



OSDEF

**Osborn School District
Educational Foundation**

2020 TEACHER OF YEAR EVENT CANCELLED

OSDEF Board of Directors

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Ex-Officio Member:
Dr. Michael Robert
Superintendent

Our Fifth Annual Teacher of the Year (TOY) event scheduled for November 2020 was cancelled due to COVID restrictions that brought businesses to a halt and made ghost towns of District schools as teachers and students adapted to virtual learning from home.

This event has been our primary fundraiser since the 2016-17 school year honoring outstanding teachers and at the same time raising funds to support our signature programs that benefit children in classrooms throughout the district.

We hope to be back on schedule with that event for the fall of 2021.

The Foundation is in planning stages for an **Exceptional Educator "Virtual" Fundraising event May 3-7** to celebrate educational excellence demonstrated by staff in various positions/departments in handling the many challenges as a result of COVID-19. This virtual event will not replace our annual TOY event, but will help raise funds to enable OSDEF to continue to fund our longstanding signature programs—KidsRead, Teacher Mini-Grants, Sports Programs and

Requests for Funding during the interim period.

Watch for details for this online event during Teacher Appreciation Week in the spring. Those who purchase tickets will be entered into a drawing for various prizes. We are also looking for sponsors for the event: Platinum at \$5,000; Gold at \$1,500, Silver at \$1,000 and Bronze at \$500.

We hope many of you will be able to join this Exceptional Educator Virtual Fundraising event celebrating Osborn's EXTRA-ordinary teachers and administrators. Stay tuned.

OSDEF FUNDS PROGRAMS DESPITE PANDEMIC

OSDEF Treasurer, Bill Boyd reports that during the past 12 months—11/24/19 through 11/23/20 the Foundation has gifted the District nearly \$100,000—\$92,395.59 to be exact to fund requests for innovative projects by teachers and staff to enhance student learning. The general breakdown is as follows:

Mini-Grants of up to \$300 for each approved teacher proposal	\$ 3,739.55
Requests for Funding in amounts over \$300 per request	\$ 81,156.04
Clarendon	\$ 17,059
Encanto	\$ 16,025
Longview	\$ 3,000
Montecito	\$ 9,553
OMS	\$ 8,739
Solano	\$ 24,640
District	\$ 2,138

In addition, principals receive \$800 annually and the Superintendent \$3,500 for special staff program needs not covered by other funds.



The Osborn School District Educational Foundation (OSDEF) has three long-standing signature programs:

- **KidsRead**
- **Teacher Mini-Grants**
- **Sports Programs plus**
- **Requests for Funding, (RFF) a new program added in 2018.**

OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The mission of the Osborn School District Educational Foundation is to encourage innovation, promote healthy campuses and support creative experiences in and out of the Osborn School District classroom. Osborn School District Educational Foundation provides support and funding to supplement traditional funding sources to insure that all Osborn students have a comprehensive educational experience regardless of their socioeconomic status.

FOUNDATION PROGRAMS HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Osborn School District Educational Foundation supports innovation in education through mini-grants in amounts up to and including \$300. These grants are funded by the Rotary Club of Phoenix West in honor of former superintendent Dr. Wilma Basnett. The grants are to be used by teachers and staff for educational opportunities involving students.

OSDEF goals are to support programs that:

- ◆ Improve students' physical and mental health
- ◆ Enhance literacy, math, science and the arts
- ◆ Provide innovation and enhancement of education



Teachers and staff follow these same guidelines for Requests for Funding (RFF) when projects exceed \$300. Staff may submit requests for funding for both mini-grants and RFF twice a year, spring and fall.

So what can teachers do with students for as little as \$300? Below are brief descriptions of just a few of the programs funded.

Sample of Approved Mini-Grants

- ◊ **Books at Home—Dr. Deseree Barnett at Encanto** used her \$300 to provide each of her Kindergarten students 10 Scholastic books they can take home and keep to assure they had ample reading material during the pandemic.
- ◊ **Sparking Interest in Electrical Energy —Hannah Evan at Clarendon** purchased a Van de Graff Generator to engage teacher-led demonstrations to introduce and reinforce understanding of electricity. The impact of this \$299.95 grant will be felt by future classes as well. Hannah has used Van de Graff generators as an educator at the Arizona Science Center and the Museum of Science, Boston!
- ◊ **Bulb Garden to Promote Growth Mindset—Lushanya Echeverria at Montecito** used her \$300 to plant iris bulbs to promote mental health as students experience how things grow from darkness—understanding that they too can overcome challenges and experience growth.
- ◊ **Introduction to the Printing Press and Block Printing—Madison Vincent used her \$300** at Clarendon and OMS to teach students about the history of the printing press and actively engage them in relief-printing techniques.
- ◊ **All Aboard! Fifth grade Rocks the Boat—Julia Hammond and her 5th grade Solano team** taught their students about volume, displacement and engineering using this fun cardboard boat challenge. They learned and had a “boatload” of fun for only \$300. A great learning time was had by all. Many laughingly sank and took getting soaked in stride—a few “engineers” made it to the end of the pool!

Sample of Approved Requests for Funding

- ◊ **Musical Playground—Art Teacher Rebecca Greenberg received \$6,829** to install interactive musical devices in the playground to be used by students at recess making the playground more of a multi-sensory experience beyond just physical elements.
- ◊ **Garden Shed—Mark Deyette received \$846** for a shed to shelter pre-existing tools, composting bins to help provide continued maintenance for existing garden beds on the Encanto campus.
- ◊ **STEM—Clarendon Principal Theresa Nickolich and former OMS Principal Shannon Mann received \$7,478** to help expand access to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) tools to engage students in engineering and technology as part of a comprehensive STEM program that spans 4-8 and connects to the high school.
- ◊ **Xylophones for General Music—Amy Swietlik received \$2,000** toward a program to improve Solano students' musical literacy and performance skills grades K-5 through the purchase of Orff Xylophone and Metallophone Instruments.



YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED FOR KidsRead!



KidsRead, one of our signature programs since 1996, puts books in the hands of third graders, most of whom have few reading materials in their homes. We know that quality books for children's home libraries help grow life-long readers! There are five book distributions per year (in non-pandemic years); children who participate in each distribution end up with five books to call their very own and to share with younger siblings. The OSDEF Board hopes you will **consider assisting in funding this successful long-standing OSDEF program**.

There is an option for everyone—from being a **Supporter** at \$10 that will supply a book for one child for one of the five KidsRead distributions to a **Book Buddy** for \$50 to supply five books for one child, that is, a book for each of the five distributions. For a \$100 donation, you will join the **Circle of Friends** and adopt two students for the year or a \$300 gift will support a whole class by supplying a book for each child for one distribution. For a gift of \$1,500 you can be a member of the Circle of Friends who adopt an entire class for five distributions. Know that any level of support is appreciated. In addition, we ask that you consider joining our **Legacy Circle** by remembering OSDEF in your will or trust, leaving a lasting legacy to the Foundation to provide books for children in years to come.

OSDEF LEVELS OF GIVING TO SUPPORT KidsRead

SUPPORTER	BOOK BUDDY	CIRCLE OF FRIENDS			LEGACY CIRCLE*
\$10	\$50	\$100	\$300	\$1,500	Any amount
I book I student I event	5 books I student 5 distributions	10 books 2 students 5 distributions	30 books I class I event	150 books I class 5 distributions	Specify OSDEF as a beneficiary in your will or trust.

Figures based on \$10 per book/estimating 30 students per class/5 book distributions/year

Dollar amounts may be designated for KidsRead or to General Fund to be used as needed by OSDEF.

*Individuals may opt to be a Legacy Circle member *in addition* to being a Supporter, Book Buddy or a member of our Circle of Friends.

NOTE: ALL funds go directly to programs that support staff and students; OSDEF members are all volunteers so there are little or no administrative costs.

Please give this proposal serious thought and consider making a donation to KidsRead in an amount that is meaningful to you. You can donate by check or credit card per the following payment options:

Send your check with the envelope marked, Support for KidsRead to:

**The Osborn School District Educational Foundation
P.O. Box 40575
Phoenix, Arizona 58067-0575** OR

Use your **credit card** to make a contribution via our secure website [here](#) or go to
<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/osborn-school-district-educational-foundation-inc/KidsReaded>

Remember, the **Osborn School District Educational Foundation** is a tax exempt nonprofit organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and that every dollar you donate goes directly to the program for children.

On behalf of all the third grade students now and in the future who will benefit from your generosity, please accept our sincere thanks for considering a donation.