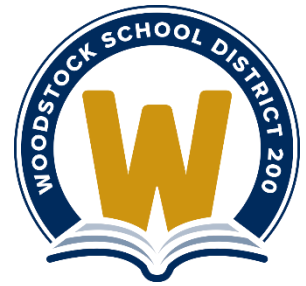


Woodstock Community Unit School District 200

For Immediate Release

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District 200 Education Foundation awards more than \$28K for school activities

Making good on its purpose to enrich students' lives, the Woodstock District 200 Education Foundation awarded more than \$28,000 to fund Impact Grant proposals from Woodstock Community Unit School District educators.

Each school year, the Foundation Board sorts through dozens of grant applications with requests for educational field trips, equipment or educational materials to provide unique learning experiences for students in D 200's 12 schools..

This year's Impact Grants were presented at an Oct. 17 event at Woodstock North High school.

Jaci Krandel, co-president of the D 200 Ed Foundation, said she and other members of the board are grateful for the generous business owners and individuals who offer financial support to the Foundation each year.

"Their support is the reason we're able to manifest teachers' creative ideas for special student experiences which helps make school more exciting for these kids," Krandel said.

Since its inception in 1993, the Foundation has provided nearly \$750,000 for school-related endeavors. Most of the funding comes from sponsors and donors who participate in Groundhog Day events each February, although some smaller events are held including a Halfway to Groundhog Day event in the summer.

The following list is just a sample of the Impact Grants funded by the Foundation for the 2024-2025 school year:

- \$500 for students to learn about kite flying at Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center for a proposal submitted by Christine Huffman and Christina Jost
- \$480 for a field trip for special education students at Dean Street Elementary to the Meadows Petting Farm requested by Scott Becker.

- \$250 to help Woodstock High students take a tour of Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood and visit the National Museum of Mexican Art awarded to Bronte Borter and Kasey Kruckenberg.
- \$1,340 for a 4th grade field trip to the Burpee Museum was awarded to Joanna Bacon and Nancy Urbina
- \$550 in playground sports equipment for Westwood Elementary students to use at recess was provided to Maelyn Thornton.
- \$1,000 was awarded to Lyndra Bastian and Andrew Viveros so that Woodstock High and Creekside Middle orchestra students can work with a professional Mariachi band.
- \$ 1,200 to support the Woodstock and Woodstock North High math teams requested by Anna Spencer and Sarah Pigman..

The Education Foundation Board is composed of former teachers and administrators as well as former parents and community leaders. The current board members are co-chairs Jaci Krandel and Jennifer Thomas along with secretary Mark Heckmon, treasurer Melanie Dougherty, Larry Baier, Gigi Carlson, Diana Frisbie, Linda Gabrielson, Cindy Meyer, John Schuette and Robert Teuber.

Superintendent Mike Moan said he and D 200 staff members appreciate everything the Education Foundation Board members do on behalf of the district's students.

"They give so much of their time and energy to create wonderful opportunities for our students. We never take for granted how much this community supports our schools," Moan said.

The Education Foundation's next Groundhog Day fundraising events will be the Groundhog Day online auction and \$100 reverse raffle that will be active from Jan. 25 to Feb. 2, 2025, and an in-person event immediately following the Feb. 2 Groundhog Day Prognostication at Ortmann's Red Iron Tavern.

For more information on upcoming events and the Woodstock D 200 Education Foundation, visit d200edfoundation.org