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Newly Established McGregor ISD Education Foundation Awards over \$16,000 to Teachers for Innovative Projects

McGregor, Texas (April 5, 2017) – The McGregor ISD Education Foundation recently awarded more than \$16,000 in grant funds to support innovative teaching initiatives that enhance student achievement.

Local business leaders and volunteers conducted a blind review of the grant applications submitted by McGregor ISD staff on February 15th, 2017. The following teachers received funding for their projects.

- Tim Grace and Rebecca Reed earned \$5,000 for an “Instrument Music Enrichment Program” for the junior high and high school campuses. The program places McGregor band students under the instruction of experienced musicians to improve their ability and confidence with their chosen instrument.
- Chis Kuhl earned \$1,000 for a “Science, Research and Design Rocket Build” project at the high school for students that will be in charge of designing, building and launching rockets.
- Laura deWet earned \$1,000 for “Foundations in Personal Finance” at the high school for seniors learning how to manage money, budget and invest as they transition into adulthood.
- Laura deWet earned an additional \$256 for “Geometric Constructions” at the high school for geometry classes learning to emulate ancient construction strategies.
- Michelle Lenamon earned \$2,700 for the “McGregor Reads One Book” program at the elementary campus. The project seeks to encourage literacy and establish a love of reading by inviting students, staff and families to read the same chapter book.
- Melissa Marshall, Jennifer Millsap, Jamie Taylor and Chris Kuhl earned \$5,000 to install a “Design, Engineering and Coding Space” on all campuses. DEC technology will encourage students to take a hands-on approach to implementing design solutions for real-world problems.
- Jennifer Scott earned \$500 to purchase items for a “Sensory Corner” in her kindergarten classroom. This space will include a variety of seating and fidget items to improve focus for students that become emotionally unstable in the classroom.

- Dawn Ramos earned \$876 for a portable stage for the junior high. The stage will allow students in the theatre program to create different settings for performances.

The foundation wishes to congratulate the teacher awardees and thank them for their dedication to the students of McGregor.

“Wednesday was an exciting and fun day as the McGregor ISD Education Foundation handed out its first round of innovative teaching grants. Establishing the foundation and bringing it to the point of actually awarding grants is the first step in helping McGregor Independent School District become an even more outstanding school,” commented McGregor ISD Education Foundation Board Chair, Terry Arp. “One of the foundation’s goals is to make McGregor ISD a place where every parent in Central Texas wants to educate their children.”

Arp added, "The board of directors would also like to extend a special thank you to the donors that joined us during the awards presentation celebration - Retha Anderson, Terry Sloan of Rocket Federal Credit Union and a representative from SpaceX. The work of the foundation is made possible thanks to the generosity of these donors and many other contributors throughout the greater McGregor community."

About McGregor ISD Education Foundation

The McGregor ISD Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors. The foundation is a separate legal entity from the school district and is governed by state and federal law.

The foundation solicits, manages and distributes funds for enrichment purposes in program areas not funded by tax dollars. Foundation programs promote educational excellence and enhance lifelong learning for the students of McGregor ISD.

Contributions to the McGregor ISD Education Foundation can be mailed to:
McGregor ISD Education Foundation
P. O. Box 294
McGregor, Texas 76657

To make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one, please call (254) 840.2828. Donations are tax deductible and gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated.

For more information about the McGregor ISD Education Foundation, contact Amy LaBrie at (254) 840.2828 or alabrie@mcgregor-isd.org