



September 22, 2023

Marjie Smith
Sarasota Middle School
4826 Ashton Rd
Sarasota, FL 34233

Dear Marjie,

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, congratulations on becoming a Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation Ripple Effect Teacher Award winner!

This award is given in memory of our founders, Chuck and Margie Barancik, who would say, "We can't change the world, but we can change little pieces of it and hope for a ripple effect." Each day in your school, you help shape lives through the power of education, creating a positive ripple effect.

As part of this recognition, we have enclosed a check for \$5,000. This award is for *you*, to use as you please. You deserve it!

Now for the technical info: Unsolicited merit awards or prizes can be taxable. How you choose to spend these funds will determine whether all or part of the award counts as taxable income to you. For example, if you use the funds for things such as classroom supplies, technology, or professional development, you may be able to offset all or a portion of the award against those expenses. You should consult your tax advisor to help you make this decision. Meanwhile, please complete the enclosed IRS Form W-9 as soon as possible and return it to our CFO (EBosque@BarancikFoundation.org).

We know that everyone remembers their favorite teacher. There's a reason for that. Outside of family, teachers have the greatest influence on a child's academic performance, moral character, and future success. Put simply, they make all the difference in the world. We are proud of you for being one of our favorite teachers.

With grateful thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teri A Hansen".

Teri A Hansen
President | CEO

