

DATE: February 15, 2024

MEMO TO: Nels Leutwiler, Chair
Preservation Foundation Board

FROM: Alyssa Furkus
Director of Education

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of a \$3,000 grant from unrestricted funds to support a Teacher Appreciation Day for 150 Lake County educators in August 2024.

FINANCIAL DATA: As of December 31, 2023, the Foundation's total of unrestricted funding was \$317,637.26. Grants paid and payable from the unrestricted funds as of February 15, 2024, include:

Year	Amount
2024 (paid)	\$ 54,527.05
2024 (payable)	\$ 52,300
2025	\$ 31,000
Total Paid and Payable	\$ 137,827.05

The requested funds would be paid as a single disbursement of \$3,000 in 2024.

BACKGROUND: The purpose of the event is to honor the work of the county's educators while promoting the District's programs and education resources. Teachers will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational activities, including water quality analysis, wildlife monitoring, fishing, guided walks to learn local history through the Dunn Museum's collections, and examining fossil records. Through the Teacher Appreciation Day event, we hope to show our appreciation for the efforts of our local teachers and increase awareness of the variety of programs and resources available for schools through the District, resulting in an increase in program bookings and resource use.

Education staff have provided numerous opportunities to teachers for many years and have been honing how best to support them and their students, especially after the impact of COVID-19. These efforts have included teacher trainings, an annual teacher open house, a Teacher Ambassador program, teacher focus groups, a week-long Teacher Institute in summer 2022, and more.

The 2023 appreciation day is an extension of those efforts while adapting to the changing needs of teachers and students. This is all to ensure that the Lake County Forest Preserves and its Dunn Museum are seen as valuable resources to our community by continuing to establish working relationships and strong connections with local teachers and schools.

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS: As a sponsor of the Teacher Appreciation Day event, the Preservation Foundation's logo will be featured on programming-related materials such as our website and advertisement. The Foundation will be mentioned in the program introduction as a sponsor and will help to play a role in supporting teachers and students in Lake County, Illinois.



**Preservation
Foundation**

**LAKE COUNTY
FOREST PRESERVES**

1899 West Winchester Road
Libertyville, Illinois 60048
847-968-3110 • Fax: 847-549-7079
www.LCFPD.org/Donate

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Executive Director of the Preservation Foundation, Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships, Director of Administration, Acting Chief Operations Officer, and Forest Preserves Executive Director

PRESERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD:

Date: _____ Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

Voice Vote Majority Ayes: _____ Nays: _____