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"The support of the Smithville Education Foundation has been one of the most positive things that has occurred at the school system. The Foundation has grown into a corner stone of additional support for the teachers and students."

- Cheryl Burns, SISD Assistant Superintendent

Dear Friend and Community Member,

October 2017

The Smithville Education Foundation (SEF) is a group of dedicated volunteers working to raise money and support the Smithville Independent School District (SISD). SEF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation organized to augment and complement school district programs and activities.

The SEF Board is honored and humbled to be able to partner with SISD to bring resources to our kids. Each and every time SEF volunteers arrive at the schools, students, teachers, and administrators greet us with smiles and excitement. They know they will be getting resources and experiences that they could not have without the support and assistance of the Smithville community. These smiles belong to you, as a contributor to our schools.

Since we began the first programs in 2011, SEF has funded over \$25,000 in innovative teaching grants to SISD teachers and has provided nearly \$15,000 to support the fine arts through the Enrichment Day program. During the 2016-17 School year, donations to SEF brought ear-to-ear smiles because donations were able to fund two rounds of grants (instead of just one) that provided teachers with the resources they needed to complete nine different projects—SEF was able to fund all of the requests we received.

SEF's goal is simple... to help our teachers inspire greatness in their students. Your contribution directly impacts the ability of our teachers to reach more students and help them reach their fullest potential.

SEF concentrates on providing teachers the resources they need in two main areas:

Art Enrichment Programming:

SEF, the Lost Pines Artisans' Alliance and Playhouse Smithville partner with SISD and the Smithville Public Library to bring lessons in performing and visual arts to our students in grades K-5.

- ❖ At Brown Primary, SEF funded and facilitated a grant that funded 20 banners created from student artwork to Main Street.
- ❖ At Smithville Elementary, we assisted with a grant program through the Library, leveraging their funds to increase the reach of the program. SEF facilitated in the making of six book trailers. These trailers can be viewed via our website.

Innovative Teaching Grants:

Teachers from all schools apply for projects that cannot be funded through the limited SISD budget. Below are some examples of what these grants have funded in the past.

- ❖ Conference registration fees for the High School Student Council.
- ❖ A Science Library for the 5th Grade.
- ❖ Knighting ceremonies for students at Brown Primary through a Rotary Club program.
- ❖ Classroom technology requests like iPads for Life Skills class at high school and Chromebooks for music class at SES.

Since 2016, SEF has also partnered with the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce to recognize the Top 10% of our students who graduate from Smithville High School, many of them intending to go on to college.

Every school day, SEF programs enrich the experiences children have in our school district. In order to fund these programs, SEF must have the financial support of our community.

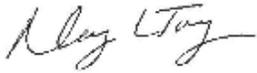
Please contribute to our 2017-18 Capital Campaign and help us inspire greatness in our students!

With your financial support, you are making a difference by ensuring that SISD students receive the opportunity to do and be their best. Your donation, regardless of the amount, benefits our students and helps them become their best selves.

Please return your completed form below along with your donation in the enclosed envelope OR visit our website at smithvilleeducation.org and donate through PayPal.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE in the lives of our students and teachers every day! Thank you!

Sincerely,



Nancy Towry
President/Treasurer



Melanie Summarell
Secretary



Jill Strube
Fund Raising



Fran Hunter
Communication

For more information about the Smithville Education Foundation:

- Website: www.smithvilleeducation.org
- FB: www.facebook.com/smithvilleeducationfoundation
- Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLeK13MS72A

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SEF 2017-18 Capital Campaign

SEF provides Innovative Teaching Grants (\$250 to \$1,000 each) to SISD teachers. A single Arts Enrichment Session costs \$700—the total program is \$6,000. Any financial contribution you make directly funds these programs.

- President's Club \$1,000*
- Tiger Club \$500*
- Founders Club \$250*
- Sustainer \$100*
- Contributor \$50*
- Other \$ _____*
- I would like to volunteer*

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

*Checks can be made payable to: Smithville Education Foundation or SEF
Please send checks and information above to: P.O. Box 227, Smithville, Texas 78957*