



Since its inception in 1995 the REF has funded more than **\$3M** in grants. Established as a means to close the gap between what our district budget can cover, and the needs of our students, teachers, administrators, the REF is committed to fostering an environment of excellence in our schools.

OUR OUTDOOR CLASSROOM IS OPEN!

Our new outdoor classroom is open! Located between the 4th and 7th grade wings at Forrestdale, lies an innovative outdoor classroom funded by members of our school community. The classroom is situated next to the greenhouse and REF funded aquaponics lab, mushroom farm and apple orchard, enriching our science and agriculture STEM curriculum. The covered pavilion provides protection against inclement weather. ❖ The classroom would not have been possible without the generosity of many community members who offered their time, money, and expertise: The Rumson St. Patrick's Day Committee kickstarted our fundraising efforts with a substantial donation. Al Shissias, a Rumson resident and Deane-Porter, Forrestdale, and RFH alum, completed the initial architectural drawings. Burke Honnold, also a Rumson resident, consulted on the construction. Jamie O'Brien, Rumson School Building and Grounds Supervisor, Brittaney Flynn, the 4th through 6th grade science teacher, and Dr. John Bormann, Superintendent of Schools, all provided valuable feedback and guidance on the project.



GRANT SPOTLIGHT: FLEXIBLE SEATING

In 2021, The Rumson Education Foundation funded a significant grant request from Dr. Bormann to provide the 1st, 3rd and Special Education classrooms at Deane Porter and Forrestdale with **flexible furniture**. These are all classrooms which had not been covered in the referendum. Flexible furniture provides teachers and students with options pertaining to the arrangement of their work spaces. Flexible seating includes, but is not limited to: yoga balls, whistle chairs, sit-to-stand desks and chairs, and more. In addition to matching the aesthetics of the newly remodeled classroom, flexible furniture provides students with a variety of seating options and learning arrangements. As far as the benefits of this funded grant, Dr. Bormann reports, "Outside the walls of our classroom is a dynamic, fast-paced, and ever-changing world full of choices. Our flexible furniture initiative helps students to feel part of that world of choice and enables students to feel empowered by having some degree of choice and control over their environment." This grant was a meaningful contribution to enhancing the experience of our students and teachers, especially after a challenging year.





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4th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

On October 13th, The Rumson Education Foundation held our annual golf outing and reception at the Rumson Country Club. The event was a huge success with 108 golfers in attendance, 47 sponsors, and 36 auction items sold. All the money raised will go to funding future grants for the Rumson schools!



COMING UP!



❖ Bricks and Pavers are still available for sale and can be purchased via our website. Don't miss out on this chance to be part of a lasting legacy. All funds raised beyond the cost of the building will fund future REF grants.

❖ Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to find out about future events and grants being funded!

