



2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



SUPPORTING
EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE



MEQUON - THIENSVILLE
EDUCATION FOUNDATION



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Alexandra Ridgway
President 2021-2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- About the Foundation.....1
- Grants in Action.....2
- Excellence in Education.....3
- Grant Awards for 2023-2024 and
Endowment Fund 4-5
- Fundraisers6
- Staff Appreciation Grant Honorees7
- DONORS**
- Corporations and Organizations8
- Individuals and Families..... 9-12
- In-kind Donors..... 13-14
- Honorariums & Memorials.....15
- Statement of Financial Position 16
- Board of Directors and
Volunteers17

Dear Mequon-Thiensville Parents and Neighbors,

On behalf of the Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation (MTEF) Board, I share gratitude for your generosity and commitment to our schools. Because of your ongoing support, the MTEF has surpassed our long time goal of presenting a total of \$5 million in grants to the Mequon-Thiensville School District in our celebratory 25th anniversary year.

As a result of the financial and volunteer contributions we received this past year, the MTEF is awarding grants totaling \$150,000 for the 2023-24 school year. Please continue reading our Annual Report to see how these dollars will be distributed to advance technology, curriculum, and professional development in all six schools.

The active engagement of our MTEF Board of Directors is essential in serving our mission, and I wish to acknowledge their expertise, time and resources they contribute to the Foundation. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Lauren Croix, MTSD Executive Director of Educational Services for her valuable contributions as our newest Ex Officio member. Much appreciation is also given to our district's staff and administrators for their ongoing partnership. Our board continues to be most grateful for the dozens of committed volunteers who help ensure success with our events.

The MTSD remains one of the most coveted school districts in Wisconsin. Our award-winning schools, outstanding enrichment programs, and strong community support all make this a premier environment for our children to thrive. Ongoing investment is crucial to continue the exceptional experience that we expect for our children. Please know that YOU can make a difference. Whether you choose to contribute financially, or by volunteering your time and talents, you help ensure a path of sustainable educational excellence for our students.

Kind regards,

Alexandra Ridgway
President 2021-2024

WORKING FOR
EVERY SCHOOL,
EVERY TEACHER,
EVERY STUDENT!

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION



INVESTING IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF EXCELLENCE

The Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation was incorporated in 1998 as a non-profit organization committed to advancing educational excellence. The Foundation is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors which operates independently, yet in conjunction with the Mequon-Thiensville School District and Board of Education. The Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. The MTEF benefits all six schools in the MTSD, consisting of Donges Bay Elementary School, Oriole Lane Elementary School, Wilson Elementary School, Lake Shore Middle School, Steffen Middle School, and Homestead High School.

MISSION

The Mission of the MTEF is to develop community-wide private financial support for the Mequon-Thiensville School District and, through grants, to help support continued excellence in education.

GOALS

- To achieve a distinct, beneficial, and clearly understood role in the community.
- To collaborate with school district personnel and other school support groups to identify ways to maintain the educational excellence our children deserve.
- To seek and support creative ways to ensure the school district advances in technology, curriculum, and personnel.
- To expand our parent, staff, and community donor base.

The Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation recognizes the challenging budget conditions within our school district and is committed to filling financial gaps to ensure continued educational excellence for ALL students. Financial support from community members like you is critical to the success of our students and schools.



Donges Bay Elementary School



Oriole Lane Elementary School



Wilson Elementary School



Lake Shore Middle School



Steffen Middle School



Homestead High School



GRANTS IN ACTION

STEM CURRICULUM



Invaluable high school STEM curriculum such as Cybersecurity II

MATH CURRICULUM



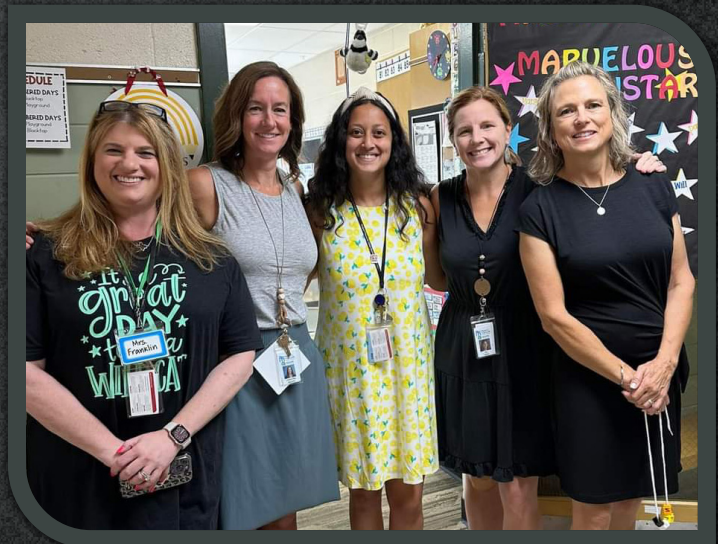
Expanded Math curriculum opportunities in our middle schools for deeper exploration and connections with real world concepts

INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY



The latest interactive technology: Newline panels being put to use in all six of our schools for collaborative, creative, and technically seamless lessons

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Investing in those who invest their time and talents in educating our students with staff professional development opportunities at all levels

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS



It is important to recognize the major impact strong educators have on students. The annual MTEF Excellence in Education awards are given to educators who demonstrate exemplary leadership in the preparation of students for continued academic advancement at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, as well as in specialty areas.

All recipients must demonstrate good communication and leadership skills, exhibit a willingness to become involved, share their teaching expertise with students and peers, incorporate innovative teaching methods, and have a positive impact on students.



Congratulations to the 2023 Excellence in Education Award recipients (from left to right): **Sean Crider**, Homestead High School Special Education Teacher (District Specialist Award), **Nick Schueller**, Homestead High School History Teacher (High School Award), **Amy Bongard**, Donges Bay Elementary School 4K Teacher (Elementary Award), **Kelly Zimmermann**, Steffen Middle School 7th Grade Teacher (Middle School Award).



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GRANT AWARDS FOR 2023-2024

TOTAL: \$150,000

CURRICULUM

\$14,040

MS EXEMPLARS AND ZEARN MATH (\$9,000)

This grant funds the purchase of Exemplars and Zearn math materials for new and enhanced math curriculum opportunities in our middle schools for deeper exploration and connections with real world concepts. All students in middle school take math and will benefit from the use of these tools and expanded curriculum.

HHS CYBERSECURITY II (\$2,040)

Cybersecurity is one of the fastest growing career fields in the nation. The MTEF funded the grant for Cybersecurity I two years ago, which has grown from two to three sections. In an effort to support students' continued growth in this area, this grant funds the Cybersecurity II curriculum writing hours as well as the course study kit.

HHS INTRO TO BUSINESS (\$3,000)

This grant provides new course setup, textbooks, and instruction training for the Intro to Business course which blends three separate business courses into one for Homestead students. This new course is a one-stop-shop for anyone interested in business and finance.

PERSONNEL

\$34,000

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS (\$4,000)

Educators who demonstrate exemplary leadership in the preparation of students for continued academic advancement at the elementary, middle and high school levels, as well as a district specialist are awarded with this grant.

HHS WRITING LAB (\$15,000)

Homestead High School English teachers continue to help students with an array of writing assignments—from outlines and research reports to college essays—our students are becoming stronger writers with the support of this grant.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (\$15,000)

Our teachers and staff are the MTSD's most valuable resource. This grant supports individual building-level professional development opportunities for our staff in all six schools. The funds dedicated to professional development opportunities aid our schools in carrying out action plans to accomplish their school growth plans and provide our students with the best learning opportunities possible.

TECHNOLOGY

\$101,960

HHS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (PAC) TECHNOLOGY (\$2,000)

This grant provides one of our district's most widely used spaces, the Performing Arts Center (PAC) with technology upgrades that will benefit not only Homestead's performing arts department but our greater community. The technology provided with this grant helps the district complete a much needed upgrade to the PAC's audio and video system.

NEWLINE PANELS (\$99,960)

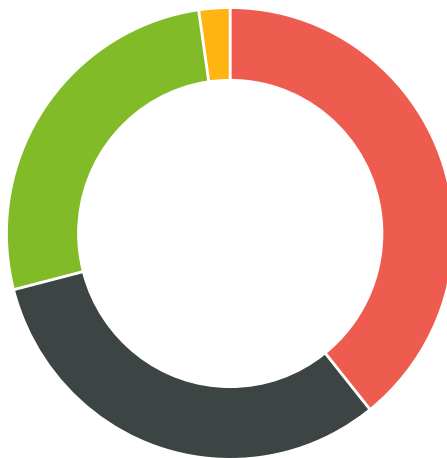
In an effort to transition all MTSD classrooms from outdated projector and Smartboard technology to Newline panels, which provide higher resolution and increased usability compared to previous technology, the MTEF focused its fundraising on retrofitting as many learning spaces as possible with Newline panels. This interactive technology tool provides additional opportunities for student collaboration, creativity, and increased ability for teachers to use technology in their daily instruction. With this grant, all three of our elementary schools have been completely retrofitted with Newline panels and our two middle schools and Homestead are well on their way to having all of their spaces updated with this uniform technology.

GRANT AWARDS AND ENDOWMENT FUND



Thank you Grants Advisory chair Chris Timm and committee Kerri Adams, Cindy Anderson, Dr. Deborah Anderson, Kathy Blume, Dr. Lauren Croix, Eric Ebert, David Gaskin, Greg Hartwig, Mikhail Palatnik, Alexandra Ridgway, Chad Sova, Thadd Stankowski and Jennifer Stanley.

MTEF CUMULATIVE GRANT AWARDS 1998-2023



- 42% TECHNOLOGY
- 30% CURRICULUM
- 26% PERSONNEL
- 2% EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

1998-2023

100% TOTAL: **\$5,094,742**

ENDOWMENT FUND

Established in 2002, the Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation's Endowment Fund was created with the goal of eventually providing an ongoing source of income for operating expenses and general funding purposes. The Fund was seeded with private donations and continues to grow through private contributions and investment growth. The goal was to grow the Endowment Fund to \$1 million, after which the Foundation may use earnings to support overall program objectives. Once the \$1 million fiscal year-end Endowment Fund balance was achieved, the MTEF board may withdraw up to 4% annually of the year-end fiscal balance. These distributions can continue so long as the fiscal year-end balance is at or above \$750,000. At fiscal year-end 2021 the Fund reached \$1 million. In an effort to fully fund designated grants for 2023-2024, the Foundation will use proceeds from the Fund to overcome a significant shortfall in private donations.



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FUNDRAISERS

TRICK-OR-TROT kicked off our 2022-23 fundraising efforts raising **\$16,000** thanks to generous sponsors and strong community support for this new event. This Halloween themed event featured an MTSD mascot dash, kids costume lap around the Homestead track and a 5K run/walk. Special thanks to our co-chairs **Shana Brewer** and **Melissa Gehl** and their amazing twenty-two person dream team for making this 1st annual event a huge success!



THE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN direct mailing was sent to all MTEF donors as well as all Mequon-Thiensville residents in December. This critical component of our fundraising efforts generated just over **\$80,000**, from our supporters.

MTEF GIVEBACK EVENTS coordinated by **Cindy Anderson**, raised a record **\$7,500!** These events fund our Excellence in Education Awards and will allow us to increase the number of awards to seven for 2023-24. Thank you to our community businesses for your support.



THE OFF TO THE RACES

Kentucky Derby Bash was held this Spring at Shully's in Thiensville rounding out our fundraising events for the year. The "Infield" featured music by the talented Amelia Eichmeier, fun raffles, a silent auction packed with goodies and spirited tailgating games. The "Winner's Circle" featured festive decor, delicious passed hors d'oeuvres and signature cocktails, viewing of the fastest two minutes in sports, a wonderful plated three-course dinner, and a short presentation from MTSD Superintendent, Dr. Joynt and MTEF President, Alexandra Ridgway as well as a paddle raise fund-a-grant emceed by Traci Cain. Our students were definitely the winners with **\$90,000** raised for grants thanks to our generous sponsors, businesses, and community members. Off to the Races Derby Bash would not have been possible without Shully's Cuisine and Events, MTEF board members, and numerous volunteers.



STAFF APPRECIATION GRANT HONOREES



THE STAFF APPRECIATION GRANT was back for a second year as a way for families to recognize our amazing MTSD staff members while raising funds for grants. A total of **150** staff members were recognized and **\$4,250** was raised for the Foundation. Congratulations to Donges Bay teacher Amy Bongard for being chosen as the Staff Appreciation Grant raffle basket winner. Thank you to **Becky Wudy** for coordinating this wonderful recognition program and fundraising event.

Ashley Ackmann
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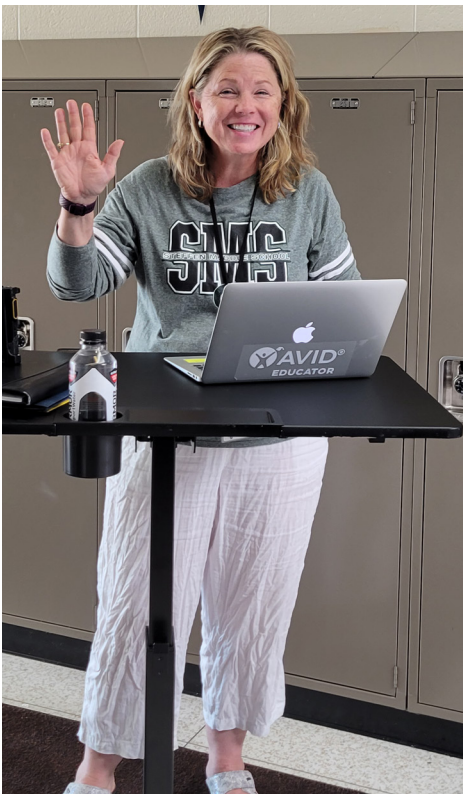
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Thank you, generous donors!

This list is intended for recognition purposes and was compiled from MTEF donation records to show contributors' aggregate financial support. It is not intended to serve as a written acknowledgment of the tax deductibility of any gift or any portion thereof. We sincerely apologize if your name was misspelled or inadvertently missed! Please help us avoid repeating the error by emailing info@mtef.org.

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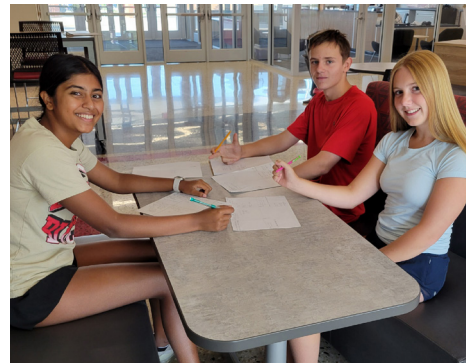
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 Milwaukee Rowing Club
 Milwaukee World Festivals
 Missing Links Golf Course & Driving Range
 MTSD: Donges Bay Elementary - Chris Gray
 MTSD: Homestead Baseball
 MTSD: Homestead Boys Basketball
 MTSD: Homestead Booster Club



MTSD: Homestead High School - Eric Ebert
 MTSD: Homestead Gymnastics
 MTSD: Homestead Hockey
 MTSD: Homestead Lacrosse
 MTSD: Homestead PTSO
 MTSD: Homestead Girls Soccer
 MTSD: Homestead Softball
 MTSD: Homestead Wrestling
 MTSD: Lake Shore Middle School - Alli Rudich
 MTSD: Oriole Lane Elementary - Chad Sova
 MTSD: Steffen Middle School - Deb Anderson
 MTSD: Wilson Elementary - Joey Sulsberger
 Navy Pier Centennial Wheel
 Newman Chevrolet
 Mark Niedfeldt, MD
 North Shore Academy of Gymnastics
 North Shore Country Club
 Nothing Bundt Cakes
 Olsen's Piggly Wiggly
 OrangeTheory Fitness - Mequon
 Oriental Trading
 Otto's Cedarburg
 Out & Out Eatery & Catering
 Outpost Natural Foods
 Ozaukee County Sheriff
 Ozaukee Ice Center
 Ozaukee Skateland
 The Paley Tennis Center
 John Patek, String Teacher
 Pizza Man
 Poco Loco Cantina
 Prime Minister
 Qdoba
 Quintessa Medical Spa
 Range Line Inn
 Ravinia Festival
 Restore Spine and Wellness
 Rite Hite YMCA
 River Club of Mequon
 Riveredge Nature Center
 Rivoli Theatre
 Robert's Frozen Custard
 ROC Foundation and the Milwaukee Wave
 Rocky Rococo Restaurants

The Rosenberg Family
 Sahale Ale Works
 Howard and Robin Schlei
 Schlitz Audubon Nature Center
 Sconnie Cakes - Hayley Rapaport
 Screaming Tuna
 Screen Time Clinic
 Sendik's Food Market
 Shoot the Moon Photography
 Shully's Cuisine and Events
 Sip
 Skippy's Burger Bar
 SMB Landscape Contractors
 Southern Ozaukee Fire Department
 Splash! Swim + Wellness
 Stone Creek Coffee



StretchLab Mequon
 Supercuts of Mequon / Signature Two
 Company
 Target Menomonee Falls
 Thiensville Do It Best Hardware
 Tobin Jewelers
 Total Wine & Spirits - Bayshore
 Trader Joe's - Bayshore
 Trailside Recreation
 Twisted Willow
 Umansky Motor Cars
 Union House
 Utopia Martial Arts
 VIP Sports Marketing, Inc
 Visual Image Photography
 Linda Walsh
 Welke's Milwaukee Florist
 Wisconsin State Fair
 Wisconsin Timber Rattlers
 Woodpecker Originals - Mara Gaskin
 Yerke's Observatory
 Zen Paws Pet Grooming



HONORARIUMS

In honor of Eliza Roggers
Maki Roggers

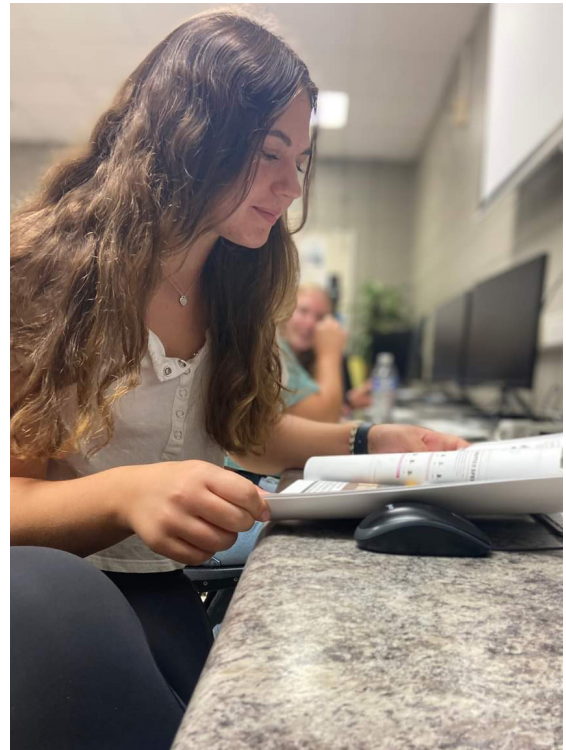
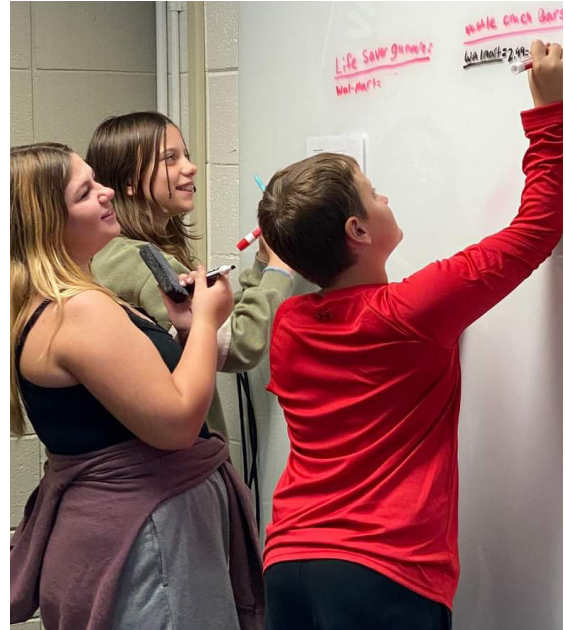
When you honor or memorialize a friend or loved one by making a donation to the Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation, a notification of your contribution (without disclosing the amount of your gift) will be sent to the person or family being honored or memorialized by your gift.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Craig Francour, husband of Wendy Francour
Jon and Libby Baranko
Peter and Sue Birmingham
Board of Education (Burns, Buzzell, Hollander, Hopkins, Levash and Taebel)
Hans and Dani Melgaard
Mike and Andi Zimmerman

In memory of George Fredrick, father of Paula Taebel
Jon and Libby Baranko
Board of Education (Burns, Buzzell, Francour, Hollander, Hopkins and Levash)
Mike and Andi Zimmerman

In memory of Jim Reeve, father of Libby Baranko and Lucy Reeve
Peter and Sue Birmingham
Mike and Andi Zimmerman



WORKING FOR
EVERY SCHOOL,
EVERY TEACHER,
EVERY STUDENT!



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$179,114	\$259,092
Pledges receivable	–	–
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$179,114	\$259,092
INTEREST IN ASSETS HELD BY THE GREATER MILWAUKEE FOUNDATION	\$1,000,357	\$977,763
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,179,471	\$1,236,855
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payable to Mequon-Thiensville School District	\$150,245	\$176,025
Accrued expenses	\$0	\$1,925
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$150,245	\$177,950
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restriction	\$757,791	\$750,291
With donor restriction	\$271,435	\$308,614
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$1,029,226	\$1,058,905
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$1,179,471	\$1,236,855

MTEF BOARD AND VOLUNTEERS



2022-2023

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VICE PRESIDENT: Kathy Blume

TREASURER: Chris Timm

SECRETARY: Kerry Meskin

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Chris Doughty
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Bryan Sadoff
Robin Schlei
Marcia Schwager
Andi Zimmerman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Dani Melgaard

BOOKKEEPER: Patrick Kelly



2022-2023 EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Kerri Adams	Matt Joynt
Kathlyn Albert	Teresa Kennedy
Sara Alexander	Spencer Koenig
Cindy Anderson	Molly Loucks
Kim Angeli	Jenny McDonald
Mark Baden	Dani Melgaard
Katie Beiser	Kerry Meskin
Andrea Bennett	Molly Newman
Tarrah Beyer	Erin Oberndorfer
Melissa Bleidorn	Jamie O'Connor
Kathy Blume	Nina Olson
Shana Brewer	Katie Ott
Jessica Burke	Gretchen Reiland
Shelley Burns	Gina Rich
Wendy Bushell	Alexandra Ridgway
Paul Buzzell	Rachel Rutland
Amy Byrne	Beth Shully
Shannon Carr	Scott Shully
Kathy Connelly	Jennifer Siefert
Stacy Crouther	Thadd Stankowski
Nina Darling	Jennifer Stanley
Neda Esmaili	Jen Sullivan
Rachael Fellers	Emily Tadych
Karrie Fiorentini	Janet Werner
Wendy Francour	Abby Wier
Melissa Gehl	Lexie Wirth
Lee Henrich	Becky Wudy
May Hsu	Andi Zimmerman
Michele Johnson	

And MANY
student volunteers

2023-2024 Upcoming Events

- Annual Giving Campaign
September 2023 – April 2024
- 25th Anniversary Mardi Gras Bash
Saturday, February 24, 2024
Shully's Watermark
- Off to the Races Derby Party
Saturday, May 4, 2024



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS

*There are many
meaningful ways for our
community to get involved.*

GIVE

Donate to our Annual Giving Campaign, honor or memorialize someone special with a gift to the Foundation or make a donation to a deserving MTSD staff member with our Staff Appreciation Grant in May.

PARTNER

Businesses and families, consider being a financial sponsor for an MTEF fundraising event, partner with us on a Giveback or Friends of the Foundation event, or provide an in-kind donation of an item or service for one of our fundraisers or auctions.

PARTICIPATE

Attend MTEF events, participate in Giveback fundraisers and join PTO/PTSO meetings to hear about upcoming MTEF events and fundraising opportunities.

VOLUNTEER

Join an MTEF fundraising committee, give your time to help during one of our events, engage your older students to volunteer for MTEF and earn merit hours and build community goodwill by volunteering as a team with friends, family and co-workers.

CONNECT

Be a part of our online community with our monthly newsletter, email updates for events, on social channels, and help us share the great work the MTEF does to support our district schools, students and staff.

