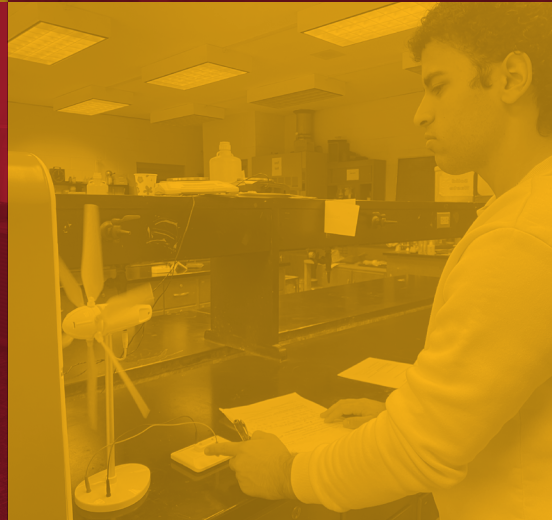




2024 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
OCTOBER 1, 2023 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2024



“Greetings Rock Island Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) Friends and Supporters! For 38 years you have been part of an amazing organization which has been able to distribute millions of dollars to students and educators in our community, and for that you should be quite proud. It gives me much pleasure to share with you all some of the amazing accomplishments that have been made possible this past year by your contributions, and what you can look forward to in the year ahead.

Once again, the school year began in usual fashion with the entire school district’s educators and staff all attending a large group meeting to kick off the year. It is at these annual gatherings that the RIMEF has the opportunity to celebrate the recipients of the PRIME grants. For the 2024-2025 school year, 138 educators and schools received a record \$256,240 to provide innovative programming for their students. These grants directly affect thousands of students across the district and are truly making difference in the health of our community.

RIMEF also awarded 102 scholarships totaling \$177,200 at the 44th annual Austin Academic Achievement Awards and RIMEF Scholarship to the Class of 2024. In addition to the awarding of scholarship, members of the top ten of each class were recognized for their accomplishments.

Be sure to check out the list of all PRIME grant and scholarship recipients listed later in this report.

RIMEF continues to provide assistance throughout the district in programs such as HAVlife and the Schwiebert Extracurricular Fund, which provide financial support for students’ extracurricular activities; INCubator, a component of the business curriculum that fosters business ingenuity and acumen; the district’s EL program through the funding of the Seal of Biliteracy; and Spring Forward, the after school and summer enrichment program.

In looking forward, RIMEF has nearly met the principal requirements in the recently established Endowment Fund. We are looking forward to meeting that threshold so that we can begin awarding grants to projects of special interest throughout the district.

The RIMEF was able to supplement revenue by participating in the John Deere Birdies for Charity program that coincides with the John Deere Classic PGA Tour Tournament, as well as by working with Wastyn and Associates, who have successfully researched and helped apply for, several nationwide grants.

Finally, “Thank You!!” for all your support over the years. I hope that you are able to share the great work that the RIMEF is doing on behalf of the community to your family, friends and neighbors. You truly are helping to enhance academic opportunities for student success!



Bryan Blew, Board President

Executive Director

Monta Ponsetto

Board of Directors

Bryan Blew, President

Zach Edwards, Vice-President

Steve Andich, Secretary

Shellee Showalter, Treasurer

Barb Cady

Chris Elsberg

Ian Frink

Rachel Gustafson

Doug Hultquist

Eric Rowell

Bob Swanson

LaShanta Williams

Honorary Board

Pryce Boeye

Pryce T. Boeye

Bill Cleaver

Reed Doughty

Rose Ann Hass

Ted Johnson

Russ Kennel

Jody Leiby

Jon Loquist

Cindy Lukasik

Sue McDevitt

Gary Miner

John Phillips

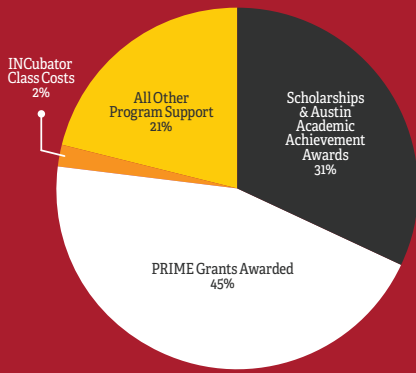
Gary Rowe

Cosette Shrader

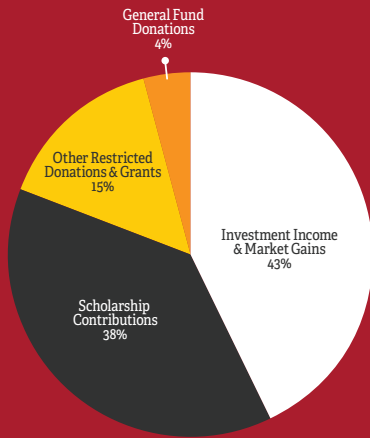
Dave VanLandegen

Don Wentler

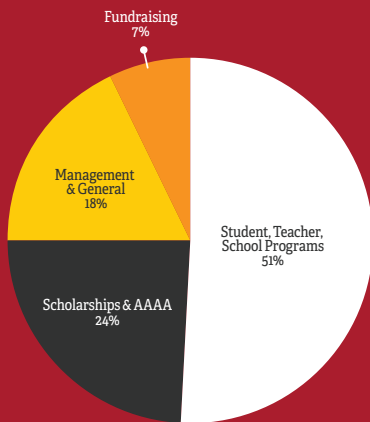




Breakdown of Program Support



Revenue



Expenses

Recorded 10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024

Direction of Support

General Fund: Donations to our General Fund support the work of the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation and help us make an impact throughout the Rock Island-Milan School District. All donations listed within this Annual Report were received from October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024.

RIMEF Endowment Fund: Donations to this fund will ensure the sustainability of the RIMEF and its important mission well into the future. The principal value of this endowment fund is kept intact, while the investment earnings are distributable dollars for district-led initiatives to benefit our students. Keeping the principal intact ensures long-term financial stability and continuous support for the RIMEF. A minimum \$5,000 investment over one to five years will allow a donor to support our mission in perpetuity.

PRIME Grants: PRIME (**P**romoting **R**ock **I**sland **M**ilan **E**ducation) Grants provide opportunities for teachers, departments and schools to explore and purchase innovative programs or materials for their classrooms. PRIME Grants are supported, in part by our Major Saver fundraiser, yearly allocations for giving, and donations given directly to the PRIME Grant Fund. The RIMEF has awarded over \$1.5 million in PRIME Grants to date.

Austin Academic Achievement Awards: For 44 years, the Austin Academic Achievement Awards has celebrated the academic excellence of our Rock Island High School students. At the Austin Academic Achievement Awards and Scholarship Night, “Top Ten” students from each class are recognized and the top 2 seniors in 10 academic areas are rewarded with scholarships. Generous donations from the contributors listed in this report were made for the awards given during our annual event held on May 14, 2025.

Scholarship Contributions: The Education Foundation currently administers 51 named scholarships providing over 80 individual awards ranging from \$500 - \$10,000. From October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024, the individuals listed made donations to establish or sustain the scholarships we award to our deserving Rock Island High School Seniors.

Honorarium/Memorial Contributions: Contributions to the Education Foundation are sometimes given to honor or memorialize a family member, friend, community leader, or alumnus/alumna. These contributions may be directed to a scholarship, a program, or to our general fund. These special gifts are a wonderful way to remember or honor someone in your life while supporting our students and schools.

Accomplishments

Thanks to gifts from our individual donors, businesses, community partners, and alumni locally and throughout the country, the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation gave nearly a half a million to the Rock Island-Milan School District in 2024 for programs, materials, and scholarships. With your gifts, the RIMEF:

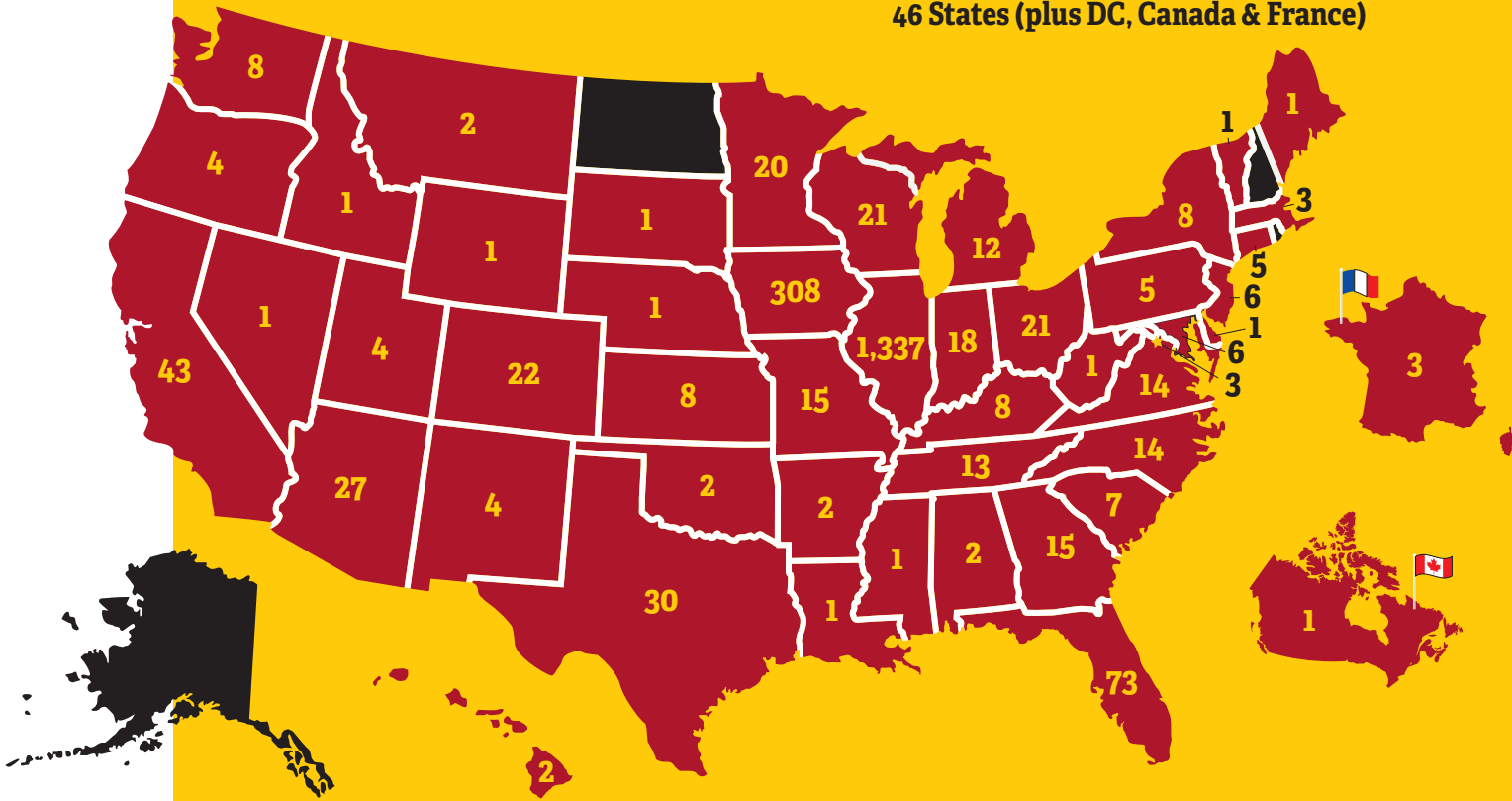
- Awarded **\$177,200** in 102 RIMEF Named & Austin Academic Achievement Award scholarships and recognized 74 “Top Ten” freshmen, sophomores, juniors, & seniors for the Austin Academic Achievement Awards & Scholarships presented May 8, 2024.
- Paid **\$10,000** in program fees for the INCubator.edu class at RIHS and awarded \$7,500 in prize money at the Final Pitch for 3 winning teams.
- Awarded **\$256,240** in PRIME Grants for 122 innovative programs/material to 138 teachers/educators to enhance the educational climate for our students in the 2024-2025 school year.
- Provided over **\$12,000** in HAVlife funds allowing students ages 10-15 to participate in activities which they otherwise could not afford. For students outside of those age parameters, the Schwiebert Extracurricular fund gave additional **\$1,000+** in financial assistance for Rock Island-Milan based activities.
- Welcomed 34 new teachers, principals, counselors, and staff with gift bags filled with gift cards and supplies to help establish classrooms/offices. These “welcome bags” also contained the information new educators need to take advantage of our programs and gift cards from local favorite venues.
- Funded the EL Department’s “Seal of Biliteracy” program with a **\$25,000** gift from Jerry & Sue Horton
- Rewarded 20 teachers for their creativity with **\$4,000** in funding from the Reynolds Family Foundation “Bright Ideas Awards”
- Provided over **\$50,000** in additional classroom/school assistance.

NATIONWIDE SUPPORT!

Donors by State

Total 2,103 – \$5,949,360.90 (as of 9/30/24)

46 States (plus DC, Canada & France)

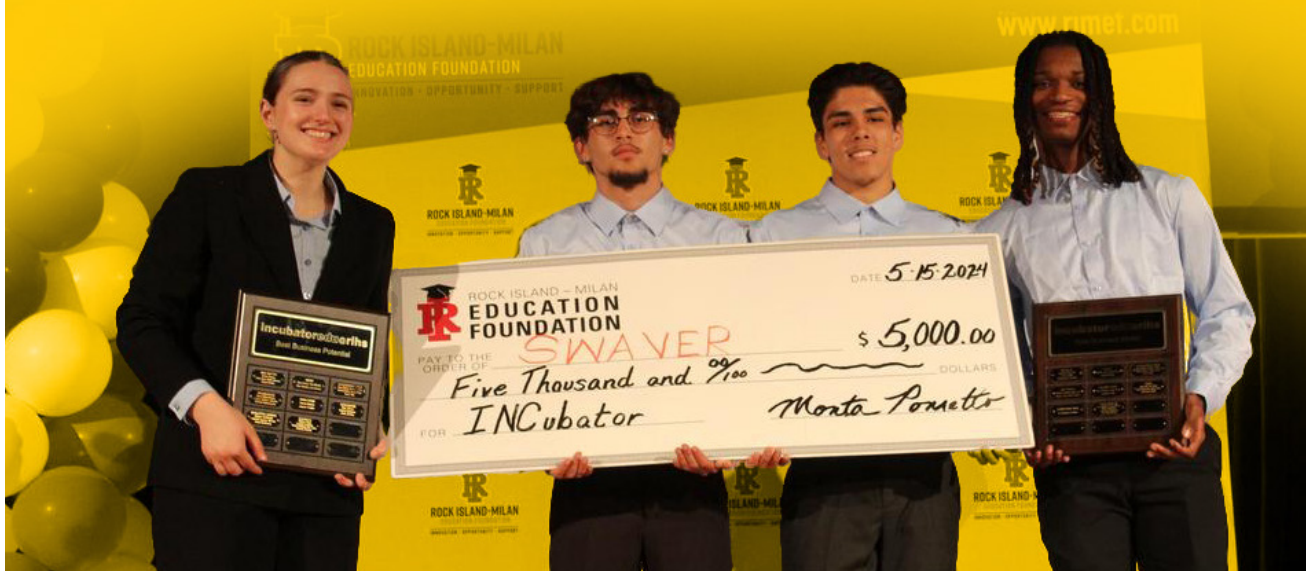


Donors from throughout the U.S. give to the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) to support the Rock Island-Milan School District and our students, teachers, and schools. The extraordinary generosity of these donors gives us the ability to enhance classrooms, provide programs and materials to teachers/classrooms, and award scholarships to help students further their education.

An astounding number of current/former Rock Island-Milan residents, alumni, individuals, families, and businesses/corporations donate to the RIMEF. Coast to coast these donors have made their commitment to support our mission and make a difference for the students of the Rock Island-Milan School District. Please join them with your support!

If you live in, Alaska, New Hampshire, North Dakota or Rhode Island,

Donate now to turn your state RED and make a difference for the students of the RIMSD!



GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

DONATIONS RECEIVED OCTOBER 1, 2023 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Director IV (\$25,000+)

John Hass

Director III (\$10,000-\$24,999)

HAVlife*

John Deere Foundation*
Major Saver
Janet & Norm Moline
Harlan Wiss Estate

Director II (\$5000-\$9,999)

Linda & Ken Cutler
Fortress Bank*
Sedgwick Family/Pamela
Lessner
Sheila Murphy Foundation*
Betsy & Mark Thies*
Alfaretta Young Estate

Director I (\$1000-\$4999)

Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund
Marji & Pryce T. Boeye
Barb & Brian Cady
Dollar General Literacy
Foundation*
Steve Katz
Gwen & Gary Kennelly
Judy & Larry Linder
Dave Markward
Sue & Mike Oberhaus
Megan & Andrew Rockwell
Debbie & Mark Schwiebert*
Patty & Craig Tillman
Jonathan Vandygriff

Superintendent (\$500-\$999)

Birdies for Charity
Michele & Bryan Blew
Chris & Vic Boblett
Ellen Boeye
Debbie Bradbard & Herb
Carmen, USN
Dorothy Beck & Phil Dennis
John Downing
Chris Elsberg – State Farm
Insurance
Nancy & Doug Hultquist
Ken Jacoby - QCSportsNET
Cindy & Fred Lukasik
Margaret Sheeran & Tom
Manteuffel
Mark Mathews
Melinda & Gregory Pupillo
Mary Anne & Darrell Reynolds
Martin Rich
Heather Schladt

Vanguard Charitable
Endowment
Christal Zaleski

Principal (\$250-\$499)

Marla & Steve Andich
Ann Austin
Sheila & Steve Barid
Maureen Brandle
Nancy Califf
Nancy Coin
Leslie & Jim Cox
Kelly Fackel
Monique & Ian Frink
Connie & Kelly Gersick
Sheila & Paul Guse
Nancy & Bill Hass
Rose Ann & Jim Hass
Hodge Family Foundation
Joannides Family Foundation
Nancy & Steve Johnson
Kimberly & Mark Mayeski
Linda & Art Milton
Helen & Gary Miner
Karen & John Phillips
Ellen & Roger Pohlman
Penny & Robert Ramsey
Dennis Sears
Maynard Siegel
Debbi & Bob Swanson
Molly Teigland
David Thonn
Sandy & Don Wentler

Valedictorian (\$100-\$249)

Jane Ander
Karen & Darryl Anderson
Karlee Buhman Babcock
Mary & Robert Bacon
Nancy & Chuck Barbaro
Laura & Louis Belby
Jerry Boxman
Brenda & Alan Carmen
Sara & Michael Criswell
Roxie & Paul Delcourt
Lori Lefstein & Michael
Diamond
Martha & Jeff Dismer
Patricia & Lowell Dorman
Theresa Engholm
Sue & Al Fensterbusch
Richard Gaylord
Cindy & Larry Graves
Charlotte Halverson
Carla & Myron Hazen
Donna & Kenneth Hill
Lorey Moore Hillyer
Bob Humphrey
Julie & Doug Humphrey

Linda & John Jacobs
Carol & Ted Johnson
Kathy & Mark Kilmer
D'Ann & Bob Lagerblade
Langman Construction
Eileen & Joseph LeCluyse
Mary Ann Linden
Susan & Wes Llewellyn
Alexander Maidak
Marlene & Al Marble
Ted Maxeiner
Sue & Paul McDevitt
Jane McGinnis
Karen & Tim McMillan
Mary & Mike Mendelin
Karen & Ken Meyer
Mike Wenniger & Steve Magly
Carole & Bob Monke
Sandra & Lawrence Mortier
Karen & Jerry Murphy
Karen & Pete Nyman
Jeanne & David O'Melia
April Palmer
Barbara & Robert Park
Shirley Perkins
Monta & Mike Ponsetto
Rafferty Funeral Home
Bozeman, Neighbour, Patton,
& Noe
Jean & Tom Roche
Sarah & Jason Roessler
Teresa & Douglas Schwertley
Nancy & Michael Sims
Gary Snyder
Sue & James Spurgetis
Marianne & Ron Stablein
Bill Stengel
Jane & Dave Strickler
Jenni & Kai Swanson
Carol & Tommy Thompson
Marie & Richard Timmer
Alice & Kevin Traylor
Jan & Jerry Tutskey
Kym & Jeff Vandygriff
Char & Pat Verschoore
Sue & Galen Westerfield
Marcia & John Wetzel
Karen & Randall Witter
Don Wooten
Karen Ylinen

Dean's List (\$50-\$99)

Pryce Boeye
Robert Eckhart
Dan Fay
Glenna & Randy Friel
Susan & Robert Gallagher
Dennis Gerber
Chloe Andich Goldsmith
Marvel Green
Annette & Timothy Howard

Quad City Bank & Trust
Linda & Russ Kennel
Mary & Tim Knanishu
Jane & Kevin Koski
John H. Meade
Terry Ousley
Cynthia & John Robertson
Kathy & Chad Ruggenberg
Marge Early Scharer
Donald Siegel
Carolyn Eagle & Rick Simmon
Sandy & Dennis Spurgetis
Margaret Tweet
Beverly & Doug Walker
Lois Wehner
Christy & Thom Wignall
Dennis Zavett

Honor Roll (up to \$50)

Virginia Arnold
Bonnie Ballard
Nick Brandle
Margaret Canning
Jeff Condit
Daryl Empen
Rita Greathouse
Kathy & Don Healy
Nancy & Michael Hines
Jill Hoff
Diane & John Kinser
Alice & Randy Jacobs
Rita & Bill Martin
Linda & Mark Matheis
Roxanne & Frank Nowinski
Shari Nussbaum
Virginia Plutz
Ginny & Dave Samuelson
Michael Scarlett
Mary Ann & Randy Slusser
David Soboroff
Nancy Strohl
Cindy & David VanLandegen
Judy & Larry Weindruch
Joyce & Preston Zawada

*special programming



PRIME GRANT DONATIONS

DONATIONS RECEIVED OCTOBER 1, 2023 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2024



PROMOTING
ROCK ISLAND
MILAN EDUCATION

Director II (\$5,000 – \$9,999)
Rock Island Art Guild

Director I (\$1,000 – \$4,999)
Doris & Victor Day Foundation
John Hass
Rauch Family I Foundation

Superintendent's Circle (\$500 – \$999)

Barb & Brian Cady
John Downing
Edwards Creative
Janet & Norm Moline
Sue & Mike Oberhaus
Melinda & Gregory Pupillo
Vicki Wetzell

Principal (\$250 – \$499)
Geraldyn & John McEvoy
Teresa Rockwell

Valedictorian (\$100 – \$249)
Mary Brooks
Mary Chappell
Lori Lefstein & Mike Diamond
Patricia & Lowell Dorman
Christine Elsberg – State Farm Insurance
Monique & Ian Frink
Mike Halpin
Charlotte Halverson
Rose Ann & Jim Hass
Nancy Hass
Lorey Moore Hillyer
Bob Humphrey
Lana & Steven Johannes
Carol & Ted Johnson
Linda & Russ Kennel
Sandy & Don Madelung
Patricia Lekos Martel

Janet Masamoto
Sue & Paul McDevitt
Mary & Robert Milas
Janet Pauley
Kathy & Chad Ruggeberg
Suzanne Walker
Sue & Bob Walsh

Dean's List (\$50 – \$99)

Alan Andich
Bruce Andich
Marla & Steve Andich
Martha & Jeff Dismar
Mary & Jeff Newcomb
Georgia & Bob Steeber
Carol Olsen Warriner
Lois Wehner

Honor Roll (up to \$50)
Joyce & Preston Zawada
Ann Balderson
Lynne & Lawrence
Brandenburg
Margaret Canning
Daryl Empen
Nancy Hinze
Rhoda & Robert Humphrey
Julie & Doug Humphrey
Sandra & Roger Kramer
April Palmer
Lori & William Prebill
Andrea & Jim Walsh
Joyce & Preston Zawada

PRIME Grants Awarded in 2023 – 2024

\$256,240.37

122 Grants | 138 Educators

Denkmann Elementary

Jeff Martin - \$950.00 - Music from the Ground Up

Angie Paprocki - \$1,500.00 - Don't Wait Another Chapter... Books are Magical!

Janine Olsen & Bridget Taheny - \$3,000.00 - Girls on the Run

Jennifer Sholl - \$3,000.00 - Lego Club-Building Kids Up One Step at a Time

Jessica Stockwell - \$3,000.00 - Time to Recharge

Earl Hanson Elementary

Kimberly Dillender - \$1,200.00 - Differentiation and Enrichment for Gifted Students

Amanda Hollingsworth - \$1,500.00 - Tell Me a Story

Brandy Junis - \$1,000.00 - Meeting the Sensory Needs for Diverse Learners

Danielle Neneman - \$1,500.00 - Classroom Furniture for Success

Beth Raygor - \$1,500.00 - The Sounds of the Classroom

Renee M Williams - \$1,499.89 - Calming Spaces for Reading, Mindfulness and Yoga

Melissa Barton - \$1,800.00 - All About Our Towns

Alleena Blackwell - \$1,350.00 - Developing Financial Literacy in the Upper Elementary Grades

Henry Hall - \$3,000.00 - Empowering and Engaging Students with the Vocabulary & Nearpod

Beth Raygor, Shelby - \$3,000.00 - Attendance Can Be the Key

Haars, Brandy Junis, Candace Vroman-Lopez, Ryan Scannell - \$2,999.00 - Putting Around/Golf

Amy Verstraete - \$3,000.00 - Bringing Knowledge to Life

Michael Rockstroh - \$5,000.00 - Tuning in with Tubanos

Eugene Field Elementary

Tyler Allison - \$1,500.00 - Under the Lens

Cindy Arkebauer - \$1,497.86 - Enhancing Curriculum, STEM, and Cultural Experiences through Magna Tiles and Legos

Angie Brownson - \$1,371.93 - SELF Expression

Cynthia Castro - \$1,136.54 - Chromebook Cubbies and Calming Classroom Vibes

** Barbara Fackel PRIME Grant Recipient

*** Rock Island Art Guild PRIME Grant Recipient

Jessica Daves - \$1,499.67 - Empowering Students Success Through Dramatic Play and Sensory Centers

Michelle Schneckloth - \$1,500.00 - Embracing Inclusion

Grace Shepherd - \$1,500.00 - STEAM Steps

Abigail Yodts - \$1,484.64 - STEM Extensions Extraordinaire

Angela Seys - \$2,425.05 - Reading with the Sciences

Frances Willard Elementary

Brooke Greenwood - \$1,500.00 - Literary Oasis

Brynn Pauwels - \$1,500.00 - The Incredible Intervention Initiative

Amy Self - \$1,500.00 - Sensory-Friendly Classroom Environment

Carissa Boyd, Kelly Beale, Elisha Harksen - \$3,000.00 - Taking Care of Our Pack

Horace Mann Early Learning Center

Patti Brooks - \$1,500.00 - Building STEM in a World of Preschool

Emma Dayhoff - \$1,500.00 - ECSE Playground Improvement Project

Elizabeth De Lille - \$1,500.00 - Preschoolers STEAMing into the Future

Josie French - \$1,500.00 - Sensory Integration

Kathleen Hernandez - \$500.00 - Look Who's Talking

Aubrey Keller - \$1,500.00 - Take a Look at Our Classroom

Amanda Mays - \$1,500.00 - Welcoming Inclusion and Diversity

Michele McDonald - \$1,500.00 - Wow, that's cool! Science in Preschool

Jeanne Mueller - \$1,500.00 - Stream - building and shaping young minds of the future

Monica Painter - \$1,500.00 - Fine Motor and Sensory through Instruction

Jennifer Robinson - \$1,500.00 - Getting Down with Science

Jennifer Smith - \$1,500.00 - Circle Time Success

Linnea Sparacello - \$1,500.00 - Creating a Multicultural Preschool Classroom

Jill Loter - \$3,000.00 - ECSE Playground

2023 – 2024 PRIME Grants Awards

*** Barbara Fackel PRIME Grant Recipient*
**** Rock Island Art Guild PRIME Grant Recipient*

Longfellow Elementary

Steven Inman - **\$550.00 - Sensory Haven: Enriching Learning through Multi-Sensory Experiences**

Eliana Aguilar - **\$3,000.00 - Uke Can Do It**

Steven Inman - **\$1,700.00 - Kids, You're Golden**

Tara Niemeier & Mandi Stout - **\$3,000.00 - The Ultimate Kindergarten Experience**

Kiley VanOpdorp - **\$1,743.00 - RECYLCE THAT TRASH!**

Ridgewood Elementary

Toni Moore - **\$3,000.00 - SPIKE Problem Solving**

Mara Goodvin - **\$5,000.00 - Put a Little Calypso in Your Life**

Gina Lawrence - **\$5,000.00 - The Very Kinesthetic Primary Student**

Principal - **\$5,000.00 - Legacy of Sound**

Rock Island Academy

Samantha Heath - **\$400.00 - Craftivities for Little Leopards**

Ashley Reeves - **\$1,493.28 - Empowering Kindergarten Success**

Jamie Ruberg - **\$1,199.16 - Diverse Tools for Diverse Learners**

Kelly Vroman - **\$514.56 - One Stop Shop: Pathways to Executive Functioning**

Lisa Williams - **\$1,500.00 - Read to Love, Love to Read.**

Vickie Duiling - **\$2,500.00 - Building Future Leaders**

Amanda Hauger - **\$2,077.00 - Magnificent Moby Max**

Becky Lapp - **\$3,000.00 - MTSS Assistive Technology Lending Library**

Heather McCarty - **\$3,000.00 - Hygiene Heroes**

Deborah Noble - **\$1,100.00 - Book Nook for Parents**

Jamie Parkins, Amanda Schauerbroeck - **\$1,611.23 - Second Grade Scientists**

Lathan Tre'Chiondria James Slankark - **\$3,000.00 - PBIS Leopards Roar**

Amy Zero - **\$3,000.00 - Toys as Tools: Behavior Intervention**

Rock Island Center for Math & Science

Deidre Dunbar - **\$1,166.20 - Sensory Smart Reading Support**

Chad Wickard - **\$1,500.00 - Engaged and Excited II**

Sarah Andrus - **\$2,513.67 - ELA Math Interventions**

Krista Lonian - **\$3,000.00 - Flexing Our Fluency Skills with Reflex Math**

Kelly Tyler - **\$2,922.06 - Meaningful Intervention**

Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Mika Atkins-Jacobs - **\$624.00 - Moby Max**

April DeGroot - **\$500.00 - No More Wire Headphones**

Carrie Henderson - **\$1,500.00 - Wonderbooks**

Emily Petrov - **\$1,500.00 - LEAP with Ballet Quad Cities**

Susie Pittard - **\$1,500.00 - More STEM in the Classroom**

Attendance Committee - **\$1,500.00 - Awesome Attendance Celebrations**

Giovanna Davila - **\$3,000.00 - Fine Arts Day**

Troy Porter - **\$3,000.00 - Fantastic Freckie**

Edison Junior High School

Kristi Geisler - **\$1,000.00 - PCS**

Tara Gonzalez - **\$1,500.00 - Writing for SEL**

Melanie Martinez - **\$1,500.00 - So Fresh and So Clean**

Tara Gonzalez - **\$3,000.00 - Raised Garden Project**

Cassandra Salas-Mikaio*** - **\$3,000.00 - Soaring Artists**

Washington Junior High School

Maggie Benevides - **\$1,500.00 - Washington Resource Room**

Kimberly Laingen - **\$1,500.00 - Job Skills for a Functional Classroom**

Jazmin Taylor - **\$1,500.00 - Financial Literacy and Empowered Community with Classroom Economy**

Emilie Heald*** - **\$3,000.00 - Form and Function**

Elizabeth Moyer - **\$1,600.00 - Warrior Wellness Clinic**

Rock Island High School

Lori Anderson - **\$1,481.00 - Body Sensing**

Caitlin Clough - **\$1,500.00 - Empowered Learning**

Yolanda Grandberry-Pugh - **\$450.00 - Building My Own Family Tree**

William Gustafson*** - **\$1,200.00 - Digital Drawing Screens Addition**

Ben Kirgan - **\$1,491.69 - Better Measurement in Science**

Jason Kitterman - **\$1,462.00 - Leg Up on Education**

Christopher LaRoche - **\$1,429.00 - There is More to Science than just Beer's Law: Getting Absorbed in Spectrophotometry**

Aaron McKay - **\$1,500.00 - Headphones for Computer Lab**

Meghan Miers - **\$209.99 - Reading Nook**

Janna Miller-DeDecker - **\$1,500.00 - Learn to Earn**

Demetryone Singleton - **\$1,500.00 - ED/BD Classroom**

Courtney Stone - **\$1,239.94 - Explorations in Dissections**

Sarah Vens - **\$500.00 - Creating a Rocky Newsroom**

Jacob Vroman - **\$1,500.00 - Studies in Comparative Analysis**

Laurie Vroman - **\$1,400.00 - Sensational Science: Using Sensors to Collect Data**

Wade Weber - **\$1,500.00 - Tool Time**

Kyle Hoffman - **\$3,000.00 - Weights for Fitness Center/PE**

Jason Kitterman - **\$3,000.00 - Printing in a Third Dimension**

Christopher LaRoche - **\$2,793.00 - In Your Face, Interface!**

Stacey Morrell - **\$300.00 - Mindful Moments**

Steve Rogers - **\$3,000.00 - Graphing Calculators for Classrooms**

Wade Weber - **\$3,000.00 - Safety, Safety, Safety**

Logan Wynn - **\$3,000.00 - Cardio Equipment**

Stephanie Dieudonne - **\$5,000.00 - Let's Work Together**

Mike Emendorfer - **\$5,000.00 - Fitness Center/Improving Equipment for Junior High & High School Students**

Cameron Kotovsky - **\$5,000.00 - Harmony in Organization: Orchestrating Efficiency in Music Filing**

Kathy Lelonek - **\$3,500.00 - Rocky Resource Room**

Mary Mendelin - **\$5,000.00 - Tiffany D. Jackson Author Visit**

Thurgood Marshall Learning Center

Amanda Crecelius, Brittany Coopman, Darla Jones, O'Nita Watkins-Harris, Katie Reyhons - **\$2,200.00 - TMLC Sensory Room**

Rock Island-Milan School District

Chris Beierlein, Bettina McWilliams, Dionne Lohman, Tami Kelley - **\$5,000.00 - Small Shifts to Bring Big "Gifts" for Students**

Christie Blodig - **\$5,000.00 - Spot Vision Screener**

Paulette Risdén-Rice - **\$4,156.00 - Drink More Water**

AAAAA CONTRIBUTORS

DONATIONS RECEIVED MAY 10, 2023 – MAY 9, 2024



AUSTIN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS ROCK ISLAND-MILAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Thank You to Our Individual Contributors

\$1,000+

Ann Austin
Nancy & Nick Coin
Karen & Jim Collins
Karen Haberthur
Leonard Sherry &
Jim Park
Rock Island/Milan
Booster Club

\$500 – \$999

Nanette Albracht
Beverly & Duane Bonsall
Dorothy Beck & Phil
Dennis Monique & Ian
Frink Joannides Family
Foundation Nancy &
Doug Hultquist Becca &
Jared Kitterman Cindy &
Fred Lukasik
Sue & Paul McDevitt
Linda & Art Milton
Janet & Norm Moline
Sue & Mike Oberhaus
Mary Osborn
Linda & Gary Rowe
Sara & Mike Thoms
Patty & Craig Tillman
Linda Tobin
Jean Kuehl Tuech
Linda Wheelan-Almquist

\$250 – \$499

Cheryl Faidley & Dee
Ahuja
Marla & Steve Andich
Bob Barton
Chris & Vic Boblett
Barb & Brian Cady
Nancy Coin
Karen & John Frieden

Sheila & Paul Guse
Julie & Paul Hansen
Rose Ann & Jim Hass
Linda & Russ Kennel
Geraldyn & John McEvoy
Kim & Rick Miers
Roxanne & Frank
Nowinski Ginny & Ed
Payton
Karen & John Phillips
Monta & Mike Sonsetto
Sandy & Dennis
Spurgetis
Thomas Schwegler
Molly Tieglund
Colette & John Westensee

\$100 – \$249

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Departmental Awards

First Place – \$2,000, Second Place – \$1,500

Business

1st – Alivia Stanley
2nd – Madjid Gunashev

Career & Technical

1st – Isaiah Samuelson
2nd – Amalia Serrano

EL – English Learners

1st – Mayani Wilondja
2nd – Ali Jasim

English

1st – Asa Mahn
2nd – Presley Behrens

Fine Arts – Performing

1st – Harrison Braddy
2nd – Kal Boswell

Fine Arts – Visual

1st – Madelyn Kress
2nd – Gracie Schepher

Math

1st – Jackson Bennett
2nd – Eva Essman

Science

1st – Dah Gay Htoo
2nd – Asia Stern

Social Studies

1st – Jett Brandt
2nd – Ta Ear Paw Moo

World Languages

1st – Chloe Turner
2nd – Maryam Alhamdan

RIMEF ENDOWMENT FUND

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation was established to support the financial needs of the Rock Island-Milan School District, providing funds for projects, materials, and programs that would otherwise go unfunded by traditional resources. The establishment of the **RIMEF Endowment Fund** ensures that the RIMEF will continue to assist with the financial needs of the district, strengthen our schools, and build successful futures for our students for years to come.

- The fund will support district-led initiatives & programs
- The fund will utilize only the interest/earnings earned.
- 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 Fund** is a permanently restricted fund.

Your gift to the **RIMEF Endowment Fund** is an investment in our children's education creating a legacy that will impact many future generations of RIMSD students.

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

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

HONORARIUM / MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations received October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

Patrick Brandle

**memorial to the Class of 1961 Scholarship*
Judy Walters

Dr. Bryan Blew

Maynard Segel

Dr. Robert Brooks

**memorial to PRIME Grants*
Mary Brooks

Brenda Carmen

Herb Carmen, USN

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Barb & Brian Cady

Stanley Coin

Ann Austin (Coin Scholarship)
Pryce Boeye
Nancy & Bill Hass
Linda & Russ Kennel
Cindy & Fred Lukasik

Laura Denoma

**memorial to Class of 1961 Scholarship*
Lorey Moore Hillyer

Marilou Dyson

Lois Wehner

Troy H. Ellis

**memorials to Troy H. Ellis Memorial Scholarship*
Ann Austin
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**memorial to Barbara Fackel AVID Scholarship*
Kelly Fackel

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**memorials to General Fund*

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Nancy Hinze

Sandy & Don Madelung

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Shari Nussbaum

Judi & John Harland

**honorary gifts to Class of 1963 Scholarship*
Jacqui & Mark
Robertson – 2 gifts

Hunt Harris

Rose Ann & Jim Hass

Ruth Hart

**to Austin Academic Achievement Awards*
Nancy Strohl

Rhoda Humphrey

Chris & Vic Boblett
Bob Humphrey
Alice & Randy Jacobs
Cindy & Fred Lukasik
Carol & Tommy
Thompson

Ken Jaeke

Cindy & Fred Lukasik

Clara Ann Jenkins

Cindy & Fred Lukasik

Sharon Ann Murphy King

**memorial to Class of 1961 Scholarship*
Linda & James Denoma

John Lundahl

**memorial to Class of 1965 Scholarship*
Diane Duytschaever &
John Slover

John Maurus

Cindy & Fred Lukasik

Curtis Jon Panther

Helen & Gary Miner

Linda Riddell

**to Austin Academic Achievement Awards*
Ron Schmits

Barbara & Jon

Sedgwick
Sedgwick Family

Gary Segal

**memorials to Class of 1961 Scholarship*
Ann Austin
Karen & Ken Meyer
Diane Duytschaever &
John Slover

Kenneth Tollenaar

Karen & Ken Meyer

Colette Westensee

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ROCK ISLAND-MILAN
EDUCATION FOUNDATION
INNOVATION • OPPORTUNITY • SUPPORT

Nell Althoff Family Memorial Scholarship
\$10,000: Kenneth Love Family
Charles O. Austin Leadership Scholarship
\$250: Julie and Paul Hansen
Carole S. Barkan Memorial Scholarship
\$1,000: Rachel & Steve Barkan
RIHS Class of 1961 Scholarship
*Memorial donations as listed
\$1,000+:
Clara & Ray Bulens
Wendell Swan
\$500-\$999:
Maryann Ruud Lezotte
\$100-\$499:
Ann Austin
Linda & James Denoma
Linda & Tom Dickman
Lorey Moore Hillyer
Madelyn Nelson
David Peterson
Diane Duytschaever & John Slover
Lisa & Tom Thomas
Judy Waters
\$50-\$99:
Dan Fay
Sandra & Roger Kramer
Karen & Ken Meyer
RIHS Class of 1963 "First in the Family" Scholarship
\$2,000 and up:
Diane Duytschaever & John Slover
\$1,000-\$1,999:
Vicki Birdsell-Baker
Gwen & Gary Kennelly
Elizabeth Eagle & James Teros
\$500-\$999:
Robyn & Alan Jensen

Judi & John Harland
Karen Habberthur Leonard
\$100-\$499:
Rita & John Amundsen
Judith Cohen
Jack Fields
Dianna Gilhooly
Michael Herman
Lorey Hillyer
Judy & Larry Linder
Ted Maxeiner
Penny & Robert Ramsey
Jacqui & Mark Robertson
Alexandra Choroshenko
Sandway-Gutekunst
Karen Shifo
Barbara & Tom Spike
James Thompson
Kenneth Versman
Susanne Walker
Up to \$100:
Bruce Andich
Susan Sikkema
Nadyne Stockhecke
Jeff Woods
RIHS Class of 1965 Scholarship
\$1,000:
Debbie & Greg Bonnett
\$100-\$499:
Bob Nederbrock
Diane Duytschaever & John Slover
Stanley H. Coin Business Scholarship
\$50: Ann Austin
Donald E. Devinney Business & Business Education Scholarship
\$20,000: Karen & Donald Devinney
Troy H. Ellis Scholarship
*Memorial donations as listed

Barbara Fackel AVID Scholarship
\$2000: Kelly Fackel
Ray and Elva Habberthur Memorial Scholarship
\$20,000+: Karen Leonard
Hass Family Scholarship
\$100-\$499:
Katherine & Mike Boehm
Pam Siegert
Heart of a Rock Scholarship
\$1,000+:
Paris Roberts
\$100-\$499:
Jerraco Johnson
Cindy & Fred Lukasik
Megan Peterson
\$50-\$99:
Bonnie & Steve Lawhorn
"Failure is Not an Option" — the Candice Hinze Williams Drama Scholarship
\$100: Karen Erickson
Jerry and Sue (Farrow) Horton Scholarship
\$25,000: Jerry and Sue Horton
Derek James Jackson Scholarship
Up to \$50: Carol & Bill Greathouse
Donavin J. Keim Scholarship
\$1,000: Roberta Milas & Mitchell Lopez
Herb Niemann Scholarship
\$1,000-\$2,000:
Kay Niemann
Toni & Ted Niemann
Up to \$100:
Lynn & James Cimfel
R. Dale Owen "Be the Light" Memorial Scholarship
\$2,485: Ascentra Credit Union Foundation

Charlie White/Richard Klatt Purple Tuna Creativity Scholarship
\$100: Linda & Russ Kennel
Miles W. Rich Family Scholarship
\$10,000+: Miles Rich
\$8,500: Norman & Sandra Rich Family Charitable Foundation
Jayovontae "Jaree" Roberts Scholarship
\$500: Iesha Jones
Up to \$100: Jerraco Johnson
Rock Island Township Scholarship
\$5,000: Rock Island Township
Rock Island Rotary Scholarship
\$5,000: Rock Island Rotary
Chet and Louise Schultz Scholarship
\$500:
Shockley Foundation
\$100-\$499:
Everett McDowell
Wayne Rose
Steven & Mabel M. Velge Track & Cross-Country Scholarship
\$375,000: Mabel M. Velge Estate
Elizabeth Kennel Williams Scholarship
\$100-\$499:
Jack Barrows
Cindy & Fred Lukasik
Rosemary Woodward Scholarship
\$7,500: Rock Island Community Foundation
DW Young Memorial Scholarship
\$4,000: Young Fund – Quad Cities Community Foundation
An additional \$6,038 was raised for various scholarships through Birdies for Charity!

RIMEF Scholarship Recipients

Nell Althoff Family Memorial Scholarship - \$2,500 each
In memory of long-time 1st grade Audubon teacher Nell Althoff
Recipients: Ali Aljanabi, Zafirah Hassan, Ella Mlekush, Ka Yot Paw

Charles O. Austin Leadership Scholarship - \$2,000
Honoring Charles O. Austin, Jr. and Charles O. Austin, III
Recipient: Asa Mahn

Bally's Quad Cities Scholarship
For students demonstrating academic and social achievement
Recipient, \$3,000 award:
Eva Essman
Recipient, \$2,000 award:
Presley Behrens
Recipient, \$1,000 award:
Luke Gustafson

Carole S. Barkan Scholarship - \$1,000
In memory of Carole's life devoted to advocating for students
Recipient: Carly LeMaster

Boeye Family Scholarship - \$1,000
Established by the family to recognize involvement in extra-curriculars and the community
Recipient: Ali Aljanabi

Grant W. and Virginia M. Brissman Scholarship - \$4,000
Established by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation to honor the Brissmans
Recipient: Egan Westmorland

Class of 1961 Scholarship - \$1,200 each
Established and funded by the Class of 1961
Recipients: Daianna Biswell, Joshua Galeana, Manuel Marceleno, Leticia McCray-Brown, Gianna Mills, Eh Kler Moo, Cecilia Padilla, Ka Yot Paw, Leticia Ramirez, Cheyenne Rodriguez, Khadija Sakho, Daryn Tiedt, Skyler White, Cody Wolf



Class of 1963 "First in the Family Scholarship" - \$1,000 each - Established and funded by the Class of 1963
Recipients: Ella Mlekush, La Set Kpru Moo, Man Nuam

Class of 1965 Scholarship - \$500
Established and funded by the Class of 1965
Recipient: Dezmund Jackson

Stanley H. Coin Business Scholarship - \$1,000 - Established by American Bank & Trust to honor Stanley H. Coin
Recipient: Leticia Ramirez

Donald E. Devinney Business and Business Education Scholarship - \$8,000
Established by former RIHS business teacher Mr. Don Devinney
Recipient: Manuel Marceleno

Troy H. Ellis Scholarship - \$1,500
In memory of 1987 Rocky graduate Troy Ellis. Troy lettered all 4 years playing on the RIHS Golf Team – for a student who has played at least 2 years on the golf team and recognizes how the sport changed their life
Recipient: Daryn Untiedt

Barbara Fackel AVID Scholarship - \$1,000 - In memory of Barbara Fackel and her commitment to education - for a student completing 4 years of the AVID program
Recipient: Fidelia Awoudi

Ben D. and Nancy K. Brown Farrar Scholarship - \$2,000
Established by former RIMSD teacher Nancy K. Brown Farrar
Recipient: Jackson Bennett

Jim and Doug Franz Memorial Scholarship: \$1,500 - Established in memory of the former Rocky Grads
Recipient: Chloe Turner

Rick Gilliland Scholarship - \$500
In memory of teacher Rick Gilliland – for a student attending Black Hawk College
Recipient: Mpawenimama Bella

Ray and Elva Haberthur Memorial Scholarship - \$2,000
Established to honor the long-time Rock Island contributors
Recipient: Cecilia Padilla

Hass Family Scholarship - \$1,000
Established by the family in honor of Mary and Art Hass
Recipient: John Wilde

Heart of a "Rock" - \$1,000
Established by 2010 alum Megan Wilson and Triona Roberts - for students who have a family member struggling with a major illness
Recipient: Ntiruvakure Dinye

Amy Helpenstell Liberal Arts Scholarship - \$1,000 Honoring Rocky and Augustana College graduate, Amy Helpenstell
Recipient: Lah Sher Paw

"Failure is Not an Option" the Candice Hinze Williams Scholarship - \$1,000
Established in honor of Candice Hinze Williams (Rocky Class of 1986) - for students interested in pursuing drama at a college/university.
Recipient: Kal Boswell

Jerry and Sue (Farrow) Horton Scholarship - \$4,000 Established by the Hortons to encourage work in trades or nursing
Recipient: Andrew Kerno

Derek James Jackson Art Scholarship - \$500 - Established for a student who has participated in the Rocky art curriculum
Recipient: Avery Flactiff

Timothy Joannides Family Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000
Timothy Joannides and his family established this scholarship for students having participated in band or orchestra while attending Rocky
Recipient: Khadija Sakho

Tyler John Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000 - In memory of Tyler for a student in band and/or orchestra
Recipient: Emily Hummel

Judith A. Katz Scholarship - \$4,000
Established in memory of Judith for a student exhibiting outstanding academic achievement
Recipient: Kal Boswell

Donavin J. Keim Scholarship - \$500 each
Funded by the family in memory of the former student athlete. One scholarship is awarded to a football player and one to a student wrestler
Recipient - Football: Avery Flactiff
Recipient - Wrestler: Jesse Thomas

Knights of Pythias Scholarship - \$1,000
The Knights of Pythias Scholarship was established is awarded to a senior exemplifying the 3 main principles of the fraternal order: Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence
Recipient: Joy Kitterman

R. Decker Magee Memorial Scholarship - \$500 - Established in memory of RIHS graduate Decker Magee
Recipient: Almir Matias

The Marler Clark Science Scholarship - \$2,000 - Established to aid a student pursuing a degree in science
Recipient: Maryam Alhamdan

Mollie Montgomery Scholarship - \$2,000
Established by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation for a student entering a medical field
Recipient: Josephine Driskill

Herb Niemann Scholarship - \$1,200
In memory of former teacher and principal Herb Niemann
Recipient: Aria Sulouff

R. Dale Owen "Be the Light" Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000 - Established by the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation to honor Dale Owen and his generosity of spirit to his community
Recipient: Leticia Ramirez

Charlie White/Richard Klatt Purple Tuna Creativity Scholarship - \$1,000
Established by '83 grad Cary Hinze in honor of his influential RIHS art teachers
Recipient: Madelyn Kress

Darrell and Mary Anne Reynolds Automotive Scholarship - \$4,000
Established by the Reynolds for a student who will enter the automotive field
Recipients: Sean-Anthony Jackson

Darrell and Mary Anne Reynolds Scholarship - \$4,000 - Established by the Reynolds to reward hardworking students
Recipients: Zack Draper

Miles W. Rich Family Scholarship - \$4,000 - Established by Mr. Rich for a student who will major in Business Administration
Recipient: Alivia Stanley

Jayovontae "Jaree" Roberts Scholarship - \$500 each
Funded by family and friends to honor former student Jaree Roberts
Recipient, Education: Ali Aljanabi
Recipient, Music: Kal Boswell

Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000 each
3 scholarships funded by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation
Recipients, 4-year College: Addison Bomelyn, Jett Brandt
Recipient, 2-year College: Michelle

Rivera-Marceleno Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation Merit Scholarships - \$1,000 and \$500
3 scholarships funded by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation
Recipient, \$1,000: Alaina Kress
Recipient, \$500: Joseph Allen, Nininahazwe Brigitte, Joshua Brown, Isaiah Samuelson

Fred Houlton "Service Above Self" Rock Island Rotary Scholarship - \$1,000
For demonstrating service to the community and living the Rotary 4-Way Test
Recipient: Asa Mahn

Rock Island Township Scholarship - \$1,500 - To support a student residing in RI Township and attending an IL college
Recipient: Cheyenne Rodriguez

Chet and Louise Schultz Scholarship - \$2,000 - Established in memory of Rocky wrestling coach/teacher Chet Schultz and teacher Louise Schultz
Recipient: Jesse Thomas

Schwiebert Family Scholarship - \$2,000
The Schwiebert siblings established this scholarship to benefit liberal arts college-bound students
Recipient: Kylen Brozovich

William and Saralie Shallman Memorial Scholarship - \$2,500
This scholarship was established by John Shallman (Class of '82) to memorialize his parents - students must demonstrate leadership and initiative in service and/or community involvement
Recipient: Lucette Feigley

Terry Stephens Memorial Scholarship - \$500 each
Established to honor former baseball coach Terry Stephens
Recipient, Baseball: Jesse Thomas
Recipient, Softball: Chloe Turner

Thoms Family "Above and Beyond" Scholarship - \$5,000
Established by the Thoms family to encourage and reward the leadership and entrepreneurial spirit of RIHS students
Recipient, Norah Wright

Steven and Mabel M. Velge Track and Cross-Country Scholarship - \$6,000 each
Established by Mabel Velge in memory of her son Steven Velge, RIHS Class of 1968, and for her love of running.
Recipient, Female: Norah Wright
Recipient, Male: Ian Regur

Elizabeth Kennel Williams Scholarship - \$1,000 - Honoring the '86 RIHS graduate who dedicated her career to helping students overcome challenges
Recipient: Madjid Gunashev

Women's Computer Science, Math, & IT Scholarship - \$500 - Encouraging women to pursue a degree in computer science, technology, or math
Recipient: Kaitlyn Jacoby

Rosemary Woodward Scholarship - \$1,000 - Established with a grant from the RI Community Foundation to honor Mrs. Woodward. The scholarship is awarded to a student who will study nursing or to be a CNA
Recipient: Lah Set Kpru Moo

DW Young Memorial Scholarship - \$4,000 - Established by the family in memory of DW Young, a strong supporter of RI schools
Recipient: Riley LeVan

THANK YOU

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) believes every student is entitled to a quality education. Our mission – “To Enhance Academic Opportunities for Student Success” – encompasses a commitment to enrich the current environmental education of all our students. Your generous donations to the RIMEF facilitate programs, fund innovative materials and projects, provide technologies, and help further the education of RIHS seniors.

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

We are tremendously grateful for your continued generosity and your investment in the education of the over 6,000 students of the Rock Island-Milan School District.

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