

Sheboygan Public Education Foundation Annual Report 2014-2015

Message from the President

Our Sheboygan Area School District system is truly one of the best in Wisconsin, thus many people are choosing to enroll their children in our district. While budgetary constraints and state funding issues continue to remain difficult, The Sheboygan Public Education Foundation (SPEF) is proud to offer substantial financial assistance during these trying times. Through continuous and generous support of teachers, staff, administrators, local businesses, community foundations, and individuals, SPEF has been fortunate to be able to donate over \$810,000 in grants to teachers and students since our inception 12 years ago. Whether the Foundation has funded non-technology and technology projects, all have had a direct positive impact on our children's education. As a community-based volunteer board, SPEF will continue to strive for excellence in our public schools, as STRONG STUDENTS will create a STRONG FUTURE for our community. Thank you Sheboygan for your ongoing and generous support!

Gratefully,
Brian J. Versey

ALL IN FOR EDUCATION TEXAS HOLD'EM SHEBOYGAN STYLE

The 2014 "All In For Education" Texas Hold'em fundraiser was held on Friday, Oct. 24 at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms with Brandon Hurst taking home the first place honors. Our 11th annual event raised \$17,491 from our generous contributors.

SAVE THE DATE:

Oct. 21, 2016 All In For Education at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms.

Join us for an action-packed night of great entertainment and card playing in a friendly setting.

Planting Seeds For The Future Through Donations Today

Back in April, 2014, South High Botany instructor Nicole Schumacher submitted a Spring Grant Proposal to manage a garden plot with her Botany students at the RCS/Nourish Nonprofit Charity Garden Plots located on the RCS site on the north side of Sheboygan.

SPEF's Fall and Spring grant proposal program awards teachers, staff, and students with items not funded in the school district's budget.

Schumacher's "innovative and creative" proposal included her Botany students and making it a part of her curriculum. Under her supervision, the students got hands-on experience cultivating, planting, maintaining, and harvesting the vegetable when ready.

Interestingly, the finished garden products would then be used by the South High FACE (Family and Consumer Education) classes for various units in its fall classes.

"The experience our students will gain from working first-hand in the garden is immeasurable," Schumacher wrote. The FACE classes will also provide samples throughout the school year during lunch, such as a salsa bar Schumacher added.

"I observed students who were able to gain first-hand knowledge while working on the land plot, as well as learn to work with others as they achieve a common goal," Schumacher said. "In addition to gaining knowledge and experience regarding gardening, they had to be responsible for themselves and communicate and organize their means of transportation to and from school and the land plot".

"Had it not been for the SPEF grant program, we would not have been able to have the land plot to provide students the experience of working directly in a large garden," Schumacher stated. "With the help of farm managers, they learn the skills needed to successfully grow and harvest produce for use in the classroom."



ANNUAL FUND DRIVES

► **Staff Solicitation** - The staff of the Sheboygan Area School District continues to be generous. Over \$13,174 was raised in 2014-2015 from generous staff donations, which in turn is given back to the schools in the form of non-technology and technology grants.

► **Every Dollar Count\$** - In its third year, parents and guardians donated \$1,657 to the SPEF during school registration. Lincoln-Erdman led all schools for the second year in a year with \$607 in donations. Every Dollar Count\$. Thank You!

► **Annual Appeal** - Local businesses and community members are asked to financially support our mission during this December fundraiser. We thank them for their continued support of public education in Sheboygan with a total of \$5,295 raised.

"The Sheboygan Public Education Foundation is a critical partner in providing resources that benefit Sheboygan Area School District students. There are numerous SASD programs, services and school supplies made possible thanks to their efforts and thanks to the generosity of those donating to the Foundation. Sheboygan is truly fortunate that the Foundation is working with SASD to make sure our community has strong public schools."

—David Gallianetti,
President SASD Board of Education

[2002 - 2015]

\$810,000+

Given back to the Sheboygan Area School District in grants over the past

13 years

Grants Awarded

2014-2015 school year

Upright piano, dolly, humidity control
Three Projector Mounts & Installation
Picture Books For Music Room
Non-Fiction Adventure Books
Upholstered Seats For Auditorium
Latex-Free Rug
Library Tables & Chairs
Eleven SMARTBoards
Packages/Mounts Installations
Stools For Classrooms
Latex Free Rug
2015 Graduation Party
Classroom Libraries
Piano, Dolly, Humidity Control System
Work Tables
Learning Space Dry Erase Surface
Coaches' Room Televisions/
Av/Equipment
National Geographic Learning
Information Text For Classroom Library
6th Grade World Music
Drumming Project

13 Years of Supporting Public Education

The Sheboygan Public Education Foundation, Incorporated, will raise contributions to enhance our students' educational opportunities by supporting high quality facilities and programs.

SUPPORT STUDENTS/FAMILIES THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

Sheboygan Area School District graduating seniors are special! In 2015, SPEF distributed over \$78,000 in 24 different scholarship accounts, several with multiple awards.

Total "local scholarship awards" for last year's graduating Class of 2015 totaled over \$1.3 million.

The Sheboygan Public Education Foundation administers over 32 scholarships for graduating seniors within the Sheboygan Area School District. Some of these scholarships have been set up for immediate distribution, while others are for future students.

Individuals, families, businesses, and donors recognize the importance to assist students in their post-secondary educational goals with financial assistance. Each scholarship is "special" and is administered per the wishes of the donor. The Foundation assists donors in establishing scholarship guidelines, coordinates the distribution and collection of applications, and manages the distribution of scholarship funds.

The Foundation met with local school officials in June, 2015 and decided to "open" the SPEF scholarship essay applications to seniors in Sept, 2015, some five months ahead of time, to give seniors ample opportunity to compose that perfect essay response.

A complete list of 2015-2016 scholarships available through the Foundation can be found on our website www.the-e-foundation.org.

DIPLOMA DASH BRINGS FAMILIES TOGETHER

By Wade Heinen (Resident/Parent/SASD Employee)

"So why does our family participate and support the Diploma Dash? Our family could chose to spend that busy graduation weekend in a lot of different ways. But, for our family, it is a sense of pride in our schools. If you ask my daughter, she was so excited to tell everyone that she was running to help her new school. Young children and students don't always have opportunities to serve their community. By participating in the Diploma Dash, our children took an active role in helping their future schools and kids they don't even know." **Join us on Saturday, June 4, 2016 for this year's Diploma Dash.**

➤ Visit our website for upcoming events, programs, scholarships, and information.
www.the-e-foundation.org

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