

Sparta Education Foundation

Providing Extras for Education

Annual Newsletter



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Providing Extras for Education

November 2022

465 Union Street, Sparta, MI 49345

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SEF HELPING TO REFLECT LIGHT FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Edith Wharton is quoted as saying, "There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." This quote seems to describe what happens when the Sparta Education Foundation (SEF) joins with the teachers and staff of Sparta Area Schools to bring the "extras for education" to their students. The dedicated staff light the candle by developing creative ways to extend and expand students' learning. The job of the SEF is to make sure that light is reflected and able to spread. We do that by awarding grants which make it possible for teachers to cover the costs of bringing innovative learning opportunities to the classroom that are not otherwise covered in the school budget. That light is spread further as our business partners and members of the community support SEF financially and with their time and services. Together we become a beacon reaching our community through the power of education.

One exciting point of light this past year was the ability to offset the costs of a therapy dog. Toast is now on staff at Applevew Elementary working alongside the counselor, Kim DeGraaf. He is a comfort dog, and he is a blessing for the students and staff assisting in supporting mental and emotional health and well-being.

The events of the last two years have certainly shown us just how important public education is to our children and families. The SEF is working not only to meet the needs of our community right now, but we are also planning ways that we can meet the needs of the future. We value your support and look forward to many more years of partnership as we stand as a beacon. To see how you can get involved, follow our Facebook page (Sparta Education Foundation MI – QR code page 2) or visit the SEF website (scan the QR code). We would love to have dynamic people join us in these endeavors!



- LeAnn Kitson, SEF Board President



GRANTS AWARDED 2021-2022

Three times per year the Sparta Education Foundation reviews and provides grants submitted by teachers and staff at Sparta Area Schools.

Early Childhood Center

- Classroom Organization

Ridgeview Elementary

- 2nd Grade Book Boxes

Applevue Elementary

- STEM Class Materials & Supplies
- Outdoor Learning Wagons & Trees
- Instruments for Applevue Music Class
- Toast Therapy Dog

Middle School

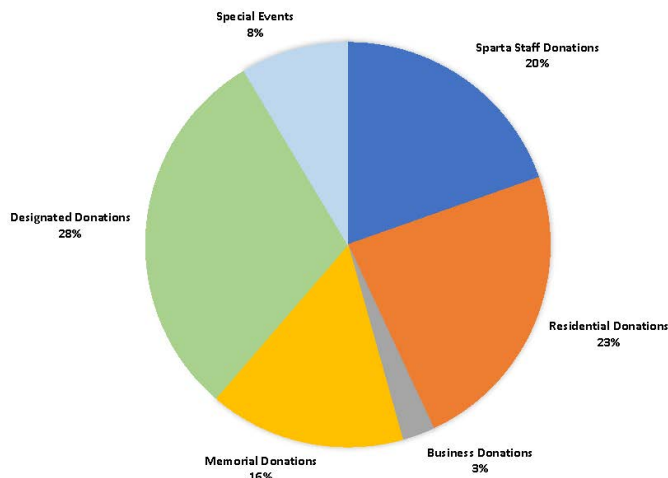
- Beanstalk for Readers
- Novel Study Companion Texts
- SMS Community of Reader
- Music Appreciation Guitar Program
- Historical Walking Tour of Sparta
- Visual Media Class Microphones

High School

- MICi Landscaping Project
- Science Olympiad
- "No Athlete Left Behind" Strength Training



SPARTA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
DONATIONS JULY 1, 2021-JUNE 30, 2022



Amazon Smile, United Way, and Spartan Pathway Contribute 2% of Total Donations

2022-23 "FUN" DRAISERS

-October 18, 2022 - Food for Thought at Downtown Trini's Margarita Joes

-November 8, 2022—
Spaghetti Night at Angela's

-February 6, 2023 - Family Pasta Night Fun-draiser at the Garden Patch

-March 11, 2023 - RetroBowl at Sparta Lanes

-April 11, 2023 - Food for Thought at Downtown Trini's Margarita Joes

Check out our Facebook Page for updated information



Like us on Facebook

Sparta Education Foundation MI

Thank you to all of the generous donors in our community! It is a joy and honor to have supported our Sparta Area Schools staff with \$530,000 in grant monies awarded over the past 30 years!

Another way you can support SEF is through Amazon Smile; 0.5% is given back when you make SEF your charity.



Board of Directors

LeAnn Kitson, President| Jim Kerby, Vice President| Sue Blackall, Secretary| Ron Hoover, Treasurer | Joel Stoner, Ex Officio

Trustees: Julie Anderson, Michelle Alster, Kristi Armock, Jennifer Baldini, Don Behrenwald, Erin Bormes, Chris Hoover, Martha Markham, Sarah Richmond