



Petoskey Education Foundation
1130 Howard Street
Petoskey, MI 49770

Spring 2019

Petoskey Education Foundation Awards Winter 2019 Mini-Grants

Thanks to our generous donors, the Petoskey Education Foundation (PEF) was able to award winter mini-grants totaling nearly \$4,000, all of which will directly impact our students and staff.

Established in 1989 and governed by 11 volunteer trustees, the PEF matches private donations with deserving causes and unmet needs in the district. Its mission is to help all Public Schools of Petoskey students achieve their highest potential by helping fund programs and improvements the district would otherwise be unable to fund. The foundation believes that supplemental funding is critical to ensuring that students receive an exceptional education.

Twice each school year, once in the fall and again in the winter, the PEF awards a series of mini-grants to teachers and programs. The winter round of mini-grants will be used in all schools in the district in the following areas:

- Purchase of Cricut for Learning at Ottawa Elementary School
- Therapy dog at Petoskey High School
- Purchase of a new bandsaw for the woodshop at Petoskey Middle School
- Funds for a PSAT/SAT test preparation incentive program
- Support for the “Cheetos Club” at Petoskey High School (*See story on pg. 2.*)
- Funding for Underwater ROV project materials
- And many, many more items and programs!

Thank you for your continued support! You make a difference in our students' lives!

For more information about the Petoskey Education Foundation, including how to make a tax-deductible donation, visit our [website](#) or call the Spitler Administration Building at (231) 348-2100.

Elementary Staff Receive Literacy Training to Better Support Struggling Students



Elementary teachers, administrators, academic aides and literacy coaches stayed busy during the winter by continuing to deepen their understanding of foundational literacy skills and evidence-based instructional practices. They have participated in collaborative conversations and job-embedded coaching opportunities all centered around student strengths and needs in literacy. We are so excited for these professional growth opportunities that support the literacy skills of all students.

PEF Supports DECA and HOSA

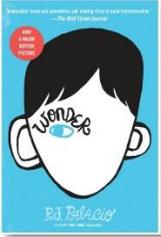


Marketing teacher Casie Parker and student Nick Spadafore accept a check from Dr. John Scholten and Carlin Smith. The funds will help cover the cost of students' trip to the DECA International Career Development Conference in Orlando.

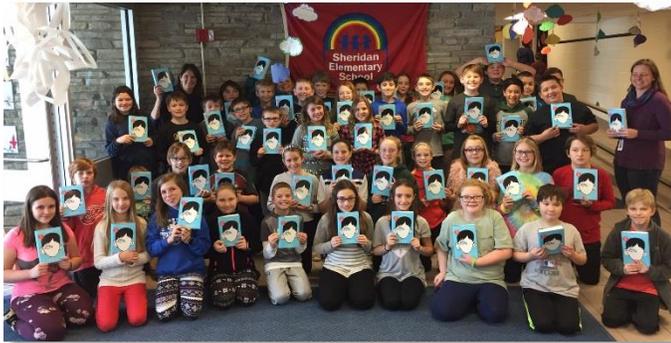
Medical Occupations teacher Diana Tahtinen accepts a PEF donation that will help qualifying students attend the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) National Leadership Conference in Orlando in June.



All 5th Grade Students Receive Copy of Acclaimed Novel *Wonder*



Each year our 5th grade classes enjoy the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. Thanks to the generosity and support of the Petoskey Education Foundation, we now have the ability to put the novel in the hands of each 5th grade student in Petoskey. The numerous lessons, which include such themes as kindness, identity and courage, create rich discussions within the classroom as the teachers work to build a positive learning environment for the students each fall. Our 5th grade students and teachers are thankful to live in a community where we are surrounded by such incredible support!



Save the Date: 2019 PEF Golf Outing is July 11



On Thursday, July 11, the Petoskey Education Foundation will hold its charity golf outing at the Petoskey-Bay View Country Club. Play as an individual, gather your foursome, or contribute as a sponsor of the outing. All proceeds help the PEF further its mission to provide students with opportunities to meet their highest potential. You won't want to miss this opportunity to play golf, have fun and make a difference in our students' lives!

PEF Supports Cheetos Club With \$500 Donation

Spencer Tibbits was a student at Petoskey High School who died in a car accident on his birthday in 2014. He was an individual who showed and planned for kindness in many ways that were not truly realized until his death. After Spencer passed away, it was discovered that he would often find or notice students who were struggling and pull out a bag of Cheetos from his backpack. He would give the snack to the student simply say, "No one can be sad when they're eating a bag of Cheetos."

The Cheetos Club is a group of 30+ anonymous students who have formed a community that meets each week to continue the tradition of "Planning to Be Kind" in Spencer's honor. These students welcome new students, recognize students' birthdays, have formed a kindness closet, distribute notes and gifts in students' lockers, reach out to students who are struggling, and have begun to break down barriers between groups of students to celebrate student successes. The Petoskey Education Foundation recently supported the Cheetos Club with a generous gift of \$500.

If you would like to know more about this group or support their cause, please visit their website at www.cheetosclub.com.



*Help us turn gifts into opportunities.
Please consider making a
tax-deductible contribution to the
Petoskey Education Foundation.*