

2020-2021 Cobleskill-Richmondville Education Foundation Year in Review



The **Cobleskill-Richmondville Education Foundation** is a not-for-profit organization founded to support, enhance and promote exceptional education opportunities for students in the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District that are *innovative* and *supplemental* to the school budget. The foundation was established through the inspiration and guidance of Samuel A. Shevat, who served as superintendent of schools from 1987 to 2007.

For the 2020-2021 school year, the Foundation awarded just over \$36,900.00, including 60 rapid access grants totaling \$4,450.00, 3 larger grants (\$2,400), and the student initiated/Quality of Life Grant Program (\$29,000), plus the CREF Leadership Scholarship (\$500), all of which brought several exceptional opportunities beyond the school budget and reaching all grade levels of C-R students. Projects that were funded include:

- **Kalimbas!** This grant was awarded to Chloe Vanderpoel, so that all of her music students could have an opportunity to play a musical instrument. Kalimbas are an African thumb piano traditional to the people of Zimbabwe. These instruments are easy to sanitize between use and allow Ryder students the experience of playing music.
- **Let Them Be Little** Funds for this were awarded to Linda LaCoppola and the PreK team to make improvements to the PreK playground and outdoor play space. Money awarded went to purchase two fort builder sets, an outdoor slide, scooter boards, a child sized basketball hoop, numbered stepping stones, and a picnic table. This will allow Pre Kindergarten students to learn through play while engaging in physical activities.
- **CR High School Odyssey of the Mind Team World Final Competition** This grant was awarded to Vicki Kleinberger and Allison Atkins, the coaches for the high school OM team. Funds allowed students to travel to Orlando, Florida to compete in the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. Many members of the Odyssey of the Mind team have been working together since third grade, and they reached the point to compete at the highest level possible. Members of this amazing team continue to serve as role models for all who follow by showing that perseverance leads to success. **The 2021 Cobleskill-Richmondville High School Senior Odyssey of the Mind Team placed ninth at the OM world competition in Orlando!**

Student Choice Initiative- This new project was launched in March 2021 and provided C-R in students in grades K-12 to write grants under the mentorship of a faculty member. More than \$29,000 was awarded to fund innovative projects and events designed by students. In order to address their

needs in improving the “Quality of Life” during the pandemic. Projects funded include, but are not limited to:

- **School-wide activity and celebration days:** ice cream parties, treat days, career fair, baking and cooking club, moving up ceremonies for 5th and 8th grade students, including class T-shirts, Senior graduation celebration support, Adopt-a-whale, Lego materials, Butterfly Garden, and courtyard enhancements for elementary students
- **Art Projects:** Whole group art projects for elementary remote students and a high school student success mural
- **Physical Fitness:** Tetherball, punching bags, and a Ninja Fitness trail at Radez

The Cobleskill-Richmondville Education Foundation is currently working towards integrating the Student Choice Initiative into the current grant cycle.

The Cobleskill-Richmondville Education Foundation is excited to have funded these innovative projects and events, thereby fostering the intellectual, socio-emotional, and physical growth of Cobleskill-Richmondville students.

For more information about the Education Foundation at Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District and/or to make a tax deductible donation, please visit https://www.crcsd.org/district/education_foundation.