

District 181 FOUNDATION



Community Partnership Grants, 2010-2011

Race to Nowhere Screenings: Two screenings (Jan. 26 and Feb. 10) of this acclaimed documentary were sponsored by SELAS, with support from D181, HMS, CHMS, D86, and the PTOS from all of these schools. The screenings occurred in January and February and were followed by a D181-funded, facilitated discussion. \$2500 was provided by the D181 Foundation to underwrite the costs of the two sold out screenings, one at HMS and one at HCHS. 1600 tickets were reserved and an estimated 1100 people attended. The second screening at HCHS was followed by an impromptu Q&A by Director Vicki Abeles and Assistant Superintendent Janet Stutz. Due to the great interest in the film, HCHS PTO offered a third screening and a separate discussion during a PTO meeting.

One Book, One School, and Speaker, Dr. Ishaq Nadiri, NYU Economist: The two middle schools partnered to provide scholarly input about Afghanistan (May 16-17) following the schools' readings of *Three Cups of Tea*. The community is invited to an evening presentation by Dr. Nadiri. The Foundation funded these school and community programs with \$1000 for the speaker's travel expenses.

Community Partnership Grants, 2009-2010

Rachel's Challenge: CHMS PTO partnered with the Foundation to bring this event to the school and in the evening, open it to the community. \$1500 was contributed by the Foundation and approximately 500 community members attended the evening presentation on Oct. 28. It included the film and a discussion led by a member of the Rachel's Challenge team. This event kicked off a school-wide project to foster caring between students, appreciate diverse skills and perspectives, and value the community of the school.

Connecting Boys to Books: Michael Sullivan, the author of *Connecting Boys to Books, Closing the Reading Gap*, was invited to speak to the community at the Hinsdale Public Library on April 28. The topic provided parents with ideas of ways to interest boys in reading and described examples of books that appeal to boys. This D181 Foundation-funded event followed a similar presentation made to D181 staff. The event was sponsored by the MRC Directors and led by Stephanie Stieglitz. The Foundation provided \$950.

Community Partnership Grants, 2008-2009

Dr. Meg Meeker, Because it's All About the Kids, It's all About You!: This program was planned and sponsored by Leeza and Rich Merlo, parents in the D181 community, and partially funded by the D181 Foundation, for \$1000. It took place on Oct. 16 and was attended by approximately 60 people.

Barbara Rinella as Einstein: GECO organized this theatrical event and the Foundation supported it with a grant of \$275. Approximately 120 people attended the Dec. 2 program.

D181 Nutrition Fair: Months of planning went into this district-wide event that focused on healthy eating with hands-on activities and 3-d displays that informed visitors about the human body and health. The Foundation contributed \$750 to this program attended by approximately 400 students and parents on Jan. 15. It was led by Theresa Wilkie.

Michael Maniaci, "About Bullying: Why we should care and how this issue affects us all": SELAS sponsored this event for parents to learn more about why some children bully or are bullied. The presentation on Feb. 4 was followed by Q&A. The Foundation contributed \$500 and approximately 100 parents attended.

Green Footprints: The Foundation supported this Prospect School and PTA project with a grant of \$1000. The program was designed for the youngest students in the school as a way to celebrate Arbor Day and support children's and families' learning about the environment, recycling, and creativity. The event took place on April 15 and was attended by approximately 150 children and parents. It was led by Susan Tiemstra.