



ROGERS PUBLIC
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

January 2024

2023

Thank You
for
The
BOOKS
Kindergarten



Your books will support our students for years to come!! We appreciate all you do for us and our students.
Fondly,
Michele Lisawski
Thi Le

RPEF,
Thank you so much for the grant of \$1058.00 for "Reading Between the Covers!"
We were able to purchase 4 sets of FlyLeaf books along with 2 Foundational Skills Reading Guides.

ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED BY
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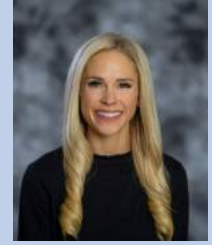
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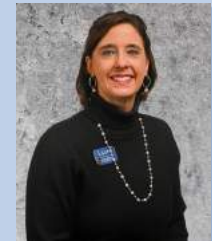
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Dear Friends of the Rogers Public Education Foundation,

On behalf of the Rogers Public Education Foundation (RPEF), it is my pleasure to present the 2023 Annual Report. As RPEF Executive Director, I am honored to share the impact and accomplishments made possible by the collective dedication, generosity and vision of our community.

I extend my gratitude to our committed donors, volunteers and advocates. Your unwavering support continues to be the cornerstone of our foundation's success in supporting the Rogers School District.

The year has been marked by profound impact. Through the efforts of our foundation, we have been able to provide significant resources to the teachers of RPS. From enhancing technology in the classroom to fostering creative learning initiatives, every contribution has played a pivotal role in shaping a brighter future for our young minds.

While celebrating our triumphs, we also recognize the challenges that lie ahead. The RPEF remains steadfast in its commitment to championing educational excellence, fostering innovation and cultivating a nurturing environment where every student can thrive. Through collaborative efforts and continued support, we aim to expand our initiatives and reach even greater milestones in the coming years.

In closing, I extend sincere appreciation to all who have contributed to our cause, whether through donations, time or expertise. Your dedication to education inspires us daily. As we embark on the journey ahead, I invite each member of our community to join hands with us in shaping a brighter tomorrow for our students. Together, we can continue to make a profound difference in the lives of our students and the future of our community.

Sincerely,
Krista Khone, Executive Director
Rogers Public Education Foundation



About the **Rogers Public Education Foundation**

The Rogers Public Education Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to enhancing the educational experience for students in the Rogers School District. Through fundraising initiatives and community partnerships, the foundation provides grants for programs that support teachers, upgrade technology and enrich the classroom experience. By bridging funding gaps and fostering collaboration between educators, parents, businesses and the community, the foundation strives to help RPS create a dynamic learning environment that empowers students, encourages innovation and ensures academic success.

Our Mission

The Rogers Public Education Foundation (RPEF) promotes and enhances the quality of education in our community by collecting and distributing money for worthwhile academic programs. These are programs that would not normally be funded through conventional means. The RPEF also recognizes and rewards the achievements of students and teachers in the Rogers School District.

Message from Rogers School District Superintendent Jeff Perry



As Superintendent of the Rogers School District, I wholeheartedly endorse and appreciate the vital role played by the Rogers Public Education Foundation. The foundation's unwavering commitment to our students and educators significantly enhances educational opportunities, fostering innovation and excellence within our schools. Although there are many things that make them exceptional, what truly stands out is their servant hearts and unwavering willingness to do whatever they can to support our students and teachers. Their dedication and tireless efforts continually uplift our educational community, making a profound difference in the lives of those they serve.



Rogers Public Education Foundation Events & Programs

Thanks to our many community partners, we work to ensure every student in the Rogers School District can succeed through the following programs:

WALL OF DISTINCTION AWARDS LUNCHEON

CAN YOU SPARE A DIME? BOWLING TOURNAMENT

TEE OFF FOR TEACHERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

BANKING ON EDUCATION

MAJOR SAVER

OZARK BEER COMPANY CARDBOARD REGATTA

KENDRA SCOTT GIVES BACK

DOUGH-NATION TO EDUCATION

ROGERS EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

RPEF GRANTS

RPEF SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS



2023 Wall of Distinction Award Recipients (left to right): Bert Kell, Patsy Mooney, and Ed Prentice Jr.

WALL OF DISTINCTION AWARDS LUNCHEON

The annual Rogers Public Education Foundation Wall of Distinction Luncheon brings the city together to support public school excellence and to honor alumni, teachers, administrators and community leaders who have made an impact on the city's public school system. By spotlighting their remarkable achievements and positive influence, the event inspires current and future generations, fostering a deep sense of pride and community while highlighting the district's commitment to excellence and the enduring impact of these distinguished individuals within education. The 2023 honorees were Patsy Mooney and Ed Prentice, both retired educators. Gina Kell was named the 2023 Legacy Award Recipient. Her award was accepted by her husband, Bert Kell.



Joe Mathias Elementary School Principal Korienne Toney and students bowling for a good cause at the 2023 Can You SPARE a Dime? Bowling Tournament



The inaugural Can You SPARE a Dime for Teachers? Bowling Tournament was full of excitement, camaraderie and friendly competition. Community teams competed for bragging rights, prizes and cash. School teams competed against each other for the right to take the traveling trophy back to their school, and for the coveted Spirit award. Congratulations to Fairview Elementary and to the Heritage High School Bravo team for winning their divisions. Congratulations also go to the Westside Warriors for winning the Spirit Award.



Competitors at the 2023 Tee Off Fore Teachers Golf Tournament trying to putt their way to a victory



Tee Off Fore Teachers Golf Tournament is an annual event held at Lost Springs Golf Club. The tournament offers participants a day of friendly competition and networking while raising crucial funds for the foundation's endeavors. This year's event added a new twist by incorporating RPS' Drone Studies program into the day. Students in the program built their own drones and competed in an obstacle course and closest to the pin competition. Judges award prizes to the winning teams. The competition gave golfers a chance to interact with students and learn about this valuable career and technical education program.



Bankers in Rogers came together to plan and support elementary students attending Rogers Public Schools by kicking off Banking in Education, a new program designed to teach students about financial literacy. From left, Erica Preston (Simmons Bank), Ray Ford (Arvest), Lori Walker (Chambers Bank), RPEF Executive Director Krista Khone, Scott Morey (Legacy National Bank), and Marlee Safreed (Banco SI)

rpef
Banking on Education

In collaboration with local financial institutions, the Rogers Public Education Foundation proudly launched its new program, Banking on Education, which partners a participating bank or credit union with elementary schools in the Rogers School District. Local bankers and credit union professionals will provide support to their assigned school by teaching financial literacy classes and serving as guest readers of books/materials that teach financial concepts.





MS MAJOR SAVER

Foundation Fundraising You Can Trust

The Major Saver Discount Card program is an annual fundraising initiative in our elementary schools that brings the community and schools together. The program offers students an easy way to earn prizes selling a discount card that showcases local participating businesses, all while raising funds for RPEF. Proceeds from the sale of the discount cards go directly to teacher grants in the district. Through the past 10 years, sales of the Major Saver cards have raised over \$500,000 for RPEF grants.

2023 Participating Businesses

McAlister's
Jersey Mike's
Torchy's Tacos
TCBY
Rogers Bowling Center
Kwik Kar
Climb Bentonville

Culver's
Havana Tropical Grill
Old Chicago
Jaclyn's Kitchen
Levi's
Art & Soul

Crabby's
Bariola's Pizzeria
Nothing Bundt Cake
Tacos 4 Life
Heroes Coffee
Hotworx

Rick's Bakery
Wet-N-Wild Aquatic Center
Colton's Steakhouse
Pigtails & Crewcuts
Mollie Love
6th Dimension VR



A hard-working team of bees rowing towards the finish line in the Ozark Beer Co. Cardboard Regatta



OZARK BEER CO. **Cardboard Regatta**

The Cardboard Regatta is a unique event benefiting the Rogers Public Education Foundation. This annual June fundraiser, hosted by Ozark Beer Company, invites participants to construct watercraft made of cardboard to set sail at Lake Atalanta for a timed race. Teams are encouraged to incorporate costumes with their themed watercraft. Following the race, participants and supporters are invited back to the brewery for a celebration and trophy presentation. Beyond fundraising, the Cardboard Regatta fosters an atmosphere of fellowship, innovation and fun among participants. RPEF appreciates the support of Ozark Beer Company!



Shine Bright, Do Good

JOIN US FOR A
KENDRA GIVES BACK EVENT



During this philanthropic event in October, a portion of the proceeds from Kendra Scott sales are generously donated to support the Foundation's educational initiatives within the district. Community members and supporters have the opportunity to contribute to the cause simply by participating in this fundraising event and making purchases at the Kendra Scott Pinnacle Hills store or online through the store's website. Giving back is built into the organizational culture at Kendra Scott. The company has donated over \$50 million to local, national, and international causes. Their funds support women, youth in the areas of health & wellness, education and entrepreneurship. RPEF is grateful for Kendra Scott's generosity and support.



2023 Educators of the Year



Sabrina Sidani
Bonnie Grimes Elementary School



Ileana Davis
Elmwood Middle School



Laura Loyd
Rogers High School

Congratulations to the 2022-23 Rogers School District Educators of the Year!

Bellview Elementary: Suzanne Hinkle
Bonnie Grimes Elementary: Sabrina Sidani
Eastside Elementary: Rachel Watterson
Elza R. Tucker Elementary: Shelli Barr
Fairview Elementary: Emilee Hansen
Frank Tillery Elementary: Mary Karen Butler
Garfield Elementary: Taylor Falknor
Grace Hill Elementary: Shelby Whalen
Janie Darr Elementary: Emily Tidwell
Joe Mathias Elementary: Becky Boyett
Lowell Elementary: Tonya Petet
Northside Elementary: Megan Weaver
Old Wire Road Elementary: Corinne Thomas
Reagan Elementary: Erica Temple
Russell D. Jones Elementary: Jessica Woodring
Westside Elementary: Cheryl Rosenbaum
Pre-Kindergarten: Ashley Blaney

Elmwood Middle School : Ileana Davis
Birch Kirksey Middle School: Cathy Julius
Greer Lingle Middle School: Jeff Barker
Oakdale Middle School: Lois Cox
Crossroads: Susan Johnston
Rogers Heritage High School: Jennifer Richard
Rogers New Technology High School: Chris Daniels
Rogers High School: Laura Loyd
Rogers Virtual Learning K-5: Caitlin Johnston
Rogers Virtual Learning 6-12: Michelle Todd

RPEF is honored to recognize these teachers by presenting each with a check for their outstanding contributions to RPS.



Teachers from Janie Darr Elementary School enjoyed pizza from RPEF

*Any way you slice it,
our teachers and staff are the
best around!
Thank you for all you do!*



Check out some of the upcoming opportunities for RPS staff and students on our website and Facebook page!
@ <https://rogerspef.org/>
@ <https://www.facebook.com/RogersPublicEducationFoundation>

DOUGH-nation to Education

The "Dough-nation to Education" initiative orchestrated by the Rogers Public Education Foundation was a thoughtful series of days dedicated to showing appreciation for the dedicated staff members of the Rogers School District. During these days, the foundation generously provided lunch in the form of pizzas for the district's hardworking faculty and staff. This gesture not only served as a token of gratitude, but also aimed to boost morale and acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the district's educators and support staff. The initiative symbolized the Foundation's commitment to supporting and recognizing the efforts of those who play an instrumental role in shaping the educational experience of students within the Rogers School District.



Rogers School District Students engaging in learning activities funded by RPEF Grants



59

GRANTS

\$92,076

AWARDED

20

SCHOOLS

The average U.S. teacher spends \$500 out of his/her own pocket for classroom materials, highlighting the financial strain educators often face in providing a quality learning environment. Recognizing this challenge, our grants play a pivotal role in alleviating the burden on teachers by offering financial support to purchase programs or materials that can significantly enhance classroom learning experiences. By channeling \$92,076 in grants in 2023, RPEF has made a substantial impact, benefiting every child within the Rogers Public School District.

Congratulations to everyone who received grant funds, as their dedication to innovative and effective teaching practices continues to shape a brighter future for our students. In addition to the recipients listed below, RPEF, in partnership with the Walton Family Foundation, was able to award \$7,000 grants to both principal Christina Meister (Grace Hill Elementary) and principal Jeremy Yates (Birch Kirksey Middle School) for educational leadership programming in their schools



2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Can Reading REALLY be this FUN?

\$1,566

Tineka White
Bellview Elementary School

Read Aloud Books

\$2,712.05

Suzanne Hinkle
Bellview Elementary School

Playaways and Wonderbooks

\$1,128

Kim Hamilton
Bellview Elementary School

Earphones for the Classroom

\$300

Renee Weidman
Bellview Elementary School

BG's One School, One Book

\$3,504

Mandi King & Jenny Felts
Bonnie Grimes Elementary School

Going GaGa for GaGa

\$1,824

Rebecca Neal
Janie Darr Elementary School

Recess Fun for Everyone

\$662

Jenny Berry, Susan Harp & Colin O'Bryan
Janie Darr Elementary School

Jaguar STEM Experiences

\$500

Heather Branham
Janie Darr Elementary School

Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader

\$600

Jennifer Henehan, Rachel Watterson & Riley Ahern
Eastside Elementary School

Mini Mice for Many Learners

\$700

Theresa Thompson, Diana Rojas, Kristine Porter & Robin Walsh
Eastside Elementary School

Making Me Movable!

\$1,854

Brittini George
Elmwood Middle School

Classroom Materials

\$600

Sandy McKinney
Elmwood Middle School

Focused & Flexible Seating to Promote Student Engagement

\$1,300

Jessica Davidson
Fairview Elementary School

Listen Up! Audiobooks for our Library

\$1,163

Sarah Brunner
Grace Hill Elementary School



2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Audio Books for Dyslexia & Bilingual Families

\$999

Lori Duncan
Grace Hill Elementary School

The Husky Zen Den

\$1,200

Christina Meister, Carla Gonzalez,
Madeline Smith, Bailey Boatright,
Jenny Fiegle, Dustin Smith, Kim Watts
Grace Hill Elementary School

Reading is for Everyone!

\$500

Jennifer Kirkland
Grace Hill Elementary School

Adventures in Reading

\$1,000

Kim Watts
Grace Hill Elementary School

Teaching with Technology in Flexible Groups

\$1,854

Vanessa Sixkiller
Russell D. Jones Elementary School

Adaptive Instruments

\$653

Jon George
Russell D. Jones Elementary School

Rebound for Regulation

\$150

Debbie Sall
Birch Kirksey Middle School

3 Whiteboards

\$972

Nicole Brooks
Birch Kirksey Middle School

Space to Write

\$791.98

Kameron Parmain
Birch Kirksey Middle School

Cougars on Scooters

\$781

Marcus Alexander, Christine Staggs, Robert
Staggs & Jim Yurwitz
Birch Kirksey Middle School

Magnetic Coordinate Plane

\$608

Catherine Julius
Birch Kirksey Middle School

Classroom Library

\$500

Megan Meraz
Birch Kirksey Middle School

Let's Read

\$500

Keisha Newberry
Birch Kirksey Middle School

Research-Based Vertical Non-Permanent Surfaces

\$1,476.55

Abby Hershenow
Birch Kirksey Middle School



2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Moving Liberal Arts into the 21st Century

\$7,100

Joel T Martin
Greer Lingle Middle School

Body Awareness, Control & Strength

\$1,500

Aerial Guffey & Tad Turner
Greer Lingle Middle School

The Watsons Go To Birmingham Class Set

\$195

Kaylin Matejek
Greer Lingle Middle School

Student Broadcast

\$2,705

Kassi McDonald
Lowell Elementary School

Wonderbooks

\$5,659.89

Lisa Kirkwold
Joe Mathias Elementary School

Orff Music to my Ears!

\$2,475

Brooka McCubbin
Joe Mathias Elementary School

Apple Pencils Increase Feedback and Achievement for Youth Cause an APIFANY

\$3,923.14

Anna Johnson
Northside Elementary School

Genre Challenge Classroom Book Sets

\$600

Molly Hanke
Northside Elementary School

Between the Covers

\$1,058

Thi Le & Michele Lisowski
Reagan Elementary School

I "Heard" Some Great Things!

\$200

Stacie Mathis
Reagan Elementary School

ESOL Resources & Library

\$4,490.50

Susan Moreno, Margaret Elenbarger & Gavin Nelson
Rogers Heritage High School

Ensuring Quality Camera Equipment for Proper Instruction and Use

\$2,132

Kristen Coppola
Rogers Heritage High School

Equipping Journalism Editing

\$1,867

Kristen Coppola
Rogers Heritage High School

Additional Whiteboards

\$3,080

Karla Gollhoffer, Margaret Ellenbarger & Susan Moreno
Rogers Heritage High School



2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Unlocking the World of Spanish Language Lit

\$1,907

Bani Lopez
Rogers Heritage High School

Literacy in Science Reading

\$900

Michele Markel + Chemistry Teachers
Rogers Heritage High School

Technology for Artistic Support

\$508

Nakia Brener, Allen Sullivan, Vincent Reynolds, Dustin Hector & Amy Woolsey
Rogers Heritage High School

Multicultural Representation for Connection

\$315

Nakia Brener, Susan Moreno, Bani Lopez, Margaret Elenbarger & Perla Soto
Rogers Heritage High School

New 4K Camera & Professional Gimbal for Student Broadcasting

\$1,835

Scott Davis
Rogers High School

Classroom iPad Pro and Apple Pencil

\$1,545

Lisa Cassidy
Rogers High School

Whiteboards in the Science Classroom

\$2,981

Keri Book & Science Teachers
Rogers High School

iPad for Digital Portfolio Creation

\$1,333.92

Amanda Wunderlich
Rogers High School

Printing Costs for RHS Mountie Spectrum Newspaper

\$1,100

Bailey Aguilar
Rogers High School

Classroom Calculators (3 sets)

\$9,710

Alex Jacobs & Annette Roller
Rogers High School

New Monitors for New Tech

\$3,630

Kyle Schoeller & Keith Godlewski
Rogers New Technology High School

Visual Display in the Ceramics Studio!

\$750

Randi Sparks
Rogers New Technology High School

Ukuleles for Learning

\$1,750

Holly Smith
Frank Tillery Elementary School

Super Subitizing Resources

\$574

Pam Keith
Elza R. Tucker Elementary School

Uke Can Read! Ukuleles for Westside

\$2,000

Lacy Hampton
Westside Elementary School



KEY SUPPORTERS

Thank you to our key supporters who donated to RPEF throughout the year to help build and strengthen the Foundation.

AEP

Arkansas Retired Teachers

Arvest Foundation

Bookkeeper Plus

Charles and Lisa Tilmon

Cox Communication

Fidelity Charities

First Security Bank

Ford Family

Jack Carmichael

NWA Public Education Foundation

Robert M and Bonnie J Jones Charitable

Foundation Trust

Rogers Public Schools

Simmons Bank

Tom Woodruff

Walton Family Foundation

Thank you to our event sponsors who donated to RPEF throughout the year to help make the Rogers Public Education Foundation events possible:

EVENT SPONSORS

SPARE A DIME BOWLING TOURNAMENT

3W

Alleviators
Chambers Bank
Christian and Jacob Campbell
Coca-Cola
Diana Kolman
Duane and Allison McElroy
Jaci Uecker
John and Katy Buck
Justin Bulla
Justin Madick Shelter Insurance
Krista Khone
Lynn and Amber Tallmadge-Scott
Milestone Construction
Mondelez
Ryan Neal
TekSystems
United Federal Credit Union
Whataburger

BANKING ON EDUCATION

Arvest Bank
Banco Si!
Bank OZK
Centennial Bank
Chambers Bank
Encore Bank
Equity Bank
First Community Bank
First Security Bank
FNBNWA
Grand Savings Bank
Legacy National Bank
Signature Bank
Simmons Bank
Sterling Bank
United Federal Credit Union

TEE OFF FORE TEACHERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

3W

Arvest
Chambers Bank
Citiscapes
CR Crawford Construction
Crafton Tull
Daylight Donuts
Digital Printing Solutions
Flintco
Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers
Garver Engineering
Gaven Smith
Hight Jackson
Matthews, Campbell, Rhoads, McClure & Thompson, PA
Milestone Construction
Plunkett Distribution
Red Bull
Rogers Public Schools
Spring Point
Tarek Taha
TekSystems
The Tread Collective
Trimble
Wes Adams
William Patterson
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EVENT SPONSORS

WALL OF DISTINCTION AWARDS LUNCHEON

3W

Anderson Electric

Arvest

Buck Foundation

Citiscapes

Craig and Deborah Campbell

Dr. Janie Darr

Family of Gina Kell

First National Bank

Flintco

FNBNWA

Friends of Ed Prentice and Patsy Mooney

Grand Savings Bank

Gregg and Jaci Uecker

Hight Jackson

John and Katy Buck

Judy Patterson

Lynn & Amber Tallmadge-Scott

Mary Lynn Reece

Matthews, Campbell, Rhoads, McClure & Thompson, PA

Mercy

Milestone Construction

New Wave Wealth Advisors

Noble Insurance

Paige Sultemeier

Raymond Burns

Regions Bank

RHS in Honor of Monica Bray

Rogers Public Schools

Stribling, Inc

Thrasher and Chambers

WealthPath

