

Ashford School Press Release

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Submitted by: Troy Hopkins, Principal

Ashford Teachers Travel to Learn this Summer

Recently, four Ashford School teachers were surprised to hear welcome news from an organization called Fund for Teachers. Each teacher was informed that her summer travel proposal was selected for funding in a competitive review process.

“Fund for Teachers supports educators' efforts to develop skills, knowledge and confidence that impact student achievement. By trusting teachers to design unique fellowships, Fund for Teachers grants validate teachers' professionalism and leadership, as well. Since 2001, Fund for Teachers has invested \$22 million in nearly 6,000 teachers, transforming grants into growth for teachers and their students.” (www.fundforteachers.org)

Kate Craven, writing and digital literacy teacher, will be following the Brothers Grimm Trail through Germany, recording video lessons to bring life into a Fairy Tale lessons and ignite a newfound passion for this literary genre.

Carly Imhoff, elementary science teacher, will be observing in Bhutan, the only country that measures its worth in "Gross National Happiness," ways in which nature and education contribute to human happiness and student success.

Jen Lindsay, middle school ELA teacher, will “Walking in the Footsteps of Shakespeare” while Collaborating with and learning from experts in London and Stratford-upon-Avon to more thoroughly understand the political/social climate in which Shakespeare wrote and bring authentic experiences to students that make his work come alive.

Dory Manfre, middle school science teacher, will explore interdependent relationships and biodiversity in Zion, Bryce Canyon, Grand Canyon and Arches National Parks for the development of a project-based learning experience for middle school students.

These teachers were inspired by the experience of their colleague, Katie Knetch, a special education teacher, who was awarded the grant last summer to travel to Iceland to learn about volcanic activity.

“Participating in national and international professional growth opportunities is an exceptionally valuable and rewarding learning experience. I was very pleased to see four members of our faculty succeed. It will certainly be an experience that benefits our students, school and community”, Dr. James Longo, Superintendent.

