

**A newsletter created to keep you, our generous contributors, updated on recently awarded grants.**

The BEF would like to thank all of the Brookfield Education Foundation donors, whose generosity has made possible funding for 1 major program and 4 mini-grant programs over the past 6 months:

### **One Lake/ One book**

The five towns surrounding Candlewood Lake are coordinating book discussions and programs based on Bill Bryson's *A Walk in the Woods*. A major grant from the Brookfield Education Foundation has provided funding for the Brookfield Library's purchase of 220 copies of the book, two programs from the Wolf Conservation Center, and a letterboxing workshop.

### **Brookfield Library Skill Toy Program**

A mini grant has allowed for the provision of a skill toy program as part of the Brookfield Library's summer reading program for tweens and teens. This interactive program engages young adults in creative, self-directed play, with hands-on participation appealing to a wider audience and allowing for programming and performances throughout the year

### **Whisconier Guitar Tool Kit Funded**

The Technology Education department of Whisconier Middle School will be providing 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the opportunity to build their own acoustical guitars, thanks to a mini grant from the Brookfield Education Foundation.

This opportunity will enable students to learn the terminology and techniques focused on many of the specialized processes required to complete their own personalized instrument.

### **Bullying Prevention Program**

A mini-grant to the Whisconier Middle School Guidance staff will allow for the implementation of the program "Victim-Proof Your School". This bullying prevention project helps empower students to develop victim-proof skills and educates staff in techniques that reduce bullying while enhancing students' emotional development.

### **"Books to Food" Summer Reading Project**

The Brookfield Library is encouraging summer reading while supporting Brookfield's Food Bank, thanks to a mini-grant from the BEF. Children will earn items for the Food Bank by reading books, allowing students to maintain or improve reading skills during school vacation months while learning how their efforts can directly benefit others.

### **Previous/Ongoing Significant Grants:**

Brookfield High school now has a digital video production studio, available for school and community use, thanks to funding by The Brookfield Education Foundation. The equipment funded by the grant includes hardware and software, as well as peripherals needed for remote filming and integration with Channel 17.

A major grant has funded the installation of a garden shed, several raised garden beds, fencing, and supplies at Huckleberry Hill Elementary School, with the potential future installation of a greenhouse. This organic garden has enabled countless hands-on educational opportunities for the entire Brookfield community, and produced fresh vegetables for the Social Services Food Pantry.

**Thank you for enabling the creation of these innovative educational programs that benefit the entire community!**