Sarah E. Jenkins, familiarly known as Sally, was a lifelong educator, and the descendant of educators with deep roots in this community. Her great-great grandfather, Moses Jones, moved to Hillsboro (near the Washington border) in 1786 and later to East Washington (near the Hillsboro border) where his son, Solomon Jones, Sally's great grandfather, spent his entire life. Solomon was renowned as a teacher in the Washington schools, and was also a highly respected storekeeper and town officer. Sally's concern for the welfare of the Washington-Hillsboro community was indeed a deeply embedded family tradition.

Sally's grandmother, Julia Jones Duncan, daughter of Solomon, was born in Washington, was graduated from the New London Literary and Scientific Institution, now Colby Sawyer College, and was the principal of the Rumford School in Concord, New Hampshire. Sally's mother, Alice B. Duncan, married MacGregor Jenkins, who was long associated with the Atlantic Monthly. They too, retained the family home in East Washington, and Sally spent her summers there.

Sally was born in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, in 1914, and was graduated from Vassar College in 1937. A teacher at the Beaver Country Day School in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, for ten years, she also taught at the Boston Center for Adult Education for five years before retiring to Washington. Over many years and in her quiet way she contributed valuably to many Washington committees and projects. She lived simply, with unassuming ways. Always, the welfare of the young people of the town was on her mind, in ways many of them never knew. The theater, too, was one of her lifelong passions — and so were literature, football, and the Boston Red Sox. She died on October 25, 2000, having characteristically and quietly prepared a will that amazes even her closest friends, a will designed to benefit our schools and young people in countless ways.

The Duncan-Jenkins Trust was created and endowed in 2001 by the last will and testament of Sarah E. Jenkins of East Washington, New Hampshire. The purpose of the Trust is to benefit the schools, staff, and graduates of Washington and Hillsboro-Deering School Districts by adding enrichment above and beyond what taxpayers are expected to finance. The will states:

"It is not my intention to ... fund programs that would be otherwise funded from taxpayer dollars."
The will creates the Trust Committee and provides
for the Committee’s future. It names three members
(Douglas Hatfield of Hillsboro, Trustee, and Grace
Jager and Ronald Jager of Washington), and it identi-
fies three others who serve by virtue of office, namely,
the Superintendent of Schools, the Chairman of the
Hillsboro-Deering School Board, and the Chairman of
the Washington School Board, or their designees.

This Committee is responsible for all grant making
from the income of the Trust, and has broad powers to
formulate guidelines for so doing. Committee members
receive no compensation for their work. The Committee
welcomes comments from the public as it seeks to dis-
charge its unique responsibility.

Applications in this
category will be considered
from any one of these four
schools: (1) Washington
Elementary School, (2)
Hillsboro-Deering Elementary
School, (3) Hillsboro-Deering
Middle School, (4) Hillsboro-
Deering High School.

Grants may cover the cost
of inviting artists, writers,
performers, scientists, or
others to visit the school;
they may cover special field
trips taken by the students
under normal school supervi-
sion; or they may “support
band, music, art or drama-
type programs.” Special
scrutiny will be given to applica-
tions for financing extended travel
or overnight trips, but these are
not automatically excluded.

All student enrichment applica-
tions should be processed by a
special in-school enrichment com-
mittee and/or the principal in each
of the four schools. Applications
are due on October 10th and
February 1st of each school year.
Emergency funds for student
enrichment are occasionally avail-
able upon application at other
times.

To apply: request an application
form from the Superintendent’s
Office, SAU 34, or from a
Principal’s Office.

The largest portion of income in the Trust is
reserved for this category, in accordance with
Sally Jenkins’s belief that nothing in the schools is
more important than the quality of the teachers.

Grants will be for projects designed to enhance
teaching and learning in the schools by enriching
the education and skills, the mind and spirit of
teachers. This may include study projects during
weekends or summers; it may include either indi-
vidual work or joint projects; it may include short-
term or long-term projects, or holding teacher
enrichment activities within a school or schools; it
may include leave time of a semester or more to
pursue special projects. It should certainly include
things the Committee has not yet imagined. The
focus will be primarily on teacher enrichment, not
on school convenience. Four conditions should be
observed:
a) Normal funding sources within the regular
school budget must be considered first.
b) In some cases the Trust may be able to fund only a
portion of a project.
c) A proposal requires the endorsement of the teacher’s
principal, and in some cases of the School Board.
d) There must be a firm intention to return to teaching in
the district after the grant period.

The will states: “The primary purpose...is to provide
incentive for professional staff within the Washington
and Hillsboro-Deering School Districts to continue to
serve said districts and to increase their effectiveness
within the classrooms...”

Applications may be submitted for Teacher Enrichment
Grants at any time throughout the year.
To apply: request an application form from the
Superintendent’s Office, SAU 34, or from a Principal’s
Office.