

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2013

Southington Education Foundation

P.O. Box 42

Southington, CT 06489

Contact: Dawn A. Miceli

860.681.8006



The Southington Education Foundation will award Derynoski Elementary School speech teacher Jane Syme a grant that enhances speech and language services for students in kindergarten through grade 5.

The program, titled *Apps that Focus on Social Skills on Two iPads*, will be funded at nearly \$1,500 and will enable Syme to utilize innovative applications available on the iPad to motivate and engage students both with regard to communication and social skills to ultimately improve social interaction.

“There are a multitude of programs and activities available using the iPad and expanding our applications will be a goal to target not only special education students but all students who require this support,” said Syme. “Having these programs on an iPad provides a portable means for service delivery in diverse settings.”

Syme noted in her grant application that children with speech and or language disorders frequently do not perform at grade level. “Impairment includes reading, understanding and expressing language, inability to process social cues and difficulty interacting with peers,” she wrote.

The Southington Education Foundation will award nearly \$6,000 in grant funding to five different teachers at its June 12 Grant Reception at Kennedy Middle School at 4 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend to learn more about the six programs being funded during this round of grants. Other schools receiving

grants are Plantsville, Kelley and South End Elementary Schools and Kennedy and DePaolo Middle Schools.

To date, the Southington Education Foundation has awarded nearly \$100,000 to Southington Public Schools, which have all benefited from the SEF's mission to instill a love of learning in students. To support the SEF, please like our Facebook page, visit www.southingtoneducationfoundation.org or consider joining the organization's Board At Large.