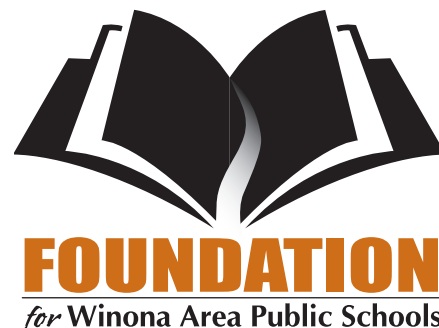


The Foundation Files

September 2011 through August 2012



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Shelley Milek, Executive Director



From the Executive Director

For nearly ten years I've had the immense pleasure of being involved with the Foundation—five as a board member/officer and four as executive director. But as of September 1st, I will have retired following the graduation of our fourth/youngest and the subsequent sale of our in-town home. When I stepped into the executive director position in 2008, I expected to serve for approximately two years on a somewhat interim basis. But fast forward four years and I find that I've been here twice that long and enjoyed it twice as much as well!

Introducing Shelley Milek

For this reason, I'm so very pleased to share with you that Shelley Milek has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Foundation for WAPS beginning September 1st. Shelley has a rich background in finance and marketing having served as Market President for Home Federal in Winona and Credit Union Manager, Loan Officer for Federated Employees Credit Union in Owatonna. She was also the Administration Department Head of Huckle Publishing, Inc. in Owatonna/Faribault and Administrative Director of Garden State Investment in Bloomington, MN / Islandia, NY. Shelley has a degree in Business Administration from University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and has had significant involvement in our community which includes serving as the current Chair of the City of Winona's Merit Board and as Board Member of the Winona Community Foundation. She has been actively involved in Junior Achievement, Women's Resource Center, March of Dimes, Rivertown Shuffle and WAPS Sports, Prom, Winterfest Committees. The Foundation also was fortunate to have the benefit of her considerable talents as a member of the 2012 Gala Steering Committee and co-chair of the Gala Decorations Committee. Shelley and her husband John have a freshman son and a senior daughter at WSHS.



Susan, with new executive director, Shelley Milek

Welcome Shelley! If you'd like to contact her, please call the Foundation office at 507.494.1004 (same #) or e-mail shelley.milek@winona.k12.mn.us.

Heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for the wonderful support that you have provided the Foundation and our schools. I am so grateful and will cherish the outstanding friendships and memories made during these years at the Foundation.

- Susan Eddy, Retiring Executive Director

Highlights of the Year

The 2011-2012 was very active and eventful year for the Foundation. Some of the highlights include:

- 25 classroom and school grants
- Over \$58,000 raised at this year's "Denim & Diamonds Gala" for SMART boards
- \$5,000 Dare to Dream Grant for WMS Smart Response System (SRS) lending library to use with SMART boards in WMS classrooms
- 56 donor advised funds
- 10 scholarships
- Over \$333,000 has been directed this year through the Foundation to projects that enhance public education in Winona.

On behalf of our board of directors, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your generosity and kind support. Your help has made possible all of the special programs, projects, field trips and speakers listed inside this newsletter—and much, much more. Heartfelt thanks to each of you and I hope you will contact us with any questions or ideas for the Foundation and our schools.

The Foundation for WAPS

2011 Dare to Dream Award Winners

The Foundation's Dare to Dream Award is an annual \$5,000.00 innovation grant which was created to foster the creative spirit within the District. This year's winners are Paul Schollmeier and Terri Spartz of Winona Middle School.

Paul and Terri's request was to purchase a 'lending library' of SMART Response Systems (SRS) that can be shared with all WMS classrooms to further enhance the SMART board learning experience for students. The SMART Response System includes individual handheld units to be used by students to interact with the SMART board which enables teachers to check student comprehension, take surveys or instantly track quiz and exam results. The results from the system can be instantly downloaded into various software modes to gauge student understanding, the effectiveness of a particular lesson plan or to graphically display individual and class strengths/weaknesses.

SRS units provide instant evaluation of student comprehension and can even identify specific questions that may need further instruction. Assessments and surveys can be used to modify and differentiate lesson plans and teaching activities that will help maximize learning.



Gaby Peterson, Foundation V.P., Susan Eddy, WMS Principal Mark Anderson, and WMS teachers Terri Spartz, Paul Schollmeier

Annual Haake Poetry Prizes

Awarded at WSHS & WMS

The Annual Haake Poetry Prizes were presented on May 23rd to ten WSHS & WMS students. These winners were blindly selected by an esteemed judges' panel including: Emilio DeGrazia - award-winning poet & writer, WSU Professor Emeritus, and Winona's current Poet Laureate; Carol Borzykowski - poetry publisher, Fine Arts Commission member and senior librarian, and Chris Livingston - owner of the Book Shelf and president of the Midwest Booksellers' Association.



WSHS Winners: (L-R) – Coral Weinstock, David Luttmers, Nicholai Kropp, Dot Armstrong (not pictured: Les Poling)



WMS Winners: (L-R) – Anders Braaten, Brianna Cumiskey, Claire Conway, Kristen Carrie, Eden Simon-DeBroux



Judges: Judges (L-R) - Emilio DeGrazia, Chris Livingston and Carol Borzyskowski.

WSHS First Place Award Winners

Dot Armstrong: "The Hive"
Nicholai Kropp: "Uhmerika"

WSHS Second Place Award Winners

David Luttmers: "Chosen"
Les Poling: "Ode of Uncertainty"
Coral Weinstock: "Clamor"

WMS First Place Award Winners

Anders Braaten: "Then It Was Quiet"
Brianna Cumiskey: "Light"

WMS Second Place Award Winners

Kristen Carrie: "Dawn"
Claire Conway: "A Skater At Heart"
Eden Simon DeBroux: "Waiting..."

The Foundation for Winona Area Public School is pleased to sponsor educational enrichment programs such as this for students. We are grateful for the generosity of Dr. Paul Haake for underwriting this program. We also wish to thank WSHS teacher Laura Armstrong, WMS teacher Eileen Dahlin and the WAPS Language Arts teachers, our esteemed panel of judges as well as the nearly 100 student contestants for their support and participation.

In Appreciation of Dr. Paul Haake

On December 3, 2011, Paul Haake, a most distinguished research chemist, educator and WSHS alumnus passed away in Middletown, Connecticut. Although Paul went on to college, medical school, and eventually graduate school in chemistry at Harvard, he always kept his hometown of Winona close to his heart. Six years ago, he initiated a wonderful program through the Foundation for WAPS to honor the memory of his father, Arnold, who was known for his love of poetry during his years at WSHS. The result was the annual Haake Poetry Prize that Paul generously funded which is awarded each year to five promising student poets at Winona Senior High and five at Winona Middle School via a writing competition. This program has encouraged hundreds of students each year to enjoy and pursue the field of poetry. The result has been over 50 winning applicants whose lives have been significantly touched by the recognition and encouragement that this award provides. Dr. Haake will be greatly missed but his legacy will live on to benefit WAPS students for years to come.



Denim & Diamonds Gala Raises \$58,000

for Smart Boards

Gala Chair Luke Merchlewitz and the Foundation Board of Directors wish to thank the capacity gathering of outstanding citizens who attended its Denim & Diamonds Gala on March 3rd at Visions Event Center. As a result of this event over \$58,000.00 was raised for SMART boards/technology at our schools. Special thanks are extended to our two lead sponsors – Merchants Bank and Winona National Bank. These two businesses made the outstanding contribution of three SMART boards each (six total) to our schools in support of the Gala. We sincerely appreciate the community focus and commitment to education of both Winona National and Merchants Bank.

The \$58,000.00 raised for SMART boards at this event will be of benefit to our students for years to come. We are so grateful to all participants, sponsors and donors. Please save the date of **March 2, 2013 for next year's "Party with a Purpose" Gala** at Visions Event Center.



2012 Legacy Award

Presented to Gary Evans

The Foundation for Winona Area Public Schools' 2012 Legacy Award was presented to Gary Evans at the Denim & Diamonds Gala on March 3rd at Visions Event Center. Gary is one of the originating founders of the Foundation for WAPS and was a driving force for the "Campaign for Public Education" in 1995 which was the first joint effort in U.S. history between two foundations to benefit a public university and a public school district. Thanks to his support, endowment funds were established for the Foundation for WAPS for educational enhancements for students. Also, as President and CEO of Hiawatha Broadband Communications, Inc., a close partnership of support has been established between our schools and the company.

The Foundation is honored to present the 2012 Legacy Award to Gary Evans in recognition of his tradition of selfless giving to benefit our students, this Foundation and our community.



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Scholarships

Jake & Hal Edstrom Music Scholarship
Joe Schultz SOFA Summer Vocal Scholarship
Bruce Ramsdell Honorary SOFA Scholarship
Miller Mentoring Scholarship

Lepley Japan Trip Scholarship
Untiet Memorial Scholarship
Winona Senior Friendship Center Scholarship

Tri-County Electric Scholarship
Express Employment Professionals
WSHS Scholarship

We have made every effort to provide an accurate listing of gifts received between 9/11/11 and 9/1/2012. However, if you find an error/omission, please contact the Foundation office at 507-494-1004.

The Foundation for WAPS is honored to welcome the following new board members:

- Jennifer Anderson** - District Manager-Social Security Administration, Winona Field Office; WAPS parent and school/community volunteer
- Susan Clark** - Finance/Compliance Coordinator, Merchants Bank; WAPS parent & school/community volunteer
- Laura Eddy** - Crescendo Consulting business owner, WAPS parent & school/community volunteer

Teacher & Staff Payroll Deduction Participants

Heartfelt thanks to the nearly 100 WAPS staff members who participated in the Payroll Deduction Program benefiting the Foundation. Their support provided over \$15,000 for our students and we are so grateful!

The following WAPS employees support the Foundation through the District's Payroll Deduction Plan:

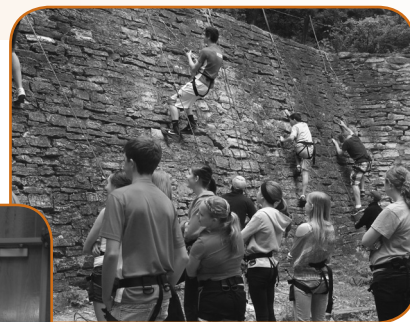
Courtney Anderson	Katrina Glick	Susan Larsen	Patricia Norman	Melissa Shields
Shannon Bechly	Elizabeth Hall	Anne Lawlor	Steven Norman	Anne Simon-Debroux
Frederick Blacklock	Scott Halverson	Holly Lecheler	Susan Ogren	Joleen Smith
Elizabeth Boettcher	Kelly Halvorsen	Corey Lee	Linda Olson	Katy Smith
William Braun	Lyn Halvorson	Joseph Lepley	Chirstine Overhaug	Matthew Smith
Janet Bridwell	Gail Hannemann-Doering	Cory Hanson	Kenneth Paulsen	Terri Spartz
Carolyn Bruels	Scott Hannon	Mary Lewis-Hyde	Gene Pelowski	Ted Stockmayer
Joel Bruels	Cory Hanson	Pamela Lica	Kim Penrod	Marianne Texley
Kathleen Calvey	Jon Hogenson	Kenneth Mann	Nathan Pollock	Karen Thompson
Mary Cappel	Marie Holmquist	Monica Maroushek	Carole Prudoehl	Kristine Traxler
Gay Casper	Lisa Hudson	Hayley Martin	Barbara Rahn	Dwayne Voegeli
David Chapman	Gretchen Johns-Derbyshire	Brenda Merchlewitz	Judy Sanvik	Rachel Vogel
Kristin Coudron	Cynthia Johnson	Luke Merchlewitz	Thomas Sanvik	Cheryl Weaver
Eileen Dahlin	Brenda Katnis	Gail Midthune	Margaret Schild	Kara Welch
Maryann Dennis	Judith Kiekbusch	Janet Moeller	Steven Schild	Steve Wiltgen
Kimberly Eddy	Kurt Kiekbusch	Jeffrey Morgan	William Schmidt	Gregory Wing
Jon Feldhake	Jay Kohner	Gaylene Mortensen	Charles Schollmeier	Anne Wistrick
Timothy Firstbrook	Molli Kook	Lisa Mullen	Kirstin Schultz	Judith Yess
Linda Gale	Terrell Kroening	Nancy Nelson	Rodney Schwarz	
Timothy Gleason	Lori Krumholz	Michele Nester	Julie Seeley	

2011-12 Grant Awards

WAPS 3rd Grade Dakota Education Day	Jefferson Elementary Tablet Teaching Tool	W-K Elementary Kindergarten Trip to MN Marine Art Museum	WMS 7th Grade History/ Geography Video Library	WSHS & WMS Rachel's Challenge Student Assembly
WAPS Elementary Sprouts Get out and Grow Program	WALC 9-12th Grade Lifestyle Sports	WMS 5th Grade MN Zoo & IMAX theater Field Trip	WMS 7th Grade Science Solar Panels/Wind Turbine	WSHS High School Florida Band Trip
Elementary & WMS 2012 Young Writers' Conference	WALC Positive Behavior Intervention & Support System	WMS 6th Grade Environmental Education Field Trip to Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center	WMS 8th Grade Band Festival Field Trip	WSHS High School Grade Concordia Language Village
Jefferson 2nd Grade National Eagle Center Field Trip	WALC Whitewater State Park All-School Field Trip	WMS 7th Grade Guthrie Field Trip to "A Christmas Carol"	WMS 8th Grade Quarry Hill Field Trip	WSHS Senior Seminar
Jefferson 4th Grade MN Zoo & Whitewater State Park Field Trip	WK Elementary After-School Art Program- Washington- Kosciusko		WMS Choir Performance Festival	WSHS/WMS Student Trips to Italy, Greece, Ireland, England, Scotland, Costa Rica
Jefferson Elementary Kids First Grant			WMS & WSHS Miller Mentoring Summer Program	

WMS 8th Grade Trip to Quarry Hill

240 WMS eighth graders visited Quarry Hill Nature Center to enhance their knowledge of paleontology and local rock structure/formation via labs and outdoor activities. While at the Nature Center the students searched for fossils, conducted geological experiments and participated in science experiments and rock climbing. This field trip is one of many educational enhancements made possible by Foundation donors.



Dancing with Winona Stars

Dances for the Foundation's Bruce Reeck Fund

The dynamic "Halloween Machine" group of Winhawk sports enthusiasts performed in the annual "Dancing with the Winona Stars" Fundraiser on August 11th and raised over \$8,000 for the Bruce Reeck Memorial Fund held here at the Foundation.

The Halloween Machine performers include: Matt Reeck, Rick Bittle, Matt Drazkowski, Ray Winter, Tim Buswell, Michael Reimer, Brad Brezinski, and not pictured, Travis Whipple.



With Appreciation for our Retiring Directors

Horace Andersen, Mary Bergin, Chris Kendall, Lyle Laterno and Michele Nester will be greatly missed on our Foundation Board. All were very active with Mary, Michele and Horace serving multi-year terms as executive officers and Chris Kendall having served as chair of the Grants Committee for over four years. Heartfelt thanks to each of you. Your contributions to the board and this Foundaton have been invaluable.

Leave A Legacy... Through the Foundation's Lowell Nelson Society

On April 15, 1997, the Board of Directors of the Foundation established The Lowell Nelson Society in honor of former District 861 Superintendent Lowell Nelson. Membership in the Society is accorded to **those who help build the Foundation's endowment by naming the Foundation as a beneficiary in their wills, qualified pension plans (including IRAs, 401Ks, Keoghs, and the like), insurance policies, trusts, or other types of planned gifts.** Twenty-five Charter Members will be designated "Society Founders."

To date, Society Founders include:

Judy Bodway	Neva King*	Nancy & Jim Reynolds
Susan & John Eddy	Harland & Pauline Knight	Chuck & Judy Shepard
Mark Godsey	Ruth Kottschade*	Barbara Schilling*
Norma Grausnick	Tom & Leone Mauszycki	Sharon Suchla
Harriet Green	Roger & Ramona Metz	Rita Sullivan*
Scott & Carmen Hannon	Joliene & LaVerne Olson	Linda A. Wood
Jim & Shannon Hanzel	Linda & Don Olson	Pete & Joyce Woodworth
Susan Hoffe*	Russ & Wanda Rattunde	(*deceased)

We hope you will consider the Foundation when you are updating your will or develop your estate or retirement plans. Our office is here to help you make a difference in the lives that follow.

W-K Kindergarteners

go to MMAM

Approximately 60 kindergarten students from Washington-Kosciusko Elementary participated in a field trip to the **Minnesota Maritime Art Museum** this spring. Museum Docent, Mr. Eric Nelson, led the tour through the outstanding fine art collection. Next, Heather Casper, the Museum Curator of Education, led hands-on activities and discussion with the students reinforcing the themes presented in the paintings and artwork. The morning was capped off with a fun-filled lunch along the Mississippi River. W-K teacher Maggie May said that a great experience was had by all!





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 56 donor advised funds created by individual supporters to benefit specific educational causes of interest such as the SE MN Science Fair Fund, student scholarship funds, classroom technology funds, and funds for student learning trips.

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.

Mark your Calendars
for March 2, 2013

Please mark you calendays for **March 2, 2013** for the **Foundation's "Party with a Purpose Gala"** to be held at Visions Event Center!

Sincere thanks to each of you for your support!

1570 Homer Road
Winona, MN 55987
507-494-1004

FOUNDATION
for Winona Area Public Schools



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"Investing in today's students for tomorrow's future."