

»»» NEWSLETTER «««

HONOR ROLL

The official newsletter of the WJCC Schools Foundation



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

**WHY I GIVE:
DONOR
INTERVIEW
WITH DENISE
KOCH**

**WORLD
LANGUAGE
WORLD CUP**

>>> A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Do you know what makes teachers' dreams come true? We like to think we do! A little extra something to help them in the classroom is always dreamy! This is grant season for the WJCC Schools Foundation, which means we have been accepting teacher applications through our website since school opened. The grant season closes November 30th and that's when the fun starts for us!



Our grant readers (of which I am one) then get to see what the teachers are dreaming of, and we get to help make their wishes come true. One cool idea was the outdoor classroom in Toano which helps students study earth science. Another is the media center 'green room' so students can learn to create YouTube videos and podcasts using high-tech audio-visual equipment. Then there is the elementary school that trains students to fly drones, a potentially useful and employable skill when they grow up.

So thank you for your support – these teachers have dreams that are not in the annual budget, but which expose our students to opportunities they can use in their future careers. We are so fortunate to have such great schools and terrific teachers, and we want to give them the incentive and the tools to continue to produce outstanding student success! To explore more past grants, or to donate, please visit our website at wjccschoolsfoundation.org.

Penny Pulley

QUESTIONS? WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!
EMAIL US AT WJCCSCHOOLSFOUNDATION@GMAIL.COM
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SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS: WHY I GIVE

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DENISE KOCH



“

A community is judged by its schools and how it provides for the education of its children. The WJCC Schools Foundation provides an opportunity for citizens to go above and beyond and to provide additional support that surpasses public funding. As an educator by profession and having served on the WJCC School Board for 8 years, I know that public funding cannot always provide what is needed to fully meet students' needs. I believe the Foundation offers our teachers additional resources enabling them to think creatively and develop innovative programs to meet the needs of all students. It is important for me to be a part of that effort and I am pleased to support the Foundation.

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GRANT PROJECTS



DOLPHIN MART AT JAMES RIVER ELEMENTARY

Thanks to a grant from the WJCC Schools Foundation, the WJCC School Health Initiative Program (SHIP) piloted the “Dolphin Mart” farm stand at James River Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year. This is an educational miniature farm stand that helps students practice hands-on life skills and STEM skills while they learn to make fresh fruits and vegetables a part of their healthy lifestyle. Third grade classes visit the farm stand twice in the fall and spring, and students can “shop” at the stand, learn how and where their vegetables grow, how to weigh and tally their purchase and practice making change with play money. Students then take home a small bag of produce to share with their families. The Dolphin Mart will be back this coming year by popular demand! Funds remaining from the WJCC Schools Foundation grant will kickstart the stand as it seeks additional funding. Many thanks to our local farm partners Mockingbird Farmstead, KelRae Farm and Williamsburg Community Growers for providing seasonal produce for our James River Elementary students!



GRANT PROJECTS

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>>> WORLD LANGUAGE WORLD CUP AT JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Another great first project at Jamestown High with a WJCC Schools Foundation grant- the World Language World Cup! This is a multicultural program developed to connect high school students through the study of various countries while incorporating aspects of the World Cup. This program provides high school students the opportunity to gain a better perspective and appreciation of the different cultures that are represented within the high school. As the pilot program with the hope of expansion next year, each World Language and multi-lingual classroom at the school will research a country, which correlates to one of the cultural populations within the school, culminating in an informational exhibit and capstone soccer tournament.



MONIQUE FENNER

Ms. Monique Fenner is a Certified Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments and Blindness for WJCC Schools. She wanted to teach her students how to advocate for themselves while working to build understanding among other students of what it is like to have a visual impairment. Using low vision goggles purchased with a grant from the WJCC Schools Foundation, Fenner works to ensure that all students are informed of the tools used by students with visual impairments to accomplish daily tasks and activities. "My favorite aspect is teaching students not to pity those with visual impairments, but to learn the awesome things they can do" Fenner said; "For my students with visual impairments, my favorite aspect is them feeling empowered to use and advocate for the tools they need". In this way, this project plants the seeds of kindness, empathy, equity, and empowerment.



2023 TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS >>>

The WJCC Schools Foundation was proud to be a lead sponsor for the 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony. This special event honoring the best educators in Williamsburg-James City County was held on May 3rd at the Hennage Auditorium in the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. Ellen Frackleton at Laurel Lane Elementary received the distinction of being named WJCC Teacher of the Year. Read more about this fun event in WY Daily [here](#)



TEACHER SUPPLY SHOP >>>

In March 2023, the WJCC Schools Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to the school division as seed money to jump-start a new Teacher Supply Shop, an initiative to resupply many basic classroom needs over the course of the year at no cost to the educator. "Our staff shows unwavering dedication to our students and the community; the WJCC Schools Foundation is honored to give back and support our teachers and staff who give so much" said Penny Pulley, WJCC Schools Foundation chair. Read more about the Supply Shop in WY Daily [here](#)



PHOTO: WY DAILY/JILLIAN APPEL