



February 26, 2023

Dear 2023 Rockets for Schools Teams, Students, Mentors, and Parents:

Thank you for your support of the Rocket for Schools (R4S) event. As you are aware, the Rockets for Schools Committee will be holding the 2023 Rocket for Schools event in Sheboygan, WI and at the Blue Harbor Resort on Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 13, 2023.

The event is fortunate to have continued corporate and private support not only financially, but most-of-all for this year physically. The Sheboygan Harbor here in 2023 does remain under construction with continued South Pier renovations and soon-to-be sea wall refurbishing from the base of the South Pier moving west along the river. Michels Construction, Inc., the project's prime contractor, has confirmed to the Committee their support to ensure the event launches from the South Pier.

The Committee's intent is to schedule and manage the event in the same format and content as we have for the 2022 event: in-person and live. However, please be aware with ongoing harbor construction and continued threat of Covid variants and future protocols; the success of the event will be very dependent upon flexibility of our volunteer staff, the host facility, and most-of-all the teams.

For planning on your end, the teams will still have their rockets inspected and scored, a space industry professional will be speaking, individual team formal presentations completed, mission control and participants event support roles, event live streaming, and rockets launched from the South Pier. However, teams will need to plan and develop their payloads to be as "self-sufficient" for installation and operation as teams will NOT have access to their rockets once designated for launch. The traditional walk to the launch pads by the adult mentor and participants will NOT occur. Again, access to the pier and river will be very controlled and limited to event staff only as it is an active construction area. We are hoping the 2024 event will return to past traditions and easier access with the reconfigured South Pier completion.

The Committee is very excited to also announce a grant program for ALL 2023 teams. Due to the generous donation from the independent not-for-profit organization Battelle ([battelle.org](http://battelle.org)), the 2023 event has received a potential \$550 grant for each team up to the event maximum limit of 30 teams. Battelle as an organization advances science and technology for the greatest impact on society and economy. Battelle was a 2022 event partner and has tremendously increased its role and impact in our program.

Each participating team will be eligible for a \$550 grant which can be used to offset their event registration, rocket kit, and event material costs. Teams are to pay their entire event fee at time of registration and will be provided the grant, in full, at the end of the program with full completion of the following established milestones and guidelines:

- *Scientific payload description submittal and approval.*
- *Participated in a 50% design review of payload and rocket construction by video conference with R4S Committee members.*
- *Participated in a 90% design review of payload and rocket construction by video conference with R4S Committee members.*
- *Event worksheet on time submittal.*
- *All team event paperwork (i.e., team member registration, emergency, and liability forms) submittals.*



- *Event attendance and full participation including completed rocket and payload, science fair presentation board, oral presentation, and main speaker attendance.*
- *Completion of assigned specific support roles by team members physically at event.*
- *All team members (students, mentors, and parents) shall display safe, moral, ethical conduct, and sportsmanship at all times while participating in the program.*
- *Teams follow event policies and implement any directions from the R4S Committee and event personnel.*
- *Payload Post-Launch Assessment Review (PPLAR) submittal which is a tool for teams to evaluate the performance of their payload design and operation while providing the R4S Committee a payload database.*

The R4S Co-Director Kenny Bergschultz will maintain a running tracking log noting each team's status, completed submittals and dates received. Teams successfully completing the above milestones and guidelines will receive their grant by check no later than 1-month from program end date. No partial grants will be distributed, all milestones and guidelines must be satisfied. Unawarded grant monies are anticipated to be rolled into the 2024 program.

The Committee will continue to provide systematic updates as we get closer to the event on schedule, procedures, and techniques as needed. Please right now...spread the word, order your rockets, sign-up your teams, and make your hotel reservations!

We appreciate your continued support of the Rockets for Schools program! We look forward to a successful 2023 event and seeing each of you at Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan!

If you have any further questions, please contact either of us by the means shown below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenny Bergschultz'.

Kenny Bergschultz, Co-Director  
[kenny@spaceportsheboygan.com](mailto:kenny@spaceportsheboygan.com)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carol Lutz'.

Carol Lutz, Co-Director  
[clutz53@gmail.com](mailto:clutz53@gmail.com)