

2012-13 PEP District 89 Teacher Grants

Joy Yerly, Mary Lou Andacht, and Caroline Andres, Family Literacy Night

Mary Krajcir, The Berkshires Mentoring/Tutoring Program

Sharon Hultquist and Tonia Hardtke, World Wide Westfield

Laura Guzman and Pam McDermott, Reaching Up: Reaching Out

Lisa Riordan, E-readers for 21st Century Readers

Pam McDermott and Sue Halvax, STEM -Book Buddies

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PEP GRANTS AWARDED TO TEN DISTRICT 89 TEACHERS

GLEN ELLYN — The Partnership for Educational Progress (PEP) has awarded 2012-2013 PEP Teacher Grants to Pam McDermott, Sue Halvax, Joy Yerly, Mary Lou Andacht, Mary Krajcir, Sharon Hultquist, Tonia Hardtke, Laura Guzman and Lisa Riordan, teachers in Glen Ellyn Consolidated School District 89.

PEP is partnering with Glen Crest and Briar Glen schools to participate in a program called “STEM –Book Buddies.” In this program students will use a variety of sources and strategies to select books for the library. The direct school improvement goal is to improve reading and literacy, according to instructors Pam McDermott and Sue Halvax.

“Family Literacy Night” at Arbor View School will introduce local poet/performer Bill Buczinsky for a poem-themed assembly and writing workshop. Throughout the night, students will listen to, write, and perform their own poetry. Interacting with poetry will help with the district goal of higher achievement in reading, with direction from Joy Yerly and Mary Lou Andacht.

At Briar Glen school, Mary Krajcir will continue “The Berkshire Mentoring/Tutoring Program,” using a PEP grant. Through this program, students from Glenbard South will have the opportunity to help students in grades K-6 with homework and school projects. By receiving homework support, the students will extend their learning time, which will result in growth in reading and math.

Another exciting PEP initiative is “World Wide Westfield,” co-authored by Sharon Hultquist and Tonia Hardtke. World Wide Westfield will be a club offered to students in grades 1-5 which will highlight a different country each month. The goal of the project is to expose students to geography, history, art and music originating from diverse cultures.

Laura Guzman and Pam McDermott propose to teach kindness and compassion while educating the community on issues that result from bullying with their PEP project, “Reaching Up; Reaching Out.” Students will use a variety of online tools as well as district selection guidelines to locate and review books that encourage compassionate behavior. Students will also design a PR campaign that can be used in both Glen Crest and in the community to encourage reading these special books. These real world experiences will challenge students to look around them and decide how to best use resources to change the way things happen at their school.

Lisa Riordan plans to implement a PEP project called, “E-readers for 21st Century Readers.” 6th and 7th grade students will use e-readers to read books with their book clubs and also to share other books they’ve read on their own. Using e-readers will expand the types of texts which students use.

The annual Partnership for Educational Progress Grant Program is supported by tax-deductible gifts contributed by individuals and businesses and through other fund raising activities. A charitable foundation, the Partnership for Educational Progress works with Glenbard School District 87 and its feeder elementary districts to provide enrichment opportunities for all students. Since 1992, the PEP foundation has awarded more than 415 Teacher Grants worth over \$225,000. Further information about PEP

and the PEP Grant program is available by calling the PEP office at 630-942-8605, or by visiting PEP's website: thepepfoundation.org.