three Lenovo Idea Pad Tablets for students with learning disabilities to increase their learning in reading, math and speech by exposing them to an additional mode of instruction. (\$990)

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pat Carley, Beaverton School District Special Education: Sound system and team t-shirts for middle and high school STARS color guard (the middle and high school special needs team). (\$844)

Kate England, Highland Park Middle School: Garden tools, supplies and plants for our students in special education classrooms to use with peer buddies for revitalizing a courtyard area. (\$955)

FOREST GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Amy Anderson, Forest Grove School District Special Education: Arts and crafts supplies and gross motor equipment for the "Learning Lab" at Joseph Gale Elementary School. The lab will provide a unique environment for whole body learning using sensorimotor activities to improve academic performance in reading, writing. (\$500)

Kathleen Stephenson and Kathleen DiCarlo, Tom McCall Upper Elementary School. Two iPads to use with students with communication disorders; providing them an opportunity to advance their skills through the use of technology. (\$1,000)

GASTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Wade Sims, Gaston High School: A Sawstop table saw for the woodworking program. (\$1,000)

HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Connie Saul, Miller Ed. Center Alternative High School: Die-cut machine to assist teachers in producing paper geometry math manipulatives to improve Common Core success. (\$1,000)

Ko Kagawa, Minter Bridge Elementary School: Rain boots and raincoats for needy students to use when they participate outdoor. (\$780)

Carissa Martus, Quatama Elementary School: Instruments and manipulatives to allow special education students who are non-verbal and have limited motor skills to successfully participate and making music. (\$244)

SHERWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mikal Morris, English Language Development at Edy Ridge and Archer Glen Elementary Schools: iPads to improve English Language Proficiency (\$850)

Marian Wattman Oshima, Middleton Elementary: Special Education Assistive Technology and application software to support fine motor and communication goals for children with special needs. (\$914)

TIGARD-TUALATIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Amy Moreland, Charles F. Tigard Elementary: Books to support the school's after-school program, the The Wildcat Den, focused on homework support and language enrichment. (\$600)

Kraig Sproles, Metzger Elementary: Brain-Body Activities to help students with sensory needs (Autism, ADHD, or ODD) calm down, focus and perform better academically and socially. (\$966)