



Issue 6 August 2024

# MCSEEF 2024 Newsletter

The Mercer County Schools Excellence in Education Foundation (MCSEEF) is a non-profit organization with a mission to support the students and teachers of Mercer County School District #404. The foundation funds educational grants to provide equipment and materials for enhancing classroom instruction and activities. To date, MCSEEF has funded 66 grants with a total of over \$26,500 in supplemental materials and equipment to benefit the students in our district!

Grant applications for the 2024-25 school year are currently being accepted and will be awarded soon. In order to continue funding teacher grants each year, MCSEEF needs continued help from our community businesses, individuals and alumni. Please consider making a donation this year to assist MCSEEF in providing our teachers with even more excellent educational opportunities for their students.

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## 2023 CLASSROOM GRANTS

Kathy Olson (Apollo 2<sup>nd</sup> grade): mobile dry erase board for outside learning

Amanda Carson (Apollo 8 NBE K-5 Math): materials to implement math activities

Matt Simpson (MCJH 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Science): hydroponics units and supplies

Kristen Adams (ELC & NBE Language-speech Pathologist): books for literacy groups

Sam Duncan (NBE K-5 STEM): Sphero mini bots

Jamie Breeden (NBE PE): balance stepping stones and bowling balls

Melissa Maloney (Apollo Title 1 reading K-5): diagnostic assessment materials

Kristen Reick (Apollo K-5 music): flexible seating

Barbara Bryant (Apollo 5<sup>th</sup> special education): flexible seating and lighting

Staci Sharp (Apollo K): math manipulatives

Deb Giles (NBE 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>): books for Battle of the Books Program

**Directors:** Victor Johnson, President  
Sarah Dixon

Julie Wagner, Secretary  
Todd Baldwin

Barbara Chiles, Treasurer

## Classroom grants in action!



Matt Simpson's Jr High Plant Science class has learned about plant nutrients and growth through the hydroponics system.



Kathy Olson using the portable whiteboard for an outside lesson on sundials.



The students in Barbara Bryant's classroom enjoy the flexible seating and lighting when reading.



Under the instruction of Sam Duncan, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at NBE created a racetrack and teamed up to race each other using the drive function in the Sphero Mini app.



Students appreciate the flexible seating in Kristen Reick's music class.



Left: Students at NBE participating in Battle of the Books.  
Right: Battle of the Books winners!

## 2023/2024 Supporters

The MCSEEF Board of Directors sincerely appreciates the generous donations of all individuals and businesses who continue to support our students!

### **GOLDEN EAGLE DONORS** (\$2500 and up)

Victor Johnson

### **GOLD DONORS** (\$1000-\$2499)

Mercer County Township

Anonymous

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## Donate to MCSEEF

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- ☐ current use fund  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Please mail this with your check to: MCSEEF, 100 NE 5<sup>th</sup> St, Aledo, IL 61231

**OR**

Click the MCSEEF link on the [mercerschools.org](http://mercerschools.org) home page to donate by debit card, credit card or PayPal.

\*We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. All contributions are tax deductible.

