



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Awards *Community Grant* to the Beethoven Elementary School in Boston, Massachusetts

Elementary school expands classroom library to help improve literacy and MCAS scores

Boston, MA, November 3, 2008– The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick LLP, announced that it has awarded one of its Community Grants to the **Beethoven Elementary School** in Boston, Massachusetts. The school will use the grant to enhance a 4th grade classroom library with non-fiction reading materials for English Language Learner (ELL) students. Specifically, grant dollars will help purchase biographies, science, and social studies books, as well as low-level readers which will help students who are reading below a 4th grade level. These books will support the geography and social studies curriculum, as well as the classroom's general literacy curriculum, called "Writer's Workshop."

Teacher and grant applicant Brooke L. McMillan developed "Writer's Workshop" with her colleague, Ellen Dunn. By adding these books to the classroom library, ELL students will be better supported, because they will have high-interest books and current texts. The materials will enable students to build on their fundamental reading skills, such as comprehension and vocabulary, which will help improve MCAS scores.

Commenting on the grant, Ms. McMillan said, "The new books will help to instill in our students a love of reading. Developing strong reading skills is not only important for classroom learning, it is a life-long skill. The grant will enable us to teach to a higher level of standards, while enabling our students an opportunity to read good literature."

Albert W. Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., commented, "These new books will allow the students to be successful in school as well as outside of school. Reading is a foundation upon which so much of learning is built. By giving these children current, relevant, and high-interest books, we are enabling them to develop a love for reading and learning. We are pleased to support Beethoven Elementary School in their efforts to improve literacy."



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Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the *Community Grants* subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence or New York within the coming year. The Foundation will generally consider grant applications monthly and award grants in an amount totaling not more than \$2000 in any one month. The grant applications and an explanation of the program can be found at <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp>.

About Brown Rudnick LLP

Brown Rudnick is an international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm represents clients from around the world, providing business-focused solutions that address today's ever-changing, ever-demanding competitive marketplace. With an entrepreneurial and collaborative mindset, Brown Rudnick offers a broad slate of capabilities and talents in areas that include: Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Complex Litigation, Corporate & Securities, Energy, Finance, Government Law & Strategies, Health Law, Intellectual Property and Real Estate. For more information, please visit www.brownrudnick.com.

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