

## Local educators were honored at Excellence in Education

Written by Administrator

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Several local educators were honored with Excellence in Education awards recently. The awards are used for class projects and any necessary supplies that will enhance the capability of that teacher and enable the students' learning process. Funding for the grants is the result of the Timothy Michael Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund established at the Scott County Community Foundation. Five awards are given annually to educators whose projects demonstrate the most promise of enhancing the education of students in Scott County School District 2.

The Scott County Community Foundation is pleased to announce the following applicants as the winners of the 2009 Excellence in Education awards, worth \$400 each. The teachers were honored with a surprise visit to their classrooms during American Education Week, Nov. 16-20.

\* Barb Decker and Jane Naugle, counselors at Scottsburg Middle School: \$400 for "Mock College Admission Case Studies." Small groups of eighth graders will become the admissions board for "Utopia College." They will review applications and determine two to be accepted, one to be denied and one to be placed on the wait list. They will learn that what they do in high school matters, and will be introduced to the financial aid process as well.

\* Mark Thomas and Michelle Chastain, teachers at Scottsburg Middle School: \$400 for "Darkness to Light: A Cultural Awakening." Sixth through eighth grade students will research social behaviors that become a part of our culture, and then produce designs/props/skits to reflect a quality of the culture they choose to portray, including sounds/music. They will then all work together to create a black light presentation to reflect discoveries about cultures around the world and present to school and community.

\* Nancy Ballard and Tammy Staser, first grade teachers at Scottsburg Elementary: \$400 for "Experiments are Elementary." Students will have hands-on activities to better explore and experience science (butterfly cultures, ladybug kits, fossils, magnets, etc.). Students will display a simple science project at Science Night in May, and high school teachers and students will be invited to view demonstrations.

\* Eldon Cutter, seventh grade teacher at Scottsburg Middle School: \$400 for "Scientific Inquiry With Arthropods." Students will experience a hands-on educational program about insects. They will receive a Madagascar Hissing Cockroach to take home, provide care and return in two weeks. During this time they will conduct activities, keep a journal, collect data, etc. An entomologist will return for another day of activities and discussion.

\* Jaclyn Goode, second grade teacher at Johnson Elementary: \$400 for "Eat My Trash." Students will recycle old food from the cafeteria and create useful soil through a worm compost collector to plant seeds in their greenhouse.

For more information on the Scott County Community, please call 752-2057, email [info@scottcountyfoundation.org](mailto:info@scottcountyfoundation.org) or stop in the office at 60 N. Main St., Scottsburg. You may also visit the website at [www.scottcountyfoundation.org](http://www.scottcountyfoundation.org).