Cloquet Educational Foundation News

Supporting Quality Education in Cloquet

Cloquet Educational Foundation

Fall 2024



The Cloquet Educational Foundation provides opportunities for academic, artistic, athletic, cultural, and social growth for children and youth in the Cloquet School District by financially supporting programs and activities.

Because of a grant from the CEF, students in Cloquet Middle School art teacher Andrea Cacek's class were able to create and design a glass mosaic mural made from all their collective input. Students collaborated with ideas, digital design, and laser cutting to finish a beautiful piece of art.

CEF is ***Grateful*** in the Season of Gratitude

"Thank you so much for all the support you have given to the CAAEP students over the years. Your support has helped with specialized programming that we otherwise could not offer our students."

– Connie Hyde, retired Principal of the CAAEP Program

We get many thank you notes at the CEF office from students and educators who have been impacted by support and funding from the CEF. Getting a thank you note not only makes our day, but reaffirms that what we do is important, recognized, and appreciated.



On behalf of the CEF Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your dedicated support. We are grateful to those folks who give gifts big and small in honor and memory of loved ones. They are truly the backbone of the foundation. We gratefully acknowledge families who name us in estate plans and initiate Named Endowed funds that ensure an excellent education in Cloquet is secure in perpetuity. Local business and organizations who support the CEF through the Invest In Kids program and at our fundraisers such as the Blue Jean Ball are amazingly generous. Thank you, alumni, who take the time to seek out ways to support the foundation at your reunions and in other significant ways. And let us not forget the staff of the Cloquet School District who plan each fall to "give back" with the Employee Deduction Campaign.

Collectively, we are all making a difference in the lives of Cloquet students, right now, and in the future.

As we move into this season of gratitude and giving, thank you for your gift of support.

Jody Acers, Executive Director,
Cloquet Educational Foundation

The Cloquet Educational Foundation Board of Directors (2024-25): President, Karin Sabyan; Vice President, Jenny Blatchford; Treasurer, Makenzie Stafford; Ryanne Battaglia, Dick Brenner, Sarah Buhs, Laura Hansen, MaryJane Lundberg, Steve Micke, Jen Owens, Del Prevost, David Pritchett, Tom Proulx, Adrienne Strickland, Matt Yorston, and Karrie Osvold- CEF Gift Manager.

Class Reunions Celebrate the Past

It is our pleasure to connect with Cloquet High School Alumni each year as they celebrate their reunions. This year, several CHS classes checked- in with us with updates. In August, the Class of 1969 marked their "homecoming" by touring the Cloquet High School and the "new" Middle School with CEF Board members and Principal Steve Battaglia. It was our privilege to spend time with this special class. (The class of 1969 was the first class to graduate from the current high school.)



The Class of 1969 shares memories touring Cloquet High School and Cloquet Middle School.



Class of 1974 celebrated their 50th Class Reunion last summer, and according to Mary Thompson, "I smiled for 3 days afterward!" How good it is to hear former Lumberjacks are making their reunions an occasion!

"Thank you for helping coordinate and assist in a tour of the Cloquet High School & Middle School with Principal Steve Battaglia on Friday.

Jody & Mary Jane L, you provided additional insight in the direction of the school. In my opinion, and all the others involved, the tour was a huge success! Many people wish they had come along with the tour, because they heard from so many about the success of the tour. It was exceptionally informative and nostalgic for us at the same time."

– Tom Tucker, CHS Class of 1969

CEF Grants Over **$82,000** in 2024

Each school year the CEF receives hundreds of grant requests that align with the mission of the CEF: To provide opportunities for academic, artistic, athletic, cultural, and social growth for children and youth in the Cloquet School District by financially supporting programs and activities.

The CEF was able to support over 50 programs and initiatives within the Cloquet School District that directly impact the learning opportunities of students. Because the CEF does not replace school district responsibilities, grants awarded to teachers and staff are vital for experiences that are enriching, unique, and go "above and beyond" for our students to dream, explore, and "dig-deeper" into learning.

At the October CEF Board of Directors meeting, the following grants were awarded, amounting to **$33,000**:

- Family Fun Night
- All-Night Grad Party 2025
- BRIDGE Pre-K Book Project
- Reading Intervention Leveled Library Materials
- CMS E-Sports Team
- Book Vending Machine Churchill School
- CMS School Patrol Support
- CHS and CMS Student Council
- Art Clay Program Washington School
- Washington Unified Program
- Mural Club Washington School
- 4th and 5th Grade Battle of the Books
- CMS Research/Monarch and Insect Research Project
- CHS Cabinet Tooling Equipment
- CMS Frisbee Golf Course
- CAAEP Robotics
- CHS Phenology Calendar Initiative
- Winter Symposium 2024 CAAEP
- After School Enrichment Fillers and Supplies

ACADEMIC:



Grace Lavan, mentored by Dr. Cynthia Welsh and William Bauer – Cloquet educators, attended the National Science Fair in May 2024 with her project involving wolves and the effect of human and road density on their movement on the Fond du Lac Reservation.

ARTISTIC:



The Glass Tile Mural Project (front cover) involved several Cloquet Middle School classes and exposed the students to a unique art medium.

ATHLETIC:



The Cloquet Middle School Physical Education Department was awarded a grant to purchase games and activities that incorporated "lifetime sports" into their classroom curriculum.

CULTURAL:



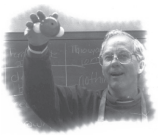
Cloquet Middle School teacher, Anna Gamst, was able to purchase books that promote understanding and appreciation of cultural and socioeconomic diversity. This library exposes students to a variety of cultures, beliefs, and socioeconomic statuses that are different than their own.

SOCIAL:



The CEF is delighted to support graduating seniors by partially funding the All-Night Grad Party. This annual event, held on graduation night, honors graduating "Lumberjacks" in a safe and fun way, making for a memorable event for years to come.

CLOQUET EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION DONORS FROM MAY 2024



THE RON AND KATHY AHLGREN EDUCATION FUND:
In Memory of Kathy Ahlgren given by Karen Buytaert
In Memory of Kathy Ahlgren given by Elizabeth (Manderfeld) '81 & Haidar Fakhoury*
In Memory of Kathy Ahlgren given by Mary Gerlach*
In Memory of Kathy Ahlgren given by Rosa (Ahlgren) Manderfeld* '60
In Memory of Kathy Ahlgren given by Robin '76 & Karrie (Anderson) '78 Osvold
In Memory of Kathy Ahlgren given by Tami (Anderson) Rodd '83
Sue & Jerry Olson



THE CAROL (JOHNSON) BROMME ENDOWMENT FOR ARTS AND EDUCATION:
In Memory of Carol Bromme given by Bud Hatfield



DON AND MIDGE GRANT FAMILY FUND:
In Memory of Tayna (Rodd) Curtiss '73 given by Rose Chick '73
In Memory of Rose Pollard given by Sally Spendler
In Memory of Elmer Splett given by Sally Spendler



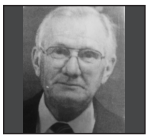
THE GORDY AHLGREN FUTURE FUND:
Bruce Ahlgren given by Brian & Mika Ahlgren*



GORDY AND JACKIE NELSON MEMORIAL FUND:
In Memory of Harriette Niemi given by Paul Nelson



COLE DRECHSLER FAMILY FUND:
In Memory of Carol Sedor given by Steve & Linda Jankowski



KENNY JOHNSON AND THE JOHNSON COMPANY MEMORIAL FUND:
In Memory of Jan Prevost given by Sally Spendler



PREVOST FAMILY FUND:
In Memory of Shirley (Walters) Berg given by David & Margorie Golen '52
In Memory of Shirley (Walters) Berg given by Del & Penney Prevost
In Memory of Charlie Williams given by Royal & Mary Prevost



JOHN BUYTAERT FAMILY FUND:
Dale & Heidi Buytaert** '91

'61 CHS CLASS OF 1961 MEMORIAL FUND:
In Memory of Shirley (Walters) Berg given by Morry '61 & Lauren '63 Berg*
Roland Crider***
In Memory of Karen (Hillman) Follett given by Sally Spendler

'62 CHS CLASS OF 1962 MEMORIAL FUND:
Corrine L. Gobeli**
In Memory of Jan Prevost given by Bob '62 & Louwanna '64 Johnson

'63 CHS CLASS OF 1963 MEMORIAL FUND:
In Memory of Susan Allen '63 given by David R. Anderson '65
In Memory of Ardis Jons given by Morry '61 & Lauren '63 Berg
In Memory of Rae Sylvester given by Morry '61 & Lauren '63 Berg

CLASS OF 1964 MEMORIAL FUND:
In Memory of Rose (Chell) Pollard '65 given by Mary Ellen (Parks) Hammarlund '64



NORMAN HEWITT MEMORIAL FUND:
In Memory of Margee Hewitt given by Family & Friends
In Memory of Margee Hewitt given by Steve '64 & Lorna Mangan
In Memory of Margee Hewitt given by Katherine Marinac
In Memory of Margee Hewitt given by a grade school through high school friend Ann (Laliberte) Olson



RICHARD C. NORDHOLM FAMILY FUND:
Bradford Nordholm**



PETE AND GRACE PLANKERS FAMILY FUND:
In Memory of Denny Koster given by Tom & Kathy McFarlane



RICARD AND BARBARA PUUMALA FAMILY FUND:
In Memory of Marlene (Trettel) Salls given by Robert Salls**
In Memory of Elmer Splett given by Sue (Johnson) Smith



RUBE'S STEM AND IA FUND:
Ross Meisner**
Debra (Moskal) Swanson* '73
In Honor of the Class of 1974 50th Class Reunion given by an Anonymous Donor*
In Honor of the Class of 1974 50th Class Reunion given by Wendy (Olson) Gilbertson
In Honor of the Class of 1974 50th Class Reunion given by Mike Medich*
In Memory of Ted Micke given by Rick '77 & Dana '78 Stowell*
In support of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and industrial arts.

Donation of $100 or more*	Donation of $500 or more**	Donation of $1,500 or more***	Donation of $5,000 or more****	Donation of $10,000 or more *****



SZYMAN FAMILY FUND:

In Honor of the Mother of Kim, Mark, Mike, and Kathy Krezenski given by Peter & Catherine Szyman*



JIM YORSTON FAMILY FUND:

In Memory of Roger Erdahl given by Sally Spendler

RETIRED/FORMER CLOQUET SCHOOL STAFF:

Anonymous*
Marilyn Gilchrist

1957
Norman Connor*

1959
Marilyn (Olson) Gilchrist*

1972
Mark Fairbairn*
Ken & Marie McCuskey*

1975
Paul Wolner*

1976
Tim & Sue Palmer**

1977
Lynn (Suominen) '77 & John Werner

1986
Jody (Anderson) Acers '86

IN MEMORY OF:

AshleyAbrahamson given by Mike '74 & Kris Abrahamson*

Gail Beck given by Thomas Proulx

Larry Beckstrom '59 given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Shirley Berg given by Kris & Kari Anderson

Shirley Berg given by David & Lynn Beatty

Shirley Berg given by the T Bergs*

Shirley Berg given by Dick & Liz Brenner

Shirley (Walters) Berg given by Jan (Nelson) Busenius

Shirley Berg given by Pat & Sarah Ellena

Shirley Berg given by John & Debbie Gassert & Kurt & Jody Williams

Shirley Berg given by Elizabeth & Thomas Gergen

Shirley Berg given by Mary Gerlach

Shirley Berg given by Jim & Sandy Haley

Shirley Berg '55 given by Lynn (Mangan) Haley

Shirley Berg given by Steve & Linda Jankowski

Shirley Berg given by Scott & Jennifer Laurienzo

Shirley Berg given by Gordy & Shannon Meagher

Shirley Berg given by Karrie (Anderson) Osvold

Shirley Berg given by Curtis Oswell

Shirley Berg given by Lois Patten

Shirley Berg given by Tim & Janel Peterson

Shirley Berg given by Gerald Pollard*

Shirley Berg given by Commissioner Thomas Proulx

Shirley Berg given by Steve & Kristin Regas

Shirley Berg given by Steve & Becky Schneberger

Shirley Berg given by Leigh Singpiel

Shirley Berg given by the Slattengren Family

Shirley Berg given by Brent Smith

Shirley Berg given by Sally Spendler

Shirley Berg given by Phyllis Stumpf

Shirley Berg given by Marcia Unzen

Shirley Berg given by Michelle Walsh

Shirley Berg given by Woodland Mutual Insurance Company*

Jack Carter given by Mary Jane '77 & Monty '76 Lundberg

Jack Carter given by Sally Spendler

Jerry Cran given by Sally Spendler

Tanya (Rodd) Curtiss given by Tami (Anderson) Rodd '83

Bonnie (Swanson) Edin given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Don Edin '59 given by Karen Edin**

Eleanore Ehmann given by Cathy (Lewis) Sollom '68

Caroline Elmer given by Sally Spendler

Ardis Jons given by Jody (Anderson) Acers '86

Ardis Jons given by Marjorie Bergeland

Ardie Jons given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Ardis Jons given by Mark Jons, Kim Jons, Amy Saccoccia, & Pamela Jons**

Ardis Jons given by Don & Marci Unzen

Ellen Lane given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Tom Lavan '68 given by Sharon (DeCaigny) Lavan '76

Kevin Locke '75 given by Deborah Locke '71

Donald Magnuson given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Rosemary Mathers given by Jim & Lori (Tan) Hatch*

Rosemary Mathers given by Sally Spendler

Rosemary June Mathers given by Peter & Catherine Szyman*

Pat Meisner '51 given by Family & Friends*

Ted Micke given by Harry & Shirley Berg

Ted Micke given by Mary Jane '77 & Monty '76 Lundberg

Betty Lou Milberger given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Susan Modec given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Donald Dean Nelson '60 given by Vern Wills '60

Betty Pearson given by Joe Pearson** '48

Anthony J. Peka given by Susan J. Hagen* '70

Rose Pollard given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Jan Prevost given by Byron Backus*

Jan Prevost '60 given by Duane & Yvonne Bastien

Jan Prevost given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Jan Prevost given by Cathy (Lewis) Sollom '68

Jan Prevost given by Mary Thompson

Jim Prusak given by Mary Jane '77 & Monty '76 Lundberg

Wendy Rodd given by Tami (Anderson) Rodd '83

Amy Roe given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Lynne (Stevens) Roginski '59 given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Carol Sedor given by Cathy (Lewis) Sollom '68

Carol Sedor given by Sally Spendler

Gail (Hedlund) Snickers given by Tami (Anderson) Rodd '83

Elmer Splett given by Mike & Carol Donahue

Elmer Splett given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Rae Sylvester given by Clifton & Marilyn Gilchrist

Rae Sylvester given by Julie Johanson '74

Jim Vnuk given by Mary Jane '77 & Monty '76 Lundberg

Carol Weiner given by Mary Jane '77 & Monty '76 Lundberg

Betty Wilkinson given by Mary Jane '77 & Monty '76 Lundberg

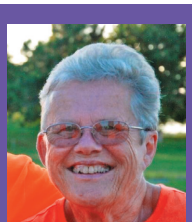
Mary (Nenadich) Young given by JoAnn (Peterson) Lynch* '55

EACH GIFT WE RECEIVE . . .

is meaningful and appreciated, and memorials are a wonderful expression of support for education in Cloquet. We would like to recognize Kathy Ahlgren, Shirley (Walters) Berg, and Margee Hewitt.



Kathleen L. Ahlgren – Ron & Kathy Ahlgren Education Fund



Shirley (Walters) Berg – CHS 1955



Margee Hewitt – The Norman Hewitt Memorial Fund

Although every effort is made to ensure donation information is accurately recorded, please let us know if a correction needs to be made 218-879-3806.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

Cloquet Teachers Make a Difference



Educators of the Cloquet School District ***work hard every day to make a difference in the lives of their students.*** Dozens of Cloquet staff BOOST **their** impact on educational experiences offered by the District by giving to the annual *"Pay It Forward"* Payroll deduction fundraising campaign. This year, the staff committed to over $6,000 in additional funding for their school buildings. As the CEF Board shares district needs, it is powerful for the community to learn that our district employees believe in the power of educational philanthropy and they, too, provide charitable donations.

Thank you to those who participated this year:

Jane Acheson
Cindy Allen
Heidi Anderson
Bret Baker
Jamie Baker
Erin Bates
Steve Battaglia
Nicole Belpedio
Kevin Brenner
Katy Buytaert
Michael Cary
Kandis Chalberg
Julie Deters
Ann Doesken
Sarah Ellena
Tara Fast
Jenny Gagner
Crimsen Hanson
Willa Hanson
Rachel Holte-Christenson
Valerie Houck
Jamie Jazdzewski
Angela Jones
Courtney Josefson
Lisa Lamirande
Tom Lenarz
Ashlee Lennartson
Jodi Lorenz
Mary & Chris Marciniak
Jennifer McInerney
Christine Metzer
Robbi Mondati
Vickie Nordin
Laura Olson
Tim & Sara Prosen
Jenny Rackliffe
Brenda Rasmussen
Jason Richardson
Regina Roemhildt
Shannon Sams
Nate Sandman
Nicole Sandman
Jessica Santti
Liz Sinisalo
Lindsay Smith
David Wangen
Niki Whittet
Jody Zeleznikar
Debra Zime

As you think about YEAR END gifts...

The best gift you can give touches 1,000's of lives in the Cloquet community. Consider a gift to

The Cloquet Educational Foundation

in honor or memory of loved ones this season.

By choosing the CEF you will be supporting educational opportunities for thousands of students in the Cloquet School District. Your gift, big or small, has a powerful impact.

For more information: www.cloquetedfoundation.org
We can be reached at 218.879.3806
CEF, 302 14th Street, Cloquet, MN 55720



21st Annual CEF Golf Tournament "Outplays" the Weather



Team CCC: Chad DeMenge, Aaron Young, Matt Carlson, Jim Stafford, Jake Comnick.

They didn't let a "little" rain stand in their way!

A BIG "thank you" to the golfers who came out on a very stormy day in August to support education in Cloquet.

The 21st Annual CEF Tournament was a great success bringing together 24 teams and raising over $9,000 in support of educational experiences and programs RIGHT NOW in the Cloquet School District.

We are especially thankful to our major sponsors, Mark Cool and Paul Munson of Split Rock Trading, and Steve Micke of Reliable Insurance Agency.

Team "CCC" (Cloquet Country Club) took home the trophy this year, playing steady throughout the days' rain.

Cloquet Educational Foundation

WAYS TO GIVE:

☐ Cash/Check enclosed, please make checks payable to Cloquet Educational Foundation
☐ YES! I have included the CEF in my will or estate plan and have become a member of the White Pine Legacy.

I would like to donate to the following fund(s):

☐ Cloquet Educational Foundation
☐ The Gordy Ahlgren Future Fund
☐ The Ron and Kathy Ahlgren Education Fund
☐ Carol (Johnson) Bromme Endowment for Arts and Education
☐ John Buytaert Family Fund
☐ Edward Chinnock Family Fund
☐ Don & Midge Grant Endowment Fund
☐ Class of 1961 Memorial Fund
☐ Class of 1962 Memorial Fund
☐ Class of 1963 Memorial Fund
☐ Class of 1964 Memorial Fund
☐ Cole Drechsler Family Fund
☐ Norman Hewitt Memorial Fund
☐ Kenny Johnson and the Johnson Company Memorial Fund
☐ Joseph & Mary McKenna Family Fund
☐ Gordy & Jackie Nelson Memorial Fund
☐ Harry Newby, Sr. Family Fund
☐ Richard C. Nordholm Family Fund
☐ Shirley and George Oakes Family Fund
☐ Pete and Grace Plankers Family Fund
☐ Prevost Family Fund
☐ Ricard and Barbara Puumala Family Fund
☐ Rube's STEM and IA Fund
☐ Don and Pauline Schroeder Family Fund
☐ Allen Spafford Memorial Fund
☐ Szyman Family Fund
☐ Textor Family Fund for Intercultural Understanding and Harmony
☐ Yetka Family Fund
☐ Jim Yorston Family Fund
☐ Tom and Phyllis Walsh Music and Education Fund

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT

Mailing Address: CEF, 302 14th Street, Cloquet, MN 55720

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ My/our gift of $ _____ is enclosed. If attended Cloquet schools, year of graduation? _____

☐ My/our gift is in memory/honor of _____

If you would like the Foundation to send a letter to the family, please include their address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Missing address: If you know of others who would like to receive the CEF News please include their addresses (children, siblings, alums, etc.)
Your help in keeping our address database updated is greatly appreciated. The CEF does not share this information.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY...

We all want to impact the world in a positive way and leave it a little better because of the things we did. Members of the **White Pine Legacy** are doing that by including the CEF in their wills and estate plans. By becoming a member of the White Pine Legacy, you will be providing a future gift that will leave a lasting legacy of education for many generations. Get started by checking out our website at **www.cloquetedfoundation.org**, scanning the QR code, or contacting our office at 218-879-3806.

SCAN ME



Cloquet Educational Foundation
302 14th Street
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

****ECRWSS EDDM****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
55806
PERMIT NO. 1003

CONTACTS AND STAFF

Jody Acers, *Executive Director*
Karrie Osvold, *CEF Office Support*
(218) 879-3806
cloquetedfoundation.org

LIKE US ON facebook

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CEF'S BLUE JEAN BALL!

Wear your jeans and flannels for the 23rd Annual Blue Jean Ball in support of the excellent education in Cloquet.

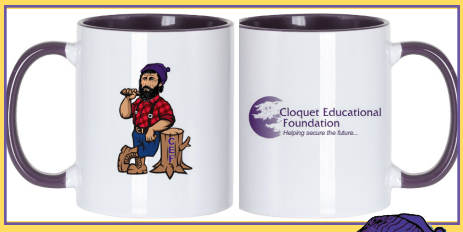
This is the MAJOR fundraiser for the foundation and we encourage you to get your tickets early for this event. Tickets will be available on November 1st.



Saturday, February 1, 2025

Otter Creek Event Center, Black Bear Resort and Casino
5:00 pm Social Hour
6:00 pm Dinner
Tickets: $50 per person and include dinner and a fabulous table "take-a-way"!

CEF COFFEE CUPS FOR SALE



Warm up this winter with a limited edition CEF coffee cup!

$10 (Pick up only)

Contact the CEF Office to get yours!

(218) 879-3806
jacers@isd94.org



"INVEST IN KIDS" SPONSORS

Support from our Invest In Kids sponsors provides Cloquet students educational experiences that might not be possible otherwise. When you do business with our sponsors, you support our students and our community.

We are ***especially*** grateful for our friends at Sappi Fine Paper for their many years of support by suppling paper for this newsletter.

NAH-GAH-CHI-WA-NONG
FOND DU LAC
CLOQUET · BROOKSTON · SAWYER
RESERVATION
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Northwoods CREDIT UNION
SPLITROCK PRIVATE TRADING · WEALTH MANAGEMENT
MEMBERS COOPERATIVE CREDIT UNION
sappi
Lake Country Power
SONS OF NORWAY Heimsyn Lodge
USG
ACERS James D. Acers Company
B&B Market Catering & Quality Meats
BOLDT BUILDS Oscar J. Boldt Construction
COMMUNITY Printing INC.
PRO PRINT
Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
EST. 1946 Esterbrooks CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
FRANDSEN BANK & TRUST Your Bridge to Financial Success for Life
Great Lakes Office Solutions
TOMHAVE DENTAL ASSOCIATES
ROCK SOLID FINANCIALS
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES
Nelson Funeral Care
PARK AVENUE THERAPIES & FITNESS