



Dear Weston Parents and Students,

**The Weston Education Foundation seeks nominations for the Elizabeth W. Stokes Founder's Award.**

To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our founding, WEF established a second teacher award – the *Elizabeth W. Stokes Founder's Award*.

The Founder's Award, a cash gift of \$1,000, seeks to recognize and reward a teacher who has provided a unique or unusual experience outside the classroom to Weston students as part of the curricular experience. The recipient will be expected to use the funds to provide similar rewarding experiences for future Weston students.

**Background:** The Founder's Award is named for Elizabeth W. Stokes, a long-time Weston resident who founded WEF in 1994. Recognizing the growing challenge facing administrators in finding sufficient funds to bring new technology into the Weston schools, Ms. Stokes researched alternative funding vehicles and led the effort that culminated in creating WEF.

**Requirements:** The nominee must:

- have incorporated an innovative and educational out-of-classroom experience into the curriculum
- show a demonstrated impact on one or more students because of this experience
- be a teacher in good standing and be returning to the Weston schools in the upcoming school year

**Who May Nominate:** Any Weston student or parent of a Weston student may nominate a teacher for the Founder's Award. Self-nomination is not permitted. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2025. The recipient will be announced on the anniversary of WEF's incorporation – September 1.

**How to Nominate:** To submit a nomination, please complete the Nominator's Form and email it to [grants@westoneducationfoundation.org](mailto:grants@westoneducationfoundation.org). The Grants Committee will review all eligible award nominations, obtain additional information as needed, and submit up to three names to the WEF Board, along with its recommendation. The Board will vote on whether to grant the Founder's Award at its June meeting, with the understanding that the Board may in its sole discretion decline to name a recipient in any particular year.

**Questions?** If you have any questions, please email [grants@westoneducationfoundation.org](mailto:grants@westoneducationfoundation.org).

**Weston Education Foundation**  
**The Elizabeth W. Stokes Founder's Award**  
**Nominator's Form**

The Weston Education Foundation (WEF) seeks to identify a teacher who has incorporated a meaningful and innovative out-of-classroom experience into the curriculum. All nominees will be given a form requesting additional information after being nominated. Please note that WEF will keep confidential any information about individual students provided during the application process unless appropriate specific permission is given to use the information publicly. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Name of nominee:

School:

Grade(s) and/or subject(s) taught by nominee:

Please give **SPECIFIC** answers to these questions and use additional pages as needed. The committee relies heavily on the information you and the nominee provide, so specificity and details are important. If you do not know of any particular issue or circumstance, please answer "*no information.*"

1) Please describe the out-of-classroom experience, providing as many details as possible.

2) How many students benefited? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Did this experience have a positive effect on the academic or career goals of any of the students in the class?

Signature of nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Name of nominator \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

Are you a: Student \_\_\_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Grade of nominator, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Permission from parent to use identifying student information Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, signature of parent \_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted \_\_\_\_\_