Griffiths-Scott Teachers Receive BP Canada Award

Charlene Saunders and Megan Gregg, Griffiths-Scott Middle School teachers, received a $10,000 award from BP Canada at BP’s awards gala on August 18, 2010. The teachers’ “On My Pond” project is part of BP’s A+ for Energy Education Program. BP Canada awards grants of $5,000 or $10,000 to K-12 teachers across Alberta who implement innovative energy and energy conservation projects in their classrooms. This year BP Canada awarded 38 grants to schools in 13 different communities.

The On My Pond project will engage grade 8 and 9 students in the study of water quality and research into conservation opportunities. Students will investigate the use and sustainability of hydropower as an alternative energy source. They will be encouraged to demonstrate sensitivity and responsibility in pursuing a balance between the needs of humans and a sustainable environment.

The A+ for Energy program was developed to meet the needs of K-12 teachers who want to expand their core curriculum with energy education activities. BP Canada’s hope is that with the help of Alberta teachers, these grants will serve as a spring board for a life-long educational journey that will inspire today’s youth to become responsible, energy-conscious adults. To date, BP has awarded $1.5 million to 125 projects impacting over 30,000 students.

BP Canada award recipients not only receive the grant but they also receive a scholarship to participate in a three-day Energy Education Training Conference August 16 – 18, 2010 held in partnership with Inside Education. The conference provides recipients with a comprehensive overview of all of the energy sources found in Alberta and supplies resources and information to help teachers to educate and inspire their students in the coming school year.

“Charlene and Megan are bringing real world experiences into the classroom and engaging students in understanding and solving the sustainability challenges we face,” said Dr. Terry Pearson, Superintendent of Schools. Pearson praised the teachers for their, “amazing dedication and outstanding leadership in environmental education. Real life learning experiences for students are the key to a quality education.”

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