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ECSD NEWS RELEASE

Coordinated with NFCU's Pensacola PR Staff

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NEWS RELEASE

Escambia Students to Benefit from Navy Federal Credit Union Grant

Donation to support this year's Grants for Excellence program

PENSACOLA – Navy Federal Credit Union presented the Escambia County Public Schools Foundation (ECPSF) with a check for \$25,000 on Tuesday, in support of the group's Grants for Excellence Program. The Foundation will use matching funds from the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations through the Florida Legislature's School District Education Foundation Matching Grants Program to double the impact of the gift to \$50,000.

"Navy Federal is proud to support the great work being done in local classrooms," said Janice Kilgore, Vice President for Navy Federal's Pensacola Operations. Kilgore presented the Foundation with the check during its monthly meeting Tuesday.

"When Navy Federal decided to build here in Escambia County, we never could have known just how often they would find ways to support our public schools. From making financial donations to the Foundation, like this one, to allowing so many of your employees to volunteer in our schools, NFCU has become a valued neighbor," Superintendent Malcolm Thomas said. "And, as NFCU continues to grow, we look forward to this partnership continuing to grow as well."

The "Grants for Excellence" initiative is a program which allows teachers to apply for grants up to \$5,000 to support Literacy and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education in their classroom. The contribution from Navy Federal and other community members will allow the Foundation to provide more than \$90,000 in grants to local teachers in the 2016-17 school year.

"Our Foundation has been blessed with such strong financial support from across this community," said Thomas Greek, chair of the Foundation's board of directors. "Through this grant program, teachers will have more access to the tools they need to provide innovative, hands-on learning experiences to our children."

About Escambia County Public Schools Foundation

Escambia County Public Schools Foundation supports K-12 students, teachers, and schools by encouraging private investment and engagement in Escambia County public schools. The Foundation secures resources and funding for its programs through partnerships with individuals, foundations, civic organizations, businesses, and others who are passionate about the success of Escambia County students.

Any questions about Navy Federal Credit Union and their involvement with Escambia County Schools, should be directed to Bill Pearson, Public Relations Specialist, Corporate Communications, Navy Federal Credit union, 850-912-0393, Bill_Pearson@navyfederal.org. Photo attached: IMG_0139: Escambia County Public Schools Foundation Executive Director Lawrence Van Hoose; Thomas Geek, Foundation Board Chairman; Janice Kilgore, Vice President for Navy Federal Credit Union's Pensacola Operations; and Escambia County School Superintendent Malcolm Thomas gathered at today's Foundation Board meeting for the presentation of a check for \$25,000 from Navy Federal Credit Union to the Foundation's Grants for Excellence fund.

There are a few more photos from the Board meeting and many photos from the recent presentation of checks to the most recent GFE winners held recently at the Pensacola Yacht Club. The album is titled "Grants for Excellence Check Presentation & Reception" on the Facebook page - Escambia Schools Public Relations.

Media queries about Escambia County School District topics should be directed to Kim Stefansson, at 850-469-6219 or kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us. Like ECSD on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ecsdfl

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