



Tahoe/Truckee



Foundation
Annual Report 2013/14

Who We Are

The Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation was founded in 1986 as a business/education partnership.

The Foundation's efforts are targeted to enhance the education of nearly 4,000 students in a school district that encompasses 11 schools in a geographic area of 720 square miles. The Foundation supports hands-on academic learning experiences for students and promotes instruction that is meaningful and relevant in real-world situations.

The Foundation awards grants to teachers in the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District through a competitive application process.

The Foundation recognizes exceptional teachers and classified staff through the Linda Brown Fellows and Star Award programs.

The Foundation is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors and Advisory Board of over 40 community members with a broad range of experience, representing all geographic areas of the community.

Our Mission

The Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation enhances public education within the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District to strengthen the learning experience for students.



Excellence in Education Board of Directors



Excellence in Education Board Members at Northstar Challenge

2013/2014 Foundation Board

This volunteer board represents all geographic areas of the community. They bring a broad range of experience and expertise to the Foundation including backgrounds in business, education, government, and community relations.

Nancy Gisko, President	Ed McGargill
Kelli Twomey, Vice President	Donna Morgan
Bill Austin	Lianne Nall
K. Hale Carr	Kristin Pekarek
Katja Dahl	Shelly Purdy
Alison Elder	Kathryn Rohlf
Cindy Flores	Aimee Schaller
Doug Flynn	Lil Schaller, Past President
Beth Hirsh	Alex Silverman
Nathan Kendall	Gretchen Sproehnle
Haakon Lang-Ree	Jessica VanPernis Weaver
Hien Larson	Barbara Wilkinson
Michelle Larson	Mary Lynn Willis

Laura Abbey Brown, Executive Director
Emily Salmon, Coordinator

ADVISORY BOARD

Linda Brown	Cindy Gustafson
Ann Holmes Delforge	Roger Kahn
Jan Ganong	Bob McClintock
Michael Graham	Scott Ryan

BENEFACTOR BOARD

Bill Rock - Northstar California Resort
Eric Sather - Resort at Squaw Creek
Bob Hickam - Tahoe Mountain Club
Rob Kautz - Sugar Bowl
Andy Wirth - Squaw Valley Ski Corp
Robb Etnyre - Tahoe Donner Association

TTUSD LIAISON Dr. Robert Leri

OF COUNSEL Michael Graham

REVENUE SOURCES FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014

Skiing for Schools	\$ 58,948.00	19%
Golfing for Schools	\$ 89,831.00	29%
Dining for Schools	\$ 40,236.00	13%
Home Tour Event	\$ 59,946.00	19%
Payroll Deduction	\$ 2,720.00	1%
Friends of Education Membership Income	\$ 13,568.00	4%
Contributions	\$ 42,743.00	14%

TOTAL	\$ 307,992	100%
Endowment Investment Income Total	\$ 346,208	100%

EXPENDITURES FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014

Grants Funded	\$ 206,133.00	69%
Donor Restricted Grants	\$ 14,953.00	4%
Teacher Fellows and Staff Star Awards	\$ 20,000.00	5%
Donor Development	\$ 30,711.00	8%
Administrative	\$ 22,522.00	6%
Programs	\$ 28,227.00	7%

TOTALS	\$ 376,546	100%
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DONORS 2013/2014

\$20,000 and above	Squaw Valley & Alpine Meadows
Coyote Moon Golf Course	Sugar Bowl
Northstar California	Tahoe Donner Association
Resort at Squaw Creek	Tahoe Mountain Club
\$10,000 - \$19,999	
Martis Camp	Tahoe City Golf Course
\$5,000 - \$9,999	
Homewood Mountain Resort	Truckee Tahoe Airport District
Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation	
\$2,500 - \$4,999	
Tahoe Mountain Resort Foundation	43 Local Restaurant Partners In Dining For Schools
\$1,000 - \$2,499	
S. H. Cowell Foundation	Ted Owens
Up to \$999	
Ironman Foundation	Tahoe League for Charity
Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski Area	Tahoe Truckee Education Association
Tahoe Cross Country	

2013/2014 "Friends of Education" Annual Membership

Individuals and businesses can support Excellence in Education by becoming a "Friend of Education." Annual membership to the Foundation provides members the opportunity to support local education and be informed on current Foundation and educational news.

DEAN'S LIST

Bill and Norma Parson

FOUNDATION HONOR ROLL

Bill and Diane Austin
Marie Borges and David Condon
Max and Nancy Gisko
Olander Family Foundation
John and Kathryn Rohlff
Aaron Stabel

FOUNDATION SPONSOR

Dickson Realty, Truckee
Bret and Caitlin Field
Haakon and Jen Lang-Ree
Bill and Jennifer Rock
Tahoe Sierra Board Of Realtors

FOUNDATION PATRON

Coldwell Banker, Mike Lombardi
Dan and Cindy Flores
Michael Graham
Kevin and Beth Hirsh
Kiwanis Club Of North Lake Tahoe
Larry and Michelle Larson

Rolf and Trudy Lesem
Kane and Aimee Schaller
Steve and Melissa Siig

SCHOOL YEAR DOLLAR A DAY

Debbie Cole and Lisa Dobey
Jason and Jerusha Hall

FOUNDATION SUPPORTER

Dick and Mary Abbey
Jenny and David Antonucci
David and Suzie Bengé
William and Cornelia Bloomer
David and Linda Brown
James and Amy Easterbrook
Desmond and Alison Elder
Sally Frazier
Michael and Kelly Gelbman
Anna Grahn-Nilsson
Don and Shirley Hale
Randy Hill
Jooly Hopkins
Kurt and Martha Krieg
Nils and Marie Lang-Ree
Bob and Brady McClintock

Bernie and Molly Mellor
Christian and Lianne Nall
Don and Lil Schaller
Jill Schott
Sharp Team, Janie Sharp/Kristi Hood
Steve and Kelli Twomey
Russ and Terri Viehmann
Jessica VanPernis Weaver
Mary Lynn Willis

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Kern and Gina Barta
Phebe Bell and Billy McCullough
Jeff and Laura Brown
Hedi Burkhart
Hale and Don Carr
Kevin and Chris Carroll
Brad and Lydia Carter
Rob and Johanna Curtis
Brian and Joy Doyle
Cynthia Dunham
Doug and Erin Flynn
Robert and Nancy Guilbault
Jake and Lauren Schaaque-Hudson

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (cont.)

Ann McBride
Ed and Kendra McGargill
Peter and Donna Morgan
Matt and Kirsten Pekarek
Jeremy and Shelly Purdy
Karen Roske
Rich and Edie Scarpa
Ralph and Alex Silverman
Barb Wilkinson

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Patty Cardoza
Fawn Chang
Eileen Fahrner
Jill Haky-Smith
Nathan Kendall
Donna Marshman
Anne Middleton
Jean Morken
Katie Old
Luise Reith
Ronda Shaw
Pam Wattenmaker

2013/2014 In-Kind Partners

Alpenglow Sports • Law Offices of Michael E. Graham • McClintock Accountancy • Mountain Hardware
Nicole Sachse Accountancy • North Tahoe Business Association • Paco's Bike & Ski • Safeway - Kings Beach and Truckee
Save Mart - Tahoe City and Truckee • Tahoe Sierra Board of Realtors • The Store

The businesses and individuals listed above reflect new and renewing donors for the 2013/2014 fiscal year. It is our intention to recognize every donor. If we have overlooked anyone, please advise us so we may include you in our next Annual Report.

Excellence in Education Fundraising Programs 2013/2014 Performance

TOP FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS FUNDS RAISED SINCE INCEPTION

SKIING FOR SCHOOLS	\$ 1,348,802
GOLFING FOR SCHOOLS	\$ 1,224,971
DINING FOR SCHOOLS	\$ 925,319

The fundraising programs of the Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation support the allocations programs and the operating expenses of the Foundation. Through the generosity of the business community, these programs provide the purchaser with the opportunity to enjoy the unparalleled recreation and cuisine of the North Tahoe/Truckee area in addition to benefiting the children of the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District.

Skiing For Schools - \$ 58,948

Each year, our skiing partners set aside special Skiing for Schools days to benefit the Foundation. These dedicated benefactors provide either discounted tickets or a portion of the day's total revenues to demonstrate their commitment to education in our community. Skiing for Schools has raised more than \$1,348,802 over its 23-year existence.

Skiing for Schools Partners

Homewood Mountain Resort • Northstar California • Royal Gorge Cross Country
Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows • Sugar Bowl • Tahoe Donner • Tahoe XC

Dining For Schools - \$ 40,236

Over forty-three local restaurants partner with the Foundation in the Dining for Schools program. Each Dining for Schools card entitles the bearer to a half-off entrée during the fall and spring. A number of these restaurants also participate in the "extended period" and offer this special discount during the winter months. Dining for Schools has raised \$925,319 since its inception in 1993.

Dining For Schools Partners

Bar of America	Mamasake	Six Peaks Grille at Squaw Creek
Blue Agave	Manzanita at the Ritz-Carlton	Stella at the Cedar House
Caliente	Mikuni Japanese & Sushi Bar	Summit Restaurant at Soda Springs
Christy Hill	Moody's Bistro Bar & Beats	Sunnyside Restaurant
Cottonwood	Pianeta	Tavern 6330
Dragonfly Restaurant & Sushi Bar	Pizza on the Hill, Tahoe Donner	TC's Pub
Fifty Fifty Brewing Co.	PJ's Bar & Grill at Gray's Crossing	The Lodge at Tahoe Donner
Fireside Pizza	PlumpJack	The Soule Domain
Gar Woods Grill & Pier on the Lake	Restaurant Trokay	Twenty Two Bistro & Bar
Graham's at Squaw Valley	River Grill	Village Pizzeria
Jake's on the Lake	River Ranch	West Shore Café
Jason's Beachside Grill	Rocker@Squaw	Wolfdale's
JAX at the Tracks	Rosie's Café	Zano's
Las Panchitas	Rubicon Pizza	
Lodge at Sugar Bowl Dining Room	Sandy's Pub at Squaw Creek	

Excellence in Education Fundraising Programs 2013/2014 Performance (continued)

Golfing for Schools - \$ 89,831

Our golfing partners generously donate 275 rounds each to the Golfing for Schools program. Each pass entitles the bearer to 18 holes of golf at each of seven courses, during specified times of the season. Golfing for Schools has raised over \$1,244,971 since its inception in 1994.

Golfing for Schools Partners

Coyote Moon Golf Course	Resort at Squaw Creek Golf Course
Gray's Crossing Golf Course	Tahoe City Golf Course
Northstar Golf Course	Tahoe Donner Golf Course
Old Greenwood Golf Course	

Payroll Deduction - \$ 2,720

Many employees of the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District participate in a payroll deduction program to benefit the Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation. The Foundation appreciates this direct support and the enthusiasm that these employees have shown toward the quality educational programs that it has been honored to fund.

Mary Berelson	Dana Hurt	Yvonne Logan	Mardiece Patrick
Mark Brady	Lissa Johnson	Susan Lowder	Susan Phebus
Sydney Dion	Trent Kirschner	Reina Markheim	Dana Pomeroy
Margi Englert	Anna Klovstad	Nancy McNair	Kirby Reed
Teresa Eppolito	Margie LaPoint	Julie Miescke	Laurie Scheibner
Patricia Hamilton	Diane Laroche	Joanna Mitchell	Christine Smith
Kilty Highfill	Hien Larson	Dean Nordby	Janet Sturtevant
Ed Hilton	Julia Lawrence	Kelly Nourse	Bonnie Whittemore
Tara House	Erin LeFevers	Marguerite Paras	Terrina Gross-Woodard

Home Tour - \$ 59,946

The Foundation established a partnership with the Tahoe Sierra Board of Realtors during the 2009/2010 fiscal year and created the Home Tour event. The Foundation appreciates the support of the Board of Realtors and is excited with the event's growth. The last four years the event was generously held at Martis Camp in Truckee. The event revenue is generated from ticket sales and advertisements sold for the Home Tour program.

Sustainability - The Endowment Fund

The Board of Directors established an endowment fund in 1990 in order to fund the grant/giving program in perpetuity. In 2005, Excellence in Education met its \$1.5 million endowment goal and continues to grow the fund each year. Fortunately, the economy continues to improve and the endowment realized an investment gain of \$346,208, leaving a fund balance of \$2,598,985 on 6/30/14. The Foundation's policy is to annually spend up to 4% of the three-year trailing average investment balance.

Excellence in Education Grants Funded

2013/14 GRANTS FUNDED \$ 275,133

DISTRICT WIDE GRANTS	\$ 24,000
ALDER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL	\$ 10,000
COLD STREAM ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL	\$ 2,000
GLENSHIRE ELEMENTARY	\$ 2,164
KINGS BEACH ELEMENTARY	\$ 9,242
NORTH TAHOE SCHOOL	\$ 9,239
NORTH TAHOE HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 12,468
TAHOE LAKE ELEMENTARY	\$ 8,963
TRUCKEE ELEMENTARY	\$ 8,572
TRUCKEE HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 17,466
PARTNERSHIP GRANTS	\$ 16,000
BOARD DESIGNATED GRANTS	\$ 106,019
21ST CENTURY GRANT	\$ 50,000

District Wide Grants - \$24,000

Digital Books for Digital Learners - Rachel Wright

Grant funds a digital library for the middle and high schools in our district. The library will include popular fiction and common core non-fiction E-books as well as Kindle Fire devices for each school site.

Fully Funded \$20,000

Social Just Library - Rachel Falk

Grant funds materials for a social justice library. These materials will support the new California Assembly Bill 1729 which mandates alternative means of correction before expulsion. These funds will give each site \$400 to purchase tools.

Fully Funded \$4,000



Excellence in Education presenting the fall grant cycle check to Truckee Tahoe Unified School District.



Excellence in Education Grants Funded (continued)

Alder Creek Middle School - \$10,000

Math Connections – Teresa Eppolito, Sue Mock

Grant funds \$10,000 for the math department to support the curriculum. We received three different math support requests and we suggest the department work together to purchase the programs and materials which best support the curriculum goals.

Fully Funded \$10,000

Cold Stream Alternative School - \$2,000

Bringing Common Core to Life in Social Studies - Sasha Newman

Grant funds an audiovisual library to support thematic, project based, cross-curricular units in the English and Social Science curriculum at Cold Stream Alternative.

Fully Funded \$2,000

Glenshire Elementary - \$2,164

CD Players for Read Naturally Program – Rachel Sheedy

Grant funds a dozen new CD players and batteries in order to implement the Read Naturally program.

Fully Funded \$505

Common Core Support for Student Literacy – Kilty Highfill

Grant funds a site subscription for Raz Kids: A leveled reading program with comprehension questions and assessments. There are two non-fiction and two fiction benchmark assessment passages for each reading level.

Fully Funded \$935

Non-Fiction for Common Core Reading - Jean Fournier

Grant funds four classroom subscriptions to Scholastic News. Scholastic News is yearlong engaging non-fiction in a student friendly magazine format.

Fully Funded \$474

Publishing Student Work to Change the World - Suzanne Samson

Grant funds ten ISBNs which allows the publishing of ten books. The book is a project started last year. Students studied nouns and verbs, read non-fiction books, wrote poetry and music, expressed themselves through art and made a book. *Fully Funded \$250*

Kings Beach Elementary - \$9,242

Non-Fiction Books – Jean Wernette

Grant funds Spanish non-fiction books that fit the themes of 2nd Grade in Science and Social Studies.

Partially Funded \$2,000 of \$8,000

Ukuleles - Jackie Thomas

Grant funds a class set of Kala tenor ukuleles plus song books, case and tuners for grades 1-4 (and share with 5th graders at North Tahoe School).

Fully Funded \$2,791

Common Core Classroom Library - Kelley Ogilvy

Grant funds English books for the lower elementary classrooms to help in the support of English Learners and English Only during English Language Development. The book sets have been created to support Common Core.

Fully Funded \$3,528

Technology for Reading - Cana Trahan

Grant funds additional CD players allowing more students to read a text while listening to audio. Aside from differentiation, students have the chance to build vocabulary and read texts that may be above their reading level.

Fully Funded \$416

Libros para Amigos - Book Exchange Program - Julie Otis

Grant funds a book exchange program to help all students increase their access to high-interest books in the home. Four times a year books are collected and exchanged, so that students are able to bring “new-to-them” books into their home environment. *Fully Funded \$400*

Excellence in Education Grants Funded (continued)



Chromebooks in the classroom

North Tahoe High School - \$12,468

Exploring Motion, Energy and Sound - Todd Hennings

Grant funds materials to bolster North Tahoe High School's physical science (physics, chemistry, and physical science) lab materials. The equipment requested will allow students to experience and measure many unique aspects of otherwise highly abstract ideas. *Fully Funded \$1,160*

AP Environmental Science Lab Quest Probes - Sarah Subotic

Grant funds environmental science probes for a new AP Environmental Science course. The probes will also be applicable for biology, chemistry, and physics.

Partially Funded \$3,000 of \$5,484

CNC Router Kit – Mike Mendelson

Grant funds a CNC (Computer Numerical Controlled) Router kit that students in the Engineering course will build and then learn to use. Students will be able to produce objects that they design using computer aided design software. *Fully Funded \$8,080*

Skeleton Stand – Kelly Nourse

Grant funds an appropriate skeleton stand for use in Biology and Anatomy and Physiology classes.

Fully Funded \$228

Large Protein Labs – Laura Hartung

Grant funds supplies for culinary students to participate in a large protein lab. The lab simulates the breakdown of proteins including chicken, pork and salmon.

Fully Funded \$400 (From an Excellence in Education board member's personal fund- not included in total above)

North Tahoe School - \$9,239

6th Grade iPods for Research, Reference and Skill Practice – Tara House

Grant funds six iPods per class to enhance learning. These iPods will be used for research, reference and skill practice. This is seen as an extension of the iLearn program.

Fully Funded \$6,006

Historical Fiction Literature Circles - Katie Jamison

Grant funds historical fiction novels which have been selected to support 7th and 8th grade literature circle unit.

Fully Funded \$1,616

Historical Fiction in Spanish - Tara House

Grant funds historical fiction books in Spanish to support the 6th grade Social Studies themes.

Fully Funded \$590

Excellence in Education Grants Funded *(continued)*

North Tahoe School *(continued)*

Literature Circle Novels – Danielle Karwowski

Grant funds books for literature circles in the 6th grade classroom. The books are current high interest books that will be used in both 6th grade language arts classrooms for reading instruction.

Fully Funded \$727

P.E. & Fitness for 6th Grade – Tara House

Grant funds P.E. equipment including medicine balls, jump ropes, and six “gertie” balls.

Partially Funded \$300 of \$1,085

Tahoe Lake Elementary - \$8,963

Early Phonemic Awareness – Judi Dietz

Grant funds are for the new Kindergarten teachers to obtain materials to teach early phonemic awareness and letter recognition. The resources requested are hands-on learning materials that are accessible for all learners.

Fully Funded \$1,232

First Grade Leveled Reading Collection - Marnie Anderson

Grant funds a collection of leveled reading books for third first grade classrooms. (Excellence in Education funded 2/3 of last year’s grant for the same collection, this request is for the remainder). The collection of 300 books is leveled 1-20 and includes a wide variety of fonts, layouts, illustrations and genres at each level.

Fully Funded \$1,835

Instructional Rugs for Kindergarten and 1st Grade - Suzanne Beye and Marnie Anderson

Grant funds instructional rugs for the children to sit on during instructional time.

Fully Funded \$1,487

Multi-Media Resources to Support Common Core - Deed Verutti

Grant funds materials which support the shift to the Common Core. The grant will allow the site to increase, update, and diversify its multi-media resources to support instruction.

Fully Funded \$1,057

Classroom Carts – Rita Ramirez

Grant funds to purchase rolling classroom carts that are used to safely move library books, cross country ski boots, lunches on a daily basis, and special projects. Additionally these carts are used to move curriculum and student work to support the ‘Walk to Learn’ model in which students are leveled across grade level to participate in targeted instruction.

Fully Fund \$1,767

Magazine Subscriptions - Rita Ramirez

Grant funds subscriptions like Time for Kids, National Geographic for Kids and others.

Fully Funded \$285

Portable Tetherballs for PE - Jennifer McMasters

Grant funds a tetherball to be used as additional equipment for P.E. classes.

Partially Funded \$650 of \$1,165



Science class at a Tahoe Truckee Unified District School

Excellence in Education Grants Funded *(continued)*

Truckee Elementary - \$8,572

WeDo LEGO Construction **- Heidi Bushway Verkler**

Grant funds WeDo LEGO Construction, a coding and computer program. The software supports problem solving, working collaboratively in groups, communicating with others and learning how to be creative problem solvers in a technical world. Instead of using computerized models, students will use their hands to build LEGO models using motors and sensors with compatible computer software.

Fully Funded \$3,742

Kids Fitness Room - Shauna Altof

Grant funds equipment to enhance the existing Fitness Room at Truckee Elementary including a rower, a stationary bike, medicine balls, and a clock with a stop watch.

Partially Funded \$2,600 of \$3,500

A PenFriend for Kindergarten - Ashley Starin

Grant funds pen shaped recorders that use self-adhesive labels to record and re-record information. This technology allows students to tap the recorder to the adhesive label to hear the pre-recorded audio, as set by the teacher. It will be used during the language arts and mathematics independent learning centers to increase the students' phonemic awareness and it helps readers understand the alphabetic principle. It also increases the number sense of the students. This device also benefits English Language Learners (ELLs) and students in Response to Intervention (RTI).

Partially Funded \$800 of \$2,908

Story Flannel Sets - Marguerite Paras

Grant funds classic folktale books and corresponding story sets for use in the library or classroom. Benefiting up to 250 students who will enjoy listening to classic folktales and watching flannel characters portray the folktales.

Fully Funded \$151

iPad Apps for the classroom – Anna Davis

Grant funds learning apps that are needed to support 2nd grade literacy, science, and math. The apps will be accessed by over 80 students and are related to the Common Core Curriculum.

Fully Funded \$400

Classroom Supplies and Games

Grant funds Kindergarten games and toys including board games, puzzles and LEGOs.

Fully Funded \$265

El Andar Supplies for Summer 2014

- Eileen Driscoll

Grant funds T-shirts and the dye for the El Andar Summer Literacy Program's final craft/reward day of tie-dyeing T-shirts.

Partially Funded \$400 of \$450

Expanding our Worldly Knowledge Using Time for Kids Magazine – Jill Haky-Smith

Grant funds a subscription of Time for Kids Magazine for the 2nd grade classes as a teaching tool to expose students to the world of Social Studies and Science. News and theme-based issues help build critical skills, such as reading comprehension and critical-thinking.

Fully Funded \$214



Lego robotic construction at Truckee Elementary School

Excellence in Education Grants Funded *(continued)*

Truckee High School - \$17,466

Reading Intervention Program - Megan Rosenblatt

Grant funds literacy intervention programs - Accelerated Reader Enterprise and STAR Enterprise. The grant request matches an intervention program which has proved successful at NTHS.

Fully Funded \$4,303

Instruments and Marching Supplies - Theresa Smith

Grant supports the enhancement of the school jazz and marching band including a vibraphone, drum set and harnesses for the marching drums.

Fully Funded \$5,220

Truckee High Physical Education – Bob Shaffer
Grant funds P.E. equipment including plyo boxes, weights and jump ropes to update and improve the current physical education program.

Partially Funded \$4,000 of \$5,433

Atom Building – Susan Lowder

Grant funds a CPO Science Atom Building Game which allows students to kinesthetically study electron orbitals and the exchange of energy in an atom.

Fully Funded \$1,443

Science Learning Systems – Paul Smith

Grant funds additional Pasco Science Learning System Computer Data logging probes to be used in the science department.

Partially Funded \$2,500

Partnership Grants - \$16,000

Excellence in Education wrote and was awarded a \$6,000 grant from Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation for literacy programming. The money was directed to Truckee Elementary for the 2014 El Andar summer reading program.

Funded \$6,000

Excellence in Education wrote and was awarded a \$500 grant from the Tahoe League for Charity to facilitate literacy training for summer camp providers in support of the Tahoe Truckee Reads literacy initiative.

Funded \$500

Excellence in Education wrote and was awarded a \$3,500 grant from Tahoe Mountain Resorts Foundation for the Summer Neighborhood Reading Program. The grant funded teacher stipends and supplies to operate a 4-week summer reading program in six low income neighborhoods.

Funded \$3,500

The Truckee Tahoe Airport District generously funded \$500 toward each district fifth grade class to take a field trip to the Discovery Museum in Sacramento to participate in the Challenger Space Simulation.

Funded \$6,000



Board Designated Grants - \$106,019

Board Designated Grants are funded through the interest from the Foundation's endowment fund. The Foundation's policy is to annually spend up to 4% of the three-year trailing average investment balance.

Expanding the 1:1 Chromebook Program

Excellence in Education is offering additional support expanding Tahoe Truckee Unified School District 1:1 Chromebook program. The program offers a "1:1 device" student ratio. The goal is by 2017-18 for all grades 4th to 12th to be 1:1.

Funded \$50,000

Literacy Support

Excellence in Education is supporting a "Train the Trainer" model of literacy expertise for basic literacy skills in primary grades and literacy expertise in the subject areas. This training will be conducted by Tahoe Truckee Unified School District.

Funded \$20,000

Character Development for Middle and High School

Excellence in Education is supporting character development programs at both the middle and high school levels. The grant supports a character development program in the middle schools called "Second Step." The grant also funds the Challenge Day program for two years for the high schools.

Funded \$24,019

STEAM & CAREER FAIRS

Excellence in Education partnered with the Truckee Noon Rotary by supporting the STEAM and Career Fairs. The STEAM Fair is an optional, open format, evening activity for grades 3-10 in the fall semester. The focus is on specific academic and career opportunities within the science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics fields. The Career Fair is in the spring and provides an opportunity for students to meet with representatives from various career and college representatives.

Funded \$2,000

AIM HIGH

Excellence in Education has made a three-year commitment to provide funding to Aim High. Aim High is the largest academic summer program provider in the Bay Area and added Tahoe/Truckee area in the summer of 2012. The program combines intensive, engaging and challenging academic classes with activities and events that create opportunities for leadership development and community exploration. Students join after 5th or 6th grade, and participate for three or four consecutive summers - at no cost to the students or their families.

Funded \$10,000

21st Century Grant

Excellence in Education provided a \$50,000 grant to the TTUSD Technology Committee to design a "classroom of the future" prototype. The committee is researching and testing various furniture models, configurations and technology to support 21st century learning.

Funded \$50,000



Delivery of 900 Chromebooks to Tahoe Truckee Unified School District.



Students at Tahoe Truckee Unified School District STEAM Fair.

Excellence in Education

Linda Brown Fellows and Star Awards

The Linda Brown Fellows and Star Awards were created to promote and recognize exceptional educators in our district. The Linda Brown Fellows Award is presented to teachers who set their personal expectations high and make learning exciting every day. The Star Award recognizes classified (non-teaching) staff members who go above and beyond and provide truly outstanding support. This year, five Fellows were selected from a field of 52 teachers with 138 nominations. Each Fellows recipient received \$2,000 for educational enhancement, and an additional \$1,000 for personal use. Five classified staff were honored with the Star Award selected from 31 nominations for 18 different staff members. Star Award winners each received \$1,000 for personal use.

LINDA BROWN FELLOWS RECIPIENTS 2013/14

Joni Adomshick
Alder Creek Middle School

Theresa Charter
Glenshire Elementary

Erin Smith
Glenshire Elementary

Jean Fournier
Glenshire Elementary

Nicole Sayegh
District Office



The 2013/2014 Linda Brown Fellows Award winners, from left: Joni Adomshick, Alder Creek Middle School; Jean Fournier, Glenshire Elementary School; Erin Smith, Glenshire Elementary School; Theresa Charter, Glenshire Elementary School; Nicole Sayegh, District Office.

STAR AWARD RECIPIENTS 2013/14

Jessica Alb
District Office

Cindi Friedli
District Office

Cristine Goldman
Kings Beach Elementary

Robin Redmond
Sierra High School

Phil Mix
Transportation



The 2013/2014 Star Award winners, from left: Jessica Alb, District; Robin Redmond, Sierra High School; Phil Mix, Transportation; (Not pictured, Cindi Friedli, District Office; Christine Goldman, Kings Beach Elementary.



Fellow-Star recipients at awards recognition event.

Tahoe Truckee Reads

In July 2012 Tahoe Truckee received the prestigious All-America City Award for a plan to improve grade level literacy in our community. This local effort, “Tahoe Truckee Reads,” is part of a larger national campaign addressing this critical issue.

Over the past two years Excellence in Education, Tahoe Truckee Unified School District (TTUSD) and local organizations partnered to implement the award-winning plan.

Included in the plan are several new programs and strategies such as TTUSD’s 4- week school readiness program, K-Camp and Summer Scholars, a program for first through third graders needing additional reading support. Tahoe Truckee hosted conferences for childcare providers and parents emphasizing the importance of school readiness and the power of storytelling and song. Additionally, neighborhood-based summer reading programs were implemented in six low incoming neighborhoods and fifteen Community Bookshelves were installed in public locations. Tahoe Truckee was also a participant in National Attendance Awareness month (September) and the National Summer Learning Day in June. Tahoe Truckee was named a 2013 Pacesetter Community by the National Campaign for Grade Level Reading based on our mobilization and implementation of the plan to increase literacy in our community.



Tahoe Truckee **READS!**

Extensive research has demonstrated that focusing on school readiness, school attendance, and avoiding summer learning loss significantly improves success in reading, especially for low-income students who are most at risk for low reading skills.

THE PLAN FOCUSES ON THREE MAIN STRATEGIES:

- **School Readiness** - too many children are entering kindergarten already behind.
- **School Attendance** - too many young children missing too many days of school.
- **Summer Learning** - too many children in the early grades are losing ground academically over the summer.

PACESETTER AWARD & RECOGNITION

Tahoe Truckee was recognized as a Pacesetter Community for implementation of the plan to promote early reading.



From left, Alicia Maldonado, CA Lead for National Campaign on Grade Level Reading; Rob Leri, TTUSD Superintendent; Laura Abbey Brown, Excellence in Education Foundation; and Ralph Smith, Senior V.P of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Director of the National Campaign for Grade Level Reading.

Tahoe Truckee Reads recently added the first outdoor Community Bookshelf to its growing network of free “little libraries” throughout the Tahoe-Truckee region. This bookshelf was added in a mobile home park in Tahoe Vista. The Bookshelf was stocked with English and bilingual story books.



Local children and members of the Tahoe Vista mobile home park worked together to paint their Community Bookshelf.



Tahoe/Truckee **Excellence in Education** *Foundation*
Business & Community helping Students reach new heights

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