

**February 24, 2015**

Dear Roosevelt Middle School Families and Friends:

It is time once again for Roosevelt families to come together and support our students by making a Generous Investment Valuing Education! The G.I.V.E. campaign is our annual direct donation drive to fund additional classroom staffing at Roosevelt Middle School. Through the generosity of our families, Roosevelt continues to offer band, orchestra, drama, foreign languages, a staffed library, many popular electives, and core classes of more reasonable sizes, despite our “new normal” of substandard state funding. The need for personal financial support continues to be essential to providing the learning environment we so desire for our children!

Over the last six years, with similar numbers of students, Roosevelt has experienced funding cuts of 5.5 FTE, with corresponding increases in class size. Based on early indications from the district, Roosevelt is anticipating similar funding for the coming school year. **In order to maintain more reasonable core class sizes, and the current elective classes supported by parents in previous years, Parent Council set a year-long fundraising target of \$100,000.** The G.I.V.E. Campaign is our main effort to meet our goal and determine the funding we have to work with for next year’s staffing.

We will reach our goal if we raise an **average of \$200/student**. However, understanding that not all families can give equally, **please give as generously as you can**. We hope that all families will participate as they are able; we value donations of \$30, \$300, \$3,000, and beyond! It will take many modest contributions as well as many larger gifts to reach our goal. **Donations are 100% tax-deductible** and should be made through EEF, either by making a check payable to EEF/RMS or by online credit card donation specifying RMS staffing. You can also set up a monthly withdrawal to spread out your contribution.

We know this is a lot to ask of families who are always being asked for donations, however the treasured Roosevelt program has basically been propped up by direct family donations for the last five years and the need continues. Consider the critical role that middle school plays in your child’s life, and how many unique and valuable programs, traditions, and values continue to thrive at Roosevelt. Parents of eighth graders, your gift will help to keep the Roosevelt program strong, just as your child was supported by other Roosevelt families as a sixth grader. Grandparents, extended family, friends, and businesses are all encouraged to help support the Roosevelt program.

**Let’s work together to provide the best staffing we can at Roosevelt by returning the voucher from the enclosed Q & A page with your contribution or pledge by March 20. Your donations will help determine the RMS staffing plan to be submitted to 4J in April. Thank you again for your continued support.**

Sincerely,



Chris Mitchell, Principal

Larry Banks, RMS Parent & RMS/EEF Coordinator