



12/20/2013

Dear Mr. McDonald,

The Potsdam Educational Opportunities Fund was started by a group of parents and community members who were concerned about the effects of recent state aid cuts on our schools. Our goal was to provide resources to you, the educators of Potsdam's children, so that you could use your creativity and energy to enrich learning within the schools. With the support of our local businesses, citizens, and a generous alumnus of Potsdam Central Schools we were able to start our fund, bringing these resources to you. In this, our second year, the number of proposals we received doubled. The proposals were written by teachers, administrators, and students. They ranged from support for equipment, to support for educational experiences. All will benefit the children.

This year the competition for the grants was tight with a total of 14 proposals submitted. Given the number of proposals and the budget available to us we had to make difficult decisions about which projects to fund. The proposals were reviewed by members of the PEOF and by representatives from each school. The criteria for selection were based on the quality of the written proposal, the impact of the proposed project, the goals or outcomes of the proposal, and the assessment of those outcomes.

On behalf of the Potsdam Educational Opportunities Fund I would like to thank you for submitting a proposal to our program. It is my pleasure to inform you that we have decided to accept your proposal to purchase an iPad for use with ASD students. We will provide funding of \$766 in support of your project. This level of funding will provide one iPad with the associated software and support. We realize this level of funding was below what you had asked for. We wanted to enable you to start to use this technology in your classroom while also funding the other well written proposals we received. Arrangements will be made to transfer funds through the district office. Please be contact with Mr. Jenne for details on how to access those funds.

Our goal is to make this a sustainable, growing program that will last well into the future. To do that, we need your help. We ask that you please give PEOF credit for the financial support whenever possible. Please take pictures. We will also be asking you to provide a short written report, format to be provided, after the completion of the school year. Finally, we will be making a presentation to the Board of Education at the end of the year and may ask you to help with that. These things will give the PEOF more visibility and credibility. We know that when the positive outcomes of this partnership are made known we will gain support from a broader base. This will enable us to build the program and support future efforts within the school system.

Again, congratulations! We look forward to working with you this year and in future years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas Bohle".