



Fast Facts About RCEF Programs in 2009/2010

Outdoor Education

Impact: Gives students the opportunity to learn through hands-on exploration of the natural environment; the first time many of our students experience time away from home in a camp setting.

Cost: \$60,000.

RCEF funding: \$11,800, supported by the RCEF at varying levels up to \$40,000 since 1992.

Partners: Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Tim Griffith Memorial Foundation

Serves: 900 5th graders, on average, each year.

Highlights:

- Week-long residential program at YMCA Camp Jones Gulch, near La Honda where students develop skills in physical sciences, mathematics, and language arts, laying the groundwork for their studies in middle school.
- The learning and excitement shared with friends and classmates is often mentioned by graduating high school students as the highlight of their school years.
- For more information: www.smcoe.k12.ca.us/outdoored.

Music for Learning

Impact: For many of our students, their only exposure to music education and their only chance to learn to play an instrument.

Cost: \$127,000

RCEF funding: \$113,000, supported by the RCEF since 1996.

Partners: Redwood City Civic Cultural Commission, Wells Fargo

Serves: 3,000 students, on average, in grades 2, 3, and 4.

Highlights:

- 2nd and 3rd graders learn the fundamentals of rhythm, pitch, and tempo, and 4th graders learn to play recorder and perform as a group, with credentialed music teachers.
- Prepares students for the district's instrumental program for 5th to 8th graders and opportunities such as the Peninsula Youth Orchestra.
- Numerous studies have proven the value of music instruction in improving academic achievement and developing critical thinking and collaborative skills, as well as giving students the opportunity to develop their musical gifts in their critical childhood years.
- No recorded human society has ever been without music.
- For more information: <http://www.mfm.org/index.html>.

Health & Wellness Programs

- Impact:** Provides opportunities for fitness and nutrition education to counteract rise of childhood obesity in the Redwood City School District. Well-nourished, physically fit children are better able to learn and achieve.
- Cost:** Variable, depending on programs offered.
- RCEF funding:** \$10,000 with additional funding in development. Supported by the RCEF at levels up to \$60,000 since 2005
- Partners:** Kaiser Permanente (2005-present). Past partners include Sequoia Hospital and Catholic Healthcare West.
- Serves:** All 9,000 students
- Highlights:**
- FitFun for Better Learning program trains teachers to confidently lead students in physical activities during the school day. Uses FitFun Game Guide, a compendium of teacher-friendly physical activities for K-5 classrooms, developed in 2008.
 - RCEF representative serves on District Wellness Committee, responsible for implementing District's Wellness policy.
 - Partnership with Serve the Peninsula provides high quality PE programs to five schools in our district.

SMART Grants

- Impact:** Provides grants to bring innovation in teaching in science, math, literacy, the arts, and technology into the classroom.
- Cost:** Variable, depending on grant applications submitted
- RCEF funding:** \$25,000 to \$75,000 (depending on partner participation): supported by the RCEF since 2008/09.
- Serves:** All 9,000 students
- Partners:** Westly Foundation, Oracle Corporation
- Highlights:**
- In 2008/09 provided \$80,000 in grants to all schools in district.
 - Grants included workshops with Marine Science Institute, bookmaking, school gardens, Art-in-Action, document projectors for the classroom, among many other enrichment activities and programs.
 - Gives schools opportunity to provide programs specific to their unique needs.

Summer Math Institute

- Impact:** Studies indicate that students who succeed in Algebra I are far more likely to attend college.
- Cost:** \$70,000
- RCEF funding:** \$43,000, program initiated in 2009.
- Serves:** 70 students
- Partners:** Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Oracle Corporation
- Highlights:**
- Provides a four-week summer school program for entering middle school students who need an extra boost to be prepared for Algebra 1 in 8th grade.
 - Due to budget constraints, the Summer Math Institute was one of the few summer programs offered by RCSD this last year.