

Norwalk Education Foundation Newsletter

NEF Matters

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Issue: # 4

March /2008

Greetings!

We'd like to thank everyone who made our February Wine and Chocolate Party a huge success. What a great way to start 2008 - our 10th Anniversary Year.

Upcoming Events

[A musical benefit for NEF's POWER HOUR Literacy Program](#)

[Student Photography Show at The Haviland Gallery](#)

[10th Annual Golf Classic at The Shorehaven Golf Club](#)

[2nd Annual Run for Ed Road race in Historic SONO](#)

As we roll into spring, we've got lots going on: Middle School University, Innovation Grants and DonorsChoose, Power Hour... just to name a few.

And we have lots coming up: Shake It, Read It, Rock It at Town Hall, Student Photography Show at The Haviland Gallery, our 10th Golf Classic at Shorehaven, and the 2nd Run for Ed road race in SONO.

Happy 10th Birthday NEF!
(1998 - 2008)

NEF Partners with DonorsChoose.org

Expanding Teacher Grants

NEF has been providing teachers with mini-grants (Innovation Grants) for 8 years. Now we're raising the bar. In partnership with [DonorsChoose.org](#), NEF is expanding our Innovation Grants to include more resources for our teachers.

"DonorsChoose.org invites all full-time Norwalk educators to go to [www.donorschoose.org](#), click on the tab that says "For Teachers" and create a teacher account. To kick-off its partnership with the NEF and to encourage you to try the site out, DonorsChoose.org is offering an incentive: the **first 30 Norwalk public school teachers who submit a proposal at DonorsChoose.org between March 5 - March 12 will automatically receive \$50 towards their proposal!** (This offer will only be applied once per teacher and is only valid on proposals submitted during the week specified.) Even after

Free Homework Help for Norwalk Students in English... y en español

"Thanks to my tutor I figured out the way to use synthetic division to find zeros to a new type of problem I never encountered before. " - 11th Grade Student, Feb. 08

"This helped me understand what the math problems were asking!"
- 4th Grade Student, Feb. 08

Free Homework Help for Norwalk Kids

All you need is a Norwalk Public Library card

To boost America's economy we must focus on strengthening K-12 education.

Why? Economists estimate that if America raises student skills closer to that of European nations, the U.S. economy would grow by an additional 5% over 30 years resulting in an extra \$1.5 trillion in 2037 alone - more than triple current U.S. spending on K-12 public education.

2 Million Minutes

The amount of time a student spends in 4 years of high school.

the incentive is over, Norwalk teachers can sign up and submit proposals at any time during the school year.

Norwalk teachers: You can ask for equipment, software & technology, supplies, books, furniture, field trips and more at DonorsChoose.org. Then ask NEF for training, support, and additional needs through our Innovation Grant program.

Parents and PTO's: you too are needed to make this work! Tell other parents to help our teachers get the support they really need. Instead of buying teacher gifts, for example, ask your teachers if they'd like a fully tax-deductible donation toward their class projects instead. And parents, let's help our teachers write those grants and figure out how to navigate the DonorsChoose website.

It's a win-win for everyone if we work this together. Just click on the logo below, or cut and paste the link into your Favorites to view Norwalk's Challenge Page. Then tell all your friends and family about it.

<http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/viewChallenge.html?id=18174>



Middle School University returns to Norwalk Community College

Norwalk Middle Schoolers, get ready. MSU is back this spring and better than ever. We heard what you want to learn and are offering Video Game Making, Music CD, Robotics, and Comic Book Cartooning.



[Click here for a complete class schedule.](#)

MSU is a collaboration between The Norwalk Education Foundation and Norwalk Community College.

Welcome New Board Members and Staff

NEF is proud to announce the following new board members to its Board of Directors.

Irene Dixon, a resident of Norwalk, is director of sales and marketing at the Hilton Garden Inn Norwalk. She has two children in the Norwalk Public School System and is the current Ambassador of the Year of the Greater Norwalk Chamber of Commerce.

Hilda Salerno is a vice-president of HSBC Bank and manager

How do U.S. high school students compare to Indian and Chinese high school students? Should we be concerned?

2 Million Minutes, A Global Examination

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

of the bank's Norwalk branch at 345 Westport Avenue in Norwalk. She has 30 years of banking experience. Hilda sits on the new member committee for Norwalk Kiwanis and is a Greater Norwalk Chamber Ambassador.

Verna Holder is a vice president at MBIA Insurance Corporation in Armonk, NY. A Norwalk resident, Verna is married to Dave Dowrich and they are the parents of 2 girls, Thea 8 and Erin 6.

We also welcome teacher **Sara Vogel** as our Technology Consultant for the TechSmart Teachers and Parents Program. Sara has been a TechSmart teacher for NEF for 3 years teaching a variety of courses like Outlook, Excel, and Class Drive Web Design. Sara replaces Paula Palermo, who recently left NEF for full-time employment.

The Norwalk Education Foundation exists to effect positive change for Norwalk's public school children by providing programs and funds for innovative classroom instruction, teacher and technology training, and a variety of learning opportunities beyond the school day.

We THANK YOU for your support.

Sincerely,

The Norwalk Education Foundation (NEF)

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