

YEAR IN REVIEW

Somerset ISD Education Foundation Newsletter

Our mission: To enhance learning by supporting the students and staff of Somerset ISD through raising and distributing funds.

A LOOK BACK AT 2021

January 23, 2021

Each year we meet to discuss our plans and projections for the new year. On January 23, 2021, board member's held their annual planning meeting to discuss events, fundraisers, grants, scholarships, budget, and overall goals. The annual planning meeting sets the pace for the year and is crucial to our success and progress.

A huge thank you to our board members and volunteers, who are a huge part of the success of this organization. We cannot thank them enough for their ongoing commitment.

February 2, 2021 - Grant Funds at Work

The "Kindness Rocks" Garden continues at Somerset Elementary. Ms. Scibienski sent us an update on the progress that students have made with their grant funds. They have done such an amazing job, and it's really coming together nicely! More rocks will be added as well as some seating options to complete this project. Great job, Ms. Scibienski and students!



February 5, 2021 - Grant Funds at Work
Grant - Digital Mind, Digital Designer
Savannah Heights STEM students utilize the software Tinkercad to learn and think in 3D. Students are able to now develop their ideas into something they can actually hold using a Dremel 3D printer.



4TH ANNUAL TOPGOLF FAMILY FUN DAY

MARCH 21, 2021



SOMERSET
Education Foundation
2021 FAMILY FUN DAY AT TOP GOLF

EVENT SPONSORS

BULLDOG CADDY SPONSORS

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- Bill & Dicki Reinhardt Ranches

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

MORE GRANT FUNDS AT WORK!

Introducing "AQUABOTS". The robotics coaches at Savannah Heights Intermediate are taking the robotics teams and their experience to the next level. The aquabots are an underwater robotics team that will compete in the Sea Perch Underwater Robotics Forum and will integrate their robotics skills to master a robot that can perform tasks underwater. These robots can help students explore real-world career opportunities that relate to Oceanic Engineering. These students have been practicing in order to be prepared. We cannot wait to see them in action!



"Stress and Release"

In light of studies which directly link teacher attitudes regarding work, self-efficacy, mental health, and self-care to stress, burnout, attendance issues, and employment attrition, this grant request was written to take aim in creating professional development for the teachers on the Somerset Elementary School campus to "stress and release". This project allowed teachers to participate in learning that off-sets the power of stress and tension, by equipping them with tools, techniques, and materials. Information was gathered from various publications which studied how teachers protect themselves from the aforementioned stressors and adopt stances that promote resilience which involves the ability "to maintain a sense of purpose or ability to flourish" in stressful situations. Additionally, their work revealed that a teacher's awareness of and resilience to occupational challenges has direct implications for the students with whom they work. This grant supported the development of a specialized professional development focused on social-emotional health. The grant funded the purchase of materials that helped set the stage for self-care e.g. infused water and healthy treats, and to engage with children's literature that facilitated reflection and discussion related to socio-emotional health. At the conclusion of cluster, the books were raffled so that each text (English and Spanish) was ultimately placed in the hands of teachers and shared with our SES children.



"Ukulele Club"

Somerset Elementary School. When students learn how to play the Ukulele, they will have access to a level specific curriculum with Quaver Music. Using this 4-stringed tool, they will gain skills they wouldn't be able to acquire with a traditional recorder. Some of these benefits include combining melodic, harmonic and chordal playing, and singing - all at the same time! Students can learn (and master) notes almost immediately upon picking up the instrument. These 4 strings can literally play hundreds of "Kodaly-friendly" songs. Students in upper levels will have technical skills needed for mariachi and band, something that secondary music instructors will greatly appreciate as they move on from elementary school. Pictured below...Mr. Gutierrez's 3rd grade class. Each student is partnered up and coaching/critiquing each other's strumming technique.



Academic Recognition Ceremony - May 2021

This annual event is held to honor students for their academic achievement and teachers for their commitment to excellence. These students were recognized along with a teacher or staff member who has made a positive impact in their life.



Top 15% - Students who were honored and staff who were recognized for their impact.

Congratulations to all!

Luz Alvarez / Ms. Marquez
 Fatima Tovar / Coach Lentz
 Joe Alaquinez / Major Burden
 Isabella Araujo / Major Burden
 Sabrina Banda / Ms. Griffin
 Edson Barbosa-Espinoza / Mr. Hernandez
 Skylur Botello / Ms. Heim
 Tiffany Casares / Mr. Webb
 Rebekah Casey / Mrs. Casey

Gabriels Cristiano / Ms. Stilwill
 Kendall Dominguez / Coach Denton
 Kamren Flores / Coach Alvarez
 Elizabeth Green / Mr. Gongora
 Sebastian Hernandez / Mr. Webb
 Briana Hobbs / Ms. Anaya
 Tristan Kurz / Mr. Taylor
 Sarina Lopez / Ms. Soriano
 Kalyñ Marcx / Mr. White

Sierah Martinez / Ms. Stilwill
 Elijah Medina / Mr. Carter
 Belen Mendoza / Ms. Stilwill
 Zayne Michaelson / Coach Allen
 Megan Montes / Ms. Anaya
 Carolina Morin / Major Burden
 Kassandra Moya / Ms. Rude
 April Portillo / Mrs. Duran
 Sierra Rios / Mr. Saenz

Josiah Robles / Coach Caddell
 Julian Robles / Mr. Davis
 Natalia Rodriguez / Mr. Webb
 Omar Rodriguez, Jr. / Mr. Marines
 Eliana Salazar / Mrs. Romo
 Cade Simpson / Coach Rocha
 Dominic Terrazas / Coach Sims
 Gavin Thornberry / Mr. Marinex
 Kareny Villalobos / Mr. Puig

May 2021

\$30,500 in scholarships were awarded to 27 seniors.

May 2021

Congratulations to the Savannah Heights Intermediate Bulldogs Agrobots.

The robotics team competed in the Region First Robotics Championship on May 22nd. Out of 60 teams that advanced to the championship, the Agrobots placed 3rd overall for their robotic design.



MOVIE NIGHT

In an effort to raise additional funds for students, we had our very first movie night on Friday, June 4th. Gates opened at 7:30 pm, for Somerset ISD staff, students and families, and we featured the movie "Coco". We were super excited to host this event for just \$2 per person, with concessions also available. Our families were encouraged to bring their lawn chairs or blankets, sit back, relax and enjoy the show!



SOMERSET ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION PRESENTS

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Featuring "COCO"
Friday, June 4, 2021
Somerset ISD Bulldog Stadium
Gates open at 7:30 p.m. / Movie starts at 8:30 p.m.

Open to staff, students and families of Somerset ISD.

\$2 per person
bring chairs or a blanket

Concessions available (chips, popcorn, candy & drinks)

(All proceeds benefit students at Somerset ISD through innovative grants, scholarships, academic recognition and STEM programs and projects)

Contact Susie Hernandez at 210-386-7029 for any questions

Thank you for your contribution in support of our "Family Movie Night"!

Your generosity makes all of this possible.

- Texas Community Bank
- Republic Services
- Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union
- Elizabeth Hansen
- Tammy Hernandez
- Terry Hernandez

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Education Foundation
Changing Lives, Shaping the Future

GOLF BALL DROP

Another opportunity to raise funds along with the help of Flying J Services was our Golf Ball Drop. This event gave donors the chance to win \$1,000! Our helicopter golf ball drop was held on Monday, August 23, 2021. All proceeds from this fundraiser went right back to students at Somerset ISD! These funds were raised to directly impact classrooms in the fall when we awarded innovative grants in late September during our annual surprise patrol. The goal was to sell 300 golf balls at \$20 each or 3 for \$50, which we did.



Employee Giving Campaign

Thank you Somerset ISD staff for your generosity and support during the 2021-2022 employee giving campaign! As a result, \$30,247.00 will come back to the Education Foundation to support students through the funding of educational programs and projects such as Innovative Classroom Grants, STEM Programs, Scholarships, and Academic Recognition.

We are so thankful to have staff who believe in the work that we do.

2021 Surprise Patrol October 12, 2021 19 grants awarded totaling \$29,320!



13th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser

October 26, 2021

The 13th annual golf tournament was a huge success, thanks to our donors, sponsors, players, board members and volunteers who gave their time to help! The generosity and support from everyone was most appreciated!



Upcoming Events



INVESTING TODAY IN TOMORROW'S FUTURE



YOUR GIFTS RAISE THE LEVEL OF TEACHING AND LEARNING AT SOMERSET ISD

**Together we change lives
and shape the future!**



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