



## Timberlane Regional High School Receives donation from ExxonMobil to further support STEM education

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For Immediate Release

Timberlane Regional High School has once again received a generous \$2,500 donation from ExxonMobil in coordination with the Beede Site Group. This donation is to be used to support STEM education at TRHS helping to further sustain the great ‘real world’ projects that have been occurring between TRHS science classes and the Beede Site here in Plaistow.

"TRHS students have an incredible opportunity to see firsthand the positive effects that happen when good governance joins with innovative science and engineering at a Superfund site. The personnel at the Beede Site are providing their expertise as students learn about the sustainable engineering practices for soil and water remediation and are using data collected onsite to study ecosystem recovery. Our collaboration is an invaluable real-world experience for students." (Dr. Joy Fraga-Muller, TRHS AP Environmental Science teacher.) AP Environmental Science students have had numerous opportunities to connect with this site and further their understanding of Environmental Science concepts. These real-world learning experiences include:

- Attend Beede Site Open House over the summer to meet scientists/engineers, tour and learn about the site.
- Survey of plants and wildlife in the TRHS woods to compare with Beede site and investigate how the wildlife corridors might intersect.
- Collect stream macroinvertebrates at both Kelly Brook (on Beede site property) and at Bryant Brook (TRHS property) to compare the diversity of important food web components.
- Utilize expertise of scientists/engineers to help plan research, study and present to Beede Group at the end of the year.

Teacher, Kim Workinger, has her classes working with Beede Site scientists and engineers on a wetland project for phytoremediation. Students designed and presented their ideas to scientists and site managers, gaining valuable experiences working to demonstrate the positive government-led efforts to reclaim water/land for the public use.

In years past, this money was used to purchase water quality testing and green technology installation materials, and the hope is to continue to use money to support data collection equipment and student-led projects. TRHS continues to support the great work by teachers and students on these projects to truly make this a positive community connection. Timberlane looks forward to continuing this partnership with ExxonMobil and the Beede Group, as these experiences and informative visits have inspired students to think about their connection to the community and their ecological impact upon it.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Pedersen

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