



## Education First Federal Credit Union Donates \$10,470 to Hardin County schools

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Carolyn Ridout  
409.782.5415

**Beaumont, TX** - Education First Federal Credit Union generously awarded more than \$45,000 to support local schools in Southeast Texas on Wednesday, January 24, 2024. This incredible contribution was made possible through the impactful *Paying It Forward (PIF)* program.

The program was conceived in 2014 as a nod to the credit union's roots, which was started by a small group of teachers at South Park High School in Beaumont in 1952. Through the program, when an Education First member borrows from the credit union, a donation is accrued to the school of the choice. Each year, the aggregate donations are presented to school superintendents and administrators at an annual luncheon.

This year marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *PIF*, which was celebrated with a live game show that pitted attendees from 123 school schools against one another in a chance to win an additional \$5,000 for their campus. Topics ranged from historical financial events to pop culture financial fun facts.

"When we dreamed up this program up all those years ago, we had no idea it would grow to this magnitude," said Kevin Conn, Education First FCU President and CEO. "We recognize that public education in Texas is starving for funding right now and need help more than ever. This program provides unrestricted funds to help schools continue to provide programs and services that schools might otherwise have to go without, and we are proud to be a part of that."

The following schools from Hardin County received funding totaling \$10,470:

*China Elementary School  
Hardin Jefferson High School  
Henderson Middle School  
Sour Lake Elementary School  
Kountze Elementary School  
Kountze High School  
Kountze Intermediate School  
Kountze Middle School  
Lumberton Early Childhood School*

*Lumberton High School  
Lumberton Intermediate School  
Lumberton Middle School  
Lumberton Primary School  
Edwards Johnson Middle School  
Laura Reeves Primary School  
Silsbee Elementary School  
Silsbee High School  
West Hardin Schools*

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*EFFCU is a community credit union of over \$630 million dollars in assets and 34,000 members. Membership is open to anyone who lives, works, or worships in Jefferson, Jasper, Hardin, Newton, Orange and Tyler counties in Texas.*

7025 Eastex Freeway | Beaumont, Texas 77706 | 409.896.8561 | EducationFirstFCU.org