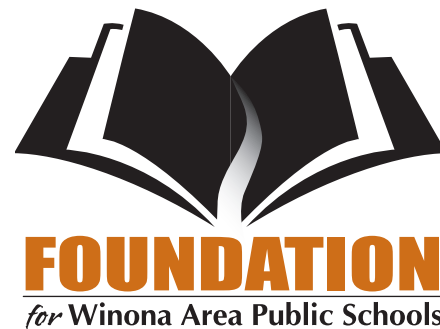


The Foundation Files

August 2010 through September 2011



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*** Ex-officio; non-voting

Susan Eddy Executive Director

Thank You for a Great Year!

The 2010-2011 school year was very active and eventful for the Foundation starting with the kick-off of **Winona Area Public Schools' Sesquicentennial (150th) Anniversary**. While the District provided a myriad of sesquicentennial activities throughout the year, the Foundation joined the celebration by hosting a community-wide "Sesquicentennial Gala" on March 19th at Signatures Event Center.

This sold-out evening of dining and dancing celebrated this historical milestone as well as our community's stellar support of education over the past 150 years. In true Winona spirit, over **\$75,000 was raised at this event** specifically for Smart Board technology for all our schools. We were humbled by the exceptional support and grateful beyond words by the generosity of our donors and our two lead sponsors, Winona National Bank and Merchants Bank.

The \$75,000 in Gala proceeds combined with \$45,000 held in Foundation tech funds brought the total to **over \$120,000 that went to new Smart Boards** this year from Foundation donors. At the beginning of 2010, WAPS had only two Smart Boards. Now, thanks to the support of many, the district has 124 installed smart boards, many just installed this summer. What a great way for students and teachers to start the new school year!

Also at the Gala, the Foundation's **first Legacy Award** was presented to two extraordinary supporters of education and community, **Hugh & Vera Miller**. Thanks to Hugh and Vera's leadership and commitment to the Miller Mentoring Program at WAPS, hundreds of students have benefited both personally and educationally. See page 3 for more information on Miller Mentoring and the impact that the Millers and this outstanding program have had on so many of our students.

2010-11 was another great year for grant allocations made by the Foundation. **Over 40 classroom grants and two Dare to Dream grants** were awarded which benefited students in all our schools. These grants include support for field trips, speakers and a wide range of educational enrichments. A complete list is provided on page 2.

We are happy to report that the Foundation's assets experienced steady growth over the past year exceeding the \$2,000,000.00 mark once again after the 2008 economic downturn. However, as I write this, our economy is again experiencing great fluctuation. I could not be more grateful for our outstanding investment committee and their diligent guidance during these volatile times. Thanks to these professionals, our funds have weathered these economic fluctuations in an exemplary manner.

(continued on page 2)



Row 1, L-R: Ben Baratto, Matt Reeck, Scott Sorvaag. Row 2, L-R Susan Eddy, Dave Mertes, Chris Kendall, Michele Nester, Mary Bergin, Lyle Laturno, Luke Merchlewitz, Gaby Peterson, Kim Roque, Don Klagge, Christine Streukens

Welcome

New Board Members:

Ben Baratto - Representative from the WAPS School Board, retired WAPS teacher and previous Foundation Board member.

Emily Krause - Student rep., WSHS Junior.

Kim Roque - Business owner, WAPS volunteer.

Scott Sorvaag - Ed. D, Dean of Education & Chair of Undergraduate Teacher Education at Saint Mary's University

Save the Date:

March 3, 2012

The Gala committee has been busy since summer planning a fun evening at Visions Event Center on 3/3/12 that will benefit technology needs in our schools. The suggested attire is simply anything denim accompanied by the "bling" of your choice. Please join us for an exciting evening of good food, friends and fun activities all to benefit our schools.



Inquiries and contributions may be directed to the Foundation at
1570 Homer Road, Winona, MN 55987;
507.494.1004; support@foundationwaps.org

(Letter from Executive Director Susan Eddy Continued from page 1)

One of our most active areas financially for the Foundation has been the growth in special funds. We now have **46 funds** which are all dedicated to the same mission of enhancing educational opportunities for our students. These special funds enable tax-deductible fund raising for targeted needs for WAPS students such as scholarships, academic competitions, student trips, as well as special facility enhancements such as the Hopf Fitness Center and WSHS Track scoreboard.

On a very positive note, I am grateful to report that **over a quarter of a million dollars has been directed through the Foundation this year** for educational enhancements for our WAPS students. Thanks to you, all of the special programs, projects, field trips, speakers, and technology enhancements listed inside this newsletter have been made possible. This support is valued now more than ever and heartfelt thanks are extended to each of you.

Although our sesquicentennial year is over, a positive synergy still exists as a result of this year of reflection on our district's rich heritage. All of us at the Foundation are looking forward to a great year ahead and we hope that you will contact our office if you have any questions or suggestions for the Foundation. Please know that our **deepest gratitude goes to each of you for your generosity and support.**

With best wishes,

Susan Eddy, Executive Director

www.foundationwaps.org, 507.494.1004, susan.eddy@winona.k12.mn.us

Grants Made During 2010-2011 School Year

- ECFE P.L.A.Y. at Maplewood Reading/Literacy Program
- ECFE Moms Supporting Moms Program
- "Kids First" After-School Collaborative Program at Maplewood
- Author Visits to the six Elementary Schools
- Jefferson Elementary MN Zoo Field Trip
- Madison Elementary Parent Math Informational Night
- W-K Elementary National Eagle Center Field Trip
- Rollingstone Elementary MN Zoo Field Trip
- Madison Elementary Reading Informational Night for Families
- Jefferson Elementary Whitewater State Park Field Trip
- Madison Elementary Special Education Equipment
- Jefferson Elementary National Eagle Center Field Trip
- W-K Elementary Smart Board Dare to Dream Grant
- Goodview Elementary Maritime Museum Field Trip
- Jefferson, W-K, Goodview, Madison Elementary Artist in Residency Program
- Madison Elementary Summer Reading Program
- Jefferson Elementary Maritime Museum Field Trip
- Young Writers Conference Program Sponsor
- WMS Diversity Group Trip to the Festival of Nations
- WMS 6th Grade Historical Cemetery Walk Field Trip
- WMS 8th Grade Band Festival Trip
- WMS Robotics Program
- WMS SpEd Work Skills/Life Skills Class
- WMS 7th Grade Guthrie Theater Field Trip
- WMS 7/8th Grade Quarry Hill Nature Center Field Trip
- WALC Lifetime Sports
- WSHS 11th Grade King Tut Exhibit Field Trip
- WSHS Student Trip to Europe
- WSHS Advanced DNA Studies \$5,000 Dare to Dream Grant
- WSHS Concordia Language Village Student Trip
- WSHS Challenge Biodiversity Field Trip to MN Zoo
- WSHS/WMS Healthy Snacks for Study Sessions
- WSHS/WMS Winona Misato Student Japan Trip

Annual Haake Poetry Prizes

Awarded at WSHS & WMS

The Annual Haake Poetry Prizes were presented in May to nine WSHS & WMS students. These winners were blindly selected by an esteemed judges' panel including: Ken McCullough - award-winning poet, professor, and Winona's current Poet Laureate; Carol Borzyskowski - poetry publisher, Fine Arts Commission member and senior librarian, and Chris Livingston - owner of the Book Shelf and president of the Midwest Booksellers' Association.

The Foundation is pleased to sponsor enrichment programs such as this and would like to **thank Dr. Paul Haake**, Professor Emeritus at Wesleyan University and a 1950 graduate of WSHS, for creating and endowing this award. The Haake Poetry Prize was established to honor the memory of Dr. Haake's father, Arnold Haake, a lifelong Winona resident and business owner who was known for his poetry during his years at WSHS.



WSHS Winners: (L-R) - Nicholai Kropp, Katelynn Glenna, Savannah Weinstock, Dot Armstrong, Mic Borsari

WSHS First Place \$100 Prize Winners
Nicholai Kropp, 11th grade: "Green Plastic"
Savannah Weinstock, 12th grade: "Cold Thinking"
WSHS Second Place \$50 Prize Winners
Dot Armstrong, 10th grade: "Fruhling"
Mic Borsari, 10th grade: "Zippidy Doo Dah"
Katelynn Glenna, 12th grade: "Ode to Sarcasm"



WMS Winners: (L-R) - John Gilles, Kailey Kronebusch, Kristen Carrie, Libby Crigler

WMS First Place \$100 Prize Winners
Kristen Carrie, 7th grade: "The Writer"
Kristen Carrie, 7th grade: "Silva de Silentium"
WMS Second Place \$50 Prize Winners
Libby Crigler, 6th grade: "What Poet Am I?"
John Gilles, 7th grade: "Knight"
Kailey Kronebusch, 8th grade: "Snorkeling"

Legacy Award Presented

to Hugh & Vera Miller



The Foundation's first Legacy Award was presented at the Gala to **Hugh & Vera Miller** for their commitment to enhance the education of our students through their sponsorship and expansion of the **Miller Mentoring Program**. This program matches adult mentors with at-risk students who are referred by teachers or staff members. With an adult mentor, the student learns study skills, social skills or a combination of the two. This mentor connection has provided dramatic improvement in the academic standing for many students. And even more significant is the support and enhancement in the personal lives of many students as a result of this mentor relationship.

Since Hugh and Vera became involved with Miller Mentoring, the program has grown to over four times its original size and several new programs have been added to its services. In the words of Cindy Althoff, Director for the Miller Mentoring Program, "Hugh & Vera are people who give from the heart to benefit a community they love. I have the honor and pleasure of witnessing the power of their gifts everyday."

It is with deep appreciation that the Foundation for Winona Area Public Schools awards its first "Legacy Award" to Hugh and Vera Miller. This Legacy Award has additional meaning for WAPS and the Foundation due to the additional history of support that Hugh's father, Ben, gave to our schools. Ben was on the WAPS School Board in the 1950's. He also championed many special programs for students over the years with which our Foundation had the privilege of being involved. These programs include: the Miller New Teacher Mentoring Program, the Ben Miller Institute for Teachers, the Food for Families Program, the Best Practice Parent Involvement Program, the Supporting Young Readers Program and the Principles of Technology Program.

As is apparent, Ben's legacy is living on through his family. In honor of the family's tradition of selfless giving to benefit our students, this award will henceforth be known as the Miller Legacy Award for outstanding support of our Winona Area Public Schools and its students.

2011 Sesquicentennial Gala

PROUD PAST
BRIGHT FUTURE



WINONA AREA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SESQUICENTENNIAL

1861 - 2011

The Foundation's Sesquicentennial Gala was held on March 19, 2011 in recognition of the District's 150 year anniversary. We were honored to have had a capacity gathering of so many outstanding citizens representing our city, schools, universities & businesses. We were also humbled by the generous support for technology in our schools with **over \$75,000** raised this evening which **funded 25 new Smart Boards** for our classrooms. Heartfelt thanks to all the generous donors.

We were also honored to announce **Hugh & Vera Miller as the recipients of the Foundation's first Legacy Award**, which will henceforth be known as the Miller Legacy Award in honor of the family's tradition of selfless giving to benefit our students.

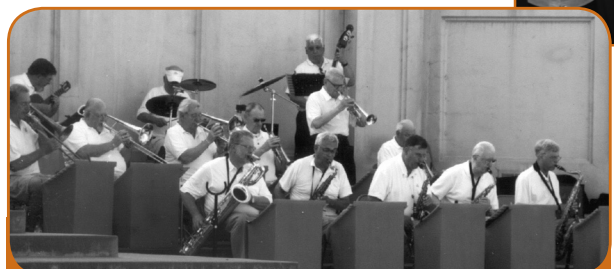
Special thanks are extended to our **two lead sponsors – Merchants Bank & Winona National Bank**. These two businesses made the outstanding contribution of five Smart Boards each (ten total) to our schools in recognition of this sesquicentennial anniversary. We sincerely appreciate the community focus and commitment to education of both Winona National and Merchants Bank.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to our supporting sponsors: **HBCI, Miller Felpax, Winona Health, Yarnology and Winona Agency**. And we couldn't have made it without the gracious services of **Flowers on Broadway, Hy-Vee, Jon Kohner, Signatures/Visions Event Center, Winona Daily News, Winona Post and Winona Radio**.

The \$75,000 raised for Smart Boards at this sold-out event will be of benefit to our students for years to come. We are so thankful. Plans are under way now for next year's **"Denim & Diamonds Gala"** to be held **March 3, 2012**. Proceeds will benefit the Foundation and our WAPS Technology Initiative.



25 new Smart Boards were funded at the Gala!



The Grumpy Old Men Orchestra entertained at the Gala featuring WSHS alumni Jerry Gleason and Gary Urness.

Teacher & Staff Payroll Deduction & Donations

The donors listed below support the Foundation through the district's bi-weekly payroll deduction plans. Thank you WAPS teachers and staff!

Shannon Bechley	Tim Gleason	Lori Krumholz	Diane Nolan	Anne Simon-Debroux
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Fred Blacklock	Scott Halverson	Holly Lechler	Steve Norman	Katy Smith
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Gala Smart Board Donors

\$15,000 Donors

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Winona National Bank

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Greg & Becky Lossen
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Up to \$450

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Gotta Dance Studio

WSHS Business Dept. IMM Fund

WSHS Model Legislature

Susan & John Eddy

WSHS Smart Board Fund

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Miller Felpax

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Virgil Riggle

Ruth & Don Marg
Ben & Sharon Baratto

Lloyd Simonson

Staff of House 7-E
Sharon Suchla

Delores "Dolly" Salakka

Sonia Hanson
Barbara Carlson

George Salakka

Luke & Brenda
Merchlewitz
Barbara Carlson
Jan & Bruce Harem

Paul Sanders

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William Schreiber

Sonia Hanson
Vicki Andring
Dr. John Kaehler

Bill Schuth, Jr.

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Kermit Selke Memorial Fund for WSHS Wrestling Program

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George Henthorne
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Jane Leonard
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Ben & Sharon Baratto
Sandy Wernimont
Kristi Traxler
Shannon & Jim Hanzel
Marian & Earl Drussell
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Carmen & Scott Hannon
Judy Davis
Mary Bergland
Vicki Andring
Steve & Margaret Schild

Robert Suchla

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Melissa Shields
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John Weaver
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Kristy Traxler
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Robert Tschida

Sharon Suchla

Edith Tschumper

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Frank Utecht, Jr.

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WSHS Girls
Tennis Program
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We have made every effort to provide an accurate listing of gifts received between 9/1/10 and 9/1/11.
However, if you find an error/omission, please contact the Foundation office at 507-494-1004.

"Herky's Heroes" raises \$1,078

dancing for the Foundation for WAPS!

The Foundation for Winona Area Public Schools received a check for \$1,078 from a **fantastic group of teachers who performed at the annual "Dancing with the Winona Stars"** Fundraiser on August 13, 2011. This dynamic group of teaching professionals is called "Herky's Heroes" and includes (front row L-R:) Jaime Jirele, Karla Winter (back row L-R:) Melody Snyder, Emily Cassellius, Justin Blom, Kari Wantok. These funds will support the Foundation's mission to provide educational enhancements for students in all our schools. Thank you, Herky's Heroes!

The Foundation for WAPS congratulates...



2011 Minnesota's Teacher of the Year

Katy Smith, WAPS' ECFE Parent Educator, was named 2011 Minnesota's Teacher of the Year and is Minnesota's nominee for 2012 National Teacher of Excellence!



Honorariums

Beth O'Dea's 861 Retirement
Mary Rusert

Gail Bradbury's Woman of the Year Award
Susan & John Eddy

Luke & Brenda Merchlewitz
Bob Bambenek

Brett Gordon's Induction to WSHS Athletic Hall of Fame
Rose & Horace Andersen

Arik Jacquart's 19th Birthday
Jacquart Family

Kids First Program
Jeremy Johnson
Phil & Hope Anderson
Bill Reinerts

Herky's Heroes
Christine & Randy Streukens
Susan & John Eddy

John Scheevel
Paula & Craig Scheevel

Amy (Stiever) Fearnce
Val & Mary Jo Stiever

Kristina Stiever
Val & Mary Jo Stiever

Cathy Solem's Induction to WSHS Athletic Hall of Fame
Bruce & Mary Reeck

Mary Cappel-MN Elem PE Teacher of the Year
Susan & John Eddy

54th Wedding Anniversary
Jerry Whetstone

Luke Merchlewitz's DWWS performance
Scott Hannon

Luke Merchlewitz's Award for Teaching Excellence
NEA Foundation
Susan & John Eddy

Katy Smith - MN Teacher of the Year
Shannon & Jim Hanzel
Susan & John Eddy
Keith & Marie Holmquist
Eric & Cathy Bartleson

Retirement of Jan Mosher
Shannon & Jim Hanzel

Retirement of Sharon Suchla
Ben & Sharon Baratto

Retirement of Judy Davis
Ben & Sharon Baratto

Retirement of Sonia Hanson
Ben & Sharon Baratto

Susan Eddy's Birthday
Sharon Suchla

TBO Golf Tournament
Heather Prondzinski

Stacey Mounce Arnold service on WAPS School Board
Sharon Suchla

John Goplen service on WAPS School Board
Sharon Suchla

Ted Hazelton service on WAPS School Board
Sharon Suchla

Rose & Andy Anderson
Jack & Sue Cornwell

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The Dave & Muriel Arnold Family Fund of WCF

The Foundation for WAPS' Dare to Dream

2010 Award Winners

The Foundation is pleased to announce two winners of this year's annual innovation award, the 2010 Dare to Dream Grant: **Ken Mann** from WSHS and **Kris Szajner** from W-K Elementary. The purpose of the award is to foster and promote the creative spirit within the district.

Ken Mann's \$5,000 award is for the advanced study of DNA in molecular and cellular biology.

This grant will assure that all students at WSHS will have a chance to study DNA using a now common process called Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).



Pictured (L-R): Kris Szajner and Ken Mann

Kris Szajner's \$2,886 award funded the first SMART Board at W-K School which is located in his kindergarten classroom. The SMART Board has enhanced interactive learning by utilizing existing curriculum as well as new internet resources.

Third Annual NHS Drive Thru BBQ Fundraiser

These WSHS National Honor Society students raised over \$600 for the Foundation for Winona Area Public Schools at the Drive-Thru BBQ held at the school on May 18th. Thank you to these students, Steak Shop Catering and to all who purchased tickets for this event. These funds will go to the Foundation to support educational enhancements benefiting students at all WAPS schools.



Pictured (L-R): WSHS NHS Students Brandon Beech, Martin Federson, Dylan Johnson, Ciara Morcomb, Will Eddy, Nicki Becker, Monica Sanvik. Not pictured: Erin Benardy, Suzanne Schwab, Nicole Jackels, Makala Hansen, Kaitlyn Kanne.

Farewell to 2 Special Board Members

Best wishes and heartfelt thanks to Linda Olson and Marie Holmquist who completed their second and final terms on the Foundation Board this summer. Not only were they co-presidents for many years, but they also served as active members or chairs of the Grant Committee, Gala Committee, Nominations Committee, and the list goes on and on. We are blessed with outstanding board members and they just don't get any better than these two incredibly dedicated and committed individuals. Thank you, Linda & Marie!



FOUNDATION
for Winona Area Public Schools

Mission

The Foundation for Winona Area Public Schools is an independent, non-profit, 501(c) 3 organization established in 1991 and funded entirely by community and business supporters of education in Winona. The single purpose of the Foundation is to enrich and expand educational opportunities in Winona Area Public Schools by supporting important programs and projects that would otherwise not be funded through normal district resources.

Community & Alumni Support

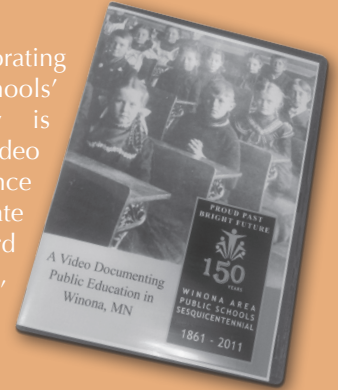
Community and alumni support has been invaluable in the many projects that have benefited our students such as field trips, student speakers and enrichment programs. The Foundation also holds over 46 special funds created by individual supporters to benefit specific educational causes of interest such as Student Scholarship Funds, WSHS Hopf Fitness Center Fund, and SE MN Science Fair Fund.

How You Can Help

Donations can be made online (www.foundationwaps.org), in person (at our office at WMS) or by mail (1570 Homer Rd, Winona, MN 55987). Gifts are frequently made in honor or in memory of a special person or event and can also be provided via a will, pension plan or other types of planned giving. For more information, please call the Foundation at 507.494.1004 or email: support@foundationwaps.org.

Sesquicentennial DVDs Available

A professional DVD commemorating the Winona Area Public Schools' Sesquicentennial Anniversary is available for only \$20.00. This video documents 150 years of excellence in education while we celebrate our proud past and look forward to a bright future! To purchase, please contact the Foundation at: support@foundationwaps.org or call 507.494.1004.



Sincere thanks to each of you for your support!

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