



# Monthly Minute

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

[www.cloquetedfoundation.org](http://www.cloquetedfoundation.org)

February 2021

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.

I will not be popular as I think this a loud, but .... *I like February.* ☺

I can hear the groans now; comments about how "snowy and cold it is" and "winter is so long" (especially during the Covid pandemic). Bored? Yes, perhaps. But as my mom used to say, in order to live here you need to "embrace winter, and learn to ski, skate or ice fish." I will add sew, bake and do jigsaw puzzles.

February is full of possibilities. Gardeners plan their gardens and fisher-people start changing the line on their reel. If this were a normal year, the CEF would be hosting its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Jean Ball IN PERSON. Valentine's day is right around the corner, so head-out to the store and get a card for your loved one and take the time to write a note. And remember it is SO worth it to celebrate President's Day as an exercise in history. All in all, there is good news all around!

There is more good news. I am pleased to announce the following grants were fully funded by the CEF at the January 8, 2021 meeting, amounting to **\$19,915.40**. They are:

- Math Masters
- Destination Imagination
- Student Inventors Fair
- Jr. Great Books Program
- Attendance Incentives
- Robotics Replacement Parts
- "Meeting-ups" virtual school clubs
- Monthly Reading Challenges
- Ojibwe Signage Project at CHS
- Virtual Learning Materials DCD/Special Ed.
- Enhancing the Image (CHS Photography)
- Art Ed Flex for 2021
- Distance Learning and Software Industrial Ed.
- CEC 1<sup>st</sup> Year Skier Equipment
- Prairie Garden Project

On behalf of the CEF Board of Directors, it was our pleasure to see such innovative and important grants, several in response to the Covid disruption. Many thanks to our supporters, friends, and community for helping to make sure we have strong funding for these grants.

This is good news indeed.

Do you know someone who would like to receive this in their in-box each month?

Contact us at [jacers@isd94.org](mailto:jacers@isd94.org)

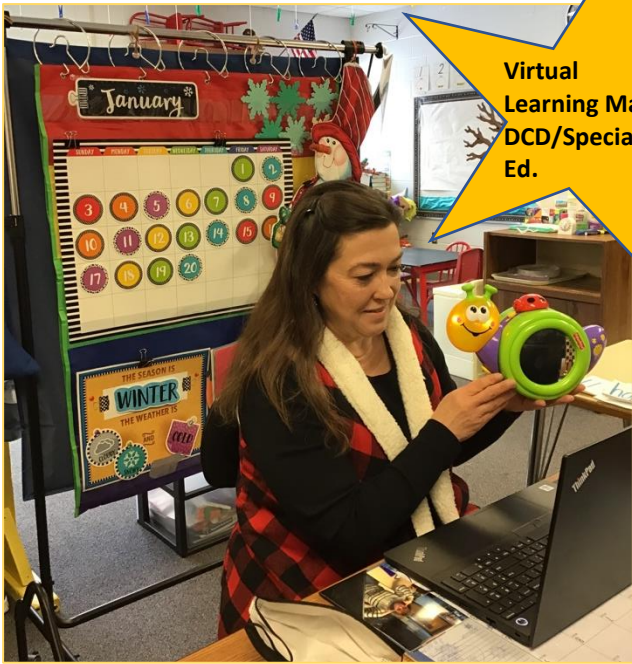


**Edward Jones**  
807 Cloquet Avenue  
Cloquet, MN 55720  
(218) 879- 0291

Spotlight on our supporters:



“We want to be an important part of our clients’ lives. Helping clients have successful financial lives is a big job, and we love doing it. ‘Let’s go make the world a better place!’ is how I end every staff meeting.” Thanks, Brett Loeb for your positive words and your continued support of the CEF.



**Virtual Learning Materials DCD/Special Ed.**

**From Tina Swartwoudt, Churchill Elementary Special Education Teacher and recipient of a successful grant from the CEF in January:**

*“On behalf of our students and staff, I would like to thank you for the recent grant to support our students through virtual learning. The new toys and visual supports are making a difference in student engagement! Our students who are returning to in-person learning will also benefit from these materials.*

*Thank again for a great start to 2021! We appreciate it.”*

***Thanks Tina! Keep up the good work.***



**Meet Steve Micke**  
CEF Board Member, Owner of  
Reliable Insurance, CHS  
Graduate and Community  
Supporter

**Which would you rather: Motorcycle or sports car?** Sports Car

**What year did I graduate and what do I do now:** I graduated in 1975 from CHS and I am currently the President of Reliable Insurance Agency in Cloquet

**In my free time I like to:** Walk, Hike, play golf

**Something I can’t live without:** Going to my place in Palm Springs ☺

**Why I love Cloquet:** It has been my home all my life except the 2 years I was away in the cities. I love the town and I think everyone is so friendly and helpful. It has a great business community and great industries that support the town. And best of all a great school system!

**Favorite teacher or memory of CHS:** Bill Kennedy



Many of you have asked about the status of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Jean Ball. Here is “the scoop”:

We have every intention of rolling out a “virtual event” later this spring. We have begun the process of updating our website which will help us with virtual “FUN -raising”. It will be nice to have some additional on-line tools to help us for years to come! Thanks for your patience...we will invite everyone to our “new and improved” site-come ready to party- as soon as it is ready. ☺



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