



Freehold Borough
Educational
Foundation

Outstanding Partner – Funder

Freehold Borough Educational Foundation

Funder: Mr. Barry Tobias, former CFO, Peter Jay Sharp Foundation

This award was open to a corporation, philanthropist or foundation that has given significant funding to an education foundation. The award was given to Mr. Barry Tobias, retired CFO of the Peter J Sharpe Foundation. Mr. Tobias was nominated by the Freehold Borough Educational Foundation (FBEF). Through an article published in their local newspaper, Mr. Tobias learned about the work of the FBEF. He learned that Freehold Borough, though struggling financially, had an education foundation that made big impact with limited resources. Mr. Tobias did not live in Freehold Borough, nor did he have any ties to the community. But he had been supporting the education foundation in his neighboring town, Manalapan Township. He reached out to the FBEF offering support, and this began a long relationship. Mr. Tobias became not only a generous supporter of the FBEF but a mentor as well. He provided challenge grants, restricted gifts to ensure continuity. Not only were funds provided from the Peter J Sharp Foundation but Mr. and Mrs. Tobias made donations from their own funds, and connected FBEF to other funders. Mr. Tobias has continued his collaboration with the foundation and the school district though the Sharp Foundation has closed. He has demonstrated the ideal characteristics of a true partner and a true advocate and a friend of public education.

What sets Mr. Tobias apart as a funder is that he connected to the community and participated beyond writing a check. It is because of his commitment to the belief that all children – despite their circumstances or zip code – deserve the resources to reach their educational potential that the FBEF moved beyond underwriting mini-grants and began to institute so many of its programs.

Programs funded as a direct result of these contributions include:

- Kindergarten and first grade violins and lessons
- A bicycle safety program for all 4th graders (Freehold Borough is a walking district)
- A books bucks program where the FBEF gives every 2nd and 3rd grade student a voucher for \$10 to used at the PTO run scholastic book fair ensuring that no child feels left out.
- The Barry and Star Tobias cultural enrichment fund which brings performance arts educational programs to the schools.

One of the most interesting contribution Mr. Tobias has made to the school district is initiating a program of philanthropic grant writing for 8th grade students through FBEF. Students are coached by the school Principal, FBEF Chair and Mr. Tobias on

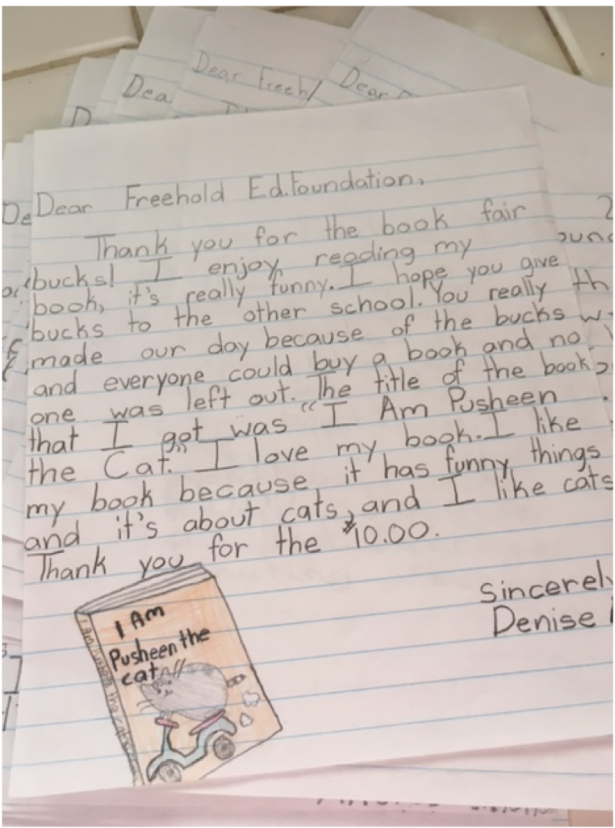


the steps it takes to research a charitable organization before writing a grant request for fund for that organization. The grant applications are submitted to the FBEF for review and approval with most of these grants being underwritten by Mr. Tobias and the Sharp Foundation. The students have been taught a wonderful lesson in philanthropy, kindness and giving back to their community. And invaluable life-long lesson.

Award winning students



New playground equipment for Pre-K



Thank you for the Book Bucks



8th Grade Grant Writers



4th Grade
bike program



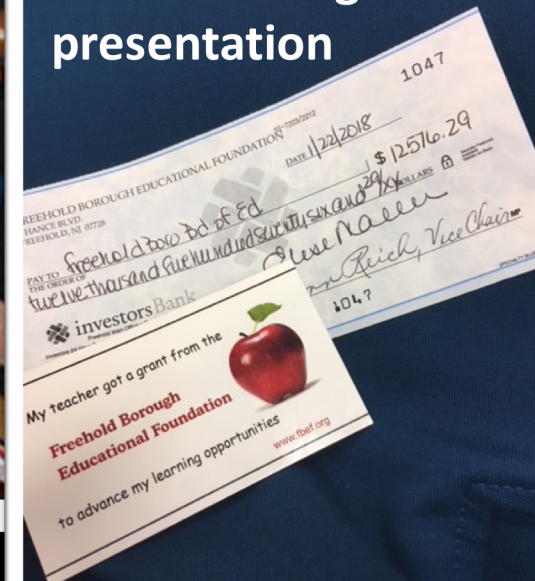
Rutgers Science Bus visits 7th graders



Violin program for students beginning in Kindergarten



Annual mini-grant presentation



New Jersey Education Foundation Partnership



congratulates



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