



ROCK ISLAND-MILAN
EDUCATION FOUNDATION
INNOVATION • OPPORTUNITY • SUPPORT

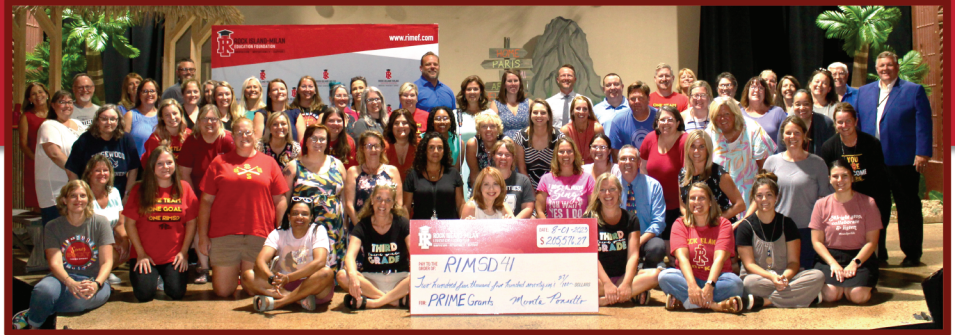
*Enhancing Academic Opportunities
for Student Success
1986 - 2023*

www.rimef.org



Fall 2023

*Teachers Receive \$205,576
in PRIME Grants!*



RIMSD Teachers and Administrators attended a special PRIME Grant awards presentation held on August 1st at Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse. A record **\$205,576** was awarded to fund 99 projects developed by the teachers, departments, and schools of the Rock Island-Milan School District. 119 RIMSD

Educators received these PRIME Grants for innovative projects, technologies, and/or materials to be used in the 2023-2024 academic year. Every school in the district had at least one teacher or educator receive a grant. The grants will benefit the 6,100+ students of the Rock Island-Milan School District this year and several will continue to benefit students in future academic years. Innovative projects were funded for projects in literacy, science, physical education, special needs, music, art, global understanding, and more! A Barbara Fackel PRIME Grant and four "Rock Island Art Guild" PRIME Grants were presented. A generous donation from John Hass funded 3 awards received by Earl Hanson Elementary.

Teachers and other educators submit their PRIME Grant applications with project proposals in late May. Individual teachers may apply for up to \$1,500, departments or schools up to \$3,000, and those applying for programs affecting multiple schools may request up to \$5,000. A new online system contracted through Kaleidoscope streamlined this year's application process. The PRIME Grant Committee comprised of RIMEF board members, retired RIMSD educators, and a representative from the Dept. of Teaching and Learning evaluate each application and make the final determination for the awards. All projects must be completed within the school year and a follow-up report with photos is sent to the RIMEF.

PRIME stands for "Promoting Rock Island Milan Education." The RIMEF believes that every student is entitled to a quality education and this critical program perfectly aligns with our mission to "enhance academic opportunities for student success." The PRIME Grant Program is made possible through funding from our donors and the generosity of: Rauch Family I Foundation, Rock Island Art Guild, Alfaretta Young Foundation, Junior Board of Rock Island, Doris and Victor Day Foundation, and the Barbara Fackel Fund. Contributing to the PRIME Grant fund is an excellent way for dedicated donors to have a direct impact on student achievement throughout the Rock Island-Milan School District.

Please consider adding your name to those supporting this worthy program!



GRITGRANT Award!

Rocky senior, Daivari Rogers was named as a 2023 GritGrant Award recipient at a ceremony held on August 28 at Rock Island High School. Daivari is one of just five students internationally to receive the McKenzie Foundation and Uncharted Learning award. Rocky is the only high school within the Incubatoredu program to have multiple winners of the GritGrant Award.

GritGrants are cash awards recognizing students who show resilience and character to reach their goals. Incubator instructor Mrs. Patricia Matson nominated Daivari based upon the award's criteria:

- Optimism, confidence, and creativity
- Resilience
- Focus on meaningful goals
- Excellence
- Character as it refers to ways of thinking, acting, and feeling that benefits both oneself and others



Mrs. Matson stated that Daivari exemplified all these elements and while facing some setbacks, he continued to work hard and persevered.

Jim McKenzie of the McKenzie Foundation presented Daivari a crystal plaque and check at the afternoon's event. In addition, he gave ten laptops – one for Daivari and the rest for, upon graduation, nine deserving seniors of Incubatoredu. Also attending were Chief Evangelist of Uncharted Learning Margarita Geleske, RIHS/RIMSD administration, RIMEF Director Monta Ponsetto, and current/former students of Rocky's Incubatoredu class.

Congratulations Daivari!

Donors Making a Difference: The Hass Family



The Hass family has been a part of the Rock Island community for generations. In the early 2000's, the family established the 1st Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) scholarship to be awarded to honor students in Rock Island and the city of Rock Island itself. The Hass Family Scholarship was the family's way of giving back to the community that had been good to them and supported their business (Valley Construction.) It was also a beautiful way to honor Mary and Art Hass who made Rock Island their home. All of Mary and Art's children, Jim, Bill, & John and their spouses Nancy (Bill) & Sandy (John) and all eight of their grandchildren graduated from Rocky with a wonderful education.

The brothers wanted the Hass Family Scholarship to go to a B-average student. At the time, they felt so many scholarships that were available from other organizations or colleges were just for the top students. They wanted to recognize that there were several very strong students who weren't necessarily the highest ranked but who also deserved recognition and financial assistance. The scholarship was formed and was made open to students with a 3.0 GPA or better, leadership skills, and good character. The students receiving the award must not be in the top 10 of their class.

Of course, RIMEF co-founder Rose Ann Hass (Jim) helped to establish the scholarship. Rose Ann wasn't a graduate of Rocky nor was she even from Rock Island (she was from Muscatine) but, as she states, you "move to Rock Island and you become a Rock Island patriot and avid 'Rock Islander.'" Rose Ann's work in researching what other school foundations were doing for their districts helped shape the initial focus of the RIMEF. She was elected the 1st President of our organization and after initially retiring from her many years of service to the Foundation, came back and graciously served another nine years on the Board of Directors.

In addition to funding the Hass Family Scholarship in perpetuity and serving on our board/committees, various members of the Hass family have generously donated to our General Fund, the Austin Academic Achievement Awards, and PRIME Grants along with funding other specific programs or materials. The Hass family continues to give back to our community and has made our mission their mission by enhancing academic opportunities for student success.

Making a Difference! Reception

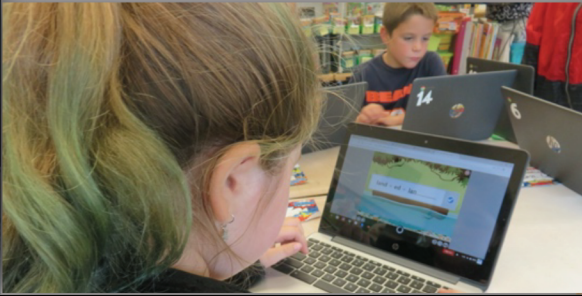
The RIMEF held its annual *Making a Difference Reception* on September 19th at Bally's Quad Cities. This "Thank You" event celebrates the impact our donors made in the lives of RIMSD students and for the classrooms and schools of the district. Scholarship benefactors, RIMEF Endowment contributors, PRIME Grant recipients, INCubator mentors & volunteers, Principals, RIMEF current/past board & committee members, RIMSD Administration and granting organizations. The event included a video from a 2022-2023 PRIME Grant recipient, speeches from two Class of 2023 scholarship recipients, and a great performance from a Class of 2023 Barbershop Quartet – all are attending Augustana. It was a wonderful night for all!






ROCK ISLAND-MILAN
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

INNOVATION • OPPORTUNITY • SUPPORT



We believe that every student is entitled to a quality education.

Our mission - *To Enhance Academic Opportunities for Student Success*
The RIMEF is committed to enriching the educational environment of all students.

The RIMEF has provided financial support for classrooms and students of the RIMSD for over 37 years: growing our starting assets from \$5,317 in 1991 to over \$4,000,000; compiling a database with over 6,600 names of alumni and supporters; and hosting two major programs – the PRIME Grants and the Austin Academic Achievement Awards & Scholarship Night.

Major Programs:

Austin Academic Achievement Awards & Scholarships

- Awarded \$141,200 to the Class of 2023
- 50 named scholarships funding 77 individual awards
- 20 Austin Academic Achievement Award scholarships

PRIME Grants – Promoting Rock Island Milan Education

- \$205,576 awarded for the 2023-2024 academic year
- Over \$1.25 Million in PRIME Grants (originally Teacher Grants awarded to date)



Other Programs of Support

- INCubator Class
- HAVlife
- Reynolds Returning Rocks
- Bright Ideas Awards
- New Teacher Welcome Kits
- Extracurricular Funds

Contact us at:
(309) 581-2154
rimef@rimsd41.org

www.rimef.org

RIMEF Endowment Fund

The *RIMEF Endowment Fund* supports major RIMSD41 directed campaigns. The fund will utilize only the interest/earnings received. The fund's principle will remain intact. Investment strategies will be regularly reviewed. Anyone may invest in the fund with a minimum \$5,000 donation. The contribution may be made in one or multiple payments. The RIMEF Endowment is a permanently held fund.

Impact the future through your support of the *RIMEF Endowment Fund*

For more information or to make your investment in the RIMEF Endowment Fund, please contact the RIMEF at (309) 581-2154 or rimef@rimsd41.org



RIMEF Endowment Fund Founders

Individual/Family

Jerry and Sue Horton
 Stephen & Marla Andich
 Brian & Barb Cady
 Ken & Linda Cutler
 Ian & Monique Frink
 Doug & Nancy Hultquist
 David & Ann Koch
 Karen Haberthur Leonard
 Fred & Cindy Lukasik
 Ray & Kitty Nolin
 Mike & Sue Oberhaus
 Ontiveros Family Fund
 Darrell & Mary Anne Reynolds
 Gary & Randi Sigel
 Cosette Shrader

Corporate/Business

Group O
 Crawford Co.
 Estes Construction
 The Hungry Hobo
 IMPACT Construction Agreement
 LMCC Plumbers & Pipefitters, Local 25
 Mel Foster Co.

"There is no greater return than an investment in a child's education."



2012-2023

PRIME Dollars per School

\$287,767



2012-2023 total raised to assist RIMSD schools & PRIME Grant Program

You can still purchase your card at: www.majorsaver.com

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>PRIME TOTAL</u>
Horace Mann	\$30,579
Denkmann	\$54,163
Earl Hanson	\$58,784
Eugene Field	\$88,512
Frances Willard	\$80,770
Longfellow	\$53,557
RI Academy	\$61,038
RICMS	\$113,723
Ridgewood	\$67,578
Thomas Jefferson	\$78,930
Edison Junior High	\$57,650
Washington Junior High	\$57,741
Thurgood Marshall	\$17,665
Rock Island High School	\$193,035
District-wide	\$164,900

PRIME Grants in Action!

Educators who receive PRIME Grants provide reports upon the completion of projects or at the end of the school year. The reports include a grant recap with goals of the project, benefits to their students, how the project was implemented, and any success stories. They also provide photos of their classrooms showing their grants “in action.” Here is a small sampling of how your donations enhanced classrooms and schools in the 2022-2023 school year via PRIME Grants!



Ms. Thompson
Horace Mann & RI Center for Math & Science
“Activities Across the Curriculum”

“This project was absolutely amazing...any time we can get the students in a hands-on situation the engagement increases even with some of the most difficult students. There isn’t much else to say besides THEY LOVED IT! It was at the peak of engagement; gave them an opportunity they have never had while still allowing a very rigorous learning environment.”

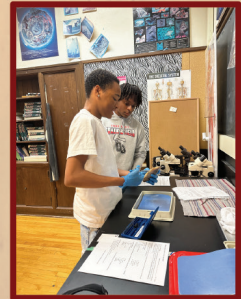
“Materials purchased gave the children opportunities to use new language through vocabulary and sentences and encouraged them to speak to friends during class. They were excited to take turns using the new items and explore what information the books have about families and cultures.”



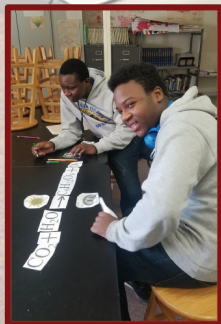
Ms. Arkebauer
Eugene Field, 3rd Grade
“Improving Growth Mindset & Social Emotional Learning through STEAM”

“The project was a success. We had beautiful thought-provoking art pieces that not only sparked classroom discussions but helped students achieve the outcomes of our curriculum by analyzing and applying the theme to their real-world narratives. A student revealed they had never seen art like this inside schools or classrooms. Student was curious about a variety of artists and discovered other new artists they like and resonated with.”

Ms. Trimble, Science Department
Rock Island High School 9-12
“Days of Dissection”



“Students found success in using the emotion people blocks to show how they felt when at times words were hard to find to express in a calm manner. Also, the STEAM challenges allowed students to work together to learn about each other and come to respect their strengths and challenges. It was great to see students work together to accomplish a common goal.”



Ms. Hanrahan and Mr. Wayland
Rock Island High School
“Newcomer Vocabulary and Sentences Unit: EL Study Skills”

“The first real game I played, Site Word Scramble, was a great success. This was evident through the students' attention to the game, following directions, laughter and helping each other out. Students enjoyed working with one another through physical activity while learning through spelling, reading and math. About every other week an activity was introduced to the students. Started off simple and became more complex as the students mastered each activity.”

Mr. Britton
Thurgood Marshall – 9-12
“Urban Art Aesthetics”



“We were able to engage newcomer students in the reading and writing process, with the help of both academic and physical organizers to ensure they learned basic vocabulary and sentence structure.” Ms. Hanrahan: “Students mastered English words and sentences sufficient to understand directions on how to act at a ceremony and to understand the protocols and procedures of attending and participating.” Mr. Wayland: “Students learned vocabulary for photosynthesis - the equation and the cyclic nature of how they are similar, but opposite reactions.”

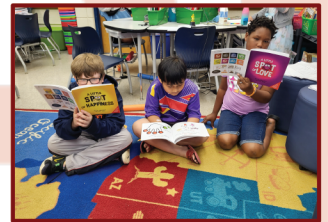
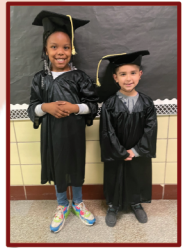
Ms. Canning
Eugene Field - K-6
“Kinesthetic Learning through Brainball and Steppers”



“There isn’t much else to say besides THEY LOVED IT!”

2023-2024 PRIME Grant Awards

Teacher/Administrator	Amount	Project (T) - Teacher, (D/S) - Department/School, (M-S) - Multi-School
<u>Denkmann Elementary</u>		
Jennifer Knuth, Mary Justin	\$3,000.00	<i>Listen Up Kinders!!! (D/S)</i>
Gretchen O'Brien	\$2,000.00	<i>Sensational Seating and SEL (D/S)</i>
Angie Paprocki, Elva Goins	\$3,000.00	<i>First...Listen Up! (D/S)</i>
Jennifer Sholl, Alissa Merchie, Valerie McConchie	\$3,000.00	<i>Learning in Motion...Fun in Learning (D/S)</i>
Bridget Taheny, Janine Olsen	\$1,950.00	<i>Girls on the Run (D/S)</i>
<u>Earl Hanson Elementary</u>		
Melissa Barton	\$1,451.59	<i>Creating a Calming Corner (T)</i>
Brandy Junis***	\$1,000.00	<i>Social Emotional Learning through Art and Play (T)</i>
Baillie Vandygriff	\$1,500.00	<i>Supporting Reading at Home and in the Classroom (T)</i>
<u>Eugene Field Elementary</u>		
Maddie Anderson	\$1,500.00	<i>Emotional Check In (T)</i>
Cindy Arkebauer***	\$1,497.19	<i>Promoting Cultural Awareness through Diversified Creative Expression (T)</i>
Amy Benac	\$1,500.00	<i>Sensory Stronghold for Success! (T)</i>
Angie Brownson	\$1,500.00	<i>SEL in the Classroom: Increasing Students' Sense of Safety and Security (T)</i>
Rachel Finerty	\$1,500.00	<i>Accessible Reading (T)</i>
Michele Schneckloth	\$3,000.00	<i>Celebrating Attendance (D/S)</i>
Angela Seys, Amanda Anderson, Amy Knourek	\$3,000.00	<i>Let's Get Our Mind and Classroom Organized! (D/S)</i>
<u>Frances Willard Elementary</u>		
Gabby Pepping	\$1,500.00	<i>Building Problem Solvers through Pockets of Purposeful Play (T)</i>
<u>Horace Mann Early Learning Center</u>		
Sonia Ahumada	\$1,478.72	<i>Gross Motor in a Preschool Room (T)</i>
Patti Brooks	\$1,000.00	<i>Tech Wave of the Future (T)</i>
Monica Burney	\$1,500.00	<i>Building Foundations for the Future (T)</i>
Shannon Griesenbeck	\$1,500.00	<i>Using Technology to Help Build a Smart Future with Kids</i>
Gail Hildreth	\$1,487.15	<i>ECSE Dramatic Play Life Skills</i>
Kara Hurst	\$1,500.00	<i>Early STEM in Preschool (T)</i>
Aubrey Keller	\$1,500.00	<i>Smart Board, Smart Classroom, Smart Kids (T)</i>
Laurie Lyon	\$1,000.00	<i>STEAM (T)</i>
Jennifer Moore	\$1,500.00	<i>Creating an Inclusive Classroom (T)</i>
Monica Painter, Anna Cervantes	\$1,000.00	<i>Building Future through Imagination and STEM (T)</i>
Jennifer Smith	\$1,377.37	<i>Sensory Support around the Room (T)</i>
<u>Longfellow Elementary</u>		
Laura Eriksen	\$1,500.00	<i>Picture This: Lives that Inspire Young Minds (D/S)</i>
Tara Niemeier, Mandi Stout	\$3,000.00	<i>Exploring Our Community (D/S)</i>
<u>Ridgewood Elementary</u>		
Diana Bush	\$3,000.00	<i>Building an Updated Non-Fiction Section (D/S)</i>
Alexis DeWilde, Chantill Colvin	\$3,000.00	<i>Building Book Relationships (D/S)</i>
Joey Dilulio	\$3,500.00	<i>Blue Sky Music Makers (M-S)</i>
Mara Goodvin	\$1,500.00	<i>Music, the Science of Sound (T)</i>
Susan Lyon	\$790.00	<i>Printing a New Tomorrow (T)</i>
<u>Rock Island Academy</u>		
Sydney Erichsen	\$1,368.15	<i>Reading PurpoSELy (T)</i>
Amanda Hauger	\$2,996.94	<i>Moby Max/Headphones (D/S)</i>
Samantha Heath	\$589.95	<i>Listening Ears for Little Leopards (T)</i>
Kim Leyendecker, Betty Hall	\$1,500.00	<i>Tech Listening Report (T)</i>
Heather McCarty	\$3,000.00	<i>H cubed: Hunger and Hygiene with Heather (D/S)</i>
Tara Parr	\$855.00	<i>Organized Headphones for Successful MTSS Time (T)</i>
Ashley Reeves, Lisa Hagen, & Jessica Daves	\$2,953.47	<i>Enhancing the Curriculum One Lesson at a Time (D/S)</i>
Jamie Ruberg	\$850.00	<i>Big Feelings/Calm Minds (T)</i>
Amanda Schauerbroech, Matthew Claude		
Tre'Chondria Lathan	\$2,282.40	<i>2nd Grade Headphone Heroes (D/S)</i>
Tre'Chondria Lathan	\$3,000.00	<i>SEL, Family Yoga, Mindfulness, & Meditation (D/S)</i>
<u>Rock Island Center for Math & Science</u>		
Kristen Adams	\$1,142.84	<i>Promethean Projects & Small Group Resources (Teacher)</i>
Kris Hays	\$945.43	<i>The Promethean Project (Teacher)</i>
Jacqueline Krone Franks	\$945.43	<i>Interactive Learning for Kindergarteners (Teacher)</i>
Shaya Smith	\$1,142.84	<i>Operation Cool Stuff (Teacher)</i>
Susan Thompson	\$1,500.00	<i>Activities Across the Curriculum (Teacher)</i>



2022-2023 PRIME Grant Awards (cont.)

Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Toni Chisolm	\$1,493.80
Giovanna Davila	\$5,000.00
Ryan Early	\$3,000.00
Brynn Pauwels	\$1,474.62
Troy Porter	\$2,000.00
Susan Rasmussen	\$3,000.00
Ian Scott	\$3,000.00
Brianna Skovronski	\$866.00
Linda Tobin	\$1,493.60
Tiffany Versluis, Amy Marshall	\$2,993.82
Tiffany Wickard	\$3,000.00

Edison Junior High School

Lauren Bisgard	\$900.00
Sylvia Cooper	\$1,500.00
Melanie Martinez	\$3,000.00
Cassandra Salas-Mikaio***	\$3,000.00
Amanda Weber	\$2,929.06

Washington Junior High School

Emilie Heald	\$3,000.00
--------------	------------

Rock Island High School

Lori Anderson	\$3,000.00
Caitlin Clough	\$1,500.00
Keith Dunker	\$1,500.00
Tina Eygabroad	\$3,000.00
Christopher Gabany	\$1,492.93
Thad Hoover	\$1,500.00
Meaghan Jackson & Dorian Foster	\$1,300.00
Ben Kirgan	\$1,495.66
Jason Kitterman	\$1,500.00
Christopher LaRoche	\$1,500.00
Kathy Lelonek	\$2,500.00
Patricia Matson	\$3,000.00
Jana Miller-DeDonker	\$1,500.00
Andrea Parer	\$3,000.00
Nicole Regan	\$2,700.00
Shanley Resch	\$800.00
David Schriefer***	\$1,500.00
Maria Schrup Hanrahan	\$3,000.00
Brendan Sears	\$3,000.00
Courtney Stone	\$1,417.00
Venessa Taylor	\$1,500.00
Jennifer Trimble	\$1,123.00
Laurie Vroman	\$1,128.31
Wade Weber	\$1,500.00
Logan Wynn	\$3,000.00
Paula Zigler	\$3,000.00

Thurgood Marshall Learning Center

Nicole Berry	\$3,000.00
--------------	------------

Rock Island-Milan School District

Lance Clark	\$3,000.00
Sarah McCoy, Paulette Ridsen-Rice, & Krystall Trice	\$5,000.00

Building Reading Fluency with Decodable Texts (T)
 New TJ Playground, a Safe Place for Milan Children to Play (M-S)
 Goal! TJ Scores (D/S)
 Collaboration Stations (T)
 Big Math Dreams (D/S)
 School Incentives for Attendance, Academics, and Discipline (D/S)
 Let's Get Physical (D/S)
 Flexible Seating (T)
 Building Reading Fluency with Decodable Texts (T)
 Library Dynamic Shelving Project (D/S)
 Gaga Ball Unites Us All! (D/S)

English Learner Language Development Toolkit (T)
 Project Field Trips and Supplies that Align with SIP (T)
 Community Garden (D/S)
 Soaring Artists (D/S)
 Scientific Measurement (D/S)

Full STEM Ahead! (D/S)

Weather Sense (D/S)
 Full STEM Ahead (T)
 Outfitting Life Science Labs (T)
 Creating Connections, Active Minds, & Life/Social Skills to Transition (D/S)
 Enhancing STEM Learning through Hands-on and Virtual Science Experiences and Simulations (T)
 Softball Fun in the Sun (T)
 Be Comfortable in Your Classroom (T)
 Real Time Weather Forecasting (T)
 A New Perspective (T)
 Get the Ball Rolling (Physics and Coding with Sphero (T)
 Rocky Resource Room (M-S)
 Safety First (D/S)
 We Are Making It Happen (T)
 Intervening with Technology (D/S)
 Supplemental Spanish Materials (D/S)
 Traveling the World Through Literature (T)
 The Spin Doctors (T)
 EL Study Skills Reboot! (D/S)
 Chromebook Charging Stations (D/S)
 Discoveries in Dissection (T)
 Get Fit (M-S)
 Science Salad (T)
 Energy of the Future (T)
 Let's Upgrade (T)
 RIHS PE Golf Academy (D/S)
 Mental-Emotional-Social Wellness Physical Education (D/S)

Calming Room (T)

Celebrate Good Times! (M-S)

Family & Community - Engage, Empower, Enhance (M-S)



** Barbara Fackel PRIME Grant

*** Rock Island Art Guild PRIME Grant Recipient

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, comprised of volunteer professional, business, and community leaders, governs the operations of the foundation.



ROCK ISLAND-MILAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

INNOVATION • OPPORTUNITY • SUPPORT

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- BARB CADY, President
- BRYAN BLEW, Vice-President
- ZACH EDWARDS, Secretary
- SHELLEE SHOWALTER, Treasurer
- STEVE ANDICH
- PRYCE T. BOEYE
- CHRIS ELSBERG
- RACHEL GUSTAFSON
- DOUG HULTQUIST
- ERIC ROWELL
- BOB SWANSON
- LASHANTA WILLIAMS

Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation
@Rock Island High School
1400 – 25th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201
www.rimef.org (309) 581-2154

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
ROCK ISLAND, IL
PERMIT #73

HONORARY BOARD:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| PRYCE BOEYE | CINDY LUKASIK |
| BILL CLEAVER | SUE MCDEVITT |
| REED DOUGHTY | GARY MINER |
| ROSE ANN HASS | JOHN PHILLIPS |
| TED JOHNSON | GARY ROWE |
| RUSS KENNEL | COSETTE SHRADER |
| JODY LEIBY | DAVE VANLANDEGEN |
| JON LOQUIST | DON WENTLER |

Welcome to the District!

New teachers, educators, administration, and staff

are hired by the Rock Island-Milan School District every year. The RIMEF welcomes these new district employees with individual gift bags assembled and delivered by board and committee members at the start of the school year. For the 2023-2024 academic year, nearly 30 “Welcome Bags” were distributed to these very valued educators.

Elementary teachers receive bags with gift cards from *Teachers Aide* to help with out-of-pocket costs of setting up their classrooms. Edison, Washington, and Rocky teachers along with principals/administrators are given bags with gift cards from *Office Depot* for their classrooms or offices. Every bag also contains a welcome letter from the RIMEF, our latest newsletters, and our annual report. To make the welcome complete, each bag includes gift cards from local favorites *Whitey’s Ice Cream* and *Cool Beanz Coffeehouse*.

The bags - made possible through your donations - is greatly appreciated by those newest to our schools. Thank you for making their welcome so warm!

