

# School receives grant

▣ *Funds from Pfeiffer memorial endowment through foundation*

**BY LORI TEPINSKI**  
*Staff Writer*

**ROCHELLE** — Trisha (Pfeiffer) Vaughn presented a check for \$2,990 from the Steve Pfeiffer Memorial Endowment Fund to Jennifer Dericks, Tilton School principal Monday afternoon.

The endowment fund was established by the Pfeiffer family in 2014 with the Rochelle Area Community Foundation.

Derrick said the grant would be used to help purchase new technology for the students and teachers.

“This is incredible. We’re starting this year to purchase things and this will be a wonderful opportunity to add and put more technology into the hands of students,” Derrick said. “We are getting a plan going to put more things in the teachers’ hands...looking at Chromebooks and ways to provide tools for teachers and students.”

Kim Montgomery explained the endowment fund established by the family is a donor-advised fund.

“The funds are set up with RACF and each year we are allowed a certain amount of money to spend from those funds. When it is a donor-advised fund, they recommend to the board how they would like to spend the charitable gift,” Montgomery said.

Vaughn, along with her mother, Kathy, and sister, Laura, are donor advisors and chose Tilton School as the designee of the grant.

“It was an honor to remember my Dad by presenting the check to Tilton School,” Vaughn said. “He was very involved with both the elementary district and the community foundation and he would be proud to support both groups.”

## **About RACF**

The RACF recently awarded \$51,690 in grant awards for programs and projects of local nonprofit orga-



*Tilton School principal Jennifer Dericks (left) was presented a grant check by Trisha Vaughn on behalf of the Steve Pfeiffer Memorial Endowment Fund through the Rochelle Area Community Foundation. (Photo by Lori Tepinski)*

nizations.

“Through the generous giving of many members of our community, assets of the foundation have grown to provide a substantial investment in education, hunger relief, health and wellness, community services and arts and culture,” Montgomery said.

Grants are awarded for specific projects and programs through a competitive application process. A committee of the foundation’s governing board carefully reviews each application and provides a recommendation to the foundation’s board for approval. Grant awards were formally approved at the April 13 meeting. Forty-two applications requesting a total of \$115,645 were received in February for 2016 grant awards. Of these, 36 were fully or partially funded.

The 2016 Grantees include various programs of Rochelle Elementary Schools, Rochelle AYSO Soccer, Rochelle Community Action network, CASA of Ogle County, Chana Education Center, Creston School, Flagg Rochelle Community Park District, FLAP, Focus House, Girls Scouts of Northern Illinois,

HOPE of Ogle County, Hub City Senior Center, Kings School Library, the Kitchen Table, Flagg-Rochelle Library District, LULAC of Rochelle, Flagg Township Museum, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Pegasus Special Riders, Presbyterian Thrift Shop, Rochelle Middle School, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Rochelle Enrichment Center, Rochelle Interact Club, Rochelle Little League, Serenity Hospice & Home, St. Paul Lutheran School, Floyd J. Tilton VFW Post 3878, Village of Progress, St. Patrick Parish Outreach.

The Rochelle Area Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the community through charitable giving, encourage a spirit of philanthropy, develop collaborative partnerships, and improve the quality of life of the community. To be a part of this important work, donate or learn more, visit [www.rochellefoundation.org](http://www.rochellefoundation.org).

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Kim Montgomery at 815-561-3600 or email at [kim@rochellefoundation.org](mailto:kim@rochellefoundation.org).