

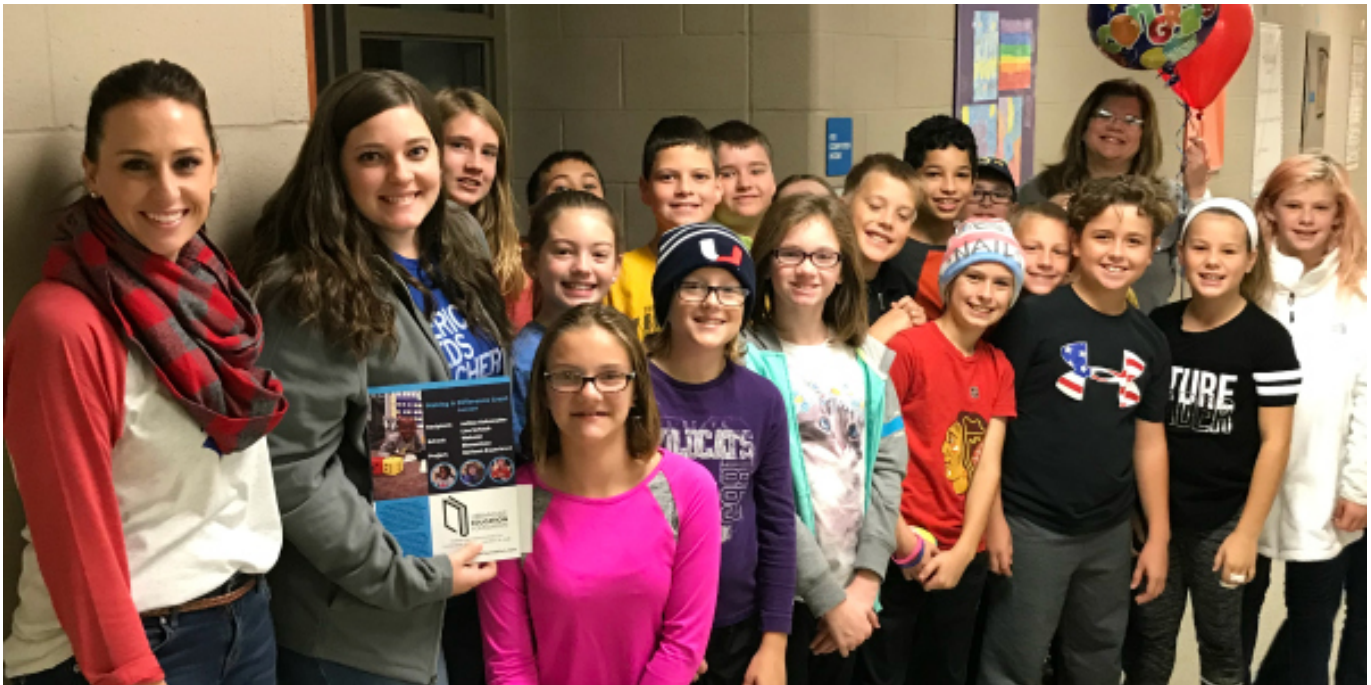


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Urbandale Education Foundation Awards Over \$12,000 In Grants To Urbandale Educators

*For the fifth consecutive grant cycle, the Urbandale Education Foundation awards grants to Urbandale educators as part of the Making A Difference Grant Program*

**URBANDALE, Iowa – October 30, 2017** – The [Urbandale Education Foundation](#) (UEF) was thrilled to have the opportunity to award over \$12,000 to Urbandale educators as part of the UEF Making A Difference Grant Program. The program is intended to provide [Urbandale Community School District](#) (Urbandale CSD) educators the opportunity to receive funds for projects and initiatives not supported within existing school budgets. On October 27, 2017, UEF Board of Directors awarded a total of 11 grants by surprising educators in their classrooms with a celebration and award ceremony.



Webster Elementary Principal Erin Shearer, Webster Elementary Fifth Grade Teacher Ashley Kokemuller, fifth grade students and Fifth Grade Teacher Lisa Schaub receiving an Urbandale Education Foundation Making A Difference Grant on October 27, 2017.

Going into its fifth consecutive grant cycle, the UEF was fortunate to receive an outpouring of support throughout the past year which resulted in a total of 11 grants awarded in support of innovative projects, classroom resources and community involvement opportunities for students in the Urbandale CSD. Grants awarded include: a grant for flexible seating for Michele Loggins' and Kelley Griffin's second grade classrooms at Jensen Elementary; a grant to support English Language Learner Family Nights for Kelsey Jacobs' and Annie Jordan's Jensen Elementary classrooms; a grant providing Karen Acres, Olmsted and Jensen Elementary students the opportunity to participate in the Urbandale Parks and Recreation Making A Connection (MAC) Camp over the summer; a grant for Matt Cibula to bring the Civil War Reenactment group to Urbandale Middle School; a grant for Nikki Smith at Urbandale High School

to expand her library of diverse books for students; a grant for Webster Elementary fifth grade students in Ashley Kokemuller's and Lisa Schaub's classrooms to attend Junior Achievement (JA) BizTown; a grant for Laura Beth Chiston's Rolling Green Elementary classroom in support of additional music resources to help students learn English; second grade students in Deb Kadoun's Karen Acres Elementary classroom will enjoy more flexible seating; Valerius, Jensen, Rolling Green, and Karen Acres students working with Brittany Cooley, Facilitator of Family Outreach, will have more opportunities for learning activities over winter and spring break through a grant supporting the Student Connectedness Program; all Webster Elementary students will enjoy additional technology in their music class through a grant awarded to Jade Fox; and Janelle Kerr will have an opportunity to bring Culture All to expand cultural learning at Olmsted Elementary.

"The UEF is very pleased to provide funding for grants to educators to enhance the educational experience of Urbandale students," said UEF Board President Steve Schuler. "These grants go beyond what is possible from normal school funding and budgets. It is the great support from UEF donors that make this possible. So I would like to say 'thank you' to all UEF donors!"



Urbandale Education Foundation Board members and Urbandale High School (UHS) Administrators presenting a Making A Difference Grant to UHS English Teacher Nikki Smith on October 27, 2017. UEF Board Member Dan Meyer, UHS Principal Tim Carver, UEF Board President Steve Schuler, UHS English Teacher and grant recipient Nikki Smith, UEF Board Member Rose Ann Schuler, UEF Board Member Meribeth Haynes and UHS Associate Principal Dania Wilson.

The UEF is in the unique position to provide support for Urbandale schools, award scholarships to Urbandale High School graduates and connect Urbandale alumni through the merger and partnership of three organizations: Urbandale Education Foundation, [Urbandale Dollars for Scholars](#) and [Urbandale Alumni Association](#). To learn more about how you can become involved and make a positive difference for Urbandale students, educators, schools and the vitality of the Urbandale community, visit: [UrbandaleEducationFoundation.com](#) and follow on Twitter [@SupportUCSD](#).

#### **About Urbandale Education Foundation**

The Urbandale Education Foundation (UEF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to enhancing the educational experience of students in the Urbandale Community School District by funding projects and initiatives not supported within existing school budgets. The UEF raises funds through grants and private donations and then invests in enhanced educational programming, innovative technology, scholarships for graduates, state-of-the-art

facilities and lifelong learning opportunities. The UEF is in the unique position to provide support for Urbandale schools, award scholarships to UHS graduates and connect Urbandale alumni through the merger and partnership of three organizations: Urbandale Education Foundation, [Urbandale Dollars for Scholars](#) and [Urbandale Alumni Association](#). The UEF is dedicated to making a difference in the future of Urbandale schools, students and the vitality of the Urbandale community. To learn more, visit: [UrbandaleEducationFoundation.com](#) and follow on Twitter [@SupportUCSD](#).

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