

After school functions are often fun events for the children who can attend. Most require an admission cost and many offer food or activities at an additional fee. Teachers will let us know which children in the class would really benefit from attending and we will provide coupons for admission and for food. This has resulted in some very positive feedback.

“Just a note to let you know what a difference you make for some of our students. Without your help and donations, some would not be able to experience the social events that are held after school hours. You do so much more, but I know the kids look forward to being able to attend evenings, such as Pajama Jam and Decade Night, without feeling left out or different. It means so much to them and Ray Miller Elementary. Again, thanks for all you do.”

All school nurses, upon request, are provided over-the-counter medications and hygiene items. A lot of these items are donated. Too often, hygiene items are the last to go on the grocery list, but helping a child feel better about their appearance can mean a lot to them.

On rare occasions we have stepped beyond the usual and seen to it that a particular child is given the opportunity to excel in a field of their choosing. We have had requests for tumbling classes, music lessons, art classes, cheer-leading camp attendance, and after-school Tiger Club attendance. Though these have had mixed reviews, we have had positive reinforcement.

“Thank you for making my school year possible.”

“You show grate Tiger Pride.”

And finally,  
WE COULDN'T SAY IT BETTER!

“AS A TEACHER, I HAVE WATCHED SEVERAL OF MY STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM THE GENEROSITY OF THE ITIC FOUNDATION. I ALWAYS APPRECIATED HOW STUDENTS' NEEDS ARE QUICKLY AND QUIETLY TAKEN CARE OF.” THIS TEACHER FOUND HERSELF IN NEED OF HELP WHEN SHE OFFERED TO BE A FOSTER PLACEMENT..WE WERE ABLE TO HELP. “I WAS OVERWHELMED WITH GRATITUDE AND GREATLY SURPRISED. IT WAS IF SOMEONE HAD RECOGNIZED MY STRUGGLES AND WAS SAYING, ‘I SEE YOU. I SEE HOW HARD YOU ARE WORKING TO PROVIDE FOR YOUR FAMILY. IT’S OKAY TO NEED A LITTLE EXTRA.’ I KNOW THE GOAL OF THE ITIC FOUNDATION IS TO HELP MOTIVATE AT-RISK CHILDREN TO ‘THINK THEY CAN.’ IT STARTED WITH A SMALL GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO SAID, ‘I THINK I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.’ WELL, DEAR FRIENDS, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE. THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO MAKE KIRKSVILLE SUCH A THOUGHTFUL AND KIND-HEARTED COMMUNITY.”

BOARD MEMBERS:

Suzan Stremel - Jerry Stremel - Karla Dwyer  
Mark Whitney - Micki Miller

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## ***ITHINK I CAN FOUNDATION***

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***2017-2018***

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ITHINKICANFOUNDATION.COM***

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## ALL ABOARD!!!!

The I Think I Can Foundation is going to cross the top of the mountain again this year and we'd like to see you climb aboard!

Last year was a GRRRRREAT year! New projects were addressed...more students were helped...and new students got involved.

We are still a board of five volunteers...no salary...no office...little overhead expense...still open to new ideas!

We appreciate how you have helped in the past and want to share with you the compliments you deserve. Our sincere gratitude to all who have supported our Kirksville schools!\*

**\*All quotes are actual notes given to the Foundation from students, faculty, administration, and parents.**

## HOW DO YOUR DONATIONS HELP?

People justly ask us to explain just what we do..and frequently are we the Buddy Pack program? No..we are not the Buddy Pack program, but our main focus IS on making sure no child stays hungry for reasons beyond their control. We have always concentrated on providing food to the children who have nothing to eat at home in the evenings. Food is distributed through other efforts as well.

🌻 We have set up pantries at the primary, elementary, and middle schools and these pantries are filled weekly with nutritious “take-home” items...soups, fruits, energy bars. Designated children receive these items on a daily basis at the end of the school day.

“Dear People. I love you’r chicken noodle soup. Thank you for giving me some of your food.” Our biggest food expenses are at the holidays when we provide grocery gift cards to teacher-designated families. The amount given is determined by the number of holiday days and the number of children in the family.

“Thank you for the food. The food makes me feel good.”

“Dear People. The food makes me stronger. Thank you.”

We were recently asked if we could provide funds to the elementary school lunch program for 5th grade students to purchase an extra entrée once a week. Due to the cuts in the federal school lunch funding, portions given to children have been substantially reduced.

“Thank you for letting me get extras.”

“Thank you for the free extras we get. That opportunity is awesome. Getting extras is the coolest thing that I can do at lunch time. Thanks for coming to this district!”

🌻 Upon request, we provide clothing items for specific children. Shoes are our biggest expense, but we have been asked for everything from underwear to outerwear. Gym shoes are required for gym class, but not every child has the appropriate pair. We have provided several pairs to the gym that can be used during gym class.

“Thank you for all that you do for our students here at KPS. This information is a blessing and has changed the lives of so many of our students. We can’t thank you enough.”

🌻 On several occasions we have provided eye glasses or eye exams. Not to go unmentioned, however, we have received free exams and glasses from several of our local physicians...big thanks go to them!!

🌻 Books!!! What a wonderful undertaking this has become. The elementary school holds two book fairs each year when children can purchase good books at good prices. Not every child has the money to shop, but teachers can designate children who would really appreciate a book of their own and we can provide a coupon for purchase. What a magical moment...what wonderful responses from the children.

“Thank you for your time and munny to help us and others in Ray Miller and we apritches your kindness and hope for us.”