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Dear Friend:

Last year's winners of the Foundation for Belmont Education Outstanding Teacher Awards exemplify the words of poet Maya Angelou:

"This is the value of the teacher, who looks at a face and says there's something behind that and I want to reach that person, I want to influence that person, I want to encourage that person, I want to enrich, I want to call out that person who is behind that face, behind that color, behind that language, behind that tradition, behind that culture."

Outstanding teachers bring their subject matter to life in innovative ways, convey the complicated with clarity, and have a lasting impact on the character of their students. **The FBE's mission is to support educators and learning excellence throughout Belmont's public schools, by providing funds for professional development, education technology, and co-curricular programming.** Martha Bloom, the Belmont High School English teacher honored with an Outstanding Teacher award this past spring, recently wrote to us about the FBE:

"I am very fortunate to have worked in this district for the past 15 years and have directly benefited from the FBE's outstanding commitment to the students and teachers in our community. The FBE funded my coursework about China and Japan, learning that was instrumental in deepening my support and understanding of my Asian-American students. The Belmont High School one-to-one iPad initiative and "Google-Infused Classroom" workshop that the FBE funded have had transformative effects on my transition toward meaningful integration of technology into my classes."

Recent examples of FBE grants include:

- ELA, math, and science materials for the elementary schools, including a traveling field microscope lab
- A digital audio collection of over 5,000 titles for Chenery's library and six robots to provide hands-on learning in relation to the 8th-grade physics curriculum
- Micro controller kits, supporting coding in the context of real-world electronics and applications, for the high school's new introductory coding class

As we strive to support teaching and learning at all grade levels and in all subject areas in Belmont's schools, I hope you will join me in making a gift to the FBE this school year.

Gratefully,

Elizabeth Dustin
President