## **ABOUT MPEF**

The Missouri Public Education Foundation was established in 2022 as a 501(c)3 organization to be a trusted and positive voice for public education in Missouri. MPEF's purpose is to educate the general public on the positive impacts of public education through a combination of communication, outreach, advocacy, and research initiatives.

The Missouri Public Education Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors who oversee our organizational strategy and budget. The Advisory Council lends additional support and expertise by incorporating the perspectives of key stakeholder groups across Missouri.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Vic Lenz, Chair, St. Louis
Jan Mees, Secretary, Columbia
Linda Daugherty, Nixa
Jolie Justus, Kansas City
Ron Lankford, Webb City
John Martin, Kansas City
Janet Tilley, Columbia

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dorothy Rohde-Collins, St. Louis

#### **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Joseph Davis, Fulton
Denise Fears, Independence
Larry Felton, St. Louis
Gale "Hap" Hairston, Columbia
Jay Hartman, St. Louis
Sara Pylate, Jackson
Karen Rogers, Liberty
Darbie Valenti Huff, Savannah
Jerry Valentine, Columbia

# **CONTACT US**



missouripubliceducation.org



dorothy@missouripubliceducation.org







## **RESEARCH**



MPEF secured a \$75,000 three-year grant from MIT Blueprint Labs to study the effects of charter school closures on students and teachers. This project will produce scholarly research articles, editorials, and other reports targeting a variety of audiences.



## **DESE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH PROGRAM**

Each month MPEF celebrates the DESE employee of the month with a monetary award presented at a State Board of education meeting.

## **MSBA CONFERENCE PRESENTATION**

The MPEF board chair and executive director presented to a packed room at the Missouri School Boards' Association Annual Conference in Kansas City. This opportunity helped build stakeholder support for MPEF's work across the state including the addition of three new members to our advisory council...



## **TEACHER OF THE YEAR SUPPORT**

MPEF is working closely with DESE to support the Missouri Teacher of the Year program.

#### **WEBSITE LAUNCH**

The MPEF website launched in spring 2025. It was designed by a Columbia Public Schools student at the Columbia Area Career Center.

## **ADVOCACY**

MPEF continues to build relationships and collaborate with stakeholders including the State Board of Education, DESE, MSBA, and a wide variety of education-related professional organizations and advocacy groups.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

#### **INCOME**

MPEF is funded through donations from individuals and research grants. We are seeking to expand financial support from individuals, organizations, and grant-making organizations to increase our capacity to carry out our mission.

## **EXPENSES**

Our current annual expenses are approximately \$35,000.







