

**Around the Courtyard**

Williams Middle School  
410 Williams St., Longmeadow, MA 01106  
May, 2013



*WILLIAMS MIDDLE  
SCHOOL*

*MAY 2013*

*NEWSLETTER*

## Upcoming School Events

May 30-Jun.1 Grade 8 Gettysburg Trip  
June 5 7:45 Ensemble to Fenway Park  
June 10 Grade 7 & 8 Concert – 7:00 p.m.  
June 11 Jazz Band & Orchestra Trip to Elementary Schools 8:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m.  
June 11 New Grade 6 Parent Night  
June 12 Gr. 5 Step Up Day--9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
June 14 Field Day  
June 17 Gr. 8 High Meadows Picnic 9:00 -4:30 p.m.  
June 20 Gr. 8 Graduation & Dance  
June 24 Last Day of School – 11:30 a.m. Dismissal

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

With just about 4 weeks left in the school year, there is so much going on at Williams. We just completed our 2013 MCAS testing and are beginning our stretch run of field days, concerts and many end-of-year events and activities. Our eighth grade students are finishing strong and preparing for their move to the new high school. At the same time, we are looking ahead to next year and getting student information loaded and ready for a summer of scheduling and course building. We are also preparing to welcome a new group of sixth graders. This will be another large class and we are looking forward to meeting them on the morning of June 12<sup>th</sup> and getting to know this new group in earnest in the fall. I am also looking forward to meeting the new parents of our incoming grade 6 students on the evening of June 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 - hope to see you all there! Please be sure to check the calendar of events at the beginning of the newsletter for all of the important upcoming dates.

I would like to take some space here to recognize the hard work and support we experienced with our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) this year. Our PAC is supportive every year but this year, in particular, has really stood out to me as an exceptionally supportive year. As many of you know, every school has more on their wish list than the school budget can afford. For us at Williams, we often seem to have technology needs which are difficult to fully fund. Since September, our PAC has purchased the following for our students:

Wireless Printers (3, one for each laptop cart)	\$ 1,500.00
Room window air conditioners (4)	\$ 2,000.00
Chromebook Cart (30 Chromebooks) split w/school budget	\$ 6,000.00
Fleece materials for Newtown Elem. Blankets	\$ 450.00
Advisory breakfast	\$ 300.00

As you can see, these donations alone totaled over \$10,000 and supplied students at Williams with significant resources we would otherwise have been unable to afford. In addition, our PAC held a Teacher Appreciation Lunch for our entire staff on Friday, May 17 and this was another wonderful experience. For the executive board, which put so much of your time into organizing these events and those of you who run the PAC, I send my sincere thanks. For the many parents whose schedule does not allow you to attend meetings or events but who have donated baked goods and monetary donations, I thank all of you as well. We are so fortunate to have the support and encouragement we receive each year from our Parent Advisory Council and all of our students and staff benefit greatly by your continued support.

While I end my comments most months in this same way, it is always appropriate – I am extremely fortunate to be working in a community and a school where education is valued so greatly. The overall support we receive on a regular basis is unequalled in any other district I have worked in and I continue to feel privileged to be coming to Williams each day for work. Thank you all for your continued support and passion for a strong and engaging education for your children!

Chris Collins  
Principal

## MUSIC NOTES

By Daniel Albert, Susan Lauser, and Michael Smith

The middle schools' orchestras and jazz ensembles go "on the road" on Tuesday, June 11 and will perform at the three elementary schools and the Longmeadow Adult Center at Greenwood Park. More information on these tours will be distributed to students and parents as we approach the date. Jazz Ensemble students are to return their permission slips to Mr. Albert as soon as possible.

Our Spring concert season is approaching! As a reminder, here are the concert dates:

- Wednesday, May 29 – Sixth Grade Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- **Monday, June 10 (please note the new concert date)** – Seventh and Eighth Grade Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m.

Parents of band members may always check the bands' website, [www.longmeadowbands.wikispaces.com](http://www.longmeadowbands.wikispaces.com), for the latest information on band performance, as well as information on private lesson teachers, field trips, cool music videos, and more. Parents of orchestra members may check the orchestra website: [www.longmeadoworchestras.wikispaces.com](http://www.longmeadoworchestras.wikispaces.com).

Band members that are interested in playing over the summer can sign up to participate in the Longmeadow Summer Band program. The Summer Concert and Jazz Bands will rehearse in the high school band room during the week of July 8-12 with a culminating evening concert on Friday evening, July 12, starting at 6:30 p.m. In addition to playing lots of fun songs, we'll also be doing a lot of fun activities, like tie-dyeing our Summer Band t-shirts. One may find more information and enroll online at [www.lprd.net](http://www.lprd.net).

See you at the concerts!

**Fifth Grade Band and Orchestra students:** Students will be signing up for Sixth Grade Band and Orchestra in late May or early June. Please speak with your child's teacher for additional information.

Students may elect to play the following instruments:

Orchestra: Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass

Band: Flute, Oboe, French horn, Saxophone, Trumpet, Clarinet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, or Percussion.

Band and orchestra are discretely scheduled classes that meet during the school day and do not conflict with other academic classes. Students also meet in small group like-instrument lessons once every six days. Over many years of experience supported by research, we have found that instrumental students who participate in the school lesson program excel in **all** of their classes! We have two sixth grade concerts during the school year, one in the winter and one in the spring. The concerts feature the Sixth Grade Orchestra, Sixth Grade Band, and the Sixth Grade Chorus.

Chorus students will perform in the biennial, “Imagine All The People” grades 5-12 Choral Festival concert that will take place at Springfield Symphony Hall in March. String students will also perform at the grades 4-12 Longmeadow String Festival, featuring all of the string players in the Longmeadow Public Schools. Band students will also perform at the grades 6-8 Middle School Band Festival, featuring all of the bands in the two middle schools, in March. The concerts are truly wonderful and are representative of the hard work of our students.

After sixth grade, the music continues with the following ensembles:

- **Concert Band:** The Concert Band is made up of all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade wind and percussion players. The band performs in the Winter and Spring Concerts, town Band Festivals, Band Day at Longmeadow High School, and attends the Multibands matinee concert at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- **Jazz Ensemble:** The Jazz Ensemble is made up of grades six through eight students that play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, flute, clarinet, bass, guitar, piano, and drum set. Students are selected for membership by audition. Students study music from all different genres, including swing, funk, and Latin. In addition to participating in the middle school concerts, the Jazz Ensemble also performs at the annual Longmeadow Days town festival and performs at the elementary schools. Students may pick up an audition packet during the opening days of school.
- **Grades 7-8 Orchestra:** This orchestra is made up of all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade string players and performs in the Winter and Spring Concerts, Chamber concerts, the grades 4-12 String Festival, and various other events such as charity benefits.
- **Women’s and Men’s Chorus:** These ensembles meet separately – we are fortunate to have a schedule that allows our students to develop their voices and musicianship in gender-specific choirs. Men’s and Women’s Chorus and Ensemble 7:45 (select 8<sup>th</sup> grade vocal group) have participated in singing at Fenway Park, Falcons’ games, Longmeadow Days, and Symphony Hall at our biennial “Imagine All The People” grades 5-12 Choral Festival concert.

There are so many benefits to playing a musical instrument:

- The idea of teamwork is stressed with students working together to create an outstanding musical product.
- With every person contributing to the “team,” responsibility is a key factor by practicing outside of rehearsal and having commitment to the instrument.
- Visual, verbal, and kinesthetic learning modalities are constantly addressed.
- Students learn to appreciate the arts and the value of the arts in our society.
- There is an inherent connection between mathematics, language arts, science, and other subject areas. There are many interdisciplinary opportunities that can take place.
- Longmeadow High School has one of the best instrumental programs in the state. The LHS Wind Ensemble and Orchestra have performed at Carnegie Hall and Boston Symphony Hall and all ensembles have received numerous awards.
- Most of all, it’s **FUN!**

If you have any questions regarding our instrumental or choral program, please feel free to email us (this is the best way to contact us). We look forward to creating uplifting music with your child next year!

Daniel Albert – Brass, Woodwinds, and Percussion Teacher – dalbert@longmeadow.k12.ma.us

Susan Lauser – String Instrument Teacher – slauser@longmeadow.k12.ma.us

Michael Smith – Chorus/General Music Teacher – msmith@longmeadow.k12.ma.us

## Notes from the Nurse

This is a reminder for 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents (Children who will be entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall): Please make sure your child is ready to enter 7<sup>th</sup> grade in September. DPH regulations state that all 7<sup>th</sup> graders must have a Tdap immunization, 2 doses of Varicella vaccine and 2 doses of MMR vaccine **by the first day of school in September 2013**. An **up to date** physical is also requested for all 7<sup>th</sup> graders. This means that **physicals dated before September 2012** are not current and need to be updated. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 565-4260. Thank you.

Liz Gartman, RN

## Grade 6 News

### English

The Wax Museum was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who visited the classrooms. During the month of May, students will continue their work on short stories. As a writing assessment, the sixth graders examined the character, Walt Masters, from "The King of Mazy May", using a stick figure format. They are also working in literature circles during their extension block.

### Science

Students continue to study the many aspects of our weather, including air pressure, heat transfer, and wind. We are continuing to use the science tech book to enrich our curriculum. Students will also work cooperatively on "Science Court: Seasons," which is a one computer classroom investigation.

## Math

As the year comes to a close, the sixth grade will be doing a variety of review lessons and projects. Some of the topics to be highlighted are geometry, scale, and proportion. The majority of this will take place in school, and is designed to be a fun way to close out the year while still demonstrating knowledge about the subject matter. In addition to review, students will be completing a chapter on measurement. This will include an assessment.

## Social Studies

In social studies the sixth grade just wrapped up the compare and contrast assessment on Sparta and Athens. We are now resuming with chapter 9, which will conclude Ancient Greece. The remainder of the year will be used to delve into Ancient Rome.

## Grade 7 News

### ELA

The seventh grade students in Mrs. Cangemi's classes are exploring how stereotypes lead to conflicts as they read The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton. While they read the novel, the students are completing a two-column reader response journal. The purpose for keeping the two-column response journal is two-fold. One, it provides the students an opportunity to use active reading strategies in order to interact with the text as they read. Additionally, the students are getting some practice keeping a two-column response journal before they are expected to complete one on their own as part of their summer reading assignment. Please make sure to see the summer reading assignment for students entering grade eight in this newsletter.

### Math

The students in seventh grade math have completed MCAS testing and will continue to focus on pre-algebra concepts as well as Geometry throughout the remainder of the year.

Currently, we are piloting a new textbook entitled "Big Ideas." Students received a hard cover book as well as a "Record and Practice Journal." If you have any questions about the new text please do not hesitate to contact your child's math teacher. We look forward to our new math investigations during these last weeks of school.

### Social Studies

Grade 7 world geography is winding down the year. We have recently wrapped up our unit on East Asia, which included China, Japan, and the Koreas. We spent time discussing what communism means, and talking about many of the issues surrounding North Korea today. We have begun our final unit of the year, study of Europe. In addition to an overview of modern Western and parts of Eastern Europe, we will touch upon World War II and delve into the Cold

War. There will be one more essay this year, which will involve students researching a part of their cultural heritage. Details will follow in the next two weeks or so.

## Science

Grade seven is currently studying the kingdoms in science class. We will be observing and sketching different species of Protists as we continue to develop our microscope skills. Our Fast Plants have finished flowering and our pollination of the plants is complete. In the next couple of weeks we will be harvesting the seeds from each of our plants and wrapping up our lab reports. There will be an opportunity for students to investigate and write a persuasive essay on GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms), which will be introduced the last week of May.

## Grade 8 News

### ELA

Mrs. Aveyard's grade 8 English classes are reading *The Killer Angels* until the end of the school year.

### History

In conjunction with English classes, Mrs. Haar's history classes are just completing a unit on the Civil War. Students will soon begin a simulation of the trial of Captain Henry Wirz. Wirz was the only military officer tried & eventually executed after his trial for crimes committed during the Civil War.

### Science

Astronomy is in full swing in grade 8 science classes. Mrs. Santaniello's classes are also researching a constellation project that is due by 6/5.

### Math

Students in Mrs. Trompke's class have been working on functions and will be preparing for the final examination in June. Students are strongly urged to use IXL to review concepts for the final.

## Grade 8 Travel Team

### English

In English class we are deep into reading [The Killer Angels](#) and learning about the American Civil War. The focus of our studies is the rich vocabulary and the literary devices that the author uses in this exceptional historical fiction novel. Students have nightly reading assignments and

they should be working on their two column journals using quotes from the novel. We will watch portions of the movie, *Gettysburg*, as we complete sections of the book to help us visualize and understand what we are reading. It is a busy time of year, but we are continuing to keep focused on developing literacy skills prior to leaving for the high school.

## Math

Last week we finished the math MCAS. Algebra is covering properties of exponents, rational exponents, scientific notation, exponential functions, growth/decay, and geometric sequences. Pre-algebra is continuing with slope. We started functions and representing a function as an equation, graph, table, and verbal description. We will use functions to model linear relationships and investigate nonlinear functions.

## Science

Science 8 has now finished MCAS! We will continue to explore Astronomy with discussions on black holes, theories for the fate of our universe, and then move into the planets.

## Social Studies

In social studies, we just finished exploring the causes of the Civil War - specific events and “big idea” causes. This week, we began looking at the war itself. The English and social studies classes are making great cross-curricular connections as they are reading The Killer Angels while studying the Civil War. After the Civil War, we will end the year looking at Reconstruction and the Civil Rights Movement.

# Summer Reading Lists – All Grades:

## Incoming grade 6 Reading Expectations

Required book: Hoot by Hiassen

In addition to reading Hoot , you must read a second book. Suggested titles are listed below.

After the Dancing Days Rostowski  
Rascal North  
The Ballard of Lucy Whipple Cushman  
The Watsons Go to Birmingham Curtis  
Missing May Rylant  
Banner in the Sky Ullman  
The Dark Is Rising Cooper  
Incident at Hawks Hill Eckert  
The Miracle Worker Gibson  
The Cay Taylor

Blue Heron Avi  
Megan's Island Roberts  
Maniac Magee Spinelli  
The Barn Avi  
The Midwife's Apprentice Cushman  
Holes Sachar  
A Long Way from Chicago Peck

## **Incoming Grade 7 Reading Expectations**

Required Book:

Philbrick                    Freak the Mighty

You must read one (1) book off the following list in addition to the required novel:

Avi	<u>The Man Who Was Poe</u>
Balliett	<u>Chasing Vermeer</u>
Bruchac	<u>Code Talker</u>
Christie	<u>Nemesis</u>
Cooper	<u>The Grey King</u>
Corbett	<u>12 Again</u>
Creech	<u>Walk Two Moons</u>
Cushman	<u>Catherine, Called Birdie</u>
DuPrau	<u>The City of Ember</u>
Fleischman	<u>Escape: The Story of the Great Houdini</u>
Goodall	<u>My Life with the Chimpanzees</u>
Haddix	<u>Running Out of Time</u>
Halam	<u>Dr. Franklin's Island</u>
Hesse	<u>Out of the Dust</u>
Kadohata	<u>Weedflower</u>
Lester	<u>Day of Tears</u>
Levine	<u>Fairest</u>
Lord	<u>A Night to Remember</u>
Lupica	<u>The Big Field</u>
Mazer	<u>Boy at War</u>
Myers	<u>Sunrise Over Fallujah</u>
Patterson	<u>Jacob Have I Loved</u>
Rinaldi	<u>The Quilt Trilogy: A Stitch in Time</u>
Rinaldi	<u>In My Father's House</u>
Rinaldi	<u>Millicent's Gift</u>
Rylant	<u>Missing May</u>
Smith	<u>Peak</u>
Smith	<u>Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali</u>
Spinelli	<u>Maniac Magee</u>
Stevenson	<u>Treasure Island</u>
Taylor	<u>Let the Circle Be Unbroken</u>

## Incoming Grade 8 Reading Expectations

This year we are giving you the option of reading a book of your own choosing. (Of course, you cannot choose a book you previously read.)

When you return to school in the fall, you will share your book with your English class. You may be asked to create some kind of project demonstrating your reading efforts. Be prepared to tell your classmates **why you chose this book, what you learned from reading it, and what type of reader would like this book.**

As you read, select and record ten significant quotations from the book. Then, under the “My Thoughts” column respond to the quotes you chose. Remember to note the page number for future reference. It will be helpful to have a copy of the book with you when you come to your 8<sup>th</sup> grade English class in the fall.

Consider the following ideas when choosing quotations:

- a.) Passages which seem important **thematically**, that imply an understanding about society, human nature or behavior
- b.) Passages which help the reader better understand a **character**.
- c.) Passages which describe the **setting** or society of the time period.
- d.) Passages which reveal a growing **conflict, the climax or turning point, or the conclusion** of the story.
- e.) Passages which contain **literary techniques such as irony, foreshadowing, or figurative language**.
- f.) **Passages** that are funny, sad, thoughtful, or just well-written.

Consider the following when expressing your thoughts:

- \*Why you chose the passage
- \*What personal connections you made with the quote
- \*How the quote made you feel and why
- \*How the author demonstrated the literary elements
- \* What questions this quote suggested to you or respond to something that was confusing to you

**We have included an example of a response to a passage to illustrate what your expectations are. Your two-column journal must be typed and follow the format suggested below:**

From *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

• QUOTATIONS	• MY THOUGHTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>1. “Two children—one male, one female—to each family. It was written very clearly in the rules.” (p.8)</i></li><li>• <i>“This evening he almost</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As I have been reading the first two chapters, I have started to notice that there is a large focus on the rules of the community. It seems like they are very concerned about always following the rules. It strikes me that some of these rules seem somewhat silly and trivial. I find myself wondering</li></ul>

<p><i>would have preferred to keep his feelings hidden. But it was, of course, against the rules.” (p.9)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“ATTENTION, THIS IS A REMINDER TO FEMALES UNDER NINE THAT HAIR RIBBONS ARE TO BE NEATLY TIED AT ALL TIMES.” (p.22)</i></li> </ul>	<p>what happens if you break the rules. I saw something about the word “released”, but I’m not really sure what that means yet. I don’t think I’d like to live in a community with so many strict rules. I used to think school was bad! It seems like these people can’t make any of their own choices about anything.</p>
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Have a great summer, and we’ll see you in the fall.

Happy reading,

Your 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English teachers

## Fall Supply Lists:

### Grade 6 Supply List

To support organizational skills for all students in grade six, teachers are requesting that the following materials be purchased:

#### CHOOSE EITHER:

**ONE** three inch binder

OR

**FOUR** 1.5 inch binders in

- \* blue – social studies
- \* green – science
- \* red – math
- \* white – English

- two packages of wide-ruled notebook paper
- one marble composition book
- two single subject spiral notebooks
- one package of subject dividers (for binder)
- packages of pencils
- highlighters
- colored pencils
- glue sticks
- one plastic two pocket folder for homework

- optional locker organizers: pencil case and locker shelf
- one box of tissues and one roll of paper towels

Please note: Students will be responsible for covering four textbooks. No cloth book sox are allowed because they damage the bindings of the books.

### **Grade 7 Supply List**

- Large 3-ring binder 3" with clear plastic sleeve on cover, if possible
- Plastic pencil case (zippered pouch that goes in binder)
- 1 Spiral notebook (for science)
- Tab dividers for binder
- Colored pencils – one box
- Highlighter
- Red pens
- Post-it's for English
- A scientific calculator (put name on it permanently); TI 30 is okay
- Pens-blue, black (erasable for test taking)
- Package of #2 lead pencils & 1 package pencil cap erasers
- Lined paper (please renew when needed)
- 1" binder (French or Spanish) with 5 section divider
- 2 rolls of paper towels for **SCIENCE**
- 2 boxes of tissues for Advisory
- Black 3-ring binder for Women's Chorus
- Green 3-ring binder for Men's Chorus
- Index cards

**\*\*NO STRETCH BOOK COVERS PLEASE\*\***

### **Grade 8 Supply List**

- One – 2 inch 3 ring binder for both math and science
- One – 2 inch 3 ring binder for English and history
- Black 3-ring binder for Women's Chorus
- Green 3-ring binder for Men's Chorus
- A 1 ½" **RED** binder for French/Spanish
- 2 packages of lined notebook paper
- Tab dividers for each binder
- Zippered pencil case to go in each binder
- 2 packages of 3.5 X 5 inch index cards
- Marbleized cover composition book for English
- Scientific calculator
- 1 package of ½" graph paper
- Scissors & glue

Ruler (metric measuring) & Protractor  
Thin dry erase markers  
Pens – blue, black, & red  
Package of #2 lead pencils  
Highlighters  
Thin colored markers/pencils  
1 roll of paper towels for **Science** teacher  
3 boxes of tissues & 1 hand sanitizer for **Advisory** teacher  
**Stapler & white-out for home!**

## **Philadelphia/Gettysburg Trip**

Students are eagerly awaiting our trip to Philadelphia and Gettysburg. This will be a culmination of our year's work in eighth grade history. Many of the topics that were discussed and studied in depth will come to life as we explore the streets and historical sites of Independence Hall, the Constitution Center, and roam the battlefield where the decisive battle of the Civil War was fought.

Students will meet on May 28, in room 27 at 3:00 to review behavior expectations, room assignments, and go over last minute details of our trip.

## **Grade 8 End-of-Year Activities**

This year, the picnic will be held at High Meadows in Granby, Ct. on Monday June, 17th. This will be the first official Class of 2017 event as we will be picnicking with the eighth grade from Glenbrook. Our graduation ceremony and dinner dance have been scheduled for Thursday June 20th. More information on these events will be coming soon and has been posted on the Williams website.

## **Math Counts**

The Mathcounts team is open to any student at Williams that loves to do enrichment in the area of mathematics. The participants meet weekly after-school from the end of September to January to practice challenging sprint, target, team, and countdown problems. The school team is selected in January to compete at the regional competition in February. We look forward to working with next year's mathletes.

## **Student Council**

Our last big fundraiser benefited One Fund Boston Fund and the Ryan McMahon Fund. Also, Twin Day will be on Friday, May 31st. Students will find a friend or friends and dress just like them. Thanks for your support throughout the year!

## **Field Day**

Field Day is Friday, June 14th. The 8th grade captains have been busy organizing their teams. They have met twice with their teams to explain the schedule and relay events, and to create signs and songs for the team. T-shirts will be distributed in advisory at least one week prior to field day.

We are still looking for volunteers to help organize equipment for relays, to help run relay events, and to take photographs. Please contact Anna Gelinis (teacher contact) or Trish Kingston (parent contact) if you are able to help.

## **Yearbook**

The yearbook was sent for publication in April and is expected to arrive in early June. We will distribute the books to students who ordered them on June 14th (Field Day). There will be a few extra copies available for sale. They are \$15 a book.

## **Drama Club**

Please check out the link below for the WMS Drama Club!

<http://s.masslive.com/ily7KOP>

## **Longmeadow Educational Excellence Foundation**

### **About LEEF**

The Longmeadow Educational Excellence Foundation's mission is to create and maintain a fund for the benefit of Longmeadow Public School students. This fund provides grants, beyond the tax-supported budget, for innovative education and enrichment programs. LEEF is an autonomous, established institution that not only strives to ensure the excellence of Longmeadow Public Schools, but also to instill a sense of equity and pride within the community.

Since its founding in 2001 by a group of dedicated parents, LEEF has awarded over 250 grants totaling nearly \$900,000 to the Longmeadow Public Schools. Examples of recent awards include a pottery kiln, Band Day, cell microscopes, cross country ski equipment for physical education, theater props and equipment, CPR/AED/First Aid Training for educators, library e-books, reading and math literacy programs, Engineering is Elementary, and integrated iPad carts.

Williams Middle School alone received 6 grants totaling \$16,415 in 2011 and 2 grants totaling \$9750 in 2012!

## Upcoming LEEF Events

- **June – 2012-13 LEEF Grant Award** winners announced.
- **Nov. 2 (Sat.)**, 7:00-11:00 p.m. – **12<sup>th</sup> Annual LEEF Gala** at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield: Enjoy a fun night out with friends complete with exciting silent and live auctions, fine food and beverages, entertainment, and raffle prizes. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.GOLEEF.org](http://www.GOLEEF.org). The cost is \$65 per person through Sep. 1, 2013, \$70 from Sep. 2-30, and \$75 from Oct. 1-25 -- so get yours early! **We are currently seeking volunteers, auction donations, and sponsors.** For more info, please contact Jen Cosgrove at 567-2056 or [gala@goleef.org](mailto:gala@goleef.org).

## How You Can Help

LEEF is both a fundraising organization and a grant-making organization of volunteers from our community who share a common passion for extraordinary public school education. Please consider supporting LEEF with your time and talent, or with a monetary donation. For more information or to speak with a Board member, please send email to [info@goleef.org](mailto:info@goleef.org), or visit [www.GOLEEF.org](http://www.GOLEEF.org). You can also check us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GOLEEF](http://www.facebook.com/GOLEEF).