



Monthly Minute

A monthly "hello" from the Cloquet Educational Foundation with news, information, and small "seeds" for your in-box



www.cloquetedfoundation.org

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218-879-3806

Mission Statement:

The Cloquet Educational Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, provides opportunities for academic, artistic, athletic, cultural, and social growth for children and youth in the Cloquet area by financially supporting programs and activities.

About US

The Cloquet Educational Foundation believes an ideal community promotes educational excellence by supporting learning opportunities for children-in the classroom and beyond-so they can develop into healthy, productive adults.

Our purpose is to secure funding for educational opportunities for Cloquet students from birth through high school graduation. We work in partnership with the Cloquet Public Schools and the community to accomplish goals.

Our funding does not replace school district responsibilities. It works to enhance dollars by providing necessary support for prioritized educational initiatives and creative and innovative programs.

The 2022 Blue Jean Ball is now "in the books" and was a huge success. It was better than I imagined. Even though we were observing Covid protocols, it "felt normal" seeing friends gathered together having fun. I don't want to get too ahead of myself, but I felt pretty positive about the days to come. It got me thinking.

If you live close enough to Cloquet's city center, you WILL hear the trains running day and into the night.

I have heard this familiar sound most of my life, and I am not sure there has ever been a time that the sound has bothered me. In fact, I find it pretty comforting; a sound of "home". From where we live, I often hear the distant rumble of the trains coming in from the east and west; they slow as they get closer to the mill, and the squeal of iron and metal gets louder. I know they have arrived when the whistle blows a number of times at the crossing under the bridge. It isn't long before the sound is at its loudest, announced by the unmistakable whistle through the north end of town.

I am looking at our approach to the pandemic like a train these days. Maybe we can look at the disruptions of the past few years as a freight train-it certainly felt like it. But there has been a shift. I am reminded of "Peace Train" by Cat Stevens who so eloquently and movingly wrote the lyrics about a (peace) train coming soon; we can hear it, and it is making folks awfully happy. It's not here yet, but "it's sounding louder", and it signals "good things to come". This train glides, it doesn't lumber or rumble. It's sound, out on the edge of darkness, reminds us that it's bringing some positive cargo.

Now when I hear the trains moving, gliding, through my town, I think of good things to come. As spring nears and as the pandemic changes the shape of how we do things, let's all jump on the train to a better days. It's coming folks-just listen for the trains.

**Do you know someone who would like to receive this in their in-box each month?
Contact us at jacers@isd94.org**



Spotlight on our Blue Jean Ball game sponsors:

Featured games at the BJB:

- Treasure Chest** sponsored by Reliable Agency
- Heads and Tails** sponsored by Kwik Trip, Super One Foods & Sappi Fine Paper
- Pack Your Bags...Ely Trip** sponsored by Timber Trail Lodge & Resort & Fortune Bay Casino
- Luck of the Draw** sponsored by Dr. Mike Cary & Family, ISD94 Administrators
- PLINKO** sponsored by Del and Penney Prevost and a "Fabulous Friend of the CEF"
- Wine Toss** sponsored by Cold One Liquor



   
Katie Bailey won the loot! She is congratulated by Laura Hansen, CEF Board member moments after her key unlocked the loot!

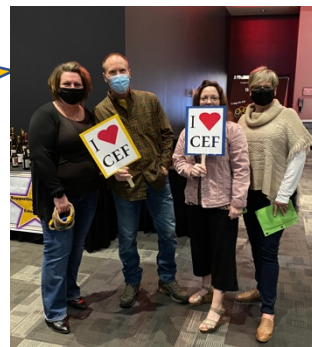
   
2022 Lumberjack Blue Jean Ball



We couldn't do it without you! The success of the annual Blue Jean Ball is because businesses, organizations, and supporters said YES to supporting excellent education in Cloquet. The Blue Jean Ball raised more than \$45,000 this year, an amazing amount that will stay in our community benefitting the students of Cloquet.

Thank You

On the evening of February 5th, I left the Otter Creek Ballroom exhausted but happy. I worried that I cannot adequately thank the many volunteers and supporters of this event. I literally could not find the words. (I wish there was a word for not being able to find the word...) Even now, my heart is so full when I think of the graciousness, the support, the hard-work and teamwork of the fine folks who made this event a success. My words are powerless to express my gratitude. **Thank you** BJB Team.



It's official! We are pleased to announce the date for the next Lumberjack Blue Jean Ball: Saturday, February 4, 2023. Please check out our Facebook page or our website for on-going information and photos from this years' event.



Find us on Facebook!

