
**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Kelly Martinka, Philanthropy Officer
email: kellym@nwmf.org

FOSSTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD PRESIDENT AND WINTER GRANT RECIPIENTS

March 2, 2023 (Bemidji, MN) – The Fosston Education Foundation has announced the election of a new president to their board of directors as well as the Winter 2023 grant award recipients.

Justin Marquis was elected president for the Fosston Education Foundation on Feb. 1, 2023. Long-time board president Lori Balstad will now serve as vice president until her term with the board sunsets. Ruth Fonder will remain secretary and Betsy Anderson as treasurer.

“I’m happy to step into the president’s role for the Fosston Education Foundation,” Justin Marquis says. “I appreciate Lori Balstad’s commitment to the board for so many years.” Lori has served on the committee since 2010 and as the board’s president since 2014.

“I’m proud of the work we have done to support educational projects in our community and what we can continue to accomplish with Justin’s leadership,” Lori Balstad states.

At the same meeting, there were four grant applications approved, with a total amount awarded totaling over \$5,000 for various projects and classrooms that support students throughout Fosston Public Schools, including:

- Upgraded Calculators / Fosston High School
- Presentation and Activities / Magelssen Elementary
- Flexible Seating and Collaborative Learning / Magelssen Elementary (2nd grade)
- CNC Plasma Cutting Machine and Table / Fosston High School

The education fund awards grants to Fosston educators and to the community for education-related programs and activities through a competitive application and review process.

The Fosston Education Foundation has given 147 grant awards for a total of \$198,498.90 since 2000.

The Fosston Education Foundation Fund is a component fund of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation. Their mission is to support the students, staff, educational programs and institutions within the Fosston School District. If you would like to support the Fosston Education Foundation Fund, please visit www.nwmf.org, click on “Give Now” and choose the Fosston Education Foundation Fund in the drop-down menu.

*NMF believes Northwest Minnesota offers boundless opportunities.
Our strength is connecting people, places, and possibilities.*

###