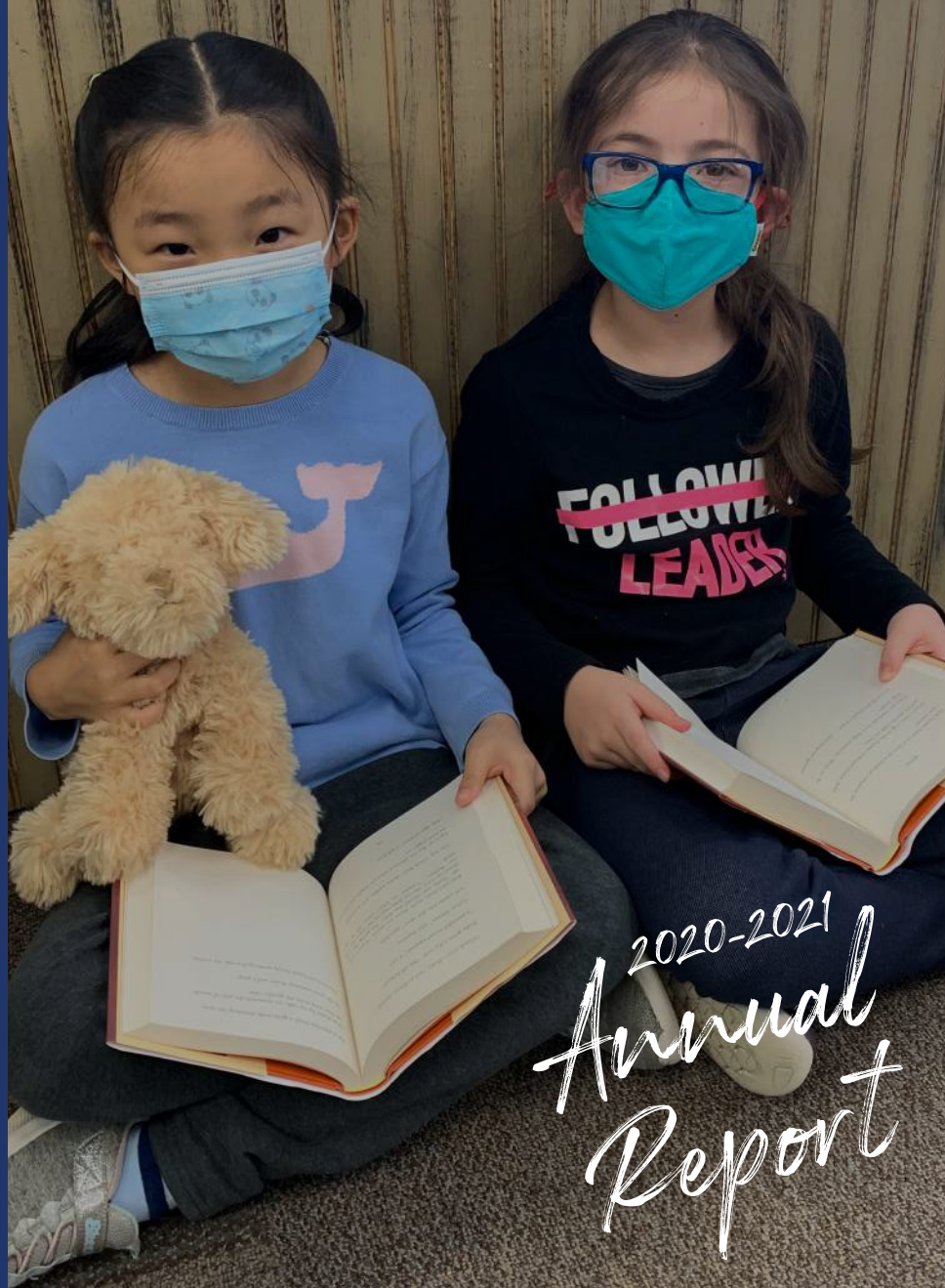
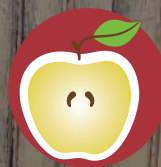


Public Schools Foundation of Tippecanoe County



2020-2021
*Annual
Report*

Greetings



Greetings from PSFTC! Over the past year, things did not slow down. Due to the pandemic, the needs of our educators changed, and we quickly responded. Last August as schools were re-opening, we funded thirty-seven "Rapid Response Grants" in just seven days! These grants were aimed at helping teachers address pandemic-related needs.

Thankfully, as we moved into 2021, we were able to return to our traditional grant cycle. We awarded over \$10,000 this past spring to six applicants representing each of our three school districts. We also helped facilitate a grant for TSC which provided co-regulation kits for students to use over the summer. Requests for the kits surpassed the 300 mark in under an hour, clearly demonstrating the importance of this need.

As we move into the fall, we welcome two more activities: our Cupcake Run/Walk for Public Education, where everyone gets a cupcake courtesy of Gigi's Cupcakes, and our Fall Grant Cycle, where we aim to award another \$15,000 to our educators. Our annual Cupcake Bake-off, traditionally held in the fall, will be moved to February 2022. Be on the lookout for more information on this exciting event, sponsored by Tate & Lyle!

With your help, we continue to promote excellence in education and encourage classroom innovation. We value our educators and students, and we're glad you do, too!

Pam Smith,

PSFTC Board President

Our mission is to promote excellence in education and encourage classroom innovation in the public schools in Tippecanoe County through our Seeds for Excellence grant program.

A note from Executive Director Christine Isbell

In 2020 the Foundation lost two of its most ardent supporters with the passing of Dr. Jerry Krockover in January and Martha K. Schrader in November. Both were key to the success of PSFTC, loyal supporters of our mission, and true champions of public education. They will be dearly missed and never forgotten.



Congratulations

TO THE FOLLOWING TEACHERS FOR WRITING AWARD-WINNING GRANT PROPOSALS

Matt Carlson, The Physics of a Rock Concert
@ Harrison High School
Made possible with support from Tate & Lyle

Hannah McElroy, The One and Only
@ Burnett Creek Elementary

Anthony Nicolai, World Music Drums
@ Mintonye and Woodland Elementaries

Jill Rubacha, Programming Across Manufacturing
with Robotics @ Jefferson High School
Made possible with support from Tate & Lyle

Gaylene Hayden, Let Them Devour Books
@ Harrison High School

Katie Price, Race to the Finish
@ West Lafayette Intermediate School
Made possible with support from Tate & Lyle

Loralie Swan, Bridging the Gap for
Emerging Bilinguals @ Burnett Creek Elementary

Gregory Smith, Teen Read Week and More
@ Jefferson High School

Susan Gran, Biogeo-whats-a-whos-it?
@ Jefferson High School
Made possible with support from Tate & Lyle

Maria Ziegman, Drumming Ensemble
@ Mayflower and Battle Ground Elementaries

Katie Carn, It's Electric in Ember City
@ Wea Ridge Elementary

Projects funded Fall
2020 and Spring 2021;
\$24,746

AUGUST 2020

37 Rapid
Response

mini grants for
expenses related
to the pandemic;

\$6,776

NOVEMBER 2020

Five Seeds for
Excellence grants;

\$7,869

MAY 2021

Six Seeds for
Excellence grants:

\$10,101

Grant Spotlight

Julie Riley - Wea Ridge Middle School

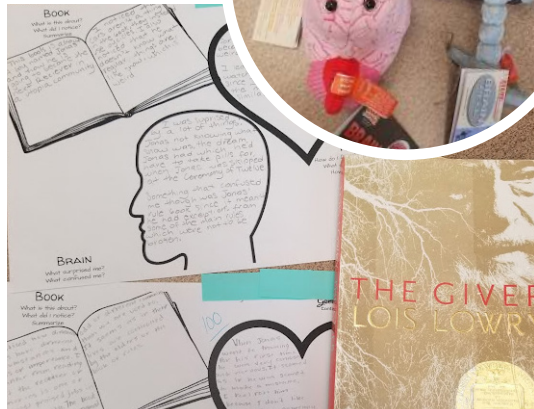
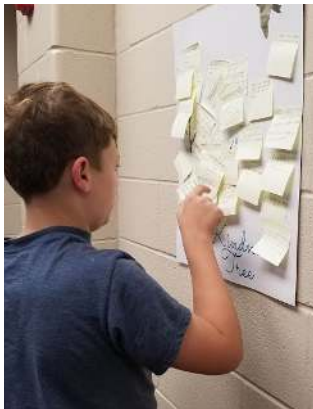
Connecting Book, Brain, and Heart: Using Neuroscience in the Middle School Language Arts Classroom

(awarded in 2019, implemented in 2020-21 school year)

My grant was truly a seed for excellence since Covid-19 restrictions only allowed me to implement about half of the grant as planned. It's wonderful that this project was planned in such a way that it can only make next year even better. My first component was for professional development resources to improve social-emotional learning in middle school. We pushed my timeline back to order these materials in the fall and start implementing them at the end of quarter 1 and into quarter 2. I was able to bring in my neuroanatomy guest speakers, virtually.

At the end of each quarter, I led students through self-reflection practices to help us set our focus for the next quarter. By the third quarter, we were able to integrate our understanding of emotional triggers to our study of literature. We used our book, brain, heart reflections with the novels *Watsons Go to Birmingham* and *The Giver*. I added a bulletin board to our hall to reflect how books help us self-regulate and build empathy.

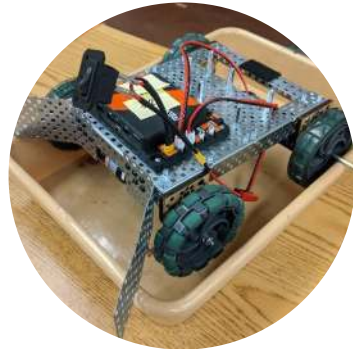
I am forever changed as a teacher, and I know this was a very meaningful experience for my students to show resilience this year. I'm ready to bring on 2021-22- a year for reflection, recovery and reconnection!



Grant Spotlight

Jill Rubacha – Jefferson High School

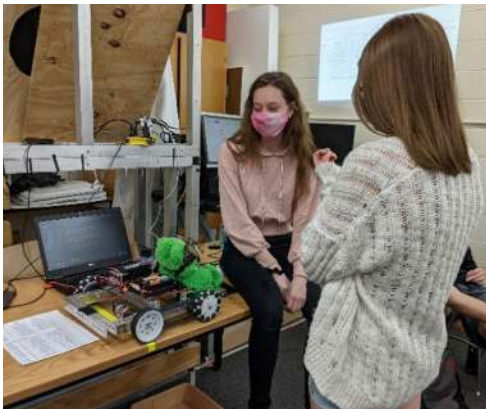
Programming Across Manufacturing with Robotics



This project served to deliver relevant programming and robotics experience to students in an engineering course at Jefferson High School. New equipment was able to be purchased that reflects current offerings in real-world settings. This was an improvement over our prior offerings, which featured technology and implementation approximately ten years out-of-date. Students got to engage in programming in the Java language and to use equipment to create competitive robots for a small competition. The first section of the project took place alongside traditional classroom activities. Students worked with modular test boards utilizing equipment from the grant purchase to develop their programming skills.

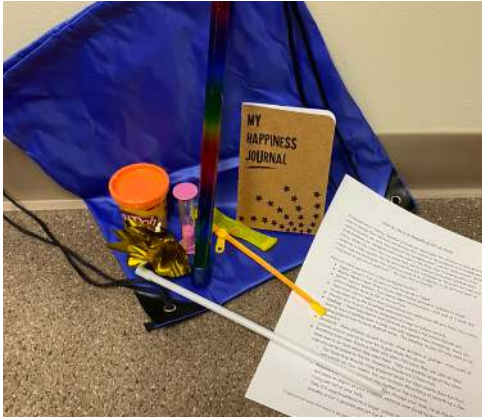
The second half of the project was modeled after a robotics competition. Students needed to utilize their programming skills from the project and their manufacturing skills from prior units in the class. The ability to purchase several new control hubs made this section of the project feasible. Students used their new Java programming skill to create autonomous robots. These robots would have to accomplish all tasks without human intervention, relying on the students' prewritten instructions. Secondly, they created a control system for

their robots, allowing them to respond to real-time controls. The most notable reaction was that students learned that programming was not as difficult as they had feared. All equipment purchased through this grant is reusable and will be implemented in future activities and curriculum at Jeff, giving these same opportunities to new students each year.



Grant Spotlight

**Megan Ulrich – Tippecanoe School Corporation,
Licensed School Counselor & Mental Health Liaison**



The goal for this grant is to increase the resources of the parents in the Tippecanoe School Corporation by providing training and supplies for co-regulation to be used in the home environment.

In March 2021, the Indiana Youth Institute reached out to public education foundations in the state to share news of a new grant opportunity specifically for PEFs. IYI offered up to 28 grants for \$2500 each for three different focus areas. PSFTC partnered with the Tippecanoe School Corporation to develop a proposal to expand an existing program that provides co-regulation kits to families.

“Neuroscience shows that humans develop their abilities for emotional self-regulation through connections with reliable caregivers who soothe and model in a process called ‘co-regulation’.” (McKnight, 2016). The goal for this grant is to increase the resources of the parents in the Tippecanoe School Corporation by providing training and supplies for co-regulation to be used in the home environment. The funds would be used to supply 300 Co-Regulation kits to families of TSC students, along with training (video and written instruction) on how to utilize the tools and resources included in the kits.

In May, parents were able to sign up for the kits, and the 300 mark was reached in 56 minutes! What strong validation that this resource is needed. At last count, requests for kits were at 850 and climbing. Everyone beyond 300 will receive instructions on how to construct a kit for less than \$10 at home and a video on how to use it.



5TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL CUPCAKE RUN

As with much of life in 2020, the pandemic disrupted our Cupcake Run/Walk plans, but we're so proud to share that 454 supporters joined in our virtual event, picked their own course and day, and walked and ran to show their support of public education.

The contributions from our sponsors were extremely valuable during a financially challenging year.

Thank You

TO OUR LOYAL FRIENDS:

Arni's
 Ashley Bigelow Realtor
 Coldwell Banker Shook
 Gigi's Cupcakes
 Duke Energy
 Farmers Insurance -
 Jenna Isch Agency
 Freckles Graphics
 Future Scholars Daycare
 Henriott Group
 Instant Copy
 Isbell Heating & Cooling
 Keystone Architecture,
 Cordogan Clark Group
 Lake Dermatology
 The Prochnau Family
 Smith Charitable
 Foundation
 Stuart & Branigin
 Tate and Lyle
 The Warehouse of
 Lafayette, LLC

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2020 FINANCIALS

INCOME: \$67,427

- Events
- Individual Donors
- Corporations & Foundations
- Income from Investments

21%

30%

37%

12%

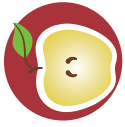
EXPENSES: \$65,947

- Grants
- Personnel
- Administration & Marketing

38%

38%

24%



Public Schools Foundation
of Tippecanoe County

P.O. Box 1159
Lafayette, IN 47902

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org
US Postage Paid
Permit 399
Lafayette, IN