



ROCK ISLAND – MILAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

www.rimef.org



Celebrating over 30 years of:

*Enhancing Academic Opportunities
for Student Success
1986 - 2017*

Fall 2017

\$90,593 Awarded for PRIME Grants

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation awarded a record \$90,593 in PRIME Grants (Promoting Rock Island Milan Education) to the teachers, departments, and schools of the Rock Island-Milan School District for the 2017-2018 academic year. The grants were presented to the District during the opening day all-staff meeting held on August 1 at Rock Island High School. A total of 51 grants were awarded: 26 Teacher, 22 Departmental/School and 3 District grants – all will fund a wide variety of programs for the 2017-2018 school year.

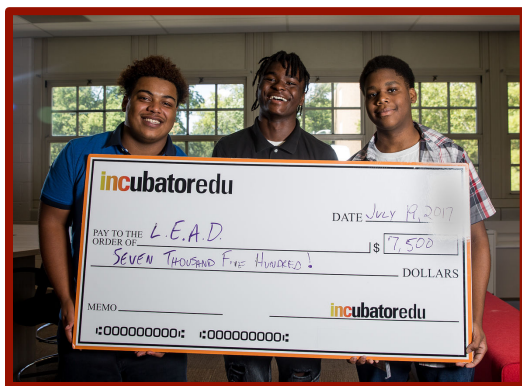
PRIME Grants provide much needed financial resources for materials, technologies, and programs that would otherwise go unfunded. In June prior to the school year, teachers and schools submit their applications stating program overviews, costs and a summary of how the programs will enhance, expand, and improve their academic environment. Teachers may apply for grants up to \$1,000; Departmental/School grants are available for up to \$3,000; and District grants of \$4,000 are available where multiple schools will benefit.

The PRIME Grant program is made possible by generous donations from numerous individuals, businesses, and organizations such as the Doris and Victor Day Foundation, The Rauch Family Foundation and the Junior Board of Rock Island. The Major Saver fundraiser, held in August, helps provide additional support for the PRIME Grants program as well as direct funding to our schools.

PRIME Grants give our teachers the resources they need to provide “enhanced opportunities for student success” for the students of our Rock Island-Milan School District. Please consider a donation to the Foundation to support our teachers!



Board President Jerry Jones and Executive Director Monta Ponsetto present to Superintendent Dr. Mike Oberhaus. An additional \$952 was awarded.



The L.E.A.D. team, Romar Cantu, Cornelius Aldridge, and Rashawn Overton, pose with their check.

Photo: Dispatch-Argus

Entrepreneurship's L.E.A.D. 1st at Nationals

The “Best Pitch” and “Best Business Model” winner from Rock Island High School’s 2017 Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Class has another title to add to its business profile. L.E.A.D. (Leading Everyday and Driving to Success) took 1st Place at the national pitch competition sponsored by INCubator.edu Unchartered Learning Foundation. Rocky students Cornelius Aldridge, Romar Cantu, and Rashawn Overton are the recipients of a \$7500 cash award to help jump-start their non-profit that develops youth into the leaders of tomorrow.

L.E.A.D. was one of nine teams from the Entrepreneurship Class at RIHS. A video of their winning presentation at the Final Pitch Night held at Rocky in May was submitted to the National Pitch Competition. L.E.A.D. was selected as one of the 5 finalists to present at Loyola University in July.

RIHS Entrepreneurship Instructor Ms. Patricia Matson and Mentor Ms. Tracy White assisted the L.E.A.D. team throughout the school year. The INCubator: Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Class was initiated and funded by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation and generous private and business donors from throughout our community. We could not be prouder of these young men and their accomplishment. Congratulations L.E.A.D.!

2017 PRIME Grant Awards

Teacher Grants:

Tyler Allison, Eugene Field: **\$952 - Project "One to One"**
Cindy Arkebauer, Eugene Field: **\$912 - Technology for Everyone**
Melissa Barton, Earl Hanson: **\$753.40 - Collaborative Work Spaces**
Alicia Beadel, Eugene Field: **\$952 - Chromebooks**
Katy Bohan, Eugene Field: **\$912 - Going "Fourth" with Technology**
Carissa Boyd, Frances Willard: **\$1,000 - Culture of Collaboration**
Angie Brownson, Eugene Field: **\$912 - Let's Get Tech-y**
Andrew Campbell, RIHS: **\$1,000 - Fetal Pig Lab**
Addie Corby-Winn, RIHS: **\$844.79 - Kiln Room Organization**
Laura Erikson, Longfellow: **\$986.71 - Cultivating Cultural Competence**
Brooke Greenwood, Frances Willard: **\$1,000 - Seating for Success**
Henry Hall, Earl Hanson: **\$992 - Chromebooks for Analyzing Text**
Kris Hays, RICMS: **\$978.92 - More iPad Investigations**
Holly Hott, Earl Hanson: **\$992 - Chromebooks for Differentiation of Instruction for ED Students**
Elizabeth Hughes, Earl Hanson: **\$992 - Chromebooks for Differentiation of Instruction for ED Students**
Amy Knourek, Eugene Field: **\$912 - Tech "4" Fourth**
Melissa Maloney, Frances Willard: **\$1,000 - Creating a Cooperative Classroom Community**
Lisa Maxwell, Eugene Field: **\$952 - Chromebooks**
Crystal McCaw, Eugene Field: **\$952 - Chromebooks**
Tara Niemeier, Longfellow: **\$999.17 - All Aboard the Engage NY Train**
Amanda Puebla & Jessica Matherly, RIHS: **\$1,000 - Rocky Resource Center**
Todd Schmit, Washington Jr. High: **\$1,000 - Let's Engineer the Future Together**
Jennifer Schrempf, Earl Hanson: **\$992 - Chromebooks**
Shaya Smith, RICMS: **\$898.61 - More Technology Please**
Mandi Stout, Longfellow: **\$999.17 - All Aboard the Engage NY Train**
Michelle Weckerly, Frances Willard: **\$999.95 - Tables for Collaborative Learning**



School & Departmental Grants:

Ashley Almquist, RICMS: **\$3,000 - Music for All**
Sarah Andrus, RICMS: **\$2,995.80 - Literacy and Math Rocks**
Brin Arnold, Jacqueline Krone, Stacy Lofgren: **\$2,158.92 - Amped to be Readers!**
Giovanna Davila, Thomas Jefferson: **\$2,166 - XYZ-Xylophone with Me**
Rita Entsminger, RICMS: **\$2,434 - Scholastic News for 5th Grade**
John Frieden, Denkmann: **\$3,000 - LEAD**
Mara Goodvin, Ridgewood: **\$3,000 - It's All About the Bass**
Angela Hand, Longfellow: **\$3,000 - Enough to Share**
Library Paraprofessional, Frances Willard: **\$2,568.66 - Frances Willard Library Project Update**
Jeff Martin, Denkmann: **\$1,599 - Keys to Success**
Nikki Melody, Frances Willard: **\$2,577.43 - Re-imagining Recess**
Toni Moore, Ridgewood: **\$2,638.80 - Ridgewood Primary Raz Kids**
Music Teacher, Frances Willard: **\$2,967.68 - Rounding Out the Orchestration**
Dawn Newman, Washington Jr. High: **\$3,000 - ACT (AVID Craves Technology)**
Julie Ruff, RICMS: **\$2,915.72 - Flexible Seating in the Classroom**
Alicia Sigel, Earl Hanson: **\$2,480 - Chromebooks for Whole Class Instruction - ED Students**
Jazmin Taylor, Washington Jr. High: **\$3,000 - Flexible Seating for an Engaging Classroom**
Dave Terronez, Longfellow: **\$1,000 - P.E./Indoor Recess**
Jennifer Veryzer, Ridgewood: **\$3,000 - Wiggle Worms**
Dennis Weiss, Eugene Field: **\$3,000 - LEAD**
Melinda Wildermuth, Ridgewood: **\$1,500 - Student Autobiograph**
Amy Zero, Rock Island Academy: **\$596.80 - B.I.O.N.I.C. at RIA**

District-wide Grants:

Virginia Jarrett, District: **\$4,000 - Rock Island-Milan First Day Fund**
Matt Manweiler & Katie Benson, District: **\$4,000 - Orchestra Room Acoustic Technology**
Lisa Martens, EH/EJHS/WJHS/RIHS: **\$3,110 - Life Skills Classroom & Community Experiences**



PRIME Grants – Promoting RI-M Education 2016-2017

The PRIME Grants awarded for the 2016-2017 school year enhanced the learning environment for the students throughout District 41. At the conclusion of the granted project or school year, each teacher recipient sent the Education Foundation a grant reflection (and occasionally photos!) reporting on the success of the program and the number of students involved. From these reports, the impact your donations to the Education Foundation makes on our students is clear – whether it's funding a program like "Literacy Speaks!" which targets articulation errors and supports literacy through the use of picture cues and sight words, purchasing instruments to improve spatial/temporal skills and enhance the enjoyment of music, equipping the high school CNA lab so students can build self-confidence as they prepare for clinicals, or simply providing a bench where a young student can sit and make a friend during recess or after school. We're excited to hear the outcome from the PRIME Grants awarded for the 2017-2018 year!

"You make a difference in the lives of thousands of children for years to come, thanks for your support"
- a Rock Island-Milan Teacher



**Literacy Speaks!
District Grant**



**Buddy Bench
Teacher Grant**



**CNA Lab Equipment
Departmental Grant**



**Rhythm Literature
Teacher Grant**

Excellence in Education and Our Community – Chuck Austin

If you lived in Rock Island, seeing Chuck Austin and his wife Ann briskly walking up and down 38th Street was a common sight. Just as likely, you'd see Chuck periodically bend down to pick up a stray piece of paper, an empty cup or can and place it in a small bag. No one asked Charles O. Austin, III to collect litter on his daily walk but that was Chuck – taking every opportunity to better his community, whether it was making sure the street was clean, spending hours in one of his numerous volunteer roles, or instilling a standard of excellence in a young student.

Chuck served as alderman for the Rock Island City Council for 12 years and tirelessly volunteered with many organizations. He influenced decisions made for our city and countless activities in our community. His most influential work, however, was in education. Over a teaching career spanning 33 years, Chuck taught and influenced thousands of students. Education was paramount to Chuck, and excellence in education was his passion. So, when the Illinois Chamber of Commerce made the decision to end the Academic Achievement Awards program for the Illinois Quad Cities school districts, Chuck stepped in to keep it alive for the students of Rock Island High School. He brought the program to the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation and helped ensure that those students displaying excellence would be awarded scholarships to further their education.

Thanks to Chuck's dedication, the Education Foundation will hold the 39th annual Academic Achievement Awards ceremony this May and Rock Island students will continue to receive recognition and scholarships for their excellence.

We'll have to keep working on 38th Street too.



Leaving a Legacy

Make a lasting impact by including the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation in your estate or financial plan. When you establish a gift through your long-term estate or financial plans, you help advance our mission for many years to come. A Planned Gift can help ensure that the Education Foundation will continue to provide all manner of enhanced academic opportunities for the success of future generations of Rock Island-Milan School District students, teachers, and schools.

There are many options available to those who wish to include the RIMEF in their long-range planning:

Wills and Bequests	Endowed Gifts
Living Trusts	Memorials and Tributes
Beneficiary Designations	Life Insurance Policies

Please consult your tax, legal, or financial advisor concerning the details of making a Planned Gift to the Foundation to help determine which approach is best for you.

“There is no greater return than an investment in a child’s education.”

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation was formed in 1986 to solicit and receive funds to support academic programs in the Rock Island-Milan School District. A board of directors, composed of volunteer professional, business, and community leaders, governs the operations of the foundation.



Monta Ponsetto, Executive Director

DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Jerry Jones, *President*

Pryce T. Boeye, *Vice-President*

Shellee Showalter, *Treasurer*

Dr. Mike Oberhaus, *Secretary*

Steve Andich

Barb Cady

Rose Ann Hass

Russ Kennel

Cindy Lukasik

John Phillips

Clyde Schoeck

Bob Swanson

Contact us at: RIMEF@rimsd41.org

Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation

2101 6th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201

www.rimef.org

(309) 793-5900 x230



Check out the new RIMEF.ORG!

We've launched our new site with extra information & photos! Learn more about the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation and how we work to fulfill our mission to “Enhance Academic Opportunities for Student Success.” Supporting that mission and our students, teachers, & schools is easy through our online system with the click of a button! All our programs can benefit through your contributions or you can designate where to put your dollars!

MS MAJOR SAVER Purchase a Major Saver Card!

The Major Saver Card equals major savings for you and major assistance to our teachers/schools! The “in-school” campaign is over but you can still purchase a card online. Your \$15 purchase of a Major Saver Card helps provide critical funding for our PRIME Grants giving our teachers and schools the ability to purchase academic materials and offer programs, which they would otherwise not be able to afford. The card features offers from popular restaurants/establishments in Rock Island and surrounding areas. Purchase your card online at: www.MajorSaver.com.



“Chip in” for the Foundation!

Donating through “Birdies for Charity” is a great way to increase your giving to the Foundation. Last year we received an additional 10% for all donations made through Birdie's! If you would like to receive a Birdies Pledge Form for the

2018 John Deere Classic, contact us at (309) 793-5900 ext. 230 or email: rimef@rimsd41.org. If you receive a form, our Birdies number is 1255. Make a one-time flat donation through the Birdies website at: www.birdiesforcharity.com. Donations will benefit all the great RIMEF programs or you can direct your donation to your favorite!

“Score” for Education with



QCSportsNet



For the second year, QCSportNet will livestream Rocky football and girls and boys regular season basketball games with big benefits for the Education Foundation!

For every point scored by Rocky's football team, the Foundation will receive \$1. For every 3-point play scored by the featured girl or boy basketball teams, the Foundation receives \$3!

QCSportsNet and Chris Elsberg, State Farm Insurance have pledged a minimum of \$1,000 to the Foundation whatever the total score. Last year, with the help of our great scoring Rocks, they exceeded that total!

**Go to QCSportsNet.com &
support your Rocks as
QCSportsNet
supports our mission!**