



Since its inception in 1995 the REF has funded more than \$3.5M in grants. Established to close the gap between what our district budget can cover, and the needs of our students, teachers and administrators, the REF is committed to fostering an environment of excellence in our schools.

2023 GRANT CYCLE UPDATE



Deane-Porter student working on her classroom's cloud table.

This past January, The Rumson Education Foundation awarded two grants to the Rumson School District. These grants totaled over \$280,000 and we are thrilled for the students and the promising outcomes.

The first grant was the completion of the four-year, \$800,000 grant request made by Dr. Bormann and the Board of Education for the purchase of flexible furniture in grades PreK, Kindergarten and 5th. In conjunction with the Board of Education's classroom renovations, all students and teachers will now have mobile desks, cubbies, writable cloud tables, marker boards, stackable Oodle stools and more when they return to school in September.



Forrestdale student learning about digital art during Art class with Mr. Miranda.

The REF is also proud to announce the funding of a grant request made by Mr. Matthew Miranda, Forrestdale's new art teacher. The grant request will build on the digital art program Mr. Miranda introduced to students this year which he states in his request "*brought new life into the creativity of our collective student body.*"

We are thrilled to support Mr. Miranda's grant and finish the flexible furniture initiative in our school. We look forward to continuing to support future grants that are innovative and build on the educational programs in our school including the arts and sciences.

The funding of these two grants would not have been possible without the generosity of our community. Your support is truly invaluable to us. On behalf of the current and past REF board members, a heartfelt thank you for your continued support.

LET'S HEAR FROM OUR TEACHERS!

Ms. Meghan Kain, 5th Grade Teacher

"I am beyond excited for the new furniture and flexible seating. I cannot wait to utilize all the whiteboard space especially on the tables to work with small groups. The new desks will support my students in various learning and teaching modes. Thank you to the Rumson community to helping support the teachers and students!"

Mrs. Gina Strack, Kindergarten Teacher:

"Flexible Seating is one of the most amazing additions we currently have in our kindergarten classrooms. The students love having the choice to sit in different chairs that help them relax, let some wiggles out, and assist in maintaining their focus while learning. We are beyond grateful to be receiving updated flexible seating for our students. The kindergarten teachers are looking forward to it just as much as the students. Thank you!"

Mr. Matthew Miranda, Forrestdale Art Teacher

"This grant along with the creation of a new Digital Photography curriculum element will help make our Forrestdale Art program more rounded and one that exemplifies artistic opportunities for our students. The cameras will allow us for the first time to explore and create a digital photography program within our growing program. Thank you!"



THE KITCHEN TOUR IS BACK!

After a five-year hiatus, the **Rumson Kitchen Tour** is back. The tour will be held on **Thursday May 18th, 2023** and consists of ten beautiful homes in Rumson featuring architectural and interior design from some of the best in the industry. Each home will also showcase local florists and caterers offering lite bites.

The day begins at Bingham Hall, where attendees will pick up their swag bag and shop some of the best local vendors. Additionally, all attendees will be given a Resource Guide, describing each home and the vision the families and designers had when building it.



This event helps to fund the many innovative and educational grants supported by the REF and is enjoyed by local and individuals afar. It is a special day and we hope to see you there! Tickets are capped at 600 so get yours before it sells out!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

❖ Join us at our **Annual Associates' meeting** on Tuesday, **April 25th, 2023** at **9:30am**. If you are interested in becoming an associate or board member, or just want to learn more about the REF, this is a great opportunity! We hope you will join us. Please RSVP to the event at rumsoneducationfoundation@gmail.com for the address and more information.



❖ Save The Date: **Golf FORE Education and Celebration for Education** will be held on **September 20, 2023** at Rumson Country Club.

HOW TO SUPPORT THE REF!

- ❖ Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to find out about future events and grants being funded!
- ❖ Volunteer for upcoming events.
- ❖ Join us at our Annual Associates' Meeting.
- ❖ Submit a grant.
- ❖ Donate to the REF. Visit our website for more information!

