



May 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the end of another school year approaches, the Gloucester Education Foundation (GEF) wants to remind you about its **Honor a Teacher** program, which could be a perfect way to say “thank you” to that special teacher or member of the school community for their contributions to your child’s education over the past year.

WHAT is it? “Honor a Teacher” is a teacher appreciation program that was created out of our belief that many people in a school play an important role in your child’s education—teachers, teaching teams/houses, aides, paraprofessionals; librarians, coaches and guidance counselors; specialists in art, music, media, physical fitness and science; custodians, food service team members, transportation staff, administrative assistants and other support staff; and administrators. *This program provides an opportunity for parents and others to honor individuals in the school community who have meaningfully impacted their child’s education.*

HOW does it work? Honoring a teacher is easy! There are two ways to honor a teacher and make a donation.

- **Online** - Log onto www.thinkthebest.org and click on the “Honor a Teacher” button on the right-hand side of the home page. Follow the prompts to complete the donor form and process a secure debit/credit card payment or donation via PayPal.
- **Mail** – Simply use the form with this letter or download a form from www.thinkthebest.org (or pick up a form from your child’s school) and then place the completed form along with your donation, payable to “**GEF**”, in the mail.

All donations go directly to GEF, which drives innovation, encourages creativity, expands student opportunities and empowers educators to strengthen teaching and learning in the Gloucester Public School District.

Honor a Teacher Awardees will receive a letter informing them of your family’s honorary gift, as well as your optional personalized note of appreciation. *All gift amounts will be confidential.* Gloucester Education Foundation is a (501)(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law and will be acknowledge directly by GEF.

GEF thanks you in advance for honoring our teachers and staff.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE NEED TO RECEIVE YOUR DONATION AND INFORMATION BY JUNE 8 TO DELIVER NOTIFICATIONS TO TEACHERS BY THE CLOSE OF SCHOOL.



**Gloucester Education
Foundation**
www.thinkthebest.org

HONOR A TEACHER

The Gloucester Education Foundation would like to give you the opportunity to honor members of your child's school community for a job well done.

Many people play a role in your child's education - teachers, aides, paraprofessionals; librarians, coaches and guidance counselors; specialists in art, music, media, physical fitness and science; custodians, food service team members, transportation staff, administrative assistants, other support staff; and administrators. **Here is your chance to honor them.**

Your gift, in any amount, may be made at any time of year and will support innovative and enriching programs offered by the GEF. Please see the reverse of this form for a list of programs funded by the community support of GEF.

Honoring someone is easy!

Just complete the form below or visit GEF on the web at www.thinkthebest.org and click on the "Honor a Teacher" link.

I/WE WANT TO HONOR _____ School _____
Staff Member Name (please print)

Student's Name _____ Donation Amount \$ _____
*amounts will not be disclosed to the honoree

Your message (optional) – 30-word limit (your message will be included in the acknowledgement to your honoree)

I/WE WANT TO HONOR _____ School _____
Staff Member Name (please print)

Student's Name _____ Donation Amount \$ _____
*amounts will not be disclosed to the honoree

Your message (optional) – 30-word limit (your message will be included in the acknowledgement to your honoree)

If you would like to honor additional staff members, please duplicate this form or visit www.thinkthebest.org to complete an online form or download another copy.

Donor Name _____

Address _____

City, ST Zip _____

E-mail _____
 Please add me to the GEF mailing list

Telephone _____ Amt Enclosed \$ _____



**Thank you for
your support!**

*The Gloucester Education Foundation drives
innovation, encourages creativity, expands
student opportunities, and empowers educators
to strengthen teaching and learning in the
Gloucester Public School District*

Please make checks payable to **Gloucester Education Foundation**, PO Box 1104, Gloucester, MA 01931

To make a payment with your debit/credit card, go to www.thinkthebest.org and click on the "Honor a Teacher" link or call (978) 282-5550 to make your payment over the phone.

Gloucester Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Programs Funded by GEF- A Representative Sample

GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL

- Start-up support for Computer Science program
- Digital Cameras and iMac Photo Lab
- AP® Prep Summer Programs in English Literature, English Composition, Biology, Chemistry, Statistics, American History and Psychology
- ProJet 3-D Printer and SolidWorks® software
- Online texts and Vernier sensors for Chemistry
- Safety improvements for Cabinet Design and Innovation
- Stipends for After-School Advisors
- *Genome Gloucester* summer program
- Ceramics Equipment & supplies
- ShopBot® digital CNC router
- Equipment and curriculum for Physics of Robotics program
- CAD Software for Vocational Education
- Sound equipment for drama program
- Chemistry with iPads
- Teacher professional development in technology
- *Body Worlds®* Field Trip
- Learning Commons Creation Lab
- Dating Violence Prevention presentations
- SailBot® robotic sailing program
- Quadcopter robotic mini-helicopter
- GHS Greenhouse and Farm to Table program
- Solar/wind training unit for electrical technology program
- 3-D printers for classrooms
- Learning Commons Creation Lab

O'MALEY INNOVATION MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Science, Technology & Engineering Center:
 - Tech Specialist
 - Supplies & Materials
 - Curriculum unit development
 - Wind cars, bridge-building, wind turbine & more!
- *Summer Engineering Adventure at MIT*
- "Slime Lab"— wet lab for life science
- Writing Curriculum Coordinator
- *Advanced Engineering* equipment/ supplies
- 60 iPads for Project-Based Learning
- Aquaponics
- O'Maley Theatre sound & lighting equipment

O'Maley, continued

- O'Maley Summer Science Grad Camp
- Science Through Gardening
- *Word Generation®* vocabulary-building program
- 3-D Printer program
- World language instruction
- After-school music instruction
- Musical instrument library

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- Summer Literacy Program
- Theater programs
- After school music program (stipends, transportation, sheet music and supplies)
- *Early Engineers (Grades K-2)*
- Grade K -2 STEM Curriculum Development and Professional Development
- Grade 5 Robotics Event
- Grade 5 West Parish Science Park
- Grade 5 Ballroom Dance Program and the Mad Hot Ball
- Soundfield® Systems (RED-CATs) in all Kindergarten and Grades 1 and 2 Classrooms
- Schoolyard Gardens startup support
- Visits to MIT to study motorized car building
- STEM Science Supplies and Equipment Repairs
- *Dance Through the Decades*
- SPED bikes
- *Art Explorations* textbooks and supplies
- *Literacy Through Theater*
- Quizzboards
- Heart Monitor Watches (Veterans')
- Jam Hub® silent music studio (Beeman)
- *Countdown to Kindergarten* orientation program
- Maritime Gloucester field trips
- Math Olympiads program expansion

DISTRICT-WIDE INITIATIVES

- Science, Technology & Engineering Coordinator/Curriculum writer
- Math Specialist
- City-wide Arts Festival
- Transportation for field trips
- *Artistic Bridges* visiting artist program
- Grant writing assistance