

LAKE PLACID NEWS

ROTARY CLUB NEWS: Rotary gives to the Educational Opportunity Fund



Lake Placid Central School District Board of Education President Mary Dietrich, second from left, receives a check from Lake Placid Rotary Club members. From left are Randy Quayle, Dietrich, Sibyl Quayle and Mary Liz Alexander. (Photo provided)

The Rotary Club of Lake Placid has a long history of supporting the youth of the community. Its recent generous contribution of \$2,300 to the Educational Opportunity Fund for the Lake Placid Central School District is the latest example of their support for programs that provide new opportunities for youth.

The Education Opportunity Fund was established in 2016 by a group of alumni, parents, educators and community members. Its mission is to enhance the learning and life-chances of LPCSD children. To date, trustees have recommended awards totaling more than \$20,000 in grants in support of this mission. The focus of these grants focuses on the following four goals:

Opportunity: Every student regardless of financial circumstances should have the same access to opportunity. The Ed. Op. Fund has raised thousands of dollars to provide books, meals and access to educational programs for students who could not otherwise afford it. The fund is committed to pay for AP courses, bridge courses, and SAT and ACT exams for students whose needs outweigh their resources.

Innovation: Teacher Innovation grants have become a staple of the fund's yearly awards and have prompted a new wave of excitement and enthusiasm in our schools' classrooms. Ergonomic Hokki stools, Chromebooks, and programmable robots and drones are just a few of the projects we have funded to bring innovation into classrooms.

Community: The Ed. Op. Fund provided nearly \$6,000 for student-initiated grants aimed at positively impacting school and/or community. For example, one fifth grader, with the help of classmates chose to use a grant to make and distribute "Star Boxes" filled with food, toys, clothes and books for students at her school so that no child was forgotten during the holiday season.

Experiences: Funding experiences outside the classroom that reinforce textbook learning is a high priority. Ed. Op. Fund grants have helped to fund class trips, team-building outings, and expansion of a nature trail and certified habitat at the Lake Placid Elementary School.

Donations made to the Educational Opportunity Fund for the Lake Placid Central School District through the Adirondack Foundation make a remarkable and immediate impact on children's lives right here in our community. The Ed. Op. Board of Trustees is very appreciative of the very generous contribution by the Rotary Club through their Trivia Night proceeds. The funds will provide life-changing opportunities for our youth.

The Rotary Club of Lake Placid is part of a global network of 1.2 million people who come together to make positive, lasting changes in communities locally, nationally and internationally.

The Rotary Club of Lake Placid meets every Thursday at 7:20 a.m. at the Marriott Courtyard. For more information, go to rotarylakeplacid.org.
