

2011 - 2012  
School Year  
Event Calendar

Retirees' Reunion  
September 15, 2011

WEDF Annual Meeting  
October 12, 2011  
Worcester Club

Coats for Kids  
October 19, 2011  
Coral Seafood

Distinguished Alumni  
and Friends of  
Worcester Public Schools  
Achievement Awards  
November 9, 2011  
College of the Holy Cross

Student Concert  
March 19, 2012

Athletic Hall of Fame  
May 11, 2012

Contributions may be sent to:  
Worcester Educational  
Development Foundation, Inc.  
Suite 224  
210 Park Avenue  
Worcester, MA 01609

For more information, contact  
wedf@worc.k12.ma.us

*We're In Your School*

The WEDF was founded in 2005 with just \$10 in the bank. Today, the WEDF supports programs as richly diverse as the city of Worcester itself. We're in every school, in every neighborhood.

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◇ Belmont Street       | ◇ May Street               |
| ◇ Burncoat High        | ◇ McGrath                  |
| ◇ Burncoat Middle      | ◇ Midland Street           |
| ◇ Burncoat Preparatory | ◇ Nelson Place             |
| ◇ Canterbury Street    | ◇ Norrback Avenue          |
| ◇ Chandler Elementary  | ◇ North High               |
| ◇ Chandler Magnet      | ◇ Quinsigamond             |
| ◇ City View            | ◇ Rice Square              |
| ◇ Claremont Academy    | ◇ Roosevelt                |
| ◇ Clark Street         | ◇ South High               |
| ◇ Columbus Park        | ◇ Sullivan Middle          |
| ◇ Doherty Memorial     | ◇ Tatnuck Magnet           |
| ◇ Elm Park Community   | ◇ Thorndyke Road           |
| ◇ Flagg Street         | ◇ Union Hill               |
| ◇ Forest Grove Middle  | ◇ University Park Campus   |
| ◇ Gates Lane           | ◇ Vernon Hill              |
| ◇ Goddard              | ◇ Wawecus Road             |
| ◇ Craffon Street       | ◇ West Tatnuck             |
| ◇ Heard Street         | ◇ Woodland Academy         |
| ◇ Jacob Hiatt Magnet   | ◇ Worcester Arts Magnet    |
| ◇ Lake View            | ◇ Worcester East Middle    |
| ◇ Lincoln Street       | ◇ Worcester Technical High |

Worcester Educational Development Foundation  
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Michael Lyons, Worcester Public Schools	Dr. Stephen Mills, Honorary Director

WEDF thanks retiring board members Maureen Ciccone, Karen Duffy, Will Foley, Linda McGowan, Bob Spellane and Janice Weekes for their service and support.

Worcester Educational Development Foundation



*Helping Students and Teachers Thrive*

2011 Annual Report

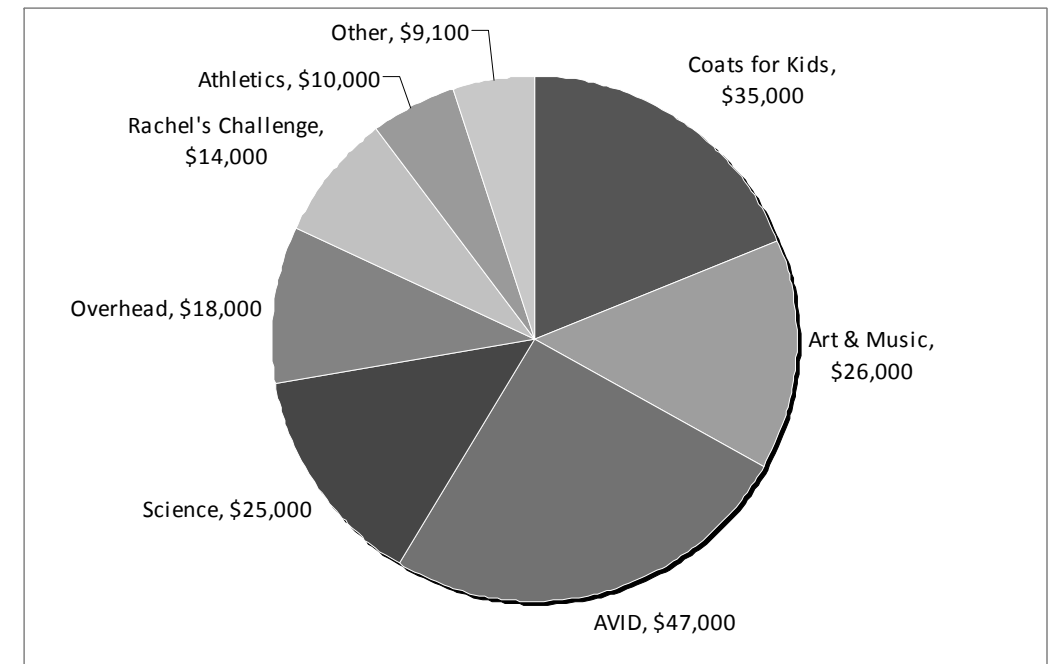
Letter from President Sandra Mayrand:

The Worcester Educational Development Foundation (WEDF) continues its tradition of supporting programs that benefit students and their teachers across the Worcester Public Schools (WPS). Within this annual report you will hear from several recipients of how our support has helped them, see pictures of how our contributions enhanced the WPS education experience and preview the upcoming year.

All of this could not be accomplished without the generous support of individuals, corporations and foundations committed to the betterment of the Worcester Public Schools. We are grateful for and humbled by the enthusiasm of volunteers from across the community in support of WEDF's mission. In this tough economic time, we are amazed at the outpouring of financial support for the education of the children of Worcester. We thank all of you for your gifts of time, talent and support.

A strong K-12 education is certainly the necessary foundation for the future success of our children and our community. We are looking forward to another very productive year and offering you more opportunities to support the WPS through the WEDF. Please check out our web site for updated information throughout the year: <http://wedfwps.org/>

Where It Went  
WEDF Funding Distribution  
2010 - 2011 School Year



"Eighty-five first graders with excitement in their eyes watching the Nutcracker Ballet at the magnificent Hanover Theater. Two hundred fourth and fifth graders learning to play recorders. One hundred and fifty students from City View School performing in three Spring Concerts at Mechanics Hall, feeling the same thrill as world-renowned musicians have. All of this has been possible thanks to the help and generosity of WEDF. The students and I thank you!"

Angela Poirier  
City View School music teacher

"My late husband Kevin D. Lyons spent much of his life giving back to the Worcester community, especially working to support the needs of disadvantaged youth. I am grateful to the Grafton Hillers that they have continued to carry on Kevin's work and have chosen the Worcester Educational Development Foundation as a recipient of their fundraising efforts in his honor. As a retired Worcester Public Schools teacher, I have seen firsthand how Worcester's students have benefited from the work of the WEDF."

- Kathleen A. Murray Lyons

## Helping Students and Teachers Thrive

### Promoting the arts - \$26,000

So many Worcester students love to sing, perform, paint, draw, and express themselves through the arts. From classroom supplies to once-in-a-lifetime experiences, the WEDF is bringing the arts into children's lives. Among the activities that WEDF's generous supporters enabled in the 2010-11 school year are:

- ◇ All 12th graders attended Hamlet at the Hanover Theater with transportation assistance.
- ◇ Every elementary school in the district received new musical instruments.
- ◇ 300 students performed in the "You Are My Sunshine" concert at Mechanics Hall, before hundreds of admiring parents and friends.
- ◇ An opera master class offered to students from Doherty High and University Park Campus, as well as 35 WPS music teachers.
- ◇ \$125 given to every art teacher to purchase whatever supplies they wished.
- ◇ Special kits of reproductions of art by the old masters were purchased for all the art teachers to share with students.

### Coats for Kids - \$35,000

Every year the WEDF partners with the Junior League of Worcester in Coats for Kids, a program to bring warm winter outerwear to students in need. In the winter of 2010-2011, generous support came from Hanover Insurance, TJX, Inc., Worcester Credit Union, The Educational Association of Worcester, Direct Air, the City Hospital Foundation, the First Baptist Church of Worcester, Worcester Public Schools and the Junior League of Worcester. As a result, more than 2,000 students received new winter coats!

### Celebrating Sports - \$10,000

The WEDF supports WPS sports teams with needed funds for uniforms, equipment, travel and other expenses. WEDF friends and supporters held several events in the 2010-2011 school year to help our athletes. The Grafton Hillers annual golf tournament allocated more than \$3,000 to the WEDF for uniforms and equipment. And the Annual Athletic Hall of Fame honored outstanding alumni and community supporters.

## Connecting Local Businesses to the Causes They Care About

### Abbott Bioresearch Center Grants for Science

As a leading bioresearch center, Abbott has a stake in the future generations of scientists. Over the past several years, Abbott invested \$25,000 in the sciences at the WPS.

In 2010, Kindergarten teachers attended the "Science for All Seasons" course at Massachusetts Audubon Society's Broad Meadow Brook facility, learning about environmental changes during New England's season. Teachers took away a new understanding of scientific inquiry and the confidence to teach investigations and hands-on science projects in the classroom. To help them in their work, they received science and nature books and supplies for inquiry-based science projects.

Abbott funds also purchased laboratory equipment for each of the middle schools, ensuring students have supplies to take their scientific investigations in microscopy and density to the next level.

### GoodWorks Insurance Funds the Rachel's Challenge Program

GoodWorks Insurance is not just a local business; it's a member of the community. As such, it has an interest in the well-being of families and children in Worcester. In the 2010-2011 school year, GoodWorks funded the Rachel's Challenge program at WPS.

2,270 middle school students attended the Rachel's Challenge program, which teaches anti-bullying techniques. At Forest Grove and Worcester East Middle, students and adult leaders are carrying the momentum on through the "ChainLinks" program, which seeks to make kindness and compassion central to school culture.

### Dr. Stephen E. Mills Founder's Award

Wyatt Wade, president of Davis Publications, is the 2011 Dr. Stephen E. Mills Founder's Award recipient. Mr. Wade has been invaluable in assisting in WEDF's development efforts, particularly for the arts. In addition, Mr. Wade and his family have been steady supporters of the Worcester Public Schools through their family foundation and business. WEDF thanks Wyatt Wade for his leadership, commitment to public education and involvement in advancing WEDF's mission.



"At GoodWorks Insurance, we believe communities should profit as our business grows. There is no investment more important than our leaders of tomorrow and GoodWorks is proud to be a corporate sponsor of WEDF's support of the Worcester Public Schools."

Kathleen Finnegan,  
Branch Manager, GoodWorks Insurance



Photo courtesy of  
Worcester Telegram & Gazette