



Frequently Asked Questions

What is RBEF?

The Redondo Beach Educational Foundation (RBEF) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that raises money to supplement the decrease in state funds for staff and instructional programs in ALL Redondo Beach Unified School District (RBUSD) schools.

RBEF is the ONLY organization that can fund additional RBUSD staff and district-sponsored programs.

The RBEF annual fundraising goal is determined by the specific needs identified by RBUSD. This goal is achieved through individual donations from parents, alumni, grandparents and community members, business partners, grants, and events like the Annual Investor Drive, Spring Gala, Community Classic Golf Tournament & Skechers Friendship Walk.

Should I donate to RBEF or PTA?

BOTH!!!

Why? What's the difference between RBEF and PTA?

State funding for California schools is consistently not enough to support the arts, science, counseling, intramural sports, and college readiness programs that RBUSD provides our students. RBEF is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to raise money to supplement state funds for RBUSD staff and instructional programs for ALL of our schools and students.

RBEF is the only organization that pays for additional RBUSD instructional staff and district-sponsored programs, ensuring that every student in the city has access to an equitable, excellent education.

PTA is an Advocacy Group. Joining PTA gives you (and our district) a voice at the State level to bring change to laws about education. PTA also supports school specific programs including field trips, planners, assemblies, community events, Hands on Art, and grants for teacher supplies.

RBEF and PTA provides different needs to our school district. This is why both need your support.

Both organizations work together to support our children. Your donations to RBEF and your school's PTA ensure the best education for your child and all children in Redondo Beach schools.

I'm not going to donate to Investor Drive because I'm already donating to Skechers and it all goes to the same place, right?

That is not correct. Investor Drive is our main RBEF fundraiser and 100% of your donations goes directly to us, which in turn we donate each year to our schools. This year, we have committed to over \$1 Million dollars. Our goal is to have all families participate and this year, for each school to reach 30% participation. When you donate to the RBEF Investor Drive it goes straight to RBEF.

Skechers Friendship Walk is a fundraiser for the Friendship Foundation and all funds go straight to Skechers. Over the past 10 years, Skechers has graciously granted money back to all of the Educational Foundations in the South Bay that participate based on their total number of walkers. However, RBEF has no control over how much or when Skechers donates that money back to RBEF.

How does the Skechers money work? Does our school get double the donation back?

RBEF has no knowledge of how exactly Skechers makes their calculations for the check that is granted to us. We do know that the checks received are reflective of each foundations ranking based on their total walker numbers. When RBEF receives their check from Skechers, a portion of that check is made to each school based on their individual total walkers. RBEF has always guaranteed that, at the very least, each school will receive the 100% of the registration amount back for each walker donated and, for many years, at the discretion of RBEF's Board of Trustees, that amount has been much more.

How does RBEF choose the programs that go to the schools?

RBEF does NOT choose the programs. RBUSD provides RBEF with a list of the programs the district is seeking funding for the following school year and asks RBEF for the money to fund those teachers/programs. The RBEF board of trustees then determines which of the items on their request they agree to fund. If you are interested in hearing more about Board involvement, please contact Doris Donlou-Richmond at doris@rbef.org.

RBEF fundraises for that amount through the Investor Drive and various events throughout the year to meet the needs of our School District as much as possible. Principals meet and discuss with teachers at their school sites about programs that benefits students at various grade levels across all district school sites. Principals then collaborate with each other and the district administrators to develop the final list to be presented to RBEF. On a school level, teacher grants are also available to all teachers in the district to fund specific projects that would enhance their classrooms and students' learning experience.

Where does the money come from?

RBEF raises money from the donations of our parents, alumni, community members, business partners, grants and events such as Investor Drive, Skechers Friendship Walk, Golf Tournament and Spring Gala.

I'm a Kindergarten parent. Why should I invest?

You should invest more than anybody because you have the most time to gain from your investment. As a Kinder parent, your child will benefit throughout the next 13 years from programs funded in previous years. Don't just look at the now, look towards the future. Every year you invest is applied to the following year. So if you invest as a Kinder parent, it will benefit your child as a 1st grader. Finally, the more money we get, the MORE PROGRAMS we can continue to FUND!

Is the \$350 per child mandatory?

No. You can give any amount that you are comfortable with. The goal is to have every family participate. Don't forget, your investment is tax deductible to the extent of applicable laws and your company may have a gift matching program to make your investment that much more impactful. Find out more at www.RBEF.org.

I'd like to give the \$350 per child, but that's a little too much for me to give up all at once. What are my options?

RBEF has a convenient monthly payment plan option that we can set up automatically. For one child, that is only \$30 per month!

What if I miss the Investor Drive deadline? Can I still invest?

YES!! There is no real deadline. We fundraise YEAR-ROUND. You can Invest at any time before the end of the school year (June 30, 2023) in order for your donation to be counted for this year and the next school year.

If our school gives more money do we get more programs at our school?

No. RBEF funds the programs requested by the district at all schools so all children benefit equally across the district. All of our children will eventually filter into one Redondo Union High School so we want all children to have benefitted equally throughout their education so they can all excel TOGETHER once they reach our amazing High School.

For the Skechers Walk, schools do get more money based on each registration. The more walkers you have is key to your school raising the most funds.

What programs/instructional teachers were funded by RBEF this year at my school?

Here is an outline followed by additional detail of each of the areas we will grant in 2022-23 School Year:

Elementary Funding	Middle School Funding	High School Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Grants • Staff Professional Development • Credentialed P.E. Teachers • 5th Grade Band • 1st - 4th Grade Vocal Music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Grants • Intramural Sports • AVID Support • Musical Instrument Repairs • 8th Grade PSAT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Grants • AVID Support • Musical Instrument Repairs • Teacher on Special Assignment • 11th Grade PSAT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Lego League Robotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-sports Development Teams • First Lego League Robotics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building School Cultures: Schoolwide Speakers & Outdoor Experiences • RUHS Library Enhancements • Beach Cities Robotics • E-sports Competition Teams • Speakers on Trade Education
--	--	--

Teacher Grants: Focusing On Student College and Career Readiness

Student Impact: up to 10,000 Kinder-12th grade students

Category: College and Career Readiness

Provides teachers with the funding to implement programs and supplies that allow them to further the college and career readiness for students. Past teacher grants include: science equipment such as heart rate monitors and microscopes utilized in classrooms, ethnic studies, students publishing their writing, and yoga and mindfulness embedded into the school day.

ELEMENTARY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Credentialed Physical Education Teachers/Weekly Professional Development Time

Student Impact: 4,600 elementary students

Category: Whole Child Wellness

Credentialed elementary P.E. teachers have the training to implement state P.E. standards. Additionally, as a team of P.E. teachers work with one grade level for an hour each week, this funding also provides self-contained classroom teachers the opportunity to meet for an hour each week, during the school day, to evaluate instructional designs, pacing guides and student work. It is a win-win; students received P.E. instruction from teachers who are highly motivated to teach quality P.E., and classroom teachers grew their knowledge and collaboration including: implementation of new curriculum and this year, as we continue to return students to in-person instruction and address learning loss due to COVID-19 emergency closures, common planning time and collaboration with school leaders will be pivotal.

5th Grade Band/Choir Program (1 teacher)

Potential Student Impact: up to 780 5th grade students

Category: Arts/Music

1st – 4th Music Program (1 teacher)

Student Impact: 3,100 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade students

RBEF will fund a full-time elementary band teacher and RBUSD has funded a second full-time teacher. The two teachers travel together and work at all eight of our elementary schools twice per week. As the vast majority of 5th grade students typically participate in the elementary band program across the school district, two teachers allow students to continue to receive a better music experience.

Expand Outside Counseling Service Contracts for Crisis/Grief/Bereavement

\$40,000

Social & Emotional Support

Student Impact: 4,500 students in grades K-5

Category: Whole Child Development

Statistics show that students need additional social and emotional support for a variety of events affecting them. This funding allows RBUSD to expand their support services without hiring on-campus counselors and instead contract to third party services in coordination with the Beach Cities Health District. With the return of students back to campus, providing additional social and emotional supports to students will be crucial to successful reopening.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Intramural Sports Program

Student Impact: 300 middle school students

Category: Whole Child Wellness

With the cancellation of many organized youth programs, students are left with limited resources and opportunity to participate in sports. Our two middle schools provide after school sports programs to approximately 300 students over the course of each school year. Lack of student motivation and connectedness to peers and school during the middle school years is one of the greatest predictors for school dropouts and involvement in “at risk” behaviors. We ask participating families for a financial contribution, knowing that we can neither require nor expect full funding from a voluntary source. As a district, we still receive donations from parents annually. The requested funding supplements the costs to run the entire program which includes increased costs for busses, coaching stipends, and uniforms for our students.

High School Robotics Teams Support – Beach Cities Robotics

Potential Student Impact: 45 students from 9th to 12th grade

Category: College and Career Readiness

Beach Cities Robotics is a Southern California robotics team based out of Redondo Union High School that is committed to providing people of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to learn about STEM. Since 1998, the team has worked tirelessly to forward science and technology in our local and global communities. They are dedicated to this effort, with all of our students united by the common goal of being the best leaders and role models. Team members participate in all facets, from programming to design, from electrical to business. 95% of their machining capabilities in house which is a big change over the last several years. They fabricate on CNC routers, CNC lasers, 3D printers, manual mills, lathes, bandsaws and hand tools in lab. Students learn game analysis, 3D CAD design in Solidworks,

programming in Java, electrical wiring, and coding of a scouting database. Awarding winning BCR team competes at the state and national level.

RUHS Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) – Intervention Specialist

Potential Student Impact: (9-12 grades)

Category: College and Career Readiness & Whole Child Development

With a student population of over 3,000 at RUHS, some students may feel overwhelmed and find themselves unable to adjust to the demands of high school life. Every effort is made to identify these students and take proactive steps to help them succeed. This collaborative effort is made with teacher, coaches and counselors. This funding adds a Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) to work specifically with the students identified to be needing the extra support to help them achieve academic and social success, as well as support students' transition back to campus and boost re-engagement.

AVID Support/Membership Fees/Field Trips

Potential Student Impact: up to 200 middle school students and 200 high school students

Category: College and Career Readiness

AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is a program dedicated to closing the achievement gap by preparing all students for college. The program trains educators to use proven practices in order to prepare students for success in high school, college and a career, especially students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. AVID: (1) teaches skills and behaviors for academic success, (2) provides intensive support with tutorials and strong student/teacher relationships, (3) create a positive peer group for students and (4) develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination.

The school district contributes over \$250,000 annually for staffing, materials and training for this program. RBEF's \$25,000 commitment will be applied to school district and school membership fees and fund AVID field trips at middle and high schools.

Music Instrument Repairs and New Purchases

Potential Student Impact: Up to 600 band students

Category: Arts/Music

Funding in the amount the cost of repairing damaged or aging instruments currently owned by our middle and high school band programs. RBEF Funds both the **RUHS Band Program and the Adams and Parras Band Programs.**

Early Participation College Aptitude Tests

Potential Student Impact: 815 11th grade students; 720 8th grade students

Category: College and Career Readiness

It is important for students in their junior year to know how well prepared they are for the SAT or ACT and how well their skills match those expected when entering freshmen year. Rather than have 20-40% of students take the Preliminary SAT test on a designated Saturday, for many years, we have worked with the College Board to expand school day PSAT offering to our students at the high school. This was a critical component of reopening schools this year, offering the PSAT/NMSQT exam to 262 juniors which RBEF Funded.

RBEF funds the cost of the exams for juniors (PSAT/NMSQT), as well as parent and student prep workshops and score interpretations for the 2022-23 school year. We also administer the PSAT 8/9 inventory tool to all eighth graders. This includes the administration to approximately 760 students as well as student and parent preparation and interpretation workshops.

E-sports Development and High School Teams

Potential Student Impact: approximately 100 students

Category: College and Career Readiness

The last several years has seen the rise of E-sport teams in high schools across the country and many colleges offer esports programs for students, including scholarship programs. Esports encourages communication and coordination amongst student athletes, deepening their levels of interactions and teamwork. Additionally, esports teaching valuable skills such as streaming, production, programming, and management. Creating an esports team is currently the number one request of students at RUHS. RBEF funds pay the cost of purchasing and setting up equipment.

Building School Culture: Patricia Dreizler School-wide Speaker and Outdoor Experience

Potential Student Impact: 80 Alternative Education High School Students

Category: College and Career Readiness

The students at Patricia Dreizler have been particularly impacted by COVID-19 emergency school closures, and represent many of our most disengaged students. RBEF will fund school-wide speakers to support and foster student engagement and rebuild school culture. To address the social and emotional needs of this particular group of students, we hope to provide an outdoor experience for students to foster re-connection and team building.