



- Joined CEF in February 2020, just before the pandemic hit
- First-hand experience with the District's commitment to excellence
- Clayton resident, parent of two graduates: Class of 2017 and 2019
- Not my first Rotary meeting, either
- I've been speaking at Rotary meetings since 1989



- 1989-90 Rotary Ambassador Scholar
- Leicester, England



- 1989 Rotary Ambassador Scholar
- From Moline, Illinois to Leicester, England
- University of Leicester, degree in Mass Communications Research
- Rotary family – still connected
- Still in touch with friends made at university, live around the world



We support the District's commitment to provide all students with an education that empowers them to:

- Be Leaders
- Think Critically
- Think Creatively Across Disciplines
- Ask and Answer Complex Questions
- Collaborate in Solving Real Problems

## Teacher Innovation Grants



- Since 2009, CEF's Teacher Innovation Grant program has distributed more than \$270,000 to our educators.



Since 2009, our Teacher Innovation Grant program has distributed more than \$270,000 to our educators

And next week we're giving out \$50,000 more

Provide students at all grade levels with:

- Innovative learning methods
- Creative classroom materials
- Unique learning experiences

in all curricular areas

## Teacher Innovation Grants



Innovation isn't just about technology (although we fund that, too, as you can see).

Innovation can be a

- Novel practice
- New idea
- A Different strategy
- Or a unique experience



## Teacher Innovation Grants



- For example, in 2019, the Clayton High School Symphonic Band commissioned a piece of original music.
- Gary Gackstatter, a nationally published composer and professor of music at St. Louis Community College - Meramec wrote the piece, based on the character Jean Louise "Scout" Finch from "To Kill a Mockingbird."
- Academy Award Nominated Actress Mary Badham, who portrayed Scout in the 1962 movie, narrated the piece.
- Working with the composer, narrator, and Director of Bands Rob Nichols, the student musicians participated in the composition's creation
- Performing its world premiere at the 2020 Missouri Music Educators Association's annual conference.

## Teacher Innovation Grants



We look for opportunities to make a difference in student learning

- From our youngest learners in the Family Center's early childhood classes
- To helping sixth graders share what they've learned through the new medium of podcasting

## Teacher Innovation Grants



We provide young readers with books that have characters and stories that they can see themselves in



## Teacher Innovation Grants



And we help high schoolers learning about business by developing their own

- Catalyst Program – hands-on innovative approach to business education
- Angel Grant Pitch Competition – a version of Shark Tank
- Students start their own businesses, and many keep them going through college
- Foundation Board Members serve as judges

## Rick Beard Endowment for STEM



Established in memory of CHS Alum Rick Beard (one of the founders of Cardinal Investment Advisors)

- Internet hotspots for families who can't afford internet access
- Other STEM programs: such as funding for the Robotics Team

## Dr. Sean Doherty Book Collection



- In 2021, CEF raised \$22,500 to honor our retiring superintendent
- Established book fund for our three elementary libraries



- Last year, to honor retiring superintendent Dr. Sean Doherty
- Raised \$22,500
- Since he started his career as an elementary classroom teacher
- Served as principal of Captain Elementary
- Created fund to purchase new books for our three elementary libraries
- Opportunity to purchase more books, especially non-fiction

## Adzick Field Renovation



- Named for legendary CHS baseball coach Nick Adzick, Ph.D.
- Dedication being held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 23



- Helped raise the funds to renovate our baseball field
- Turn it into a premier multi-sport facility
- Finally able to dedicate it April 23

## Food & Essentials Drive



- CEF partners with our District PTO to stock our building food pantries and raise money to fund emergency support for District families in need.



May not think of Clayton and think of need, but before the pandemic, ten percent of our students qualified for free and reduced lunch

Every community has need, and in partnership with our PTO, we help to fill it



## CHS Alumni



CEF is also home to all things alumni

- Provide support for class reunions
- Host alumni BBQ at Homecoming

## Alumni Hall of Fame and Distinguished Educator Awards



- Recognizing the accomplishments of Clayton High School graduates
- Honoring educators who gained distinction
- April 22 & 23

People like Bravo's Andy Cohen, Enterprise founder Jack Taylor and Pulitzer Prize winning photographer Laurie Skrivan

2020 and 2022 classes

Include an NFL player, former head of tax for Ford Motor Company, internationally known artist, two tech company ceo's and more



You're Always a  
Greyhound!

**[ClaytonEducationFoundation.org](https://ClaytonEducationFoundation.org)**

- Connect
- Volunteer
- Follow
- Donate



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**EDUCATION**  
FOUNDATION