Rotary

Club of Deer Park

October 17, 2024

To: Deer Park Rotary Board

From: Bob Carroll

Re: Funding requests for projects to support and positively impact local youth and their learning

Proposal 1: \$1,400 for Chattaroy Elementary School's One School One Book initiative. The leader of this project is teacher David Besterci. This initiative promotes literacy and aims to unite students, families, and school staff in the collective reading and discussing of one book throughout the school community.

Proposal 2: \$1,400 for Riverside Elementary School's Christmas Gift **Project.** This is a new approach to providing money for students to purchase Christmas gifts for their families in the holidays. Kyle Scott, our newly installed School Principal would work with teachers to identify poor students and take them to stores to buy Christmas gifts for their families. The students would then be wrapping the gifts and tagging them for individual family members! This is the answer for the dilemma Rotarians have faced by putting the students between the Rotary gift and the distribution to the student's family. The gift-wrapping event will also include hot chocolate and treats for the students doing the wrapping.

Proposal 3: \$2,000 for Riverside High School and Riverside Middle School students to participate in Huture Farmers of America (FFA) competitions. The RMS program is run by teacher Julie Koesel, and the RHS program is run by teacher Alissa Whittaker. The FFA program in Riverside is growing, with the recent addition of trapshooting and tractor driving. We have an amazing opportunity to support more students as they extend their classroom learning by conhecting in local, state, and national events.

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Proposal 4: \$1,000 for the bicycle program at Riverside Middle School, under the direction of physical education teacher Barb Winkle. The bike unit is one of the middle school students' favorite units of study, allowing them to develop their bodies and minds and enjoy the beautiful outdoor environment of our area.

Proposal 5: \$1,000 for socialization of students with disabilities as part of the Transitions program at Riverside High School, under the direction of Rachea Allert. We have supported this program for many years, and we are asking to continue our support.

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