

Anonymous Donation to Ella Lewis School

Over the past 10 years, Ella Lewis School has been receiving donations of varying amounts, ranging from \$8,000 – \$10,000, every 2 – 3 years. A donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, wishes to support early literacy at Ella Lewis School. Over the years, the money has been primarily used to fund the take-home reading program in grades K-3. Books are purchased for students to bring home and read. Teachers record each night of reading at home and reward students when they reach certain milestones. Each year the books are purchased, used and and given to all students. Students often do not have access to books in their homes and this program helps to ensure that books are available to students even when they are not in school. In addition, students are taken to a bookstore at the end of each year where they can choose a book that is purchased for them. This year, the donor has given our school \$12,000.

In addition to the take-home reading program, these funds have been available to all teachers to purchase materials to support literacy in the classroom. In the past, this donation has been used to purchase weekly and monthly magazines and publications connected to social studies, current events and science. Other supplemental materials such as large format books have been purchased for students in our Pre-K program.

The donor has expressed a commitment and desire to continue support of our students. All funds are managed and distributed through the Maine Community Foundation.