

Foundation Focus

Winter 2015

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

-Winston Churchill





A Look Inside:

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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

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Executive Message

Greetings from the Foundation! During the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress and prosperity possible! During 2015, the Foundation introduced new programs, grew existing programs, and increased community awareness and participation at our events. Last May, the Foundation awarded over \$80,000 in scholarships from our new ACHIEVE Scholarship program in addition to the \$120,000 in scholarships awarded at the Scholarship Recognition Breakfasts! The Foundation's Reading & Math Intervention programs have grown to over 450 elementary school students receiving additional instruction before and after school to increase their math and reading comprehension. Currently, Stacey Selk, our new Marketing & Events Manager, is working on the early planning phase of establishing a new Elkhorn Alumni Program! I'm excited about the potential partnership opportunities with Elkhorn's outstanding alumni that will be possible with the implementation of an alumni program at the Foundation!

I would like to thank the Elkhorn community members and businesses who have helped the Foundation reach new heights in its mission to enhance educational opportunities for all Elkhorn Public Schools' students! Thank you to all of the devoted Foundation board members, EPS staff, PTO representatives and friends of the Foundation who have all contributed to our success! The Foundation will continue to explore new opportunities for the Elkhorn Public Schools' students, and we hope that you will partner with us in our future endeavors. Best wishes for the holiday season and a Happy New Year! Grateful.

Stacey L. Falk Executive Director



Hall of Fame Reception

21st Annual Celebration

Over 300 guests attended the 21st Annual Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation Hall of Fame Reception at Elkhorn South High School on October 25th. A total of 14 educators, support staff members, volunteers, alumni, and community boosters were inducted into the Hall of Fame. The event featured Elkhorn High School's Jazz ensemble playing jazz tunes during the reception, and vocal students from West Dodge Station led the Pledge of Allegiance and sang for guests. The Elkhorn High School musical cast of TARZAN shared their talents and provided a sneak peek of their November production.





Steve Baker, Elkhorn Public Schools Superintendent, emceed the awards presentation.

Stephanie (Kirby) Dowell, Elkhorn High School Class of 2000, was recognized as the Alumnus Athlete of the Year. Stephanie was an outstanding Elkhorn athlete who led the women's UNO soccer team to a NCAA Division II Championship game in 2002 and National Semi-final appearance in 2003. Rex Barker, Elkhorn High School Class of 1977, was recognized as an Alumnus of the Year for his accomplishments as the Millard South High School band director for 27 years. Dr. Irmgard Kahl, a German foreign exchange student who graduated from Elkhorn High School in 1954, was also recognized as an Alumnus of the Year for her contributions as a judge. Former classmate, Sharron Gilson, accepted the award on behalf of Dr. Kahl.

The Carl L. White Outstanding Educator of the Year award was presented to Ron Phelps, science teacher at Elkhorn Ridge Middle School, for his 34 years of outstanding teaching for Millard and Elkhorn Public Schools districts. Former Educator of the Year was awarded to Dr. Roger Breed who was a well-respected Elkhorn Public Schools' superintendent until 2009, when he was appointed to the position of Nebraska Commissioner of Education. Molly Allen (Fire Ridge Elementary) and Kristen Schrock (Spring Ridge Elementary) were honored as the Golden Apple Outstanding Educators of the Year. This award is granted to an outstanding administrator or teacher who has been with the Elkhorn Public Schools District for five years or less. The Partners in Education Mentor of the Year award was presented to Judy DeSpain, former Millard teacher, for her dedication to mentoring students at Spring Ridge Elementary School. Jason Harris and Jeff Strickler were awarded Support Staff Members of the Year for their tireless efforts in the Information Technology department at Elkhorn Public Schools.

Hall of Fame Reception

21st Annual Celebration Continued...

AXA Advisors was recognized as the Community Booster of the Year. AXA Advisors has been an annual sponsor of the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation Golf Fore Grants fundraiser and has awarded over \$25,000 in scholarships to Elkhorn students through the AXA Scholarship. Scott Newman and Mike Sufficool accepted the award on behalf of AXA Advisors. Mitch Rohs and Ann Marie & Kurt Seevers were recognized as Volunteers of the Year. Mitch Rohs was recognized for his creative and constructive building abilities for Elkhorn Middle School, Elkhorn Grandview and Elkhorn High School drama programs. Kurt & Ann Marie Seevers have volunteered countless hours for the Elkhorn High School band program over the last eight years, as well as volunteering for PTO, booster clubs and many other community organizations.

Thank You To All Our Sponsors!

Hall of Fame Benefactors:





Hall of Fame Patrons:





Fred # Teresa Hunzeker



Hall of Fame Sponsors:

Dr. Roger \$ Judy Breed
Aron \$ Ann Huddleston
Judy Miller In Memory of Larry K. Miller
Scott \$ Lucy Newman/
Mike \$ Beth Sufficool
Pinnacle Bank
Brian \$ Becky Vinchur

And ALL of our Foundation Friends!





Classroom Grants

Check Awarded

During the 21st Annual Hall of Fame Reception, the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation presented a check to the Elkhorn Public Schools District for over \$126,000 to fund technology grants, books, fine arts programs and more. Each school has received a customized version of this check showing the amount awarded to that school and the businesses, families, and fundraisers that donated to the Foundation's "Grant A Wish" campaign. Thank you again to all of our generous donors!









Welcome

EPSF Marketing & Events Manager

The Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation welcomed Stacey Selk to the team in November as our new Marketing & Events Manager. Stacey comes to us from the Lincoln Journal Star with experience in advertising and media sales. She looks forward to applying her knowledge to spread awareness about the Foundation! Stacey and her husband Steve, a business teacher at ESHS, have a son Jackson. Stacey can be reached at 402.289.1727 or sselk1@epsne.org.





Scholarship Applications NOW AVAILABLE!



Scholarship Applications for Elkhorn family & business funded scholarships and the Foundation's ACHIEVE Scholarship Program are now available at www.elkhornfoundation.org

Visit the Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation website to review scholarship requirements and download scholarship applications. Also check with your student's Naviance account for other available scholarships.

Elkhorn family & business funded scholarship applications are due **February 1, 2016** and ACHIEVE Scholarship applications are due **April 13, 2016**.



Team Campaign Staff Donation Winners

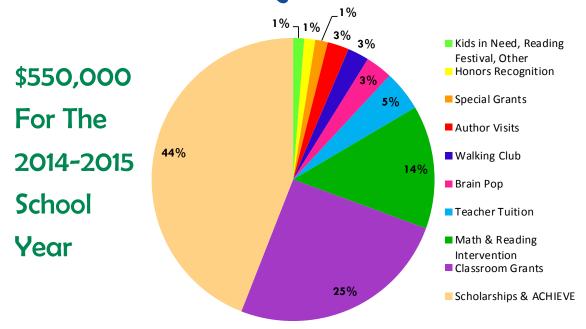




The 2015-2016 TEAM (Together Everyone Achieves More) Staff Donation Campaign raised over \$34,000 in donations from EPS staff. The top 3 schools with the highest average donations are Sagewood Elementary, Elkhorn Middle School, and Elkhorn High School! These schools will receive quarterly treats from the Foundation. The first quarterly treat - a hot breakfast catered by Hy-Vee - was served in November. Thank you to all the Elkhorn Public Schools Staff for your generous donations!



Foundation Program Outreach



Michelle Moriarty Teen Assistance Program

The Foundation is excited to announce a new program at Elkhorn High School, the Michelle Moriarty Teen Assistance Program (TAP). Stephen and Susan Long and their granddaughter Brandon (Daisy) Finn, former Elkhorn High student, had an idea for a program that would provide financial assistance to students truly in need at Elkhorn High School. They were familiar with Elkhorn High School's resource officer, Michelle Moriarty, and the work she and the school administrators Dan Radicia and Luke Ford have done to help students in need, many times reaching into their own pockets. The Long's wanted to provide financial resources to help more Elkhorn students in the future. Hopefully, others will follow so the fund will grow over time.



The Michelle Moriarty Teen Assistance Program will provide financial assistance to Elkhorn High School students in need for school lunches, school supplies, basic clothing needs, personal hygiene products, school fees, minor immediate health needs and emergency transportation. The school's resource officer, principal, and assistant principal will administer the program, and all students' identities will remain anonymous. Any donations made to the Foundation indicating the TAP fund will be designated for this program and are tax deductible.



20214 Veterans Drive, Suite 400 Elkhorn, NE 68022

Donations can be made online at www.elkhornfoundation.org

Save the Dates

Saholanding Available December 1st

Scholarship Applications Due February 1st

EKC/ACE Registrations

Current Families February 22 New Families Febraury 26

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Adileve Applications Due April 13th



We're Hiring at EKC

Are you energetic and creative?

We need you on the EKC team! Our Elkhorn Kids Campus before and after school childcare program has immediate openings for Childcare Assistants.

Apply Today!

Email Program Director, Amy Whorlow, at awhorlow@epsne.org with your resume or to request an employment application.



Skyline friends enjoying a day at EKC!



