

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Monday, August 19, 2008

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Schools Open with \$10,000 in Grants from DEF



Pictured Above: FFMS strings students were outfitted with grants provided by DEF and the Outer Banks Community Foundation during the 2007-2008 school year. For 2008-2009, DEF has awarded a grant to start a strings program at Manteo Middle School.

Dare County Schools will open this week with nearly \$10,000 in grants awarded by the Dare Education Foundation. DEF's grant program awards up to \$2000.00 to teachers to help students develop 21st Century Skills. To date, five new grants have been awarded for the 08-09 school year.

DEF's 21st Century Skills grants encourage students to learn by doing, work with one another, and become more socially responsible. Rote memorization is OUT. Thinking, planning, collaborating, communicating and being creative are IN.

One grant will help put a strings program in place at Manteo Middle School, while another will support the launch of a flute choir at First Flight Middle School.

The Manteo Middle School publications students have been awarded funds from DEF to "Go Green with Technology." With the grant, they'll purchase equipment to develop a web-based newsletter.

First Flight Elementary students will be "Rooted In Learning" this school year with help from DEF. They are building an outdoor classroom full of hands-on learning opportunities about science, math and social studies in the context North Carolina's natural resources.

Last, but certainly not least, lifelong life saving skills will be taught to high school students district-wide, with funds awarded to purchase equipment to train and certify students in CPR/AED First Aid.

For more information about DEF's 21st Century Skills Grants, visit www.dareeducationfoundation.org or call the foundation office at 255-5545. Grant funds are still available for this school year and are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis while funds last.

The Dare Education Foundation is an IRS-qualified non-profit organization that raises funds to help every student and every teacher in every public school in Dare County. DEF is funded by private donations large and small, grants, sponsorships, and special events. Funds are used to advance teacher training, create access to new educational opportunities for students, and provide support for innovative programs in our schools. DEF's efforts in putting "Schools First" enrich education for all our students and encourage community involvement in education, which provides the foundation for a strong and vibrant quality of life in Dare County.