

ZEF eNewsletter March 2, 2023



ZEF Day!



All donors are important to fulfilling ZEF's mission, but to have the financial support of teachers and staff is a true honor. It demonstrates that those with a front-row seat to ZEF's work believe so strongly in it that they are willing to invest themselves. We are humbled and grateful for these donations and all that they enable us to do across the district.

As a way of saying thanks to our payroll deduction donors and continuing to support teachers' professional growth, we announced "ZEF Day." One name is drawn each semester from among our payroll deduction donors. That lucky teacher receives a

professional development or "ZEF Day."

Trailside Elementary Teacher Julia Cassel's name was drawn for a ZEF-sponsored professional development day from among our 2022 fall semester payroll deduction donors. Last week, her 3rd grade class was led by volunteer substitute teacher and ZEF's Development and Events Manager Julie Bradley. Miss Cassel was able to dive deeper into curriculum and long-range planning during her day. Her incredible preparation and instructions made it a smooth day for all. Thanks, Miss Cassel!

Stay tuned for our 2023 Spring semester winner!

Read on to learn about:

- Two Grants Expanding the Classroom Walls
- The ZEF Board of Directors
- ZEF Bash 2023 Date Announced

ZEF Grants in Action: Two Grants Expanding the Classroom Walls



Imagine Grant: Take it Outside

Melissa Wirth, Pleasant View Elementary Instructional Coach, was awarded an Imagine Professional



Classroom Grant: Talk of the Town

The ZCS English as a New Language (ENL) team was awarded a Classroom

Development Grant to attend the Nature-Based Early Learning Conference in Cincinnati, OH. Melissa's passion for hands-on experiences in nature led her to the conference to strengthen her knowledge of how nature-based education and outdoor experiences could enhance the learning at the elementary level.

When talking about the impact of her grant, Melissa said, "Attending the conference fueled my passion to start nature-based lessons at my school. I look forward to using all I learned so that students and teachers experience the power of learning outside!"

Grant to give their students the chance to explore Zionsville and practice their language skills.

Over the course of the year, they visited sites such as Main Street, Lions Park, Akard True Value Hardware, Rush on Main, and Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library. Students learned more about their town giving them knowledge and context for peer discussions. They gained confidence in their English Speaking skills as well as their listening, reading, and writing skills.

Many thanks to the local businesses that helped make this a great experience for the teachers and students.

Help us make more grants like these possible by making your gift today!

[DONATE TODAY](#)

Meet Our Board of Directors



We are grateful for all our Board members do to make ZEF stronger. This incredible group of 20 volunteers generously donate their resources to so many areas of ZEF. Their expertise is invaluable and their work appreciated. If you see one of them, please thank them for their service to our community.

Mark Pascarella, President
Kim Lewis, Vice President
Erica Carpenter, Secretary

Chris Mingus, Treasurer/Finance Co-chair
Amanda Black, Finance Co-chair
Challis Imes, Past President

Kristin Champa
Amy Essley
Andrea Fonseca
Ami Fraser
Maritza Gerde
Heather Jackson
Theresa Knipstein Meyer

Jane Louiso
Larry Marietta
Andrea Spahn-Mcgraw
Jenni Phenicie
Katy Ruhl
Jeff Sepiol
Brant Wright

Are you interested in becoming more involved with ZEF?

Please let us know! We welcome individuals that are passionate about our mission for event committees, grant committees, and board positions. Contact us at zef@zcs.k12.in.us.

ZEF Bash 2023 Date Announced



Preparations are underway for the 2023 ZEF Bash! Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 4 and join us as we raise funds in support of our schools. You won't want to miss it!

Be part of our largest annual fundraiser as a sponsor or volunteer. Sponsorship details can be found [here](#) and the volunteer planning committee will gather for a kickoff in May. Contact us at zef@zcs.k12.in.us if you are interested in being part of this ZEF tradition.



Our Contact Information

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