

August 2, 2007

PRESS RELEASE
Immediate Release
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CONTACT:
Cynthia Falardeau, Executive Director
Education Foundation
564-0034 (office)
564-1218 (cell)

Fellsmere Elementary Receives Education Foundation Grant

The Education Foundation of Indian River County is pleased to announce that Fellsmere Elementary School received a \$30,000 grant to purchase computers and software. The grant will fund a program called, "Fast Track English". The purpose of the grant is to help non-English speaking students become proficient in using the English language.

"For the English Language Learner (ELL), becoming proficient in a new language is a very difficult transition. This process can be frustrating and sometimes painful", explained Fellsmere Elementary Assistant Principal Kelly Baysura. Mrs. Baysura further explained, "The gift of computers and software will offer amazing opportunities for our students."

The Foundation selected the Fellsmere Elementary grant from seven proposals. The Greatest Idea! Grant program is supported through donations from the John's Island Foundation, The Consortium of Florida Education Foundations and the State of Florida. "More than 94% of the students at Fellsmere Elementary School are ELL students. We know this grant will help offer educational opportunities to these students", explained Lanse Padgett, President of the Education Foundation of Indian River County.

"Sixty students can use the program at one time. As students advance out of the program, new students will enter," explained Fellsmere Elementary Principal Barry Sesack. Mr. Sesack added, "This 'fluid program' will enable us to serve many students during the coming school year."

The Education Foundation of Indian River County is a non-profit organization dedicated to offering educational opportunities to all students and teachers in both public and private schools, through effective fundraising and efficient allocation of resources. The Education Foundation of Indian River County is the designated education foundation for the School District of Indian River County. To learn more about the Education Foundation, call: (772) 564-0034 or email: info@edfoundationirc.org.

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Dr. Pat Pritchett congratulates Fellsmere Assistant Principal Kelly Baysura and Principal Barry Sesack on receiving the Greatest Idea! Grant