

## NEF Announces New Executive Director



We are excited to announce that Susan DeVane has accepted the role of Executive Director of the Nassau Education Foundation! As the immediate past Treasurer and President Elect of the foundation she is familiar with and committed to our mission and our processes, and comes to us with years of experience in both the corporate world and in non-profit management. Susan is a 23-year resident of Fernandina Beach where she and her husband Todd raised their two sons as students in the Nassau County School District. She spent many years working as a volunteer in our county schools in the classroom and on the SAC Committee. She has a passion for and commitment to helping teachers and administrators continually improve and innovate.

In her spare time Susan is a small business owner and serves as a volunteer for a number of important causes here in Nassau County. She is also the co-founder and chair-person of The Sugar Pointe Music Festival. Susan assumed the Executive Director role on August 1, 2023 as the current director, Abby Bean, transitioned to a different role as a volunteer for the foundation. Please join us in congratulating and encouraging Susan as she continues the important work of The Nassau Education Foundation and in thanking Abby for her many years of service and being the founder of NEF!

## Annual Membership Drive Kicks off September 15

You can be a member of The Nassau Education Foundation and help provide Nassau County Classroom Grants! Our fourth annual membership drive will be held September 18 to October 27. There is no better time to join! Last year our members brought in almost 20% of the total awarded in grants that year. While we love our business partners the drive allows individuals and families to be part of bringing innovation to the classrooms. You can become a member at any time, but if you join during the drive you can also earn chances to win some fun and incredible prizes! It's an exciting time, and we hope you will join the fun!

Annual members receive a custom membership packet and opportunities to engage with the foundation throughout the year. Membership levels begin as low as \$50 per year and go up to \$500. To join simply visit [nassaueducationfoundation.org](http://nassaueducationfoundation.org) and click on the Membership tab at the top of the home page. NEF is a non-profit 501c3 organization and membership is tax deductible subject to IRS rules.

## Meet Our Board of Directors

**Jeanevette Miranda – President**  
RYAM

**Tonya Baudek – President Elect/Treasurer**  
Summer House Realty

**Susan Childers – Immediate Past President**  
Stillwell Real Estate

**Chris Bouton**  
GCB Solutions

**Brandy Carvalho – Gala Chair**  
Nassau County

**Pamela Crouser**  
Diamond Realty

**John Drew**  
Nassau County Tax Collector

**Justin Taylor**  
Residence Inn

**Thomas Ford**  
Community Leader

**Samir Gupte**  
Samiracles Consulting

**Vernon Hlott**  
Rayonier

**Shannon Kenner**  
Waxhead Sun Defense

**Kevin Lilly**  
Nassau County Property Appraiser

**Kim Lunt – Grant Chair**  
Community Leader

**Michael Cole**  
Sarge's Lawn Care

**Gary Virden**  
The Ritz Carlton Amelia Island

**Kim Lunt – Grant Chair**  
Community Leader

**David Metzloff**  
Community Leader

**Heather Morenc**  
Southwest Airlines

**Gail Cook - Ex-Officio**  
Nassau County School Board



## Grant Snapshot

We LOVE seeing our grants in action! Recently we visited Fernandina Beach Middle School to see the Campus Pride and Beautification grant in action.

Students practiced measurement, determining area, planning a project, determining costs of a project, and home (school) improvement skills to complete this project. This is one of many amazing projects you and our business partners help fund!



## NEF to Hold First Ever 5K Fun Run

Run, don't walk to sign up for our first-ever NEF 5K run! November 18, 2023, is the date and registration opens soon! Runners will start at the School Board Building. To keep up with the latest news on the run and everything NEF join our Facebook page and add [sdevane@nassaueducationfoundation.org](mailto:sdevane@nassaueducationfoundation.org) to your email or VIP contacts so you never miss a message from us!

## The Alley by AIBC hosts NEF Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Don't cook! On Monday October 23 from 5 to 8 enjoy a spaghetti dinner at The Alley by AIBC. You can eat in or take out. Meals are \$13 for tomato and meat sauce and \$16 with added meatballs. All meals come with a salad and a drink! If spaghetti isn't your thing consider making a \$15 donation to NEF by visiting our website and clicking the "Donate" button. All proceeds benefit classroom grants in Nassau County. Follow us on Facebook to learn how and when to order in advance!

The Nassau Education Foundation has awarded nearly \$50,000 in classroom grants to Nassau District Schools for the 2023-2024 school year! At least one grant was awarded to each school that applied in many diverse subjects including music, science, aerospace, special needs education and art. In all funding was awarded for 56 grants. In addition, NEF is exploring opportunities for matching grants to be awarded later this year. Since its inception, NEF has awarded over \$700,000 in Nassau County District grants. You can help fund these amazing grants by becoming a member. See above for more details!

## \$50,000 in New Grants Awarded to Nassau County Teachers

Nassau EDUCATION FOUNDATION

# HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS

FRIDAY  
JANUARY 26  
6-11PM

Teacher of The Year GALA

THE RITZ-CARLTON  
AMELIA ISLAND

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS DONATED BY FIRST PORT CITY BANK.