

ELKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Foundation Focus

Winter 2013



Photo courtesy of ESHS Journalism Department

“Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.” - Jim Rohn

2

**Greetings
from EPSF**

3

**Honoring
Elkhorn**

4

**Program
Highlights**

5

**Making a
Difference**

6

**Working
at EKC**

Foundation Office

20214 Veterans Drive, Suite 400
Elkhorn, NE 68022
elkhornfoundation.org
402.289.1727

Stacey Falk Ext. 202
Executive Director
sfalk@epsne.org

Amy Whorlow Ext. 205
EKC/ACE Program Director
awhorlow@epsne.org

Becky Bazata Ext. 206
Marketing & Events Manager
bbazata@epsne.org

Genice Chochon Ext. 203
Scholarships & Accounting Manager
gchochon@epsne.org

Carol Monnier Ext. 201
Executive Assistant
cmonnier@epsne.org

Mission

The Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation promotes student achievement and the unity of our community and its public schools by encouraging, supporting and recognizing excellence in innovative education, quality school programs and civic involvement.

Board of Directors

Mike Peterson, President
Sarah Morgan, President-Elect
Scot Ringenberg, Secretary
Tim Gegan, Treasurer
Steve Baker
Paul Baumert
Jim Church
Aaron Clark
Joel Falk
David Knight
Mark Kruger
Sue Loerts
Lisa Nuno
Tia Peterchuck
Brett Sesker
Mike Sufficool
Tammy Sveum

Season's Greetings from the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation!



During the holiday season more than ever, our thoughts turn to the volunteers, sponsors, donors, board members, and Elkhorn Public Schools staff who have helped further our mission. We would especially like to recognize the families who lost loved ones this year and created Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation Memorials in their honor: The Christmas Family, The Dreessen Family, The Ohm Family and The Peters Family. Please know that every hour of service and dollar donated is appreciated and truly helps our schools, students, and our community.

There are opportunities to make your donations have an even greater impact. Many companies have matching programs for charitable giving. Check with your company for details. If you open a charitable account with the Omaha Community Foundation by December 15th they will match 10% of your donation (up to a maximum match of an additional \$1,000). You can then use these match dollars in the account to give additional support to Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation. Find out more at omahafoundation.org/incentive. You could make a year-end monetary donation to the Foundation or donate goods or services to be auctioned at our Bids 4 Kids fundraiser for all our programs shown on Page 5. Save the date - April 10, 2014 - for this ladies night out community event.

We hope you enjoy the true gifts of the season - peace, joy, goodwill, happiness, and hope for a blessed 2014.

Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation
Stacey, Amy, Becky, Genice & Carol



HONORING ELKHORN'S FINEST

19th Annual Hall of Fame Reception & Award Ceremony

Over 250 people attended the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation 19th Annual Hall of Fame Reception and Awards Ceremony at Elkhorn South High School on October 13th. A total of nine educators, support staff members, volunteers, and community boosters were inducted into the Hall of Fame.

The Carl L. White Educator of the Year was awarded to Ann Holmes, English Teacher at Elkhorn South High School. Kyle McCright, Special Education Teacher at Manchester Elementary School, received the Golden Apple Educator of the Year Award. Former Educator of the Year was awarded to Patricia Lotspeich, past District Principal and Teacher.

Support Staff Members of the Year are Becky Vinchur, Attendance Secretary at Elkhorn Ridge Middle School, and Valerie Haase, District Copyist. DLR Group & Tod Ringenberg were honored as Community Booster of the Year. Patsy Schmidt and Maxine Lenhart were honored as Volunteers of the Year for their dedication to the Elkhorn Historical Society and hundreds of third graders each year. Ronnie Rothe was honored as the Partners in Education Mentor of the Year.

There are, in fact, many in this community who go above and beyond in support of our students each day. Teachers who write Classroom Grant Requests to give students more opportunities in their class-



2013 Hall of Fame Award Recipients: Becky Vinchur, Ann Holmes, Valerie Haase, Ronnie Rothe, Patsy Schmidt, Kyle McCright, Maxine Lenhart, Tod Ringenberg, and Patricia Lotspeich.

rooms, and families or businesses that contribute to the Foundation's "Grant A Wish" Fundraising Campaign to fund those teachers' wishes are examples of this generosity and commitment to our school district.

Stacey Falk expresses, "It was our great pleasure to award checks to our schools to 'grant' these Classroom Grant wishes at our Hall of Fame Reception. Businesses and families who donated to this campaign will find their names on the endorsement line of these checks, now displayed at the schools, as our way of thanking them for their support."



Elementary School Principals accepting their Classroom Grant Checks at the Hall of Fame Reception: Troy Siders, Andy Luebke, Pam Wahl, Jen Colvet, Laurinda Petersen, Jan Peterson, Amy Christ, Deb Madden, and Anne Doerr.



Middle School & High School Principals and representatives accepting their Classroom Grant Checks at the Hall of Fame Reception: Jodi Klein, Deb Garrison, Chad Soupir, Dan Radicia, and Mark Kalvoda.

Thank You To Our Hall of Fame Sponsors:

Benefactors: DLR Group and TRANE. **Patrons:** AIB Bank, Larry & Kathleen Peterson, Todd & Donna Strubbe, D.A. Davidson, Pinnacle Bank, Publication Printing and Vetter Health Services.

Sponsors: Anderson Print Group, Roger & Judy Breed, Dr. Brad & Ronda Bowdino, Douglas County Post-Gazette, Paul & Sally Herrick, Fred & Teresa Hunzeker, McArdle Grading Company and Seim Johnson. Also, thank you to ALL our **Foundation Friends**.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS: NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Scholarship Program

In 2013, the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation awarded 98 scholarships totaling over \$160,000 to Elkhorn High School and Elkhorn South High School graduating seniors.



2013 Elkhorn High School Seniors who received the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation Scholarship.

Applications Due February 3rd

High school seniors should visit www.elkhorn-foundation.org/scholarships to find applications available by school. Completed applications are due back to the high school counseling centers by Monday, February 3, 2014. Scholarship recipients and their families will be invited to attend a Scholarship Recognition Breakfast this spring. The breakfast for Elkhorn High School will take place on April 29, 2014 and for Elkhorn South High School on April 30, 2014.

ACHIEVE Program

Graduating seniors who meet designated criteria and submit a completed application will receive monetary awards and be recognized as ACHIEVE Award recipients during the high school graduation ceremonies. This program rewards students who engage in academically rigorous coursework while participating in other areas of interest and service within our schools and community.



WORDS FOR THIRDS

A Partnership with The Grange

The Foundation is proud to partner with The Grange in its “Words for Thirds” program. The Grange is the nation’s largest agricultural organization and promotes the economic and political well-being of the community and agriculture. The “Words for Thirds” program provides each third grade student in the District with a dictionary, which they are allowed to keep and use throughout their academic career.

Nancy Armbrust, representing The Grange, and Stacey Falk, representing the Foundation, distributed dictionaries to all Elkhorn Public Schools third graders this October.

Third grade teachers across the District express their appreciation and say that the students are very intrigued with the new dictionaries, are already using them during writing time, and will continue to use their dictionaries for years to come.

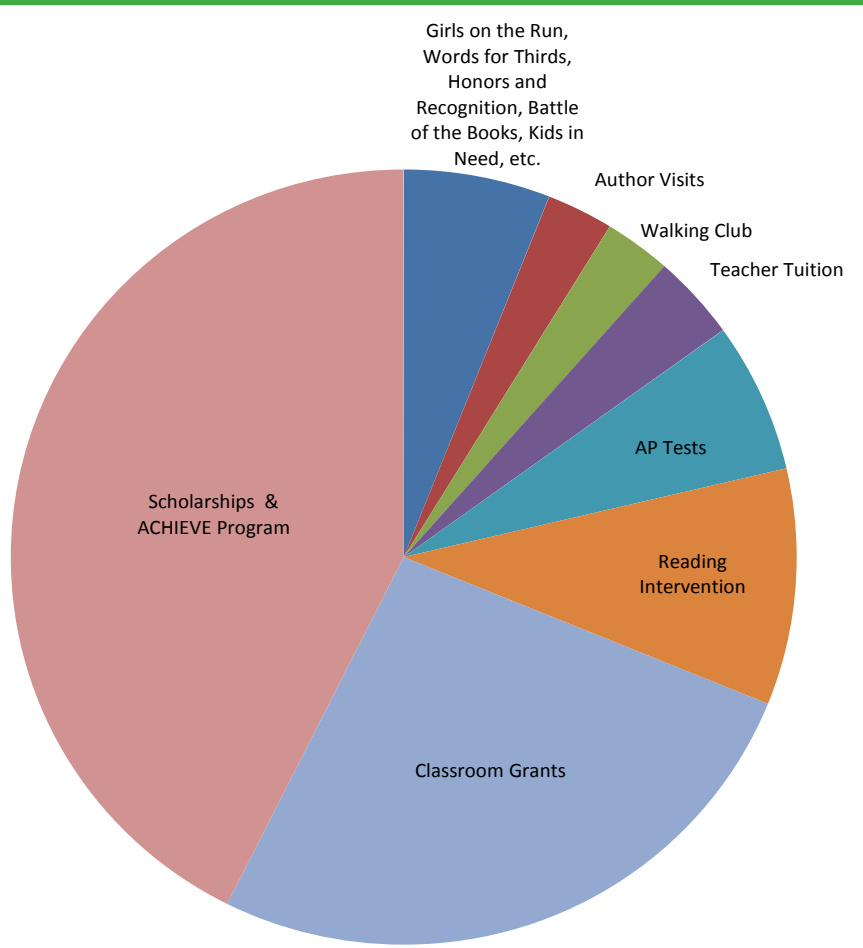
Spencer, a third grade student at Hillrise Elementary, writes, “Thank you for the mind-blowing dictionaries! I like how it lists facts about the Presidents and

and facts about the states. It is amazing and I will use it a lot over the years.”



Students in Joan Anthony’s third-grade class at Spring Ridge Elementary with happy smiles because of their new dictionaries.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: FOUNDATION OUTREACH IN 2013



The Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation is a non-profit organization providing enrichment opportunities, like those shown above, for more than 6,500 students in the Elkhorn Public School District.

New science equipment, school plays, reading programs and competitions, technology, scholarships, additional instruction time before and after school, robotics, research tools, tablets, and more are possible with help from individuals and businesses who believe in and invest in Elkhorn's youth.

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation to help further our mission in 2014 and beyond.

Thank you for your support!



20214 Veterans Drive | Elkhorn, NE 68022
elkhornfoundation.org

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Mail U.S.A.

SAVE THE DATE

Scholarship Program:

Applications Online	December 2
Applications Due	February 3

EKC/ACE Registration:

Current Families	March 3
New Families	March 7

Bids 4 Kids Ladies Night Out	April 10
------------------------------	----------

ECRWSS
Elkhorn, NE 68022

JOIN OUR E-MAIL LIST

Get Foundation news, event
details, invitations, and more!

E-mail us to subscribe today:

elkhornfoundation@gmail.com



Elkhorn Kids Campus Staff at their 2013 Summer Volleyball Party.

Are you energetic, creative and enthusiastic?

Would you like to work with kids in a fun
environment? Have your weekends and
evenings free? Get cool t-shirts? Become
eligible for a Kids Campus Scholarship?
Attend *fun* work parties and make
ABOVE minimum wage?

Then check out our Elkhorn Kids Campus
Before and After School
Childcare Program!

We have immediate openings for
Childcare Assistants.

APPLY TODAY!

Email your resume and application to
Program Director, Amy Whorlow, at
awhorlow@epsne.org.