



# **ADAPTING THROUGH INNOVATION**

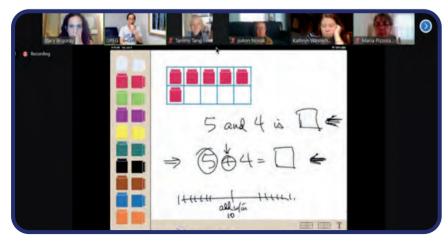
Annual Report June 2020

# **OUR MISSION**

The mission of the Bronxville School Foundation is to enhance the quality of public education in our community by engaging the support and energies of educators, citizens, parents, students and alumni. The Foundation awards grants for projects that do the following:

- Strengthen the curriculum by serving as a catalyst for the development and promotion of innovative programs.
- Support additional training for faculty members and enhance educational resources available to them.
- Provide financial assistance for special school facilities and equipment.
- Increase awareness and support for the school.

We are very fortunate for the Bronxville School community's strong commitment to innovative learning. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the ingenuity of grant writers, the Foundation is able to further empower our school's administration and faculty to provide the best possible learning environment for our students in these unprecendented times. As partners, we are able to adapt through innovation.



The First Grade Team Working Virtually on Math Curriculum Updates

#### Dear Friends,

We are truly living the theme of the Foundation's report this year – Adapting Through Innovation. 2020 has brought many challenges that have called upon us to adjust and think in new and creative ways.



The Bronxville School's administration and faculty have innovated ways of teaching, engaging and keeping our students safe. Students have innovated not only the ways they learn and collaborate but also age-old traditions such as our special Bronxville graduation. Parents are innovating by taking on additional roles and supporting our students even more. All of this in keeping with the mission of Bronxville's Promise – helping our students learn to lead, to be engaged citizens, to think critically and to innovate.

This summer, the Foundation held a special meeting to assess and approve two off-cycle grants in response to the global pandemic and in preparation for our school re-opening. In total this year, the Foundation approved a tremendous \$1,009,166 in grants, including the funding of our new Design & Innovation Center.

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our community of donors, the Foundation has been able to support our school's continuous innovations. With uncertain times ahead, your support is even more vital. It allows us to help with facility enhancements, program and curriculum development, professional development, health and wellness programs, as well as necessary equipment and materials for our students.

As the daughter of a 30+ year Kindergarten teacher from Maryland, I have always marveled at the Bronxville community's commitment to our school. It is equally inspiring that so many alumni have such respect for the education they received at our school that they choose to raise their own children here so they can share the same experience. With your continued support to keep the Bronxville public school education something to be treasured, we can hope that many of today's students will do the same.

As we approach our school's 100th year, adapting and innovation will continue to be crucial as we meet new challenges. Thank you so much for your generosity and commitment to the Bronxville School.

Wishing you and your families good health.

With deep appreciation,

Lori Beecher Chairperson

# 2020 GRANT AWARDS

These grants were awarded for implementation in the 2020-21 academic year. In some cases, the pandemic has created implementation delays or slight grant modifications. The Foundation is committed to providing the arant writers and the administration with the flexibility required to responsibly accomplish the goals of each grant.



**STEM Facilities & Equipment** 



#### World Languages Initiatives



Athletic Equipment Upgrades

#### FACILITIES

- Design & Innovation Center
- IDE Classroom Redesign Phase III
- MS Art Room Renovation

#### **EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS**

- MS Science 3-D Printer
- Unruly Splats: ES Coding & Active Play
- Bronco TV 4K Recorder & Equipment
- Milo the Robot for ES & MS Special Education
- Robotics Kits for MS Technology Class
- Acoustical Shells for Performing Arts
- Moving Lights for Auditorium
- Local Live Live Streaming Video for School Sports & Special Events
- PE Audio Visual Equipment
- Portable Recording Studio for Performing Arts
- ES Sensory Path Hallway
  - HS Vertimax Speed Training Equipment
- Wireless Sound Systems for Indoor & Outdoor Events

#### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Leadership Development Learning for Curriculum Leaders
- Enhancing Reading Comprehension for MS & HS World Language Department

#### PROGRAM & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- ES Diversity Book Club Author Visit: Grace Lin
- Canine Integrative Therapy for ES & MS
   Special Education
- Technology Curriculum Enhancements for ES & MS Special Education
- First Grade Math Curriculum Updates
- Hadestown: Eighth Grade Introduction to
  Interdisciplinary Studies
- MS & HS Book Club
- HS STEM: Interdisciplinary Pilot
- HS World Language Fellows: Inquiry-Based Projects Program
- Project Let Us Seed Fund You: Seed
   Money for HS Entrepreneurship Classes
- HS Int'l Thespian Society Troupe: Yr. 2
- Bronco TV Studio Consultant for Technical Support & Maintenance

#### **HEALTH & WELLNESS**

- HS Portable Meditation Cart
- MS & HS One Love Curriculum
- HS Social Issues Awareness Club Speaker: Kevin Hines
- Wise Corner Mindfulness Pilot for Fourth Grade & Resource Room Classrooms

# AMOUNT: \$1,009,166



Professional Development



ES Technology Upgrades



One Love MS Art Project

TOTAL: 33 GRANTS

### LIGHTHOUSE AWARD



#### **Avery Widen & Liam Heraty** 2020 Lighthouse Award Recipients

The Bronxville School was founded in 1922 as a Lighthouse School, dedicated to the ideal that children are unique individuals with a right to an education that helps them achieve their highest potential at every stage of their development. In 1999, the Foundation established the Lighthouse Award. Each year, the award goes to members of the junior class who exemplify the school's educational ideals of enthusiasm for learning, pride of accomplishment, self-discipline, self-esteem and consideration for the ideas and values of others. Voted on by their classmates and faculty, Avery Widen and Liam Heraty are the 2020 Lighthouse Award Recipients. They possess the qualities of mind, spirit and service that the Foundation supports.

#### THE ANNUAL KATIE WELLING RUN & WALK A Virtual Event - November 16-30, 2020



November 30, 2019

The Annual Katie Welling Memorial Run & Walk is a wonderful community event and a Thanksgiving tradition. Given the pandemic-related restrictions this year, all runners and supporters are invited to sign up to participate in a virtual event to honor the memory of 2002 BHS Graduate, Katie Welling.

### FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT

As we begin this new school year, the Foundation theme of Adapting through Innovation has never been more relevant. As we face the challenges of the pandemic, we are extremely fortunate to have the partnership and support of the Bronxville School Foundation. With potential state aid reductions and decreased revenue, the Foundation has stepped up to assist the school so we could open our doors safely for our children and staff, while providing the best



learning environment possible. This year, in addition to the many other grants, the Foundation provided funding for our "zoom rooms" allowing us to purchase large screen monitors, webcams, and microphones helping us improve our teaching for students in-person and at home. The Foundation also funded the application of Purezone antimicrobial film to all our high touch surface areas helping to keep our building clean and safe. The financial support for our new Innovation Center, will allow us to expand our STEM offerings and include courses such as Robotics and Entrepreneurism.

The Bronxville Promise: to Innovate, Lead, Think Critically, and Engage the World, is alive and well and we continue to expand pathways and opportunities for children to engage in and change the world. The support and cooperation of our community has never been more important. With your support, the facilities projects are on schedule and set to be completed by late fall. The new and renovated spaces are key to allow us to meet the future needs of our expanding curriculum. The opportunity to develop and cultivate creative ideas are one of the things that makes Bronxville such a special place. As we have all made adjustments to our daily lives during this unprecedented time, I encourage you to take a look at how the Bronxville School and most importantly our students benefit from the work of the Foundation.

On behalf of our staff, students, and community, we thank you for your support and generosity and we look forward to another exciting year at the Bronxville School!

Go Broncos!

Roy R. Montesano, Ed. D Superintendent of Schools



### SEEDS OF INNOVATION ENABLE US TO ADAPT FOR ALL POSSIBLE LEARNING SCENARIOS ...

In 2014, the Bronxville School launched a robust technology network using Google Apps for Education. The Foundation has funded extensive technology initiatives across all three schools, including grants for Chromebooks, Mac Laptops and iPads and related professional development and training for teachers.

In 2018, the Bronxville School debuted a state-of-the-art TV studio. The Foundation provided critical support by funding professional broadcast equipment in addition to work with a consultant that enabled faculty and a committed group of students to bring us Bronco TV. In the spring of 2020, these critical seeds of innovation enabled the school community to pivot quickly to a virtual learning plan and stay connected. New seeds of innovation funded by the Foundation have also helped the administration to prepare for all possible learning scenarios in the coming year.



Zoom Classrooms & Home Use Equipment: The Foundation funded critical audio/visual equipment to strengthen hybrid and virtual instruction plans in conjunction with District-sponsored training for teachers on active learning in technology-infused classrooms.



PUREZONE by GUARDXPRO: Treatment of railings, handles, and other high-touch areas with Purezone, an antimicrobial film that has been shown to combat the growth of coronavirus on surfaces, promises to help make the school's facilities safer.



Construction of the Design & Innovation (D&I) Center: Adding roughly 1,100 square feet in new learning space for innovative STEM work, the D&I Center will be the home to Engineering, Physics, Robotics, and Entrepreneurship classes.

# HOW THE FOUNDATION FUELS INNOVATION

### WHY WE EXIST

The Foundation exists to fund important and innovative projects the District budget cannot cover. These enhancements are vital to creating an excellent overall educational experience for our children and keeping our school competitive.

### **OUR FUTURE**

The Foundation's work is more critical than ever given the constraints of these unprecendented times. It is only through the ongoing and generous support of the community that we will keep our school and village strong.

# WHAT DIFFERENTIATES US

The Foundation and the PTA play different, but complementary, roles at the Bronxville School. The Foundation funds grant requests, primarily from teachers and administrators, for faculty training, curriculum enhancements, and upgrades to equipment and facilities. The PTA serves as a vital link between the school and parents to support communication, after-school enrichment programs, and athletic and community traditions.



Foundation projects touch every student, elevating their educational experience in academics, the arts, athletics and student support services.

The Foundation enhances excellence at our school by helping maintain the competitive advantages that help keep our community strong and support fulfillment of the Bronxville Promise.

### WHAT WE DO

The Foundation's 30-member volunteer board works with teachers, the administration, students and parents to identify innovative ideas that will have the greatest impact on the most students. The Foundation board performs extensive due diligence on grant proposals submitted for these ideas and raises money each year from school families, alumni and community members to fund approved grants.

# WHAT'S COMPELLING

Foundation funds have direct and immediate impact by making many cutting-edge curricular and technology improvements possible. The grants are fast and flexible — many projects funded in May are up and running in classrooms in time for the new school year.

### SCHOOL & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Foundation positively impacts all three schools by supporting academics, arts, athletics, student support services, and faculty. By maintaining vital connections with alumni and the broader Bronxville community, the Foundation provides a means for all constituents to partner for the Bronxville School's progress.

### WAYS TO GIVE

Most donors give during our annual fund drive in the fall when Foundation board members send letters out to the community, but gifts are made throughout the year. We also sponsor the Katie Welling Memorial Run & Walk, a great community tradition in November. Alumni support the Foundation through the Alumni Fund-Raising Drive and the Alumni Brick Walk in which alumni (or their families) purchase inscribed pavers for the brick walk in front of the school. Some donors give "In Memory Of," "In Recognition Of," "In Honor Of," or as planned Gifts/Bequests. Gifts can be in the form of cash, securities, or life insurance.

# Thanks to the generosity of our community, total contributions for 2020 were \$445,983.

#### **Designated Foundation Gift Funds:**

#### **Endowment Fund:**

You may choose to donate to the Foundation's Endowment Fund to provide a reserve of support for the Foundation's work. Appreciation and interest earned on donations to our Endowment Fund currently cover all Foundation overhead enabling every dollar of our other donations to fund grants.

#### Other Designated Foundation Gift Funds:

Fund for Science Education Fund for Special Education Robert K. Jackson Fund for the Performing Arts Dr. Erna Christensen Fund for Language Arts in Elementary School

#### Corporate Matching Gifts:

Please check if your employer offers a matching gift program. The following corporations have provided matching gifts: American Express, Ares Management, Deutsche Bank, Genentech, Inc., Goldman Sachs Gives, Goldman, Sachs & Co., BMO Financial Group, KKR, MFA Financial, Inc., Moody's Foundation/CAF America, PIMCO, Thomson Reuters, Tiffany & Co.

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#### The Donor List reflects contributions for the period between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

### THE FOUNDATION AND ALUMNI

The Foundation helps alumni stay connected to the Bronxville School. We appreciate their important support of our mission. Many thanks to the Alumni Classes who mark their reunions with donations.



The Class of 1969 celebrated their 50th Reunion in 2019 and the Foundation appreciates their generous Class Gift.

## Alumni Walk

More than 2,200 bricks grace the entrance of the Bronxville School in a strong showing of support for the school by our alumni. Created in 1994, the Alumni Walk has grown through donations from graduates of all ages. Entire classes, as well as families and friends, purchase bricks to honor former students. This year the following alumni added their bricks to the walk:

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Brian Bodell Gio Cutaia Mike Dimitri Deirdre Doheny Kristen Evans Wendy Fahy Mary Gay Christopher Horvers Erin Daly Krestinski Christopher Krieg Jennifer Lescott Vincent McBride Julie Meade Robert O'Hare Sam Patterson Katie Shah Lisa Sorensen



Socially Distanced Senior Class Graduation on July 18, 2020

