

GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

12 Littleville Road Huntington, MA 01050

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GEF Board thanks Valley Gives Day donors

Huntington – Alumni, parents, staff and community members together raised over \$4,000 for the Gateway Education Foundation (GEF) on Valley Gives Day, and the Board of Directors wishes to thank everyone who took part.

“We had some wonderful dedications with this year’s Valley Gives Day donations. One anonymous donor gave \$100, which was pledged in loving memory of Marge Batorski—a longtime Gateway employee who passed away last year,” said Shirley Winer, President of the Foundation. “We also received a check for \$100 that was to honor graduating seniors Emily Wilkinson and Olivia Clark, which I thought was really special!” Winer added that the latter donation was earmarked for the Foundation’s new endowment fund, which was established with \$50,000 donated by Mass 1to1—a non-profit that managed a technology lease program at area schools.

Wendy Long, Clerk of the foundation, added that \$775 of the money donated on Valley Gives Day was earmarked for the Foundation’s “Girls State Fund”, which this year is sending 3 girls to Massachusetts Girls State. When the area American Legion Auxiliary closed some years ago, there was no funding to send a Gateway girl to Girls State for many years, until the Huntington Historical Society stepped forward 4 years ago. “For the last 3 years, GEF has partnered with a community organization (Huntington Historical Society, the First Congregational Church in Huntington, and Russell First) to share the cost of sending girls to Girls State. This year, we did not have a partner organization to help so this funding came in the nick of time to send our third delegate!” Long added that any community group that is willing to help send a Gateway girl to Girls State in 2019 should contact her (413.685.1003 or wlong@grsd.org).

Since 2012, the Gateway Education Foundation has funded 78 educational projects totaling over \$80,000, thanks to the generosity of Gateway parents, alumni, staff and community members. Area businesses also support the Foundation through business sponsorships and our 2018 partners include Azure Green, A2Z Science & Learning Center, Blandford Animal Hospital, Chester Common Table, Hilltown Community Health Centers, Laurel Hill Farm, Jeffrey Scott Penn, Architect and the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts. When you use these businesses and services, know that you are supporting companies that support the Gateway Education Foundation!

Funded projects have supported literacy, science/technology/engineering/mathematics (STEM), history/social studies, and visual & performing arts.

For more information about GEF please visit our website (www.GatewayEducationFoundation.org)
Donations are welcome any time and checks payable to the Gateway Education Foundation may be mailed to Littleville Rd., Huntington, MA 01050. Donations may also be made online from the GEF website.

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