



6  
Educators  
Honored



\$75K  
Educator  
Grants



# 2022-23 MEF CONNECTIONS REPORT

*Promoting Excellence in Murray Schools!*

## EDUCATOR GRANT FUNDING RESULTS

Thanks to generous contributions, MEF was able to fund \$75,000 in grants to 158 Murray Educators, benefitting more than half of all students in Murray. Here are a few examples of that funding in action.



### 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

MEF's Annual Golf Tournament swung into play in August. The event links up a collection of compassionate community leaders with educator needs, netting more than \$400,000 in donations to support 1300 grants over the years. The 2023 event is August 25.



### UNTANGLING BARRIERS TO LEARNING...

Longview Elementary Second Grade Teachers Paige Clark and Trina Evans were frustrated with all the jumbled-up and broken headphone cords they were dealing with. In fact, too much of their time was wasted on resolving these entanglements. Thankfully, there was a solution in the form of Murray Education Foundation teacher grants. Through a simple request, Paige and Trina were able to acquire funding to purchase better-quality headphones. Now they and their students are spending more time learning and dealing with fewer annoying barriers to learning.



### ALPHABET SOUP...

First Grade Viewmont Teacher Jen Lightfoot, needed a slick way to help kids discover patterns in words while getting extra spelling practice in. Students love it when teachers give them hands-on learning opportunities to use their So, she approached Murray Education Foundation (MEF) for a grant to purchase alphabet sets for each student in her class. A bonus is that they have been instrumental for one student beginning to learn English, who just moved here from another country.



### VIRTUAL EXPERIENCES THAT INSPIRE...

Murray High School teacher Teacher Lynley Hogan wanted to give her US History and AP World Civ students more tangible learning experiences. Since taking them across the world to visit historic sites isn't practical, she received funding from Murray Education Foundation to bring the world to her classroom by purchasing a VR Oculus Quest 2 headset. This student was able to use the Oculus to "visit" Anne Frank's hideout in Amsterdam. In addition to studying WWII in US History right now, she and other Murray theater students have also recently put on a play about Anne Frank and with the oculus, she was able to enrich her understanding by virtually experiencing Anne's everyday life in this tiny, hidden apartment under German occupation.



### ANGEL TREE DONATIONS

MEF partnered with Beehive Insurance, BMW of Murray, and several churches and other organizations from Reach Out Today to make Christmas just a little bit merrier for 175 Murray students in need.



### 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PINNACLE AWARDS

Each year, MEF bestows the community's highest education recognition to educators, administrators, and personnel. In March, MEF honored:

- Lindsey Preece, Grant Elem. Classified Employee
- Annette Tomlinson, Longview Elementary Teacher
- Natalie Dansie, Murray High Volunteer
- Jessica Garrett, Murray High Teacher
- Heather Nicholas, Parkside Elementary Principal
- Susan Wright, District Instructional Coach

### 2022-23 MEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

A huge thank you to our Board, volunteers, and staff who make every year at Murray Education Foundation memorable and rewarding for educators and students.

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Join Us! We believe in the power of connections. Our community partners with dozens of businesses and organizations to make Murray a special place to learn and grow.

**MURRAY EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

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