

Governor News

A Publication of the Pierre Educational Foundation

December 2017

Foundation Awards Funds for Innovation



Mrs. Asher's students received ukuleles for their music classroom through a Foundation mini-grant. The ukuleles will be used by these students from Mr. Thorson's 3rd grade class as well as the other students at Jefferson Elementary. Grants for ukuleles were also awarded to Mrs. Cruser at Kennedy Elementary and Mrs. Willoughby at Buchanan Elementary.

The Foundation awarded seven mini-grants through its Fall Mini-Grant Program, bringing the total number of grants awarded to classroom teachers to 194 over the 20 year history of the Foundation. The new grants range from \$160 to \$1,200 and provide teachers with funding to enhance the classroom experience.

"Sometimes the amount of our grants seem small, but the impact on the students is significant," according to Jennifer Stalley, Executive Director of the Foundation. "The benefit to these teachers and their students is there and the Foundation is proud to be able to make these grants happen through the generosity of our donors."

You can support the Foundation's Mini-Grant Program through a donation to the Foundation's General Fund or by specifying your donation to the Mini-Grant Program. The Mini-Grant Program makes award to applicants two times per year to help encourage innovation on the classroom.

Fall Mini-Grant Awards

Ukuleles for the Elementary Classroom

Julie Willoughby (Buchanan Elementary), Emily Asher (Jefferson Elementary) and Melody Cruser (Kennedy Elementary)

This funding provides access to ukuleles in the elementary school classrooms to introduce string instrument techniques to support comprehension of the state music standards. The funding will also help utilize existing music technology units in the Quaver program in the classrooms.

Only One You

Megan Deal and Jen Costa (Kennedy Elementary)

This funding helps with a project to nurture students' sense of self and uniqueness to encourage students to not always follow the crowd. The funding will help the instructors teach lessons from the book "Only One You" which will culminate in a playground project on the school grounds.

Everyone's Voice is Heard with QBall

Jackie Richey (Jefferson Elementary)

This funding funds a QBall for the classroom. The QBall is a throwable, wireless microphone for classrooms to help encourage student participation in class. The QBall also adds movement to the classroom to get the students moving while learning.

Whisper Phones

Amber Stout (Jefferson Elementary)

This funding funds a classroom whisper phone. A whisper phone enables a child to intentionally listen and hear sounds coming directly from his or her own voice. This focus allows students to develop phonemic awareness. Directly hearing the sounds improves the ability to recognize and distinguish the sound structure of language.

Power Chef Culinary Program

Stephanie Todd (Georgia Morse Middle School)

This funding supplements funding from South Dakota State University to implement the Power Chef Culinary Program in the classroom. This eight week program teaches students the importance of food safety, preparation, and nutrition. The program teaches the basics of cooking, ending with the preparation of a full meal by the end of the program.



Pierre Educational Foundation

Pierre Educational Foundation

PO Box 94
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 224-9016
jennifer@pefgovs.org
www.pefgovs.org

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Pierre Board of Education Designee

The Foundation was established in 1995 with a gift from the Cora London Estate. Cora London was a successful clothier business owner and operator for many years in Pierre. Her generosity will encourage additional grants, gifts and endowments for educational purposes.

The Pierre Educational Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, community based organization committed to academic excellence in the Pierre Public School District.

The activities of the foundation are directed by a Board of Trustees representing business, education and the community.

The funds of the Pierre Educational foundation are currently being managed and held by the community-based Oahe Foundation.

From the President

Lindsey Riter-Rapp



It wasn't that long ago... 22 ½ years to be exact, that I walked across the stage at T.F. Riggs High School with a diploma in hand. There were a multitude

of teachers that were instrumental in my educational experience but two in particular left an indelible impact.

The first was Mrs. Chandler, my 7th grade science teacher. While I've never professed to be a science "buff", I still to this day have a fascination for trees and more particularly the leaves on those trees. In fact, my children and I scour the neighborhood in the fall searching for the most colorful and interesting leaves thanks to the "leaf booklet" we did that year in Mrs. Chandler's class.

The second was Candy Birhanzel, my senior honor's English teacher. It was because of her that I was one of the few college Freshman that could successfully navigate a research paper. She also instilled in me a desire to explore the written word whether it was by getting lost in a good book or by writing my own short story. It was this passion that inspired me to obtain my own English degree in college.

As I look back at those years, I have a deep sense of appreciation for the education I received. This is particularly true as I watch my own children receive the benefits from the same school system I once attended.

I have watched as their eyes light up as they discover and enjoy the magic of good book when only months before they were struggling with the words. I cannot help but think how critical these years are to their future success. These truly are the formative years in their life.

How can we honor the teachers that have impacted us, that were the building blocks to our success? For those of that have long since graduated or now have

children of our own in the Pierre Public School System, we can donate to the eWall of Honor in a teacher's name. It is a small token of our appreciation to them.

For those of you that are witnessing firsthand the success of your children at the hands of our educators, you can revel in an "Evening of Excellence." The Pierre Education hosted its inaugural event last spring and will host it again this year. This event showcased T.F. Riggs students who were at the top of their senior class and the teachers that they credited to their success. This is just one of the many ways PEF is giving back to students and educators alike.

For those of you that delight in "fresh" ideas, PEF's Mini-Grants provide funding to our local educators to promote innovative tools to engage their students. In this last quarter alone, 7 educators received almost nearly \$4,000 in mini-grants.

For those of you that would like to promote the pursuit of higher education, you can donate to an established scholarship or create one of your own. Many students in the Pierre School System benefit from the thousands of dollars that are distributed each year to our own T.F. Riggs graduates from the 9 established scholarships currently administered by PEF.

Finally, if you are like me, and looking to celebrate your 10th, 25th (who's counting) or 50th reunion soon, PEF wants to know when you are hosting your event and hopes that maybe you will even consider challenging your classmates to give back to your own alma matter too.



**May 3rd
2017**

**Ramkota
in Pierre**

2018 Evening of Excellence

Welcome

Betty Hanson



The Foundation is pleased to have Betty Hanson join its Board of Directors as a designee of the Pierre School

Hanson replaces John Wellhouse who served two-terms on the Board.

“The Foundation is excited to have Betty join our Board and bring her enthusiasm for supporting education to the Foundation. We are also appreciative of the ten years of leadership John brought to the Foundation during his tenure. He helped lay the groundwork for the Evening of Excellence and we look forward to working with Betty to continue growing that event and establishing other opportunities to support our students and faculty,” said Jennifer Stalley, Foundation Executive Director.

Board. Hanson recently retired after 35 years of teaching. She began her career in North Dakota before moving to Pierre, where she taught kindergarten at Buchanan Elementary for 25 years.

Hanson was the Pierre School District’s 2016 Teacher of the Year. The award reflected Hanson’s dedication to inspiring students and her commitment to education.



50th Class Reunion of 1968

September 14-15, 2018

Contact: Helen Neuharth or
Sheila Haddock
shehadd@gmail.com

40th Class Reunion of 1978

August 3, 2018

The View at 5:00 pm

August 4, 2018

The Legion at 6:00 pm

Contact: Dan Sahr, Class President 1978

Call or Text Dan at

605-553-8247

Do you need help with ideas or who to connect with for your reunion?

Contact the Foundation office at 605-224-9016 or jennifer@pefgovs.org for information about possible reunion locations, class lists and other information to help begin your reunion planning.

eWall of Honor

Pierre Educational Foundation

The Pierre Educational Foundation eWall of Honor is an ongoing, electronic wall of honor for staff of the Pierre School District. The wall allows parents, alumni and any other individuals interested in education the ability to honor and recognize a teacher, coach, administrator or any other current or former Pierre School District staff member. By making a donation to the PEF eWall of Honor in a teacher’s name, the contribution will be used to directly support educational programs within the Pierre School District.

Honorees

Jen Allen
Penny Andersen
Mackenzie Blake
Megan Deal
Ashley Giese
Bob Gill
Brenda Hardwick
Paul Harens
Denise Harford
Esther Hoard
Sheila Ingram
Larry Johnson
Betty Johnson
Glenda Woodburn

Jill Linn
Michelle Merrill
Jay Mickelson
Jennifer Nedrebo
Connie Palmer
Bria Peppel
Terry Petersen
Karen Pogany
Wade Pogany
Laura Snow
Mary Steffen
Sarah Strohman
Elizabeth Vogt

Alumni News

The Pierre Educational Foundation would like to hear about marriages, births, and remembrances of alumni who have passed away. We will also be printing information about upcoming class reunions, so please keep us informed so we can help keep your classmates informed.

Please send your news to our offices at PO Box 94 Pierre, SD 57501, or via e-mail to jennifer@pefgovs.org.



Pierre Educational Foundation

Supporting the Foundation through Planned Giving

There are a number of ways you can support excellence in education in the Pierre School District through planned charitable giving. If you wish to support the Foundation, you might consider:

Gifts of Appreciated Assets

Gifts of appreciated assets, such as securities or real estate, are excellent ways to support the Foundation. These types of gifts can provide you with numerous benefits:

- An income tax deduction, typically based on the assets fair market value
- Avoid federal and state capital gains tax
- Avoid the Affordable Care Act Medicare tax

Life Insurance Gifts

A gift to the Foundation of your old, unneeded, or obsolete life insurance policy can provide you with these benefits:

- Receive a charitable income tax deduction
- Reduce your taxable estate
- Preserve your cash and savings

Charitable Life Income Plans

If you own low-yielding assets and want a higher income, a charitable life income gift may be worth considering. These gifts include a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust and can provide you with these benefits:

- Receive payments for your lifetime
- Generate an income tax deduction
- Bypass capital gains on appreciated assets
- Increased financial security

Charitable Life Estates

Your estate plan may include leaving your home or other real estate to charity. To do this, you may wish to create a charitable life estate. You can make a gift to the Foundation through a charitable life estate today that will benefit you in these ways:

- Current income tax deduction
- Life use and enjoyment of the property

Your consideration of any of these charitable giving options to benefit the Foundation is greatly appreciated. Any gift, big or small, can make a difference in education in the Pierre School District. The Foundation appreciates you considering making it part of your charitable giving plan.

Disclaimer – These tips are not intended as legal or tax advice. For specifics on how any gift may affect your personal tax situation, please consult with your own professional financial advisor or attorney.

Pierre Educational Foundation Established Funds

You can support the Pierre Educational Foundation by making a donation to one of these established funds or by donating to one of the Foundation's special projects. If you are interested in establishing a fund to support a specific area of education, please contact our office.

Foundation Funds

- Brakke Family Scholarship Fund**
- Emde Scholarship Fund**
- Feeney Scholarship Fund**
- Fran Ruzick Debate Travel Fund**
- Michael Isenburg Book Room Fund**
- Mortenson Family Scholarship Fund**
- Mueller Scholarship Fund**
- Peter Wegner Memorial Fund**
- Spilde Family Scholarship**

Charitable Giving Year End Reminder:

If you are 70½ or older, you may roll over up to \$100,000 from your IRA to the Pierre Educational Foundation this year without paying any federal income tax on your gift.

To make an IRA rollover gift, simply contact your custodian and request that an amount be transferred to us. Your gift could be \$1,000, \$10,000, \$50,000 or even \$100,000.

Every gift helps the Foundation support excellence in education in the Pierre School District.



Our Mission

The Pierre Educational Foundation promotes the further educational development of the Pierre Public School District students, staff and graduates through the delivery of quality educational opportunities and resources.

Thank You

The following is a list of donors to the Pierre Educational Foundation from May 2017 - December 2017. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy of the donor list. If your name was omitted or misspelled, please accept our apologies and contact the Foundation with corrections at 605-224-9016 or via e-mail at jennifer@pefgovs.org.

Matt Brakke Wagner Fundraiser Group Alice Stulken Jeffrey and Nadine Amy Jo Rawlins Gilbert Penny and John Porter	Brakke Family Fund In Honor of the Class of 1984 General Fund Emde Scholarship Fund In Memory of RE Rawlins In Memory of Deceased Classmates of 1967	Michael Shirley Fred and Joan Tweet Anton "Tony" Wegner Karen Hasek John and Jill Wellhouse John and Jill Wellhouse Capital University Center Fine Line Auto, Inc Stulken, Petersen, Lingle, Walti, & Jones LLP Brosz Engineering Slumberland Aareon Miller Lance and Ruth Nixon Michael and Linda Rush Lynne and Clark Guthrie Curt Mortenson BankWest - Charles Burke III Sanford Health Verne Brakke Janice Grote Fiona And Oscar Sohns John and Jill Wellhouse	In Memory of Mary Schiessman In Honor of the Class of 1957 In Honor of the Class of 1955 Foundation Fund In Memory of Maxine Torvik, In Memory of Hyrma Zakahi Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Foundation Fund Evening of Excellence Sponsor Evening of Excellence Sponsor Brakke Family Fund Emde Family Fund Emde Family Fund Foundation Fund
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Pierre Educational Foundation Contact/Donation Form

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____ Riggs Grad Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone (_____) _____

Spouse's Name _____ Riggs Grad Year _____

News or Comments: _____

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

This gift is in: memory of honor of _____

Designated toward: General Donation New Teacher Welcome Program

Scholarship/Enrichment Fund (please specify): _____

Evening of Excellence Event

Please make checks payable to Pierre Educational Foundation. Thank you!
Mail to: Pierre Educational Foundation, PO Box 94, Pierre, SD 57501



Pierre Educational Foundation

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Pierre, SD 57501

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