

# New Bedford Firefighters visit Carney Academy to donate iPads, spread Autism awareness

"New Bedford Firefighters Local 841 was happy to attend Carney Academy today to donate iPads for special education students.

Our donation was the result of fundraisers our members put together earlier this year. The month of April is Autism awareness month and our members designed t-shirts to promote Autism awareness, with the help of our Department, Chief and Deputy Chief who were glad to approve these shirts to be worn on duty by our members promoting this message.

It was an overwhelming success as our members and the public purchased these shirts to support and send our message out.



*New Bedford Fire Department photo.*

We also held an Autism awareness night in April at Inner Bay Café that helped raise funds. With both the event and shirt sales being such a great success, we were able to raise over \$12,000. With this money we reached out to the New Bedford School Department to see their needs. We were happy to purchase over 40 iPads for donation to children in New Bedford Schools. These iPads not only help the children's education, but also provide a line of communication and interaction with others that otherwise may not be possible.

Children that received these tablets are able to keep and bring home not only helping with learning but also helping in daily life that otherwise could be difficult if not impossible. Thank you to Principle McKoy for having us at the school and showing us around. We are proud for the success of our fundraising efforts and being able to help children in our own community.

We look forward to next year and being able to build on our success. We would like to send a special thank you to those that helped and put extra effort in to our fundraising efforts. Bobby Ferreira, Anthony Poente Jr, Johnny Sousa, Matt & Sue Raposo, and all others who helped. Also, thanks to Executive Director Special Education & Student Services Matt Kravitz for his help and guidance that was instrumental during this process." -New Bedford Fire Department.



*New Bedford Fire Department photo.*



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