



Issue 2 | December 2018

# Tewksbury Education Foundation

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## News You Can Use

### 2018-2019 Annual Campaign

As parents we search to find meaningful, engaging and fun extra-curricular activities for our children that we hope will spark lifelong passions and interests. We took a moment to evaluate the cost of what a family might pay for some of these activities...activities that the TEF provides free to students.

Broadway Show for a family of 4: \$800

Broadway Show for ALL 8<sup>th</sup> grade students: **FREE** with TEF

Robotics Camp for 1 week: \$849

Robotics Smart Car Developer for ALL 6<sup>th</sup> grade students: **FREE** with TEF

Health and Wellness Camp for 10 days: \$900.00

Health and Wellness Program for 9 days for ALL 4<sup>th</sup> grade students: **FREE** with TEF

We encourage you to take a moment to measure the value of what TEF provides to your child. Once you have made the comparison, hopefully, you will agree that the inherent value of TEF's programs are worth your contribution to our Annual Campaign.

The generous support of our donors is what allows the TEF to fulfill its mission. Donations are the key to funding innovative, non-budgeted programs in our schools that benefit all of the students in the Tewksbury School District. We appreciate the tremendous support we have received from our community of contributors. The TEF is a 501c(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

## Increase your Impact

### Community Corner



#### **Tiger Trot**

Sunday, 5/19, at 12:30 pm  
at Christie Hoffman Park in  
Califon

#### **Barn Dance**

Saturday, 6/8, at Life Camp  
in Pottersville

More details coming soon!

[Learn More](#)

See if your employer will match your donation!

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Did you know that many companies match their employees charitable contributions? Use the new Double the Donation tool on our website to find out if your company offers this benefit.

## Program Spotlight

### FAMILY STEM NIGHT



More than 100 students and their families enjoyed TEF's first Family STEM night on November 14th. From stars to snakes, from robots to rockets, students were able to immerse themselves in everything science at more than 15 interactive stations. The evening event offered a mix of activities meant to appeal to students from elementary through middle school. Some of the more popular stations included an educational virtual reality experience by OASIS VRX, a talk and hands on project with a speaker from the US Patent and Trademark Office, and a portable planetarium. Students were also able to view the moon at an outdoor telescope station, visit with live animals at veterinary and naturalist stations, drive robots, and shoot rockets. Other crowd pleasers were a fitness assessment by Pro-Activity, a Fossil Dig by Pearl Observatory, and a Human Anatomy Lab courtesy of Hunterdon Healthcare. The evening was meant to showcase a few of the science-based programs that TEF bring into our schools throughout the year as well as offer fun exhibits to excite students about STEM. Thanks to all of the program providers for volunteering their time and expertise to making the event a huge success!

## Person Spotlight

TEF Board Member, Michael Wade

This month, we are spotlighting one of our newest board members, **Michael Wade**, seen below with his 4th grade science teacher and baseball coach, Mr. Miller.



## TES Happenings

### Wellness Program

MOVE

4th grade

November 14th

### Looking Ahead:

### Wellness Program

FUEL

4th grade

January 4th

### Coding Musicians

4th grade

January 11-16th

### Social and Life Skills

with Joe Beckman

for K-2 and 3-5 grades

January 23rd

[Learn More](#)



## OTS Happenings

### Ode to the Everyday

Poetry Program for

6th grade

December 3rd-7th

### School of Rock

8th grade field trip

to New York City

December 12th

### Mental Health Awareness

Program



Michael grew up on a farm in Tewksbury, where his mom still lives today. Their farm had over 100 cows, a bunch of horses, pigs, chickens, cats, dogs and one nasty goat. Michael is the third of six children, all of whom attended Sawmill School and OTS. In addition to feeding the animals before and after school each day, he rode horses, fished and swam in their pond, baled hay, drove a tractor, worked the fields, attended 4-H, played in the woods and ate a lot of food that came straight from his barns and fields. Michael has shared that his childhood was everything you would imagine farm life to be. Even with all the work, he is so grateful for the experience. Through farm life, Michael learned responsibility to the land, the animals and to our community. His family worked hard and smart and developed excellent problem solving and self-reliance skills thanks to the day-to-day responsibilities, all in the beautiful backdrop of Tewksbury Township and Hunterdon County.

Michael graduated OTS in 1983. In 8th grade, he was the proud captain of the first Tewksbury wrestling team to ever become League Champions. After graduating from Voorhees High School, he attended George Washington University in Washington D.C., majored in Political Science with a minor in Creative Writing. Immediately after college graduation, Michael moved to Boston and enrolled in a Joint JD/MBA program at Boston University. After successfully passing the bar in both NJ and NY in 1994, he moved back to the farm amidst a tough labor market. He spent the next 2 years sending out hundreds of resumes and painting houses. When that idea tired, he partnered with his sister Cheverly and opened a local business called Bourbon Street Wine & Spirits. His first store debuted in Califon in 1996 and since then, his family has successfully expanded to 9 local stores. In October 2018, Michael and his sister received an award from the leading spirits industry magazine recognizing Bourbon Street as a National Retail Leader!

Michael loves the rural charm of Tewksbury and cannot imagine his life spent anywhere else. After being away for 7 years, he saw our town through a fresh set of eyes and although many of the farms were no more, the winding roads and local community remained the same. He feels very fortunate to have found everything he needed in life right in his backyard. He currently lives in a house that was built on the farm of his Sawmill School bus driver! He shares his home with his beautiful wife, Marie, who is also an attorney. As a Hoboken native, Marie was lured to Tewksbury with the promise of abundantly free parking but has since fell in love with the community and considers herself a local!

Michael could not imagine his elementary school years being any better than what he remembers at Sawmill and OTS. While in school, Tewksbury Schools created something special for each grade from K-8 in addition to the normal course of learning. Each year grew with excitement as he inched closer to 8th grade. He has fond memories of the class play, trip to NYC with a Broadway show, Dorney Park and the 8th Grade Dinner Dance. As a young adult, each of these

8th grade

December 17th

### **Poetry Workshop**

with BJ Ward

for 8th grade

December 20th

## **Looking Ahead:**

### **Smart Car Developers**

Robotics Program

6th grade

January 2nd-9th

### **Social & Life Skills**

Assembly with Joe

Beckman

6-8th grade

January 23rd

### **POUND Physical Activity**

**Class**

6th grade

January 29th

[Learn More](#)

## **News from Our Neighbors**

### **Oldwick Tree Lighting**

December 9th, 4:00 pm

Oldwick Library hosted by

Women's Club of

Tewksbury Township

### **Wreaths Across America**

December 15th, noon

Fairmount Rural Cemetary

hosted by Women's Club

and Oldwick Cub Scouts

[\*\*Have you seen our new website? Check us out\*\*](#)

events was another opportunity for him to build wonderful memories and lessons learned at such an impressionable age. He joined the TEF to help ensure the current and future students of Tewksbury Township are afforded the same wonderful opportunities that he had as a student.

Please join us in welcoming Michael to the TEF family!



**Be on the lookout for the next edition of the Tewksbury Education Foundation Newsletter hitting your inbox in January.**

**Thank you for all your support in 2018. As we begin to close out our annual campaign and ring in the new year, please make a donation before 2019!**

[here](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

**We wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous holiday season!**



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Tewksbury Education Foundation  
P.O. Box 448  
Oldwick, New Jersey 08858  
US

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