



A to Z Fund
2008 – 2009 GENERAL FUNDING SUMMARY

During the 2008 – 2009 school year, the DPS Foundation awarded more than \$137,000 in grants, benefiting 77 schools.

Examples of funded projects and activities included:

- Books, worksheets, magazine subscriptions and field trips to bolster the literacy skills of recently arrived refugee students at Merrill Middle School. With the help of these materials, students successfully demonstrated vocabulary growth and understanding of new concepts.
- Intermediate guitars and cases to offer three new guitar classes to students at Lincoln High School where students learned to read, write and perform music.
- A field trip for second-grade students at Holm Elementary to visit the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to study soil, rocks and fossils through the museum’s “Can You Dig It?” class, where students got to excavate fossils– helping to bring a potentially “dry” subject to life and spark student interest in science.
- A SCATT: Shooter Computer-Training System to train the Montbello High School Air Rifle Marksmanship teams. The marksmanship program provides students leadership development opportunities, skill development, problem-solving ability, and teamwork. The SCATT System assisted the Montbello Marksmanship team as it trained for and won the 2009 Colorado State 3-Position Air Rifle Championships. The team brought back five gold medals and the title “2009 State Champions.”
- Robotics software kits, allowing 20 students in 3rd through 5th grade at Knight Academy to design and build four working robots to compete at the Colorado School of Mines Tournament.
- Assistance for a field trip to France and Spain for students in North High School’s Art Club, allowing them to study art and architecture first-hand.
- Materials to help build a community garden at Johnson Elementary, along with books on gardening and plants to enhance students’ literacy skills and knowledge of life sciences. Close to 300 students participated in the school’s science fair, with many projects focused on plants and gardening.
- Materials for a girls’ math club at Henry Middle School. Students practiced their math skills during lunchtime and heard from guest speakers from H&R Block and Denver Community Credit Union about financial empowerment, investments and expenses. Students took a field trip to Cherry Creek Mall to learn about calculating discounts and sales tax. The school reported: “The girls really enjoyed working without the pressure of boys around. In girls club, some of the girls who would not otherwise share answers were enthusiastic learners.”