

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AWARDS 2017 E3 (Enhancing Environmental Experiences) GRANTS

**WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minnesota (March 7, 2017)** The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation awarded \$11,390 total to four E3 Grant recipients listed here below. The E3 Grant (Enhancing Environmental Experiences) is now in it's 2nd year, and provides funding to benefit students and educators in the White Bear Lake Area school district, that focus on enhancing outdoor learning experiences for students.

1. Principal John Leininger, Matoska Elementary - Investigation on the Water is a collaborative project between White Bear Lake Area Schools and Wilderness Inquiry. Students who qualify for summer school will be brought to a floating classroom by canoeing on a local waterway while learning about biology, ecosystems, teamwork as well as providing an experience not readily available to many of our students.



2. Teachers Tammy Reed, Marilyn House, Beth Lilja, Sandy Peters and Principal Chris Streiff, Willow Lane Elementary - This grant will provide for materials to expand the existing Community Garden at Willow Lane Elementary. Microscopes and garden supplies will help each grade level further explore their science learning.



3. Teachers Angela Bianco, David Bataglia and Christine Quinn, Matoska Elementary

4. Teachers Beth Lilja, Shane Whalen and Josh Maloy, Willow Lane Elementary

This grant will provide additional funding for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade 3 day/2 night environmental learning camp at Camp Icaghowan in Wisconsin for both Matoska and Willow Lane Elementary schools. Students will expand their outdoor

learning through swimming, canoeing, animal footprint identification, pond ecology, outdoor survival and team building.

**About the White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation:**

The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation (WBLAEF) supports public education with the help of local businesses, alumni, and community members. The Foundation administers teaching grants, scholarships, fellowships for teachers, an Angel Fund for families with special economic needs, and works closely with the White Bear Lake Area Alumni Association. The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation, a nonprofit corporation, was formed in 1993 to help our District provide excellence in education to all of our students. For more information about the WBLAEF please visit [www.wblaef.org](http://www.wblaef.org).

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