

Gift gives a lift to Daniel Boone School District

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Laurel Reno knew the Daniel Boone School Board wasn't prepared for what she was about to say.

And the Amity Township resident's announcement left some school officials speechless.

Reno, joined by fellow Boone parents Michelle Miller and Jenn DeMild, informed the board at a recent meeting that the district's Parent Teacher Council would donate about \$12,000 to help with transportation costs of student field trips.

Reno, the PTC treasurer, said the group discovered a surplus after going over its 2011-12 budget. Miller and DeMild are PTC vice presidents at Amity Intermediate Center.

The women requested that \$10,000 be designated for field trips for first- to fifth-grade students. They asked that \$2,000 be used for in-school presentations or field trips for the half-day kindergarten program.

"We're more than happy to pay for it," Reno said of the transportation expenses.

PTC members will be working with Dr. Gary L. Otto, superintendent, to hash out details of the donation.

"I'm easy to find when there's an offer like that," Otto said. "That's amazing. Thank you very much. I'm in shock."

Boone's PTC raises money through membership fees, donations and various fundraisers, such as a danceathon during the past school year.

This year, the group will be sponsoring Kid Kreations, Super Fan Sports Fundraisers and Gertrude Hawk chocolate sales, DeMild said.

"Our philosophy is to provide the extras that the school cannot provide," Miller said.

The PTC's biggest project is the R.E.D. program, or Read Every Day, which helps put books into the hands of students. Many elementary teachers make the most of the gifts by incorporating the books into the curriculum.

The PTC also sponsors fifth-grade recognitions, Gingerbread Day and the Art Goes to School program, as well as other activities.

Reno estimated that the PTC puts \$40,000 to \$50,000 back into the schools each year, thanks to the generosity of parents and the community.

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Courtesy of Jenn DeMild
Students from Amity Intermediate Center participate in a danceathon fundraiser, one of numerous activities organized by the Daniel Boone Parent Teacher Council. The council recently presented the Boone school board with \$12,000 to assist with children's activities.