THE WREA FOUNDATION

The Charitable Arm of the
Wisconsin Retired Educators' Association

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TOMAHAWK MIDDLE SCHOOL "CALMING CREATIVITY" PROJECT

WINS WISCONSIN RETIRED EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION AWARD

- Tomahawk Middle School (Tomahawk) and Seventh Grade Social Studies and WIN Teacher, Toni Tourdot, for the "Calming Creativity" project. This project exposes students to different arts and crafts to enhance social skills, creativity, and reasoning. The goal is to increase student creativity, self-reliance, and mental well-being. Some of the items that students have made include sun catchers, jewelry, clay figures, diamond art, sand art, origami, crochet, and many various types of drawings. The only drawback seems to be that the supplies for these crafts cost quite a bit of money. Receiving the Challenge Award from the WREA Foundation would greatly help to keep this positive experience alive for students. They would be able to expand the length of the program and the number of participants.

TOMAHAWK MIDDLE SCHOOL "8th GRADE DC LEARNING"" PROJECT

WINS WISCONSIN RETIRED EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION 2ND PLACE AWARD

- Tomahawk Middle School (Tomahawk) and Eighth Grade ELA Teacher, Suzanne Coleman, for the "8th Grade DC Learning". Students in 8th grade have the opportunity to attend a field trip to Washington DC and New York City in the spring. Students in Tomahawk are limited in their ability to see the world outside their small bubble. Students see the monuments in Washington DC and 9/11 memorial, attend a major league baseball game, see a Boadway musical, visit Rockefeller Center, Arlington National Cemetery with a changing of the guards, and so much more. Funds from this grant would allow us a scholarship for at least one student to be fully funded to attend this trip, or a few partial scholarships if split up. The experiences gained by the students are immeasurable.

The financial award is part of an annual "Challenge Award" program sponsored by the WREA Foundation. It recognizes ten schools each year, in each of the five statewide regions that comprise WREA. From year to year, the awards are rotated from elementary schools to middle schools, to high schools, every third year.

Tomahawk Middle School is one of five innovative Middle school projects to be awarded $2,000 this year, for a total of $10,000 donated by the WREA Foundation. The other projects awarded were Bessie Allen Middle School (North Fond du Lac), Meadowview Middle School (Sparta), Waupun Area Junior/Senior High School (Waupun), and Kickapoo Area Schools (Viola).

In addition to the first-place winners, three second place winners were awarded $250.00 each for their innovative projects. The schools included Tomahawk Middle School (Tomahawk), Laconia Middle School (Rosendale), and Stone Bank School (Oconomowoc).

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