



Merrillville Education Foundation

Making a Difference

Board of Directors

Bruce Woods
President

Marisa Smoljan
Vice-President

Kathleen Martin
Treasurer

Mary Hoffman
Secretary/
Executive Director

Melanie Atria
Director

Andrew Draper
Director

Lori Govert
Director

Carly Gubitzi
Director

Rick Jolliff
Director

Barb Orelup
Director

Terrell Taylor
Director

Jeffery Studebaker
Supt. Of Schools

Mark Lucas
School Board Rep

WALK-A-THON



July 2017

Dear Friends of Merrillville Community Schools,

Merrillville Education Foundation's first WALK-A-THON is coming to Merrillville on Saturday, September 16, 2017, at Merrillville High School! This will be a one mile walk, and there will be prizes, food, and music. This will be an enjoyable activity for our students and our community and serve as a fundraiser in support of the Merrillville Community Schools. **And, this is where you can help!**

We are asking you to partner with us in this worthwhile endeavor. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used for grants to Merrillville schools, providing financial impact and student educational opportunities not available through public education funding alone.

These students and their families live in our community. They are your neighbors, your clients, your customers. By donating to the Merrillville Education Foundation, you are giving back and paying forward. Not only are you investing in our students' education today, but also you are expanding their options for success tomorrow.

Suggested sponsorship opportunities can be found on the following page. Your financial support at whatever level you choose will be greatly appreciated.

We also need gift cards/gift certificates for prizes. Please consider contributing in one or more ways to help our cause. Thank you for joining many others in going the extra mile in support of our students, our schools, and our community.

Sincerely,

The Merrillville Education Foundation

P.S. We encourage you to bring your family and friends and attend this event on September 16th. An entry form can be found online on our website, merrillvilleeducationfoundation.org.

Walk-A-Thon Sponsorship Opportunities

___ **Gold Star Contributor \$1,000 or more**

For your donation you will receive:

- Banner with contributor's logo prominently displayed at event
- Set-up table--option provided to display company materials
- 8 Complimentary Entries with one prize coupon for each entry
- Prominent recognition—company name w/logo--on T-shirt (given to every qualifying walker)
- 1 year recognition w/logo on Merrillville Education Fdn. Website
- 1 year "link" from MEF website to contributor's website

___ **Silver Star Contributor \$500 to \$999**

For your donation you will receive:

- 6 Complimentary Entries with one prize coupon for each entry
- Smaller recognition on T-shirt (given to every qualifying walker)
- 1 year recognition on Merrillville Education Foundation website
- 1 year "link" from MEF website to contributor's website

___ **Bronze Star Contributor \$250 to \$499**

For your donation you will receive:

- 4 Complimentary Entries with one prize coupon for each entry
- Name listed on T-shirt (given to every qualifying walker)
- 1 year recognition on Merrillville Education Foundation website
- 1 year "link" from MEF website to contributor's website

___ **Purple Star Contributor \$100 to \$249**

For your donation you will receive:

- 2 Complimentary Entries with one prize coupon for each entry
- 1 year recognition on Merrillville Education Foundation website

Contributions must be received by Friday, September 1, 2017, to ensure recognition on your banner or on the T-shirts. Please send your contribution to the Merrillville Education Foundation at the address listed below.

Merrillville Education Foundation
P.O. Box 14475
Merrillville, IN 46411

The Merrillville Education Foundation is a not for profit 501(c)(3) corporation. Contributions are tax deductible as provided by law.

The Merrillville Education Foundation is committed to being the primary philanthropic organization that funds innovative educational grants to teachers in the Merrillville Schools in order to provide opportunities that enhance student learning and achievement, promote social and emotional development of our students, and contribute to a strong community through a belief that education is key.

Since its inception in 2002, the Merrillville Education Foundation has funded over 226 teacher grants totaling over \$300,000 and impacting more than 74,000 students in the Merrillville schools from kindergarten through high school. The grants, selected by the Foundation Board of Directors, are chosen based on their innovative approach and their educational contribution.