



In The Classroom

TEACHER NEWSLETTER

NEWS & RESOURCES FOR D34 EDUCATORS

SEPTEMBER 2026

GLENVIEW EDUCATION FOUNDATION:

YOUR GRANTS IN ACTION



Julie Hock teaching 1st graders at Henking school
Also pictured: Retired PE teacher, Bill Norbert

One Conversation. One Grant. More Than a Decade of Impact.

One day, PE teachers **Julie Hock** and now-retired **Bill Norbert** were talking when Bill said, "You know what I miss? Our bike unit."

The unit had disappeared years earlier because coordinating bikes from home became too difficult. But Julie and Bill knew learning to ride was about much more than a bike. It builds confidence, independence, social connection and lifelong safety skills—and teaching it at school gives every child the same opportunity to learn.

So they said, "Let's write a grant. The worst that can happen is they say no."

GEF said yes.

More than a decade later, **Every Child Can Ride** has become one of District 34's most recognized programs.

"This bike program has been the highlight of my career. Teaching over 25 years... this is what I will take as my memory of being a teacher."
— Julie Hock

Thank you, Julie and Bill, for seeing what was possible and making it happen. GEF is looking for more educators like you—and more ideas that start with a simple "What if?"

Your best idea can be next. Submit a grant. 🌱

You bring the ideas. We help them grow.

D34 educators are at the heart of what makes our schools exceptional. GEF is here to help you dream bigger, try something new and bring innovative learning experiences to life.

Dream big. Teach bold. Apply now.



GRANT CYCLE STATUS CHECK

GRANT CYCLE OPEN



READY TO GROW!

Applications are now being accepted

Applications are due:
October 21, 2026.

Do you, or a fellow D34 educator, have a GEF grant story to share?

We want to hear it! 🌱

Reach out:
communications@gef34.org

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Your school's GEF grant liaison can help you brainstorm, strengthen your proposal navigate the application process, and answer questions.

Henking:
Laurie Orenstein

Pleasant Ridge:
Christina Leong

Lyon:
Lauren Feldman

Glen Grove
Tina Parekh

Westbrook:
Allie Dawson

Attea
Laurie Orenstein

Hoffman:
Jessica Gebauer

Springman
Lisa Pavic

Reach out anytime—we're happy to answer your questions and connect you with any of our GEF liaisons.



grants@gef34.org

Or check out our website for FAQs and more:



gef34.org/grants-new

SEPT FOLLOW + WIN

FOLLOW ALONG. CHEER US ON. MAYBE WIN \$50.

All September long, GEF is celebrating our community with four Fridays, four winners and four \$50 gift cards. Last week, we kicked things off with a \$50 Target gift card. This week, we're heading to Trader Joe's!

WEEK 1
TARGET



WEEK 2
TRADER JOE'S
NOW

WEEK 3
\$50 GIFT
CARD
NEXT

WEEK 4
\$50 GIFT
CARD
NEXT



*Support Local Schools.
It's a Win-Win!*

SEPT FOLLOW + WIN!

FOUR FRIDAYS. FOUR WINNERS. FOUR \$50 GIFT CARDS.

We're giving away four \$50 gift cards this September, and you could be next!

HERE'S HOW TO ENTER:

- 1 FOLLOW GEF**
Make sure you're following us on Facebook and/or Instagram.
- 2 LIKE OUR OFFICIAL SHARE POST**
Head to Facebook or Instagram to find the official Sept Follow + Win post and give it a like.
- 3 TAG 2 FRIENDS**
Tag 2 friends in the comments who should be following GEF, too!

★ DOUBLE YOUR CHANCES!
Enter on both Facebook & Instagram.



THIS WEEK'S PRIZE:



LAST WEEK'S WINNER



Week 1:
\$50 Target
gift card
✓ Awarded!

COMING UP NEXT:



Week 3
September 18
\$50 Heinen's



Week 4
September 25
\$50 Jewel-Osco

*Different
prize each
week!*

Help Us Spread the Word!

Share this opportunity with your Glenview friends, neighbors and fellow D34 families!
A brighter future for our students starts with a stronger community.



No purchase or donation necessary. Must be 18+. See official rules: gef34.org/giveaway

This promotion is administered by the Glenview Education Foundation and is not sponsored, endorsed, administered by or associated with Facebook, Instagram, Meta or Trader Joe's.

WEEK 2: \$50 TRADER JOE'S GIFT CARD

TO ENTER:

1. Follow GEF on this platform.
2. Like the Week 2 giveaway post.
3. Tag two friends in the comments.

DOUBLE YOUR CHANCES:

Enter on both Facebook and Instagram.

ENTRIES CLOSE

Friday, September 11
at 12 PM CT

WINNER ANNOUNCED

Friday, September 11
by the end of the day

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD

Share the post or send it to a Glenview friend. The next winner could be someone you told!

FOUR FRIDAYS. FOUR WINNERS. FOUR \$50 GIFT CARDS.

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