



2012



ANNUAL REPORT



The Appleton Education Foundation, a supporting organization of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, has been working since 1997 to develop a steady source of support for grants now, and for many future generations of Appleton children.

A volunteer board of directors is guided by AEF's mission:

To creatively enhance education in our community.



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Leadership Message

Greetings!

We are very excited to share the Appleton Education Foundation's 2012 Annual Report.

As we reflect on the Foundation's 15th anniversary, we bring to mind a year of inspiring grant stories, amazing donors, creative educational projects and meaningful outreach to the community.

Fifteen years of creatively enhancing education in our community. What does that add up to?

We have come a long way from the early days when founding board members' contributions alone funded grant requests from Appleton Area School District educators. In contrast, during this past fiscal year nearly 800 generous donors supported the work of the Foundation and its efforts to improve teaching and learning in our schools.

Grants of more than \$433,000 this past fiscal year alone pushed the Foundation's cumulative total beyond an impressive milestone of \$3 million granted in support of educational programs and projects that fall outside the regular school district budget.

In addition to funding exciting classroom and school grants, the Foundation continues to support professional development opportunities for district educators. This assistance is especially important as school budgets experience increasing pressure.

Other efforts included the Community Education Program, which featured three speakers from UW-Madison on early childhood development topics. The year also saw an annual multi-generational community trip to the Nobel Conference, in Saint Peter, Minnesota; the annual Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Award given to Dr. Susan May, President of Fox Valley Technical College; a special luncheon for retired employees of the Appleton Area School District; and an annual Knowledge Open golf event. All helped to tell the Appleton Education Foundation story and extend learning beyond the classroom walls and out into the community.



In the past year, donors established five new funds to support special areas of educational interest, bringing the Appleton Education Foundation's total number of funds to 63. We are proud to work with donors and help steward funds for the benefit of education in our community.

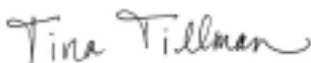
The Appleton Education Foundation is the perfect vehicle to help offset funding gaps so that educators can continue to test new ideas and provide creative learning opportunities for district students.

We are grateful to the forward-thinking board members who founded and set the Appleton Education Foundation on its path 15 years ago. We also are grateful to you, our community partners, for providing your time, talents and treasures to make a difference for teaching and learning in our schools.

We welcome your continued support – whether through making annual gifts, establishing or adding to named funds, or designating legacy gifts – and look forward to the years ahead with excitement and confidence.

Fifteen years. It still feels as though we are just getting started.

With deep appreciation and thanks for your special relationship with the AEF,



Tina Tillman
Board President



Julie Krause
Executive Director



AEF Knowledge Open

More than 150 business and community leaders, parents, educators and Foundation board members hit the links this summer to raise funds for education at the AEF Knowledge Open golf tournament. The 14th annual event combined teams' handicapped golf scores and scores on a multiple-choice quiz to determine the winners. Nineteen AASD schools shared nearly \$12,000 in AEF grants as a result.

Visit www.appletoneducationfoundation.org to see event photos, a list of cash awards to participating schools, and a list of our generous AEF Knowledge Open supporters.





Crossing Bridges, Moving Mountains

Pen pals are a tried-and-true method of getting kids excited about writing. Add in a bit of modern technology and students half a world apart gain the chance to learn face-to-face about one another's culture, language and traditions.

Second-graders at Lincoln Elementary School had that special opportunity, thanks to two webcams purchased with a grant from the Appleton Education Foundation.

Students in Debra Dicks's class combined the Internet video conferencing tool Skype with written letters to correspond throughout the year with their new friends in Namibia, Africa, and Peace Corps volunteer Kim Beckman.

"This was an eye-opening experience for the kids," said Dicks. "First off, they thought the technology was pretty cool. They were very excited to be able to see one another."

As with most pen-pal exchanges, children learn they are not so very different from one another. "They learned that both groups of kids like to play soccer at recess and hang out with their friends," Dicks said. "My students also realized that they are fortunate to have electricity, running water, four solid walls for our school building (with no goats walking about), and a really nice classroom."

In one mid-February exchange, Appleton students showed their pen pals what it was like outside their school. Their Namibian friends replied, "It was great talking to you today! It was the first time that we have seen snow because it does not get cold here."



Dicks said her students also appreciated their written communications with their pen pals. “They treated the paper and letters like gold,” she said. “I heard lots of, ‘I can’t wait to bring this home and show my grandma,’ and ‘I am going to keep this letter in a safe place.’”

“Thank you again for funding this grant. You opened the walls of my classroom and the minds of my students,” Dicks said.



Power Tools Help Build Community

Students at Appleton Central High School gained more than just math and science lessons when they researched, constructed and installed new flower planters along a stretch of Wisconsin Avenue in Appleton. They also gained a new appreciation for their fellow classmates and their community.

An all-school read of Paul Fleischman's *Seedfolks* sparked the project idea. Characters in Fleischman's book play their part in starting a community garden in a low-income neighborhood. With the planting of three seeds, a garden grows, but more importantly, the garden brings people from different walks of life together.

"This effort to enhance student reading across the curriculum inspired our school to dream about how we could help improve our school neighborhood," said Lou Hull, one of the project coordinators.

Students talked to local business owners to garner support for their efforts, determined the best type of soil composition for the planters, and calculated angles and the cubic footage of soil needed for the pots.

The planters were built in partnership with the district's Facilities Department, with Appleton Central counselor Andy Protheroe overseeing construction.

Grants from the Appleton Education Foundation, Mielke Family Foundation and others supplied the materials for the planters, which were installed in front of ten Wisconsin Avenue businesses in time to be enjoyed during this year's Flag Day Parade.

Hull said the students embraced this learning opportunity and took it seriously. "Adult volunteers commented on how respectful and well-behaved our students were. This is not how our students are perceived by many in the community," she said.

One of the student participants was impressed at how the project came together. "It had seemed that the community hasn't been as connected the past few years, and for a group of people to set up something like this as sort of a community-wide project was a great surprise," he said.

"I have walked by the planters a few times since their placement," he added. "I was happy that none of them were vandalized in any way. Overall, my involvement in this project gave me a good feeling."

"Many students had great apprehension using tools, especially the power drill," Hull said. "After drilling just one hole, they gained confidence and realized they had the ability to do this and that it was actually fun!"

The student took it one step further. "This project affected me because it gave me some motivation to go and donate some of my time to help the community," he said.



Doing Good Together

Have you ever volunteered to help someone out?

How many people have you smiled at or said “hello” to today?

One person can make a difference! How will you make a difference today?

Students at McKinley Elementary School discussed these and other questions with their families during the school’s first *Doing Good Together* event last spring, funded in part by a grant from the Appleton Education Foundation. It was all part of an evening designed for family involvement, highlighting the importance of caring about others and being good citizens.

A chance to put kindness and compassion into action followed the mealtime discussion as families worked together on special service projects to benefit others in our community. Families assembled birthday boxes for Harbor House, made braided dog toys for the Sheltie Rescue, decorated hand-made cards and posters for the 395th army unit’s homecoming, and made beaded bracelets and zipper pulls for the Center for Grieving Children, among other projects. At each station, volunteers helped children and their parents understand who would benefit from their efforts.

Art teacher Karen Ebben organized the evening and secured donations, including the AEF grant, to make it happen.

“My goal was simply to provide families with time, supplies and encouragement to sit down together and do good for others in our community. The project achieved all of our expectations beautifully,” Ebben said.



Cindy Kort, a volunteer at the Center for Grieving Children, had high praise for the event. “Children at the Center simply loved the beaded memory bracelets and zipper pulls, and it was all the more special knowing where they came from,” she said. “Seeing the whole project unfold and all of the love, compassion and kindness of so many caring people pulling together filled my heart with warmth and my eyes with tears of joy.”

Freedom for Students with Disabilities

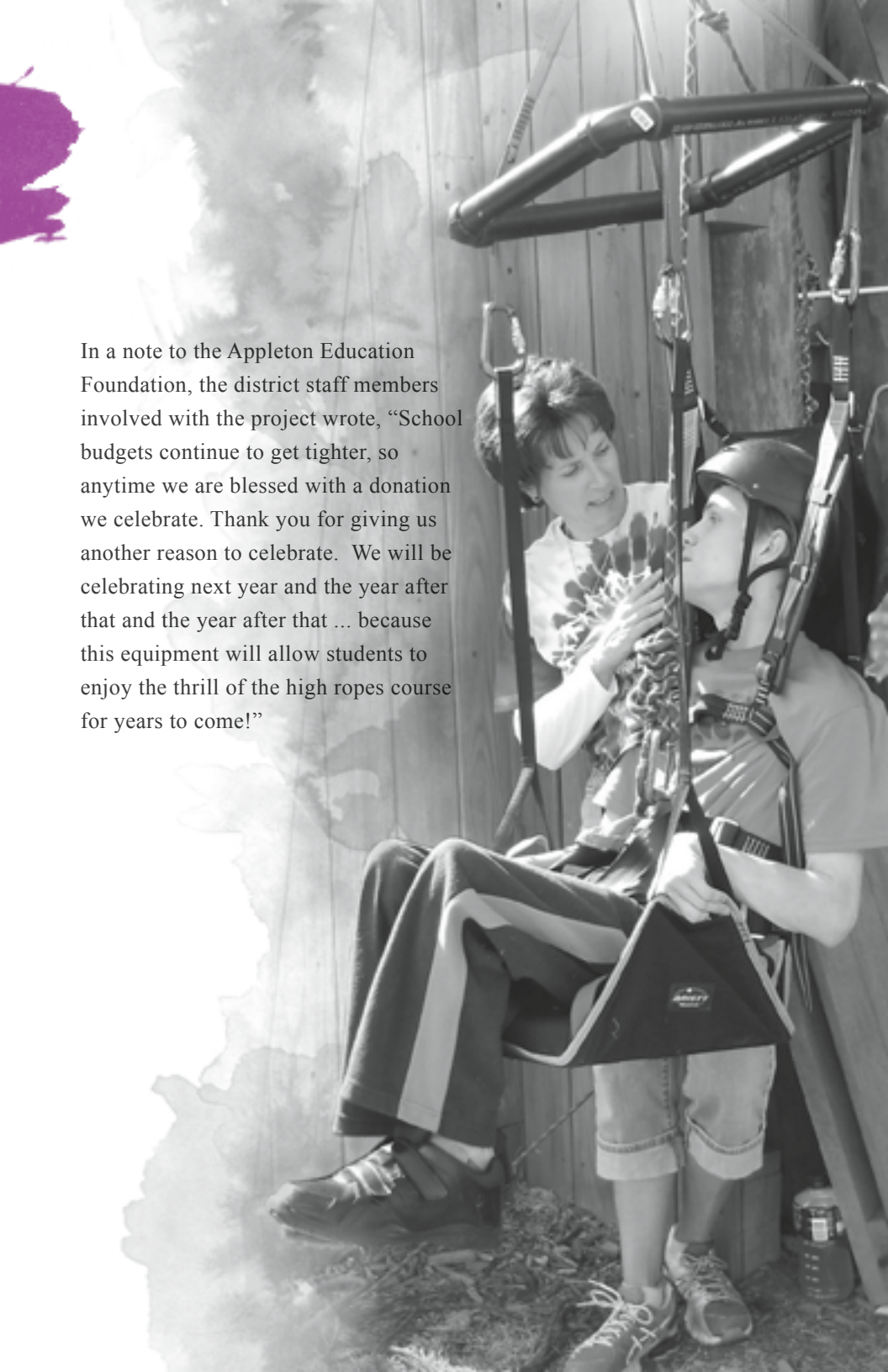
Students with significant physical and/or cognitive disabilities are no longer limited to watching from the sidelines as other children participate in adventurous recreational activities. Thanks to a grant from the Betsy Melzer Endowment Fund within the Appleton Education Foundation, more students with special needs can now experience the thrill of the High Ropes Adventure Course located at Wilson Middle School.

Foundation funds purchased a special harness and helmet so that students with limited head control can safely be lifted to a high platform and experience the freedom and thrill of sliding down a zip line.

The new equipment was used for the first time this fall during the therapy and special physical education department's annual Outdoor Adventure Day for sixth through 12th grade students with special needs.

Beth Laedtke, a special physical education teacher who wrote the grant, said the experience went well. "We are always working on ways to help our students participate more fully in community recreational and leisure activities," she said. "We are very appreciative of the grant money used to buy our new high ropes harness. It works fabulous!"

Sharon Hintz, who helped coordinate the adventure day, said the students feel great about themselves when they can accomplish something special like the high ropes course. "I cannot describe the excitement that accompanied those trips up to the platform and down the zip line, but I still get goose bumps remembering," she said.




In a note to the Appleton Education Foundation, the district staff members involved with the project wrote, “School budgets continue to get tighter, so anytime we are blessed with a donation we celebrate. Thank you for giving us another reason to celebrate. We will be celebrating next year and the year after that and the year after that ... because this equipment will allow students to enjoy the thrill of the high ropes course for years to come!”

Nobel Conference

Eighty-two students and faculty from Appleton's public and parochial high schools, Lawrence University, Fox Valley Technical College and the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley, as well as members of the Appleton Downtown Rotary Club and other interested community members, attended the 2012 Nobel Conference together this fall. The EMMA Nobel Education Fund - formerly the World Education Fund - within the Appleton Education Foundation supported their attendance.





Dr. John and Sally Mielke initiated the inter-generational community trip in 2007 after attending a previous Nobel Conference with Dr. Mielke's sister Ellen Mielke Moore Anderson and a group of students from Two Harbors, MN, where she lived. After Ellen passed away last year, the fund in AEF was re-named the EMMA Nobel Education Fund to honor her memory and in recognition of her idea to bring young people and older people together for an enriching educational experience.

Photo by Matt Thomas




Fund '59

They are retired attorneys, novelists, opera singers, engineers, teachers and community leaders. Some remained close to Appleton and the Fox Cities; some lived and worked and traveled all over the world. Regardless of each member's career and life path, all are bonded by their experiences growing up in Appleton and graduating as Appleton High School's Class of 1959.

When 200 classmates celebrated their 50th reunion in August 2009, they knew they wanted to do more than donate a bench or tree. They decided to raise funds for something "big" that would enhance education for students currently attending their alma mater. Thus, they launched Fund '59 in the Appleton Education Foundation to receive and manage their donations and established an Advisory Committee of classmates to recommend projects to accomplish with the money.

Three years and nearly \$25,000 later, more than 1,300 students at Appleton West High School are seeing the benefits of the Class of '59's efforts as what they view in the classroom moves and expands on the screen at their command. Eighteen additional classrooms have been equipped with interactive white boards that combine a simple dry erase board with computer and video equipment. This technology allows educators to create and show multi-media presentations and develop interactive assignments for students.

West principal Greg Hartjes is pleased to have this additional learning tool for students. "The gift of technology does more than just help us teach math or science; it helps us bring technology to students that otherwise would go without," he said. "SMART boards are being used every hour of the school day. They are a phenomenal learning tool and help us provide a better education for our students."



Fund '59 advisory members hope the SMART board project is the first of many they can support.

Class member Wayne Defferding, one of the fund's initiators, said, "We are not seeking publicity, but rather hope that our story will encourage other graduates of Appleton schools to do the same – give back in thanks for a great education."



2012 Scullen Leadership Award

Susan May, Ph. D., President of Fox Valley Technical College and an education advocate, received the 2012 Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Award at an Appleton Education Foundation dinner event this spring. The award recognizes individuals for their commitment to improving the quality of education in the Fox Cities and is given in memory of Dr. Tom Scullen, late superintendent of the Appleton Area School District.

Previous Award Winners:

2011 Ellen Kort

2010 James W. Perry, Ph.D.

2009 John E. Mielke, M.D.

2008 Donald W. Brown*

*deceased



Dr. Tom Scullen



Susan May with AEF board president Tina Tillman

Photo by Lisa Jabas

Teachers Continue Giving

With a combined 69 years of teaching in Appleton, Alan and Vira Stoner contributed to the success of many hundreds of Appleton public school students. But that was not enough for them.

Their legacy of support for public education will continue in perpetuity through the Appleton Education Foundation.

Alan taught, coached and advised at Appleton East High School and Wilson Middle School while Vira taught and advised at Appleton West High School.

Vira also benefited from the district's history of excellent education while attending Washington and Jefferson grade schools, Wilson Junior High School and Appleton High School.

"We wanted to encourage innovative classroom practices as well as acknowledge the importance of the elementary education that nurtured me and motivated our students over the years," Vira said. "How to structure such a gift was the challenge."

The Appleton Education Foundation provided the answer.

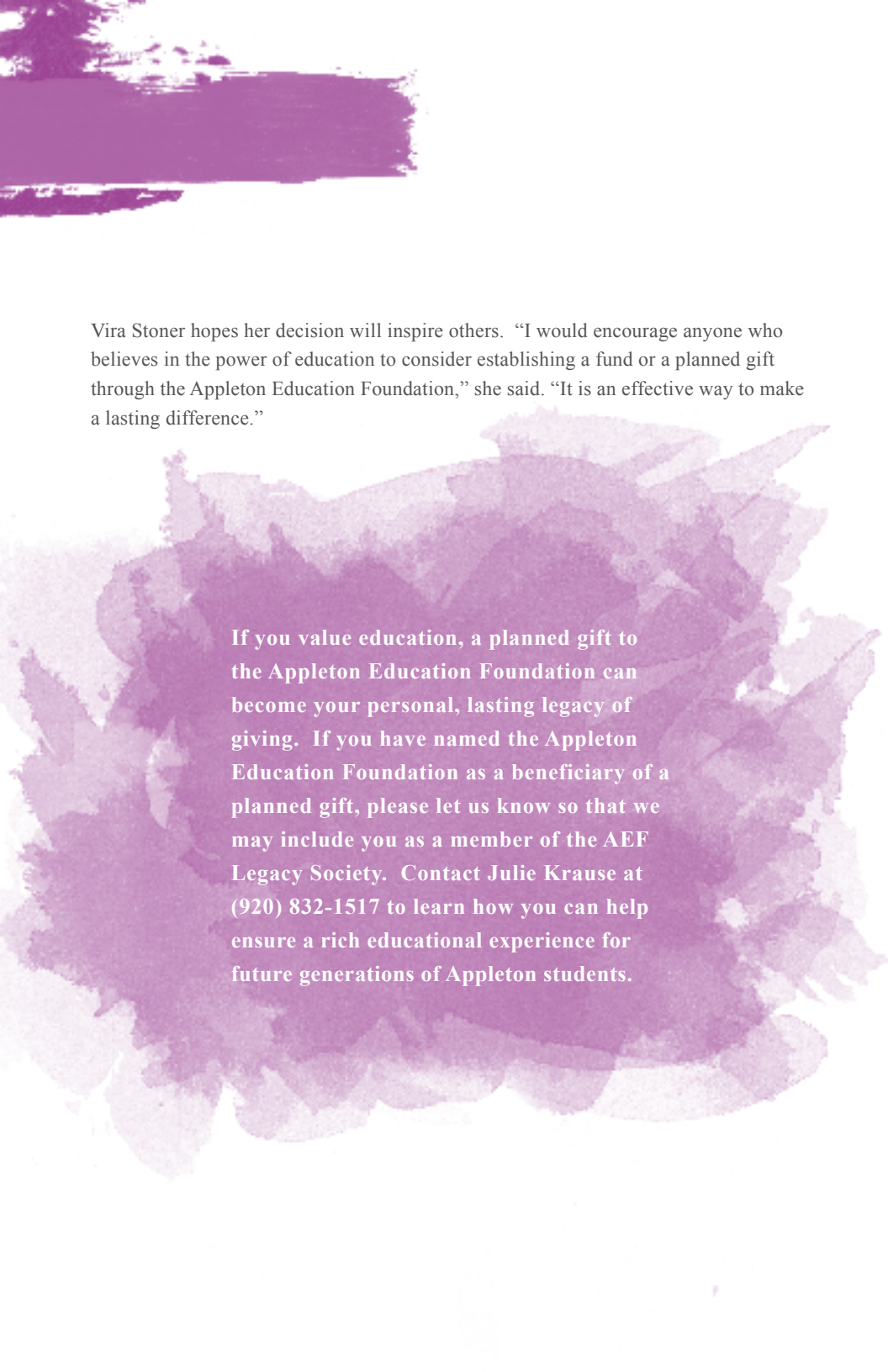
After Alan's death in 2010, Vira established the Vira and Alan Stoner Education Fund, a field-of-interest endowment fund in the Appleton Education Foundation. The fund will support inventive classroom learning at the middle and high school levels.

"This fulfills our desire to give back in a way that reflects our own rewarding years in the classroom," Vira said.

A founding board member of the Appleton Education Foundation, Vira has watched AEF grow into a strong organization. She still serves on its communications committee and on a committee of retired educators that helps with Foundation activities.

"My years with AEF led me to trust it," she said. "Direct contact with its executive staff and the many community members who comprise the board and committees, as well as my observations of the grant process and results, convinced me to pay back by investing in education through the AEF."

In addition to the Stoner Fund, the Foundation will receive an estate gift and can facilitate contributions to the general fund to address educational needs K-12.



Vira Stoner hopes her decision will inspire others. “I would encourage anyone who believes in the power of education to consider establishing a fund or a planned gift through the Appleton Education Foundation,” she said. “It is an effective way to make a lasting difference.”

If you value education, a planned gift to the Appleton Education Foundation can become your personal, lasting legacy of giving. If you have named the Appleton Education Foundation as a beneficiary of a planned gift, please let us know so that we may include you as a member of the AEF Legacy Society. Contact Julie Krause at (920) 832-1517 to learn how you can help ensure a rich educational experience for future generations of Appleton students.

Charitable Funds

The Appleton Education Foundation manages endowment and other charitable funds to help individuals, families and businesses support education in Appleton.

Since the principal dollar amount is rarely touched, the endowed funds ensure a steady, permanent source to support grants now, and for many future generations of Appleton school children. The AEF also makes it easy for people and businesses to designate their gifts for specific programs or projects.

At the end of fiscal year 2012, the AEF managed the following funds to enhance educational excellence:

Endowment Funds

Appleton Education Foundation Fund

Earnings generated from this unrestricted endowment are used in the Appleton Education Foundation's competitive grant cycles to fund creative projects that enhance education for students in a variety of academic disciplines, and to fund professional development opportunities for AASD staff members.

Appleton West High School Endowment Fund

Supports projects that benefit Appleton West High School.

Appleton West High School Historical Fund

Supports the study of events of American history leading up to WWII, WWII itself, and the aftermath of WWII on our world.

AWHS Class of 1941 Fund

Supports creative projects and programs for students at Appleton West High School.

Gene Britton Memorial Scholarship Fund*

Supports scholarships for graduating seniors from Appleton public high schools.

Columbus Elementary School-Fred Hoffman Memorial Endowment Fund

Provides general support for Columbus Elementary School and a scholarship for an AASD high school senior who is an alum of Columbus.

Elementary Reading Restricted UFRS Fund

Supports the United for Reading Success tutoring program.

Fox River Academy Endowment Fund+

Will support curriculum and instruction to address the mission of the Fox River Academy Charter School.

Earl W. Harder Memorial Scholarship Fund*

Supports scholarships for graduating seniors from Appleton West High School.

Bob and Gerri Heffron Family Endowment Fund*

Supports programs and projects that enhance educational experiences for AASD students who have special education needs or who are English Language Learners, or for continuing education opportunities for staff members and parents who work with these children.

Gerald E. Hoffman Memorial Fund

Provides general support of the arts at Appleton West High School.

Paul E. Hoffman Fund for Foster Elementary School

Supports projects and programs at Foster Elementary School.

Kaleidoscope Academy Endowment Fund+

Will support curriculum and instruction to address the mission of Kaleidoscope Academy Charter School, including staff development, curriculum development, technology and equipment.

Ellen Kort Endowment Fund

Enhances education in our community, especially through the media of poetry and writing.

Betsy Melzer Endowment Fund

Supports projects and programs that benefit students with exceptional educational needs.

North Booster Club Endowment Fund*

Established to support athletic facilities and programs of Appleton North High School.

Connie Pitt Memorial Endowment Fund

Supports projects that benefit Appleton Area School District children who have special needs.

Hazel Pope-Franklin School Fund

Established with a gift from the estate of Hazel Pope, the fund provides support for student activities and/or student instruction at Franklin Elementary School.

SAACC Endowment Fund

Supports the education and training of AASD student or coach participants in co-curricular activities.

* Indicates new funds established July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

+ Indicates future funds

Charitable Funds

Tim Schroeder Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides post-secondary scholarships for graduating seniors from Appleton East High School.

Thomas G. Scullen Leadership Award Fund

Established in honor of Dr. Thomas G. Scullen to support an annual award for an individual residing in the Fox Cities who is recognized for exceptional leadership in the field of education.

Dan Spalding Academy Endowment Fund

Supports enhancements of the educational experience for at-risk youth who attend the Dan Spalding Academy program.

Forrest and Roberta Sprowl Fund+

Will support the Appleton Education Foundation's unrestricted grantmaking, with special preference for projects or programs at Madison Middle School.

Alan and Vira Stoner Education Fund

Supports innovative learning opportunities for AASD students, with preference for middle and high school levels.

Talented & Gifted Fund

Supports scholarships and other special needs of the TAG program.

WCA Thomas Scullen Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships for Wisconsin Connections Academy Charter School graduates who attended an accredited high school and plan to pursue a degree at an accredited university, technical college or trade school.

Brad Wiese Family Fund for Literary Arts

Supports programs and projects that enhance the literary arts for students attending Madison Middle School.

Pass-Through Funds

AHSW-1964-50th Year Scholarship Fund

Established to provide scholarships for graduating seniors in the Class of 2014 at Appleton West High School.

Anchor Foods Fund

Supports the cultural liaison specialist position at Appleton's three public high schools.

Appleton East H.S. Patriot Athletic Club Improvement Fund

Supports the athletic facilities and programs of Appleton East High School.

Appleton Public Montessori Classroom Fund

Supports programs or projects that enhance the learning experience for students attending Appleton Public Montessori School.

Appleton Public Montessori Teacher Training Fund

Supports professional development opportunities for Appleton Public Montessori School staff members.

Appleton West-Addition to Tradition Fund

Established with an initial gift from the West High School Terror Backers to support athletic facilities improvements at Appleton West High School.

Appleton West High School Class of '45 Fund

Provides annual Academic Achievement Awards for students at Appleton West High School.

Appleton Youth Education Initiative Fund

Supports programs or projects that help to prepare AASD high school students for the challenges of higher education and the transition into adult life.

B.G. Society Fund

Provides financial assistance for low-income students attending Appleton West High School to help them participate in school activities.

Jinny Bosser Memorial Fund

Provides assistance to low-income Appleton West High School students to help them overcome personal problems.

Pete Carlson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides art scholarships to graduating seniors of Appleton West High School.

Diversity Fund

Provides funding for programs that support diversity within the Appleton Area School District.

Early Childhood Fund

Promotes common knowledge of brain research and development to stimulate Birth to Five early childhood activity within the Appleton Area School District and the community.

* Indicates new funds established July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

+ Indicates future funds

Charitable Funds

Early Childhood Fund - AASD Portion

Supports the Birth to Five Site Resource Coordinator positions at five Appleton elementary schools.

Early Childhood Fund - Compassion Project

Supports efforts to promote and sustain compassion in the community.

Education for Healthy Kids Fund

Promotes daily physical education and healthy lifestyle choices.

EMMA Nobel Education Fund

Provides opportunities for area students, educators and community members to learn from the world's foremost scholars and researchers.

Ferber Elementary School Compassion Fund*

Supports programs and projects that enrich the learning experience for students attending Ferber Elementary School and provides supplies or other basic needs items for at-risk students.

Field of Dreams Fund

Established to support construction costs of new softball and baseball fields at Appleton East High School.

Fox River Academy Fund

Established to support building improvements, projects or programs at Fox River Academy Charter School.

Fund '59

Established by Appleton West High School's Class of 1959 to support projects and programs at Appleton West.

Dave Hussey Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides an annual scholarship to a graduating high school senior, rotating yearly among Appleton East, West, North, Xavier and St. Mary Central high schools.

Friends of Johnston School Fund

Provides funding to enhance the classroom experience for students at Johnston Elementary School.

Friends of Madison Middle School Fund

Enhances the educational experience for students at Madison Middle School.

Tim Meyer Memorial Fund

Provides equipment or other materials for the Technical Education Department at Appleton West High School.

Money Smarts Summer School Program Fund

Supports curriculum development and materials for the district's Money Smarts Summer School program.

Operating Fund

Supports the overall ability of the Appleton Education Foundation to do its work in managing charitable funds, assisting with grant requests and fulfilling other administrative and development functions.

PAC Student Support Fund

Supports the attendance of Fox Valley-area elementary school children at performances at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center.

Patriot Athletic Club Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships for graduating seniors at Appleton East High School.

Albert & Mary Rhoades Scholarship Fund for Appleton East High School

Provides post-secondary scholarships to Appleton East High School graduates.

Albert & Mary Rhoades Scholarship Fund for Appleton North High School

Provides post-secondary scholarships to Appleton North High School graduates.

Albert & Mary Rhoades Scholarship Fund for Appleton West High School

Provides post-secondary scholarships to Appleton West High School graduates.

Seeds for Learning Fund

Established in memory of Jane Garvey to provide extra-curricular opportunities for at-risk students who attend Jefferson Elementary School.

Teacher Idea Exchange Fund

Funds sessions for Appleton's public and parochial school teachers to share best practice ideas with one another in a comfortable, relaxed setting.

United for Success Reading Tutor Fund

Used to fund efforts of volunteer reading tutors in Appleton Area School District elementary schools.

Valley New School Fund

Provides general support for the programs of the Valley New School Charter School.

* Indicates new funds established July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

+ Indicates future funds

Grants Awarded

In the past fiscal year, the Appleton Education Foundation awarded more than \$433,000 in grants to support the following classroom and community projects, educator training, and program enhancements not covered by the Appleton Area School District budget.

Appleton Area School District

A grant from the AEF allowed district elementary, middle and high school students and their teachers to learn about all aspects of the writing process from professional authors during small- and large-group assemblies and workshops.

AEF collaborated with the district, Appleton Public Library and Lawrence University to fund and promote screenings of *The Happy Movie* in our community. The documentary allowed community members to experience stories of people from around the world speaking about what makes them happy. Dr. Richard Davidson from UW-Madison's Waisman Center and the Center for Investigating Healthy Minds is one of the experts interviewed throughout the film. Davidson's findings on the importance of compassion for one's health and happiness were a key component of the 2011 Appleton Compassion Project.

A grant from the Betsy Melzer Endowment Fund purchased adaptive equipment so that AASD students with disabilities can participate in outdoor adventure education and use the High Ropes Adventure Course located at Wilson Middle School.

A grant from the Betsy Melzer Endowment Fund helped AASD occupational therapists develop a work circuit of heavy luggage, weighted backpacks and other items for use by students in eight elementary schools who need this kind of special sensory stimulation to participate effectively in classroom learning.

Appleton Bilingual Charter School

The Foundation supported a project designed to promote parent involvement and encourage student literacy in both Spanish and English.

Appleton Central High School

AEF funds supported the Wisconsin Avenue Planter Project, which allowed students in life sciences, math and social studies classes to work with local businesses and organizations to build floral planters that now enhance a newly renovated section along Wisconsin Avenue in Appleton.

Berry Elementary School

AEF grant funding allowed 19 students in grades one through six with autism to participate in a special equine therapy experience at CHAPS Academy in Shiocton. CHAPS (Children with Horses Achieving Productivity and Success) offers counseling and therapy for children and adolescents. The students with autism, who have difficulty in social situations and with behavior, were motivated to practice the skills learned in the classroom in a new setting.

East High School

Funding from the Appleton Education Foundation Fund and the Connie Pitt Memorial Endowment Fund supported the purchase of technology and other special materials for students with sensory needs. Student needs were identified by teachers participating in the Autism Effectiveness Academy, a three-year “train the trainer” model that aims to help school districts use the most effective methods to teach children with autism and related disorders.

Edison Elementary School

Grant funding supported community field trip experiences for needy families involved in the district’s Birth-Five program. Such experiences allow for important connections among families and school staff members and give children with special needs opportunities to spend quality time with typically developing peers.

Einstein Middle School

AEF funding supported the Migration project. Seventh- and eighth-grade students built upon lessons learned in social studies, science and art as they worked with local paper artist Tom Grade to create birds out of paper and wire. Local falconer Bob Smead’s presentation on the significance and symbolism of birds added to the students’ experience.

A Foundation grant purchased age-appropriate reading materials shared by eighth-graders in Family and Consumer Education classes at the Einstein, Wilson, Madison and Roosevelt middle schools. The materials focus on college and career readiness skills, providing students with relevant learning while also integrating the common core reading and writing standards into the curriculum.

Ferber Elementary School

Grant funds purchased GPS devices to allow sixth-grade students to use math, social studies and science learning to explore latitude and longitude and coordinate graphing. Students also developed problem-solving strategies while participating in a motivating activity called geocaching.

AEF funding provided technology and other materials to test a new approach to improving second grade students’ reading fluency skills.

Grants Awarded

Foster Elementary Charter School

The Foundation provided funding for materials to construct wheeled book houses to help facilitate a regular student book exchange.

Fox River Academy Charter School and Jefferson Elementary School

AEF supported Tree Rings: Counting on Wisconsin Forests, a hands-on science and social studies project designed to teach fourth-graders about the history of forestry in Wisconsin.

Fox Valley Humane Association

An AEF grant helped expand the Kids Reading to Canines program to additional AASD elementary schools. The successful program encourages children who normally struggle with reading and who are in the early stages of developing reading skills to read out loud to dogs. Reading with the dogs lowers inhibitions kids have about reading out loud to adults and peers, with an incentive that allows them to practice their skills in a safe environment.

Franklin Elementary School

Funds from the Hazel Pope Franklin School Fund provided support for various school programs and projects.

Highlands Elementary School and Odyssey Charter School

Funds from AEF supported a Community Day with special speakers and activities focused on disability awareness.

Houdini Elementary School

AEF funds supported the implementation of the PCI reading program for use with students who have cognitive disabilities. The students range in ability from non-readers to second-grade reading level and the program is specifically designed to help ensure both short- and long-term retention for students with disabilities.

Huntley Elementary School

An AEF grant allowed teachers to test new technology – e-readers – in a fourth-grade classroom to motivate struggling readers. A new book club open to students in fourth through sixth grades also uses the e-readers.

AEF funds provided adaptive musical instruments for a music enrichment pilot program for children with exceptional needs.

Jefferson Elementary School

AEF funding provided materials to be used during a new, structured alternative recess option for students who have behavioral and anxiety difficulties in the large, unstructured social play setting that is available during outdoor recess time.

An AEF grant purchased mentor texts – specific titles proven successful as tools to teach particular writing lessons – to help integrate reading and writing workshops, social skills lessons, and read-alouds for students in pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade. This approach is innovative as it combines reading and writing across the curriculum and reinforces positive behavioral lessons.

Johnston Elementary School & Appleton Public Montessori Charter School

AEF funds supported the design and painting of a diversity mural on the walls of the school's second floor. The project included students in Kindergarten through sixth grade along with their families and school staff, all facilitated by artist-in-resident Christine Scott.

Lincoln Elementary School

An AEF grant provided a web cam so that Skype could be used as an educational resource for second-graders corresponding with students in Namibia, Africa. Appleton students wrote journal entries, discussed and shared with their classmates about their pen pals' culture, language and traditions.

AEF funding purchased a variety of research-based supplementary games and materials for a second-grade classroom in order to help students master reading, language and math skills in a fun and innovative way.

Madison Middle School

Funding from the Appleton Education Foundation Fund and the Connie Pitt Memorial Endowment Fund was used to purchase a special music player and supporting hardware that helps students with severe cognitive disabilities to be more independent and included in music classes.

AEF awarded a grant toward the purchase of the district's first Satalight, an ADA-accessible Smart Board. The Satalight can move from room to room and can be raised, lowered and tilted to accommodate needs of students in positioning equipment such as feeder seats, standers and wheelchairs.

AEF funding helped expand Our Nation Through Simulation, a project that encourages eighth-grade students to experience historical topics with a real-life approach.

Foundation funds paid for a special speaker on disability awareness for seventh- and eighth-graders. This activity supported the student-led Peer Buddy Program, which helps bridge the social gap between peers with and without special needs, and fosters friendships in the school community.

Grants Awarded

McKinley Elementary School

AEF funding helped offset expenses of an all-school family volunteer night focused on quality family time, kindness, compassion and giving. Students, their parents, and staff members worked together on projects that were given to nonprofit organizations serving needy people in the Fox Valley Community.

A grant from the Appleton Education Foundation Fund and the Betsy Melzer Endowment Fund provided an iPad 2 and related equipment to be used by Early Childhood diagnosticians during early childhood assessments.

North High School

AEF funding provided reusable stretching boards to hold water color paper flat as it dries, enhancing student success in this art medium.

AEF funding helped pilot the use of Kindles by students whose reading scores fall two grades below normal but who are not receiving any Special Education support. Students are tested for reading levels several times during the school year to measure their progress.

Richmond Elementary School

A grant from the Betsy Melzer Endowment Fund purchased materials used to teach students rules of syllable division that will improve their reading, writing and spelling skills.

Roosevelt Middle School

An AEF grant funded start-up expenses to pilot a new Family & Consumer Education curriculum at Roosevelt and Kaleidoscope Academy Charter School. The project-based approach incorporates writing, technology and the solving of real-world problems as students create a salable cookbook or healthy lifestyles magazine, including a “how to” DVD. If successful, the approach will be expanded to all middle schools.

AEF funding allowed new-to-the-country English Language Learners (students who have been in the U.S. less than five years) to participate in a camping experience at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station. The trip helped students build critical background knowledge through hands-on activities like water experiments and learning about Wisconsin habitat, as well as other traditional camping experiences, all of which support increased learning in the classroom.

Dan Spalding Academy

A grant from the Dan Spalding Academy Endowment Fund supported educational enhancements for at-risk youth attending the Dan Spalding Academy program.

West High School

A grant from the Gerald E. Hoffman Memorial Fund provided general support of the arts.

Grants from the Appleton West High School Endowment Fund, the AWHs Class of 1941 Fund and the Appleton West High School Historical Fund provided support for a variety of creative educational enhancements at the school.

AEF funds gave students in Art Survey classes an opportunity to work with a new art medium - stained glass - while learning highly skilled techniques including glass cutting and soldering.

Wilson Middle School

AEF funding purchased supplies to help the school implement its first seventh-grade cross-curricular project, The Tower Challenge. The project engaged students in math, science, communication arts, geography and technical education as they worked collaboratively in small groups to budget, research, draft and build a structure that could safely hold an egg. A student showcase and tower test culminated the experience.

Scholarship Grants

A number of AEF funds provided continuing education scholarships for graduates of Appleton high schools.

Appleton East High School Patriot Athletic Club Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships for East High School seniors who have participated in Patriot Athletic Club-sponsored activities and are planning to pursue post-secondary education.

2012 Recipients:

Malory Christenson, Jacob Sahr, Michael Schwanke, Aubrey Scott

Pete Carlson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides a scholarship to a West High School graduate with special interest and ability to pursue a college art degree.

2012 Recipient: Rebecca Hewitt

Columbus Elementary School-Fred Hoffman Memorial Endowment Fund

Award a scholarship to an Appleton Area School District student who attended Columbus Elementary School during his or her elementary years.

2012 Recipient: Courtney Rank

Grants Awarded

Earl W. Harder Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides a scholarship to a graduating senior from Appleton West High School who is planning to pursue a college degree in business.

2012 Recipient: Alyssa Gehring

Dave Hussey Memorial Fund

Provides a scholarship to a graduating, college-bound senior. The award rotates annually among Appleton East, West, North, Xavier and St. Mary Central high schools.

2012 Recipient: Hannah Szabo

Albert & Mary Rhoades Museum and Charitable Foundation Scholarship Funds

Awards scholarships to graduates from Appleton East, North and West high schools who plan to pursue undergraduate degrees in the arts, humanities, religious studies, education and select social sciences.

2012 Recipients: Rebecca Fox, Johanna Gimenez, Alysan Graf, McKenzie Larson, Cammy Rathsack

Tim Schroeder Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships for graduating Appleton East High School seniors who have participated in school athletics and plan to pursue post-secondary education.

2012 Recipients: Vanessa Castillo, Christopher Curran

WCA Thomas Scullen Memorial Scholarship Fund

Provides scholarships for graduates of Wisconsin Connections Academy Charter School who attended an accredited high school and plan to pursue a degree at an accredited university, technical college or trade school.

2012 Recipient: Mark Lemancik

Professional Development Grants

The Appleton Education Foundation recognizes the importance of ongoing education. Professional Development grants bring speakers into the Appleton Area School District to address staff members on topics of interest.

AASD Math Institute

Foundation funding helped provide a week-long summer professional development opportunity for AASD math educators to increase their conceptual understanding of math topics and, as a result, increase their confidence and ability in teaching math to their students.

Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) Summer Institute

Grant funding helped provide a summer training session for educators from AASD schools to learn more about implementing PBIS – an all-encompassing system of behavior management that promotes positive student behavior in and outside of the classroom.

Responding to Censorship

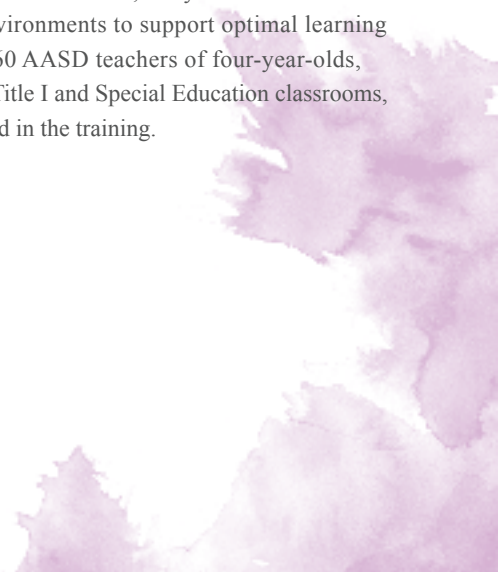
The Foundation supported a Skype staff development session with author Carol Plum-Ucci. Staff members discussed with Plum-Ucci why controversial language and situations are used in teen literature. They also learned more about the writing and publishing process and how decisions about content are made.

Writing Workshop Summer Institute

AEF grant funds provided four days of intensive staff development focused on writing for more than 200 AASD staff members. The speakers were leaders in state-of-the-art literacy instruction: The Teachers College Reading and Writing Project of Columbia University. AASD teachers who have been trained in previous institutes also served as staff developers. This train-the-trainer approach spreads the learning across the district, increasing the likelihood that this instruction will translate into measurable student progress towards AASD writing goals.

Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards Training

An AEF grant funded the cost of a training session focused on using the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards to help guide curriculum, daily activities and assessment, and other aspects of learning environments to support optimal learning experiences for young children. More than 60 AASD teachers of four-year-olds, paraprofessionals and interpreters working in Title I and Special Education classrooms, and community childcare providers participated in the training.



Grants Awarded

Pass-Through Grants

Funds also were awarded in the form of pass-through grants (money donated and then immediately granted out) to support the following projects and programs:

Appleton Area School District

Nineteen AASD schools represented at the 2012 golf event, the AEF Knowledge Open, received unrestricted grants from the Foundation. Schools used the funds to upgrade instructional technology, provide additional leveled reading materials, offer staff development, and provide support for other programs and activities above and beyond what the site budgets can support.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation used AEF's Early Childhood Fund as a vehicle for their support of Early Childhood Site Resource Coordinator positions in several AASD elementary schools.

The PAC Student Support Fund made it possible for Fox Valley-area elementary school children to attend performances at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center.

Funding from the NEW Apple Corps Robotics Team Fund helped offset expenses of the district's robotics team, including materials and equipment for building robots, and team-related expenses.

The 2012 AEF Community Education Program was possible, thanks to support from donors through AEF's Early Childhood Fund. This year's program included presentations by Ruth Litovsky, Ph.D., Kristin Shutts, Ph.D., and Chuck Kalish, Ph.D., all from the University of Wisconsin Madison's Waisman Center and School of Education.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation used the Money Smarts Summer School Program Fund as a vehicle to help offset costs of curriculum development and materials for a summer school program geared at promoting money management skills with AASD fourth- and fifth-grade students.

Support from the EMMA Nobel Education Fund gave high school and college students and teachers from the Appleton Area School District, Xavier and Fox Valley Lutheran high schools, Fox Valley Technical College, Lawrence University, and UW-Fox Valley, as well as other community members, the opportunity to attend the 2012 Nobel Conference together to learn from the world's foremost scholars and researchers.

Funds from the United for Reading Success Tutor Fund helped offset the cost of additional leveled books for the district's reading tutoring program.

Appleton Career Academy

A corporate donor designated its donation for the benefit of Appleton Career Academy Charter School.

Columbus Elementary School

Funds donated to AEF in memory of Eileen Allinger were used to purchase hard cover books for the Columbus Elementary LMC.

Ferber Elementary School

The Ferber Elementary School Compassion Fund supported school projects and programs and provided basic needs items for at-risk students.

Franklin Elementary School

Donor-designated funds supported the purchase of additional reading materials for the school.

Jefferson Elementary School

Donor-designated funds supported the school's IMPACT program. IMPACT stands for: Increasing student achievement through Music, Physical activity/fitness/Arts/performances, Care of self and others, Technology/creative writing.

Johnston Elementary School

Support from the Friends of Johnston School Fund provided a variety of reusable educational resources for school classrooms.

Valley New School

Grants from the Valley New School Fund supported programs and operations.

Appleton West High School

Support from the B.G. Society Fund provided financial assistance for low-income students to help them participate in school activities.

Funds from the Tim Meyer Memorial Fund supported the purchase of special tools and equipment for the school's Technical Education Department.

Deserving students were recipients of Academic Achievement Award plaques, funded through the Class of 1945 Fund.

Funds raised by the Terror Backers through the Addition to Tradition Fund supported athletic facilities improvements at the school.

Our Generous Donors

Between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012, nearly 800 donors contributed to the Appleton Education Foundation. Some gifts established new charitable funds, while others were added to existing funds or were made in memory or in honor of a loved one. We gratefully acknowledge and thank the following donors for their generous gifts during the year.

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 Timothy and Jane Zuck
 Diane Zwiers

If your name has been omitted from our donor lists, misspelled or incorrectly listed, please accept our sincere apology and inform us of our error so we can correct our records.

* Indicates gifts from funds within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

Founding Donors

These individuals, businesses and organizations contributed \$50,000 or more to endowed funds within the Appleton Education Foundation during its first five years, 1997-2002. The AEF is sincerely grateful for their early, significant demonstration of support.

Appleton Papers Inc.
Air Wisconsin Airlines Corporation
Oscar J. Boldt Construction Co.
John and Sally Mielke
Mielke Family Foundation

SAACC Committee
Doug and Carla Salmon
School Specialty, Inc.
Town & Country Electric, Inc.

Gifts-In-Kind

We gratefully acknowledge the following businesses and organizations for their in-kind goods or service contributions during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012:

Appleton Area School District
Aramark Food Service
Blue Print Service Co.
Building for Kids Children's Museum
Camera Corner Connecting Point
Chad Ellis Design
Fox Cities Performing Arts Center
Fox Valley Technical College

Hoffman LLC
Lawrence University
N.E.W. Printing
News Talk 1150 WHBY
RJ Marx Custom Graphics
UW-Madison Waisman Center
Willems Marketing, Inc.

In Tribute

Making a donation to the Appleton Education Foundation is a meaningful way to honor or remember the people who have made a difference in your life.

Memorials

Between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012, the Foundation received gifts in memory of the following people:

Eileen Allinger
Ellen Anderson
Tyler Baseman
Ann Baum
Jinny Bosser
Gene Britton
Pete Carlson
Kay Chicquette
Kenneth Flood
Vaughn Gehrt
Robert Genke
Bonnie Hahn
Earl Harder
Bill Hartling
Dave Hash
Janet Horan
David Hussey
Gloria Johnson
Ken Johnston
Cheri Kuehn
Don Laedtke
Betsy Melzer
Tim Meyer
Dr. Ed Mielke
Dennis J Roberts
William Selle
Deb Steinbach's Father
Al Stoner
Roland Tonnell
Dale Von Behren
Grayce Warren
Brad Wiese

Honorariums

Between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012, the Foundation received gifts in honor of the following people:

Wendy Blasczyk
Beverly Bozile
Lou Chicquette
Timothy Clark
Theresa Fahey
Julie Gamm
Rachel Harding
Kathryn Hardesty
Highland's Retired Teachers
Amanda Kriewaldt
Pearl Kunz
Ms. Anne Lingelbach
John and Sally Mielke
Stephanie Paulzewicz
Ellen Sauer
Sheila VanHandel
Nicole Weber

Staff Appreciation

District parents and students have the opportunity to show their appreciation for elementary school educators by donating to the Appleton Education Foundation in their names. More than 100 specially designed cards with hand-written sentiments were delivered by AEF volunteers to honored staff members during Teacher Appreciation Week in May. Gifts were received in honor of the following Appleton Area School District educators:

Diana Alvarado-Syverson
Michelle Behnke
Jennifer Beyer
Janice Cole
Paul Cooney
Jessica Crownhart
Christopher Curtin
Cheryl Daley
Kathleen Damon
Gina Dresang
Lisa Engen
Theresa Fahey
Ann Fischer
Konnie Free
Julie Gamm
Brian Garvey
Lori Goudreau
Gretchen Hammen
Katie Hartel
Denise Hasbargen
Dorene Henrikson
Ellen Holcomb
Annette Jadin
Sue Jensen
Kimberly Jochman
Terri Kolbeck
Julie Kromm
Kristin Krull

Tom Kubisch
Susan Kuehl
Nicole LaBarge
Laura Luedeke
Troy Martin
Bill McClone
Patricia Merrifield
Cheryl Meyer
Kristin Mielke
Linda Miller
Kathleen Moranda
Noelle Mudrak
Yvonne Mullen
Margaret Noll
Megan Novak
Kathleen Olson
Bridgette Osorio
Nicole Otto
Sarah Palmer
Krista Parnin
Patricia Pomplun
Stephanie Rippl
Angela Roberts
Kelly Rudie
Jill Rushkofske
Kathy Sanger
Holly Schaumberg
Mary Schemm

Nancy Schumacher
Joann Schwan
Laura Skrypczak
Dan Smith
Paula Sutter
Jane Tarr
Danyell Tesch
Jane Thompson
Sheila Van Handel
Trisha Vande Voort
Jamie Vander Heiden
Courtney Velpel

Doris Verboomen
Wendy Verkuilen-Pitts
Kathy Wallace
Susan Warmbier
Richard Waters
Stacy Wiedenhaupt
Barbara Wing
Dorothy Witzeling
Tracy Wydeven
Catherine Zold
Diane Zwiers



Financials

Statement of Financial Position - June 30, 2012

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,705
Contributions Receivable	\$18,417
Investments	\$2,406,717
Property and Equipment, net	\$1,140
Capital Lease Receivable	\$657,843

Total Assets **\$3,087,822**

Liabilities and Net Assets

Note Payable	\$330,117
Other Liabilities	\$4,376
Deferred Interest Income	\$74,349

Total Liabilities **\$408,842**

Net Assets:

Unrestricted	\$2,660,563
Temporarily Restricted	\$18,417

Total Net Assets **\$2,678,980**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$3,087,822**

Statement of Activities - Year Ended June 30, 2012

Support and Other Revenue

Contributions	\$393,428
Gain (loss) on investments	(\$47,076)
Investment Income	\$91,256

Total Support and Other Revenue \$437,608

Grants and Expenses

Grants Expense	\$433,901
Other Program Related Expenses	\$80,630
Management and General	
Investment Manager Fees	\$22,760
Administrative Expenses	\$50,524
Fundraising Expenses	\$44,795

Total Grants and Expenses \$632,609

Change in Net Assets (\$195,001)

Net Assets

Beginning of Year	\$2,873,981
End of Year	\$2,678,980

This is a summarized financial statement presentation. The Appleton Education Foundation is a Supporting Organization of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region. A complete audited financial statement of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region and Supporting Organizations is available upon request.

Auditors: Schenck SC

Board of Directors & Committee Members

Directors

Kathy Adams
Judy Baseman
Bob Duimstra
Bill Gibson
Phyllis Gillespie
Nancy Johnshoy
Scott Jones
Diane Lightfield
Tim McKeag (Vice President)
Laura Meronk (Secretary)
Timothy Riley
Paul Shrode
Markalan T. Smith
Rick Stezenski (Treasurer)
Tina Tillman (President)
Maria Van Laanen
Dave Willems

Ex-Officio Directors

AASD Board of Education
President Sharon Fenlon

AASD Superintendent
Lee Allinger

Appleton Education Association
President Candice Breitengross

Staff

Administrative Assistant
Lisa Jabas

Executive Director
Julie Krause

Committee Members

Kathy Adams (bd, com)
Marlene Angevine (ret)
Judy Baseman (bd, grt)
Audrey Brandt (ret)
Candice Breitengross (bd, grt)
Gordon Case (ret*)
Bob Duimstra (bd, bde)

JoAnn DuVall (ret)
Marcia Engen (ret)
Mary Furlong (ret)
Bill Gibson (bd, fde, glf)
Phyllis Gillespie (bd, com)
Pam Gruner (grt)
Don Hietpas (glf, grt)
Nancy Johnshoy (bd, fde, glf)
Joyce Laedtke (ret)
Dianne Lang (com, ret)
Diane Lightfield (bd, exe, grt*)
Tim McKeag (bd, exe, fde, glf)
Laura Meronk (bd, exe, bde*)
John E. Mielke (fde, glf)
Sally Mielke (grt)
Ann Moe (ret)
Shari Moscinski (ret)
Mary Beth Nienhaus (glf)
Barry O'Connor (glf)
Judy Phillips (ret)
Robin Reif (ret)
Timothy Riley (bd, fde)
Jean Scherer (ret)
Alan Schroeder (glf, ret)
Paul Shrode (bd, bde)
Bob Simon (grt)
Markalan T. Smith (bd, exe, fde*, glf*)
Rick Stezenski (bd, exe, fde)
Susan Stockton (glf)
Vira Stoner (com, ret)
Tina Tillman (bd*, exe*)
Joni VandenHeuvel (ret)
Teena VanDriest (grt)
Maria Van Laanen (bd)
Barb Walstrom (ret)
Dave Willems (bd, com*, exe)
Judy Winzenz (com, ret)

Membership Codes

bd	Board of Directors
bde	Board Development Committee
com	Communications Committee
exe	Executive Committee
fde	Fund Development Committee
glf	Golf Outing Committee
grt	Grants Committee
ret	AASD Retiree Committee
*	Chair

Founding Board of Directors

Community members with a variety of backgrounds and experiences served on the Appleton Education Foundation's founding Board of Directors. As we celebrate 15 years of enhancing educational excellence, we gratefully acknowledge these early leaders' vision and commitment to education and their good work in establishing a solid foundation for this organization.

Tom Boldt	Paul Karch
Bonnie Buchanan	Jeff Knezel
Julie Buchanan	John E. Mielke
Marcia Engen	Bob Pedersen
Dick Gunderson	Jeff Riester
David Hackworthy	Dan Spalding*
Ruth Haviland	Vi Stoner
Don Hietpas	Joe Troy
Paul Hoffman	Sharon Fenlon (ex-officio)
Trisha Huizenga	Tom Scullen* (ex-officio)

* deceased



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Fax: (920) 832-1301

Email: jkrause@cfoxvalley.org

Website: www.appletoneducationfoundation.org

The Appleton Education Foundation is a supporting organization
of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region.