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### **Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation Recognizes 2018-2019 Grant Recipients and Community Awards**

Oconomowoc, Wisconsin – Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation (OPEF) is a charitable foundation that was created in 2007 with a goal to raise and provide funds for innovative educational opportunities and experiences not funded in the core school district budget.

OPEF recognized its 2018-2019 grant recipients and community awards at a reception on May 15. \$27,465.00 was awarded for six educational grants and one from the Jennifer Bukosky Fund, established for drug and alcohol abuse prevention education in memory of the former OHS associate principal.

The grants awarded were: Summit's Sensory Tools (Summit Elementary), Storytelling & STEAM: Engaging Our Girls (Summit Elementary), Innovation Station (Park Lawn Elementary), Merge VR Goggles (Silver Lake Intermediate), Augmented Reality Sandbox (Oconomowoc High School), VR 4 All (Oconomowoc High School) and Building Bridges for Safe Passage (Oconomowoc Area School District.)

OPEF also gave awards to community members and OASD staff to highlight one of the best grants in action for the year and to thank those who have greatly contributed to the organization either financially or voluntarily. The awards given were: Family of the Year - The Sheridan Family, Above & Beyond Supporter of the Year - Tracy Garon, Volunteer of the Year - Vickie Rock, Community Supporter of the Year - Deanna Marincic of Gals Institute, Business of the Year - Bubon Orthodontics and Grants in Action Award - Ixonia Recording Studio.

OPEF is proud to have already contributed over \$100,000 to their endowment fund to ensure the long-term sustainability of the OPEF grant process. In addition to the endowment, OPEF hosts an annual ball fundraiser, to be held November 2, 2018 at the Golden Mast in Okauchee.

The Oconomowoc Public Education Foundation was created to offer education-minded citizens a way to support the Oconomowoc area public schools with private, tax-deductible contributions. Through various collaborative projects, OPEF seeks to encourage leadership, foster excellence, and nurture community in the Oconomowoc public schools. For more information, visit [www.opef.info](http://www.opef.info)

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