

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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2019 Innovative Teaching Grants Awarded

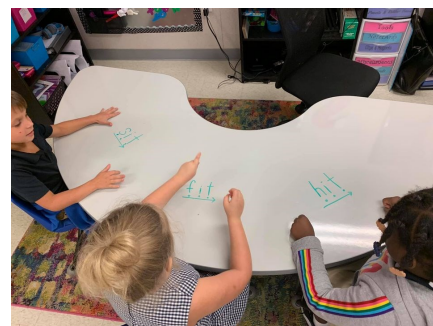
Approximately \$20,000 was awarded in teacher grants by the West Feliciana Education Foundation in the Spring of 2019. These grants will be in place through August 2020. Grants were awarded to Major Jones and Abby Cochran at WFHS. Clarenica Grimes and Less Coleman received a grant for the Family Service Center at Bains Lower. West Feliciana Middle School received grants for Ali McMillan, Bridget Bush, Jamise Lewis, Teresa Pritchard and Genevieve Langlois. Grants were also funded for The Backpack Project, the West Feliciana Reading Council, and the West Feliciana Parish School Board Office.

The grants awarded this year included purchasing materials to provide Math Labs at West Feliciana Middle School (white erase tables and math manipulatives), reading programs at West Feliciana Middle School, age appropriate learning activities for the Head Start Program at the Family

Service Center (Bains Lower Elementary School), research and trips to explore college and post-high school graduation opportunities for the Navy NJROTC midshipmen at WFHS, visual communication through large monitors located in large public areas at West Feliciana High School, printed materials for the West Feliciana Parish School Board to use in teacher recruitment, and a printed anthology of the various young authors of West Feliciana Parish Schools receiving local, regional, and state awards.

We have been so proud of the various opportunities and materials that have been provided through funds presented by the West Feliciana Education Foundation. Throughout the past five years this has included everything from unusual equipment for the schools (such as virtual reality goggle classroom sets, flexible classroom seating options allowing movement, various reading materials including books and computer programs, STEM materials, and math labs); opportunities for Professional Development (such as the Ron Clark Academy, Positive Discipline conferences, Robotic workshops and others); opportunities for students (such as the Mock Trial team attending invitational events at Yale, students attending robotic workshops, and the first high school musical (Annie) presented at the High School Auditorium); and administrative programs (working with the West Feliciana Middle School to improve and validate the math program, providing speakers for various programs at the schools in partnership with other local agencies, and providing the funds to produce printed brochures for the School Board to use in teacher recruitment).

In previous years we have discussed the various grants presented, but this year we will highlight one of the main grants completed last year.



Headstart students using
Equipment from Grant



Highlighting LEADing in Literacy Grant with Ali McMillan

Ali McMillan was awarded a grant during the 2019 school year. The objectives for this grant were to improve reading Lexile and empower students to become LEADers within the school and community. The goal was accomplished in four areas:

- An investment in flexible seating options which provided students with a place and space to read
- An investment in high interest books that engaged students in reading
- An investment in professional development that facilitated teaching and learning which utilized the most recent and up to date, research based, best practices in literacy education
- An investment in funding for transportation costs which supported students learning outside of the classroom in order to more effectively engage them in the classroom.

One way student growth is measured is through Lexile Growth. The Lexile Framework was created by Meta-Metrics to measure the reading challenge presented by a text. It is a quantitative measure from below 200L to above 1700L based on both reading ability and text difficulty.

Lexile Growth:

- By December, students had successfully read 124 books purchased through the grant.
- 33 out of 53 students joined Club Read, the WFMS local chapter of the Louisiana Teen Library Association.
- Students middle-of-the-year Lexile growth showed a gain of an average of 67 Lexile points (expected yearly growth is normally 55—90 points).
- In December 52% of students met their Accelerated Reader goal of 15 points.
- In December 73% of students had earned over 10 Accelerated Reader points.

Another motivating factor for students this year was new seating options purchased through the grant funds. Research supports the need for daily use of seating options that maximize students' ability to focus while they read in order to maximize reading engagement time and comprehension. Students love the seating options. These gross motor activities help students concentrate while they read, which is a win-win. One student said, "These ball seats make me concentrate when I am reading books." Another student said, "They are bouncy, and I work better when I am moving around."

The classroom library was very popular and was expanded to include graphic novel sets to support the reading appetite of emerging readers who needed to build fluency and improve comprehension. Students were also able to earn the opportunity to participate in Reader Leader (where they would go to BLE and read to younger students). This allowed the students to gain confidence, improve self-esteem, and see value in their daily efforts by accomplishing incremental goals.

A crucial component of this class was to help students redefine themselves as readers and as successful students. Because these students have historically been unsuccessful in school, many do not see themselves as someone who can make a difference. Carefully planned service learning projects throughout the year directly tied classroom learning to real world application. These projects motivated students and improved their confidence.



Dodgeball and Dodge the Rona!!!

This year's WFEF Dodgeball Challenge was our most successful to date. Approximately \$32,000 was raised! We are so grateful to all of our sponsors, teams, and volunteers. Your support allows us to continue to do great things for the West Feliciana Parish School District. **#whywedodgeball**

Although we had scheduled the 2020 WFEF Dodgeball Challenge to be held Saturday, September 21st, 2020; that has had to be cancelled due to the current CoRONA virus Pandemic. This year we will be holding a Virtual Auction (Dodge the 'Rona) later in the fall in order to raise money for our teachers, students, and classrooms. We will be sharing more information about this as soon as we have finalized the details.

We appreciate all of our corporate and community sponsors in the past year. We are hoping all of our sponsors will continue to stay turned for details on Dodge the RONA!!!



**Virtual Auction
Dodge the RONA !!!
November, 2020**

Scholarships for Graduating Seniors

This is the third year that the West Feliciana Education Foundation was able to begin a scholarship program. All WFHS graduating seniors were eligible to complete scholarship applications for either academic or vocational colleges. Students were chosen by a committee based on their commitment to their studies, their needs, and their involvement at school. The students chosen were Devin Ferguson, Landry Higgins, Bethany McMorris and Jaylen White. All of these students had received formal acceptance to the secondary programs for which the scholarships were used. The funds for the scholarships were donated to WFEF on a Facebook Fundraising Tuesday.



The Temple Family: Supporting Our Schools

Dorothy Temple says, “As a young child, I spent hours teaching my imaginary students in my bedroom where a small blackboard hung on the wall. As far back as I can remember, I wanted to be a teacher. Certainly, I imitated many of my teachers at that blackboard throughout my elementary and middle school years as I taught, practiced my technique, offered my support and expended my knowledge to those many fictitious students.”

“Education was greatly valued in my home. My mother instilled in my three siblings and me the importance of schooling; she encouraged us, helped and supported us in our studies, and valued the time needed to do homework, study, write term papers, and/or create projects. She loved to read, write, work with figures (numbers), and had a great aptitude for creativity. She attended Julius Freyhan High School. Mother was one of seven children and was not able to attend college. However, when my siblings and I were still in school, she enrolled in Business School and became certified as a bookkeeper and practiced that trade for many years.”

Tom and Dot Temple

Children and Spouses



“I, too, attended Julius Freyhan High School, grades one through three. St. Francisville High School in Pecan Grove was completed during my third- grade year, and I attended there from that time until I graduated in 1959-60 as Valedictorian of my class. Like my mother, I loved sports and participated in as many sports as the school offered for girls back then; I was also a cheerleader. Many may find it surprising, but I was voted Most Athletic girl in my junior and senior year.”

“St. Francisville High School offered me exemplary instruction and gave me the needed skills to continue my education. I attended Southeastern College in Hammond my freshman year, majoring in English, and as a cheerleader I enjoyed the school’s spirit and fun. I transferred to LSU my sophomore year, changing my major to elementary education and graduated in 1965 with a BS degree. I was hired as a sixth- grade teacher at St. Francisville High School in 1965. I continued my education at LSU, earning a Master’s Degree in Education Supervision and Administration and a Specialist Degree in Reading.

“My entire career was with the West Feliciana Parish Public School System. For 23 years, I was a sixth-grade teacher (1965-1989), then an assistant principal at Bains Elementary for two years and Principal at Bains Elementary for 22 years (1991-2012).”

“My husband, Tom Temple, and I have four children, all of whom are graduates of West Feliciana High School. Amy, Amanda, Abby, and Thomas will vouch for having been taught how important it is to invest time and pay due diligence to our schools, school activities, and the community the school system serves. All four children received an excellent education which served them well through to college degrees; they are strong supporters of the West Feliciana Parish School System and community activities.” Eight Temple grandchildren have been attendees of the West Feliciana Parish schools. Four grandchildren are still attending; four are now alumnus of the System, three of which are presently pursuing their college degrees. Each will attest to being well-prepared to seek the career of his/her choice.

The Temple Grandchildren



Tom Temple served on the West Feliciana Parish School Board for 24 years. During his time of service, three of the present schools were built as well as the high school track, the auditorium, football field and stadium, and extensive renovations made to Bains Elementary. Following in her daddy’s footsteps, Amanda McKinney, has now been serving on the West Feliciana Parish School Board for the past nineteen years.

Abby Cochran, following in her mother’s footsteps, was made Principal of Bains Elementary when her mother Dorothy retired in 2012, after having served as Assistant Principal at the high school for two years. After four years as Principal at Bains, she was Principal of West Feliciana High School for three years and presently is the Supervisor of Secondary Education.

The Temple family strongly believes in education, especially public education. They believe life experiences bring one in contact with people from all walks of life, and attending the public schools prepares one and enables one to work side by side with people from different economic backgrounds, different home life, different priorities, and helps each of us to understand and love all people more deeply.

“Our local school system has given our children, grandchildren, and us the opportunity to truly associate, befriend, support, and make lifelong friends with people in our community that otherwise we may never have known,” says Dot. “Too, it is our schools that have made this parish the strong community it is. ‘We love it here’.”

THANK YOU

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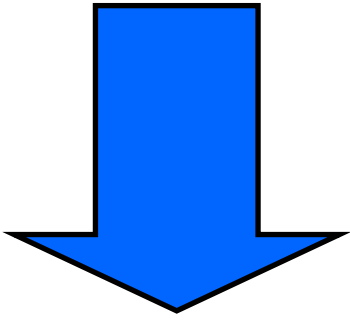
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Special Thanks to all of our Building West Fel Sponsors



For the sixth consecutive year, WFEF's operating costs are below 3%.

When you give to the West Feliciana Education Foundation, you can be sure that the vast majority of your gift is directly helping the West Feliciana Parish Public School System.

In 2019

over

\$38,000

was donated to

The West Feliciana Parish School System
by WFEF.

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Stacie Nwabueze, Vice-President

Caroline Alberstadt, Secretary

Janis Crutchfield, Treasurer

Members at Large

Aimee Bellue

Stephanie Ferguson

Brandy Fournet

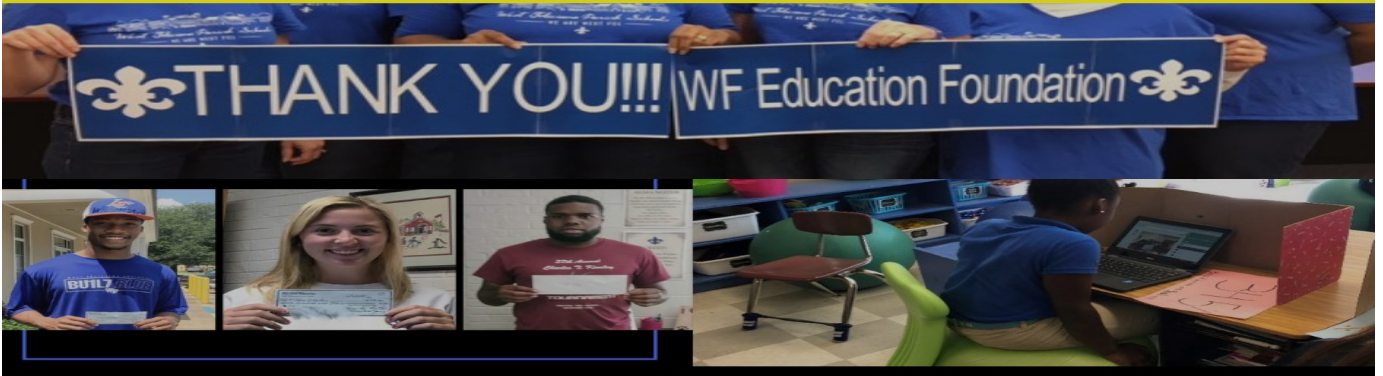
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Marsha Lindsey

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4 YEARS
\$100,000



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How to get involved:

You can get involved in helping the West Feliciana Education Foundation continue to do great things for kids!

If you would like to be a WFEF **Dodgeball Challenge Sponsor**, please email us at wearewestfel@gmail.com. You can also make a tax-deductible donation by visiting www.wearewestfel.org/donate.

We would also love the gift of your time. WFEF's **Day of Service in Honor of Martin Luther King** can only succeed with the help of volunteers. Volunteers help ensure the success of the annual **WFEF Dodgeball Challenge**.

You can also join us on our Facebook page: We Are West Fel. We will post our various activities and opportunities to get involved. Here's our link:

<https://www.facebook.com/wfefdodgeballchallenge/?ref=bookmarks>

Enter a team in the WFEF Dodgeball Challenge! Or just come out and enjoy the dodgeball, the food, or the Kid Zone! This is a free and family friendly event that showcases the entire community's support of the West Feliciana Parish Public School System. This year's event will take place on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at the West Feliciana Sports Park.

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