

HANCOCK SCHOOL FOUNDATION

October 2017

Volume 13

We would like to THANK the following businesses and individuals for their generous support this past year. A total of approximately \$10,485 has been raised for our Foundation!

Hancock Lions Club
Hancock Firemen's Relief Association
Joel & Stephanie Flaten
Gary & Jeanette Olson
James E. Thielke CPA
Arnold & Sharon Koehl
Mike & Janet Evink
Hancock School Fund Chronicle
Jason H. Flaten
Karen Greiner
Ken Koehl
Keith & Linda Meichsner
Darrell & Cheryl Walton
Jerry Joos
Ruth Nohl
Carole Johnson
Hancock Clothing Bank
Deb J. DeSmith
Frances Vanzomeren
Joey & Kayla Rinkenberger
Arlen Stensby
Lisa Dee

*In addition, 6 generous donors chose to remain anonymous.



Support the Mission

You can make a difference in helping The Hancock Foundation accomplish our mission of "Enhancing and Enriching" the education opportunities for the students of Hancock Public School. This past year we awarded over \$10,000 in grants that are included in this newsletter.

We know that this would not be possible without the generous support of many donors. We hope that you will once again consider making a donation or if you are a first time donor that you will join us in the effort. Your support is truly appreciated!

Current Foundation Board Members: Ashley Christianson, Kaci Millette, Deb

DeSmith, Phyllis Joos, Annette Metzger,

John Boon, Lorrie Joos* & Tony Thielke* (*new members)

The First Hancock Foundation Committee



In 2004, the group of Joel Flaten, Doug Nelson, Steve Wagner, Char Rustad, Peggy Ascheman, Carole Johnson and Jill Steiner started the committee for the Hancock School Foundation. Over the past 13 years this committee has been able to help fund some amazing resources for the Hancock Public

School. I had the privilege of visiting with all the members of the original committee. and they shared with me some of their thoughts from that first year and how it started. The answer that I heard across the board when I asked, "How did the Foundation start?" was "Joel Flaten". Joel had a vision, early on, of providing a way for the community to give back and help our school grow. "At a time when enrollment was declining there were some individuals within the community that wanted to give but didn't know how to do it so funds would be used to help the students," Joel Flaten stated.

While visiting with Doug Nelson, who at the time was on the Hancock School Board, Joel expressed this idea and they brought it to Superintendent Jerry Martinson who led them to West Central Initiative. West Central Initiative was such a great resource for helping

Contributions At Work

(continue from First Hancock Foundation Committee...) start this foundation they helped with the legal part that went along with the giving, and how funds would be used. That first year the committee raised over \$31,000. This was largely do to a Phone-athon they did and the mailing out of close to 2,000 letters to alumni and community members. "Through the Hancock School Foundation students were given opportunities they would not have been able to participate in otherwise, such as Prairie Fire Theatre and the 3 year Science Enrichment Trips for grades 3rd, 4th and 5th", according to Jill Steiner.

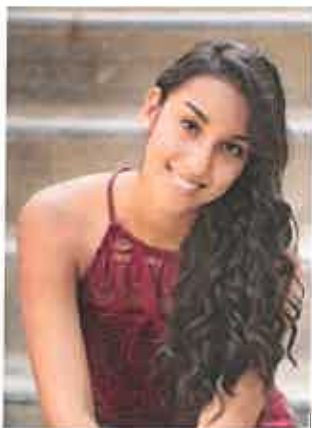
Hancock was one of the only area schools with a Foundation Committee back in 2004. Soon after, many other area schools established their own committees, some even seeking Hancock's help in their own start up process. Another name that I heard, while visiting with these original members, was Carole Johnson and her passion for the community and school in Hancock. She was not an alumni herself, but was able to connect with past students and did a large part of the Phone-athon. Carole shared with me, "All the members seriously believed in the foundation and it's mission. They spent countless hours on setting up the appropriate funds to help the donors give in a way that was directed to their passion". Doug Nelson shared with me that he felt the Hancock School Foundation helped provide resources that made our school "grow faster". "We were able to compete with other area schools, and had some wonderful things going on that pulled open-enrollment families to Hancock".

The Hancock School Foundation funded one of the first SMART Boards in the school. Over the past 13 years they have funded things such as music and band equipment, speaker systems, athletic cameras, software, learning supplement materials, trips, iPads, Chromebooks, laptops, career materials, physical education equipment, 2 \$500 scholarships a year to graduating seniors and MUCH, MUCH more!

This group of 7 diverse individuals all brought such wonderful assets to the committee, and they each played a crucial part in helping to form the Foundation into the wonderful resource it is today for the Hancock Public School and community.

By: Ashley Christianson

Scholarship Recipients



The two recipients of our \$500 scholarships for the class of 2017 were Anna Chavira, daughter of Armando & Maria Chavira and Grace Worner, daughter of Todd & Becky Worner.

Applicants submitted a one page essay addressing the question, "Looking to the future, what can we do to make our school better for future students?", along with HHS activities, transcripts, school acceptance letter, and a letter of recommendation. The scholarship is competitive with outstanding entries by all seniors.

The Owl's Nest Coffee Shop

Kayla Rinkenberger and Megan Hennen received funds from the Hancock Foundation to implement a Coffee Shop within the school day for staff to order beverages such as coffee, hot tea, cappuccino, or apple cider. This shop is fully ran by the special education students. They hand deliver the beverages to staff at a pre-selected time and make changes when needed. Drinks cost \$2.00. The funds from the Hancock Foundation were used to purchase a Keurig Machine and K-cups. The shop is now self-sufficient, the money they earn is used to buy new supplies.

Yes, I would like to make a donation!

Donations Accepted!

Review of How Our Foundation Functions

The Hancock School Foundation includes 5 sub-accounts, as follows:

Universal Fund—This fund gives the Advisory Committee the most flexibility in designating funds to provide money where it is most needed.

Curriculum & Fine Arts Fund — Donations to this fund will help us provide the very best in classroom curriculum and help to continuously improve favorite programs like Band & Choir.

Extra-Curricular & Athletics Fund — This fund provides support for school programs ranging from Speech Contests to Owl Basketball. One of the best things about a small school is being involved, and everyone can participate. Maybe you were once a “Mighty, Mighty Owl?”

Endowment/Scholarship Fund — A donation to this fund is a gift that keeps on giving. The principal will be left untouched and interest earned will provide scholarship opportunities for Hancock graduates along with other needs.

Technology, Equipment, & Capital Improvement Fund — What school couldn't use some new computers? We are proud of the technology being provided to our current students, but technology continues to improve. A donation to this fund will enhance education by allowing our small school to keep stay on the cutting edge.

Please apply my donation to the following fund (check one)

- Universal
- Curriculum and Fine Arts
- Extra-Curricular & Athletics
- Endowment/Scholarship
- Technology, Equipment & Capital Improvement

Bill my credit card.

- Visa
- Discover

Account Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Call me for card number

Signature _____

Bill me annually

Check here to make your donation anonymous.

Dream Makers

Contribution Levels

- \$10,000 Sponsor Level
- \$5000
- \$1000
- \$500
- \$100
- Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to Hancock School Foundation and Mail to:

Hancock School Foundation
 West Central Initiative
 PO Box 318
 Fergus Falls MN 56538-0318

I'm interested in making a donation, but would like to speak with an Advisory Committee Member or representative of West Central Initiative. Please call me.

Phone:

Ashley Christianson (320)392-4735
 Annette Metzger (320)392-5776

Email:

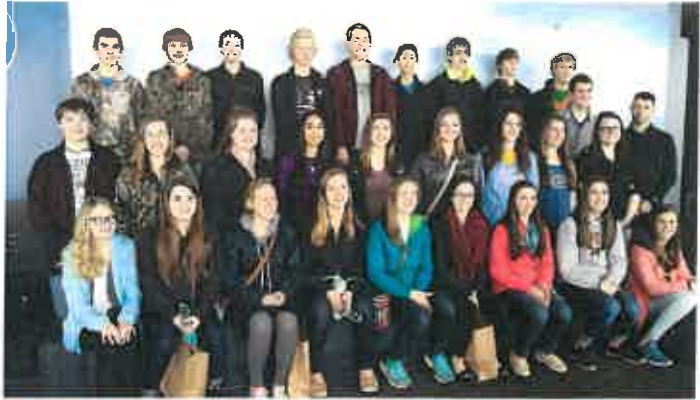
ashley.christianson@hancock.k12.mn.us
 anstmetzger@fedteldirect.net

The Hancock School Foundation is a Component Fund of West Central Initiative, a qualified 501 (c) (3) non-profit. Gifts are tax deductible, to the extent allowed by law.

In Memory of: _____

Hancock Music Department Trip to Chicago

On March 29, 2017, 41 Hancock band students attended a trip to Chicago to compete in a large group music festival. While they were in Chicago, the foundation provided tickets to attend the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. This was a wonderful experience for our students to hear professional musicians perform in a professional orchestra.



Hudl for Hancock Volleyball

The Hancock Foundation awarded a generous grant to Hancock Volleyball. Hudl is a platform and software that provides video analysis and coaching tools for sports teams. It enables coaches to upload footage of games, practices, and opponents, break the video down, add voice clips, text feedback, and deliver the video and coaching notes to their athletes. Hudl also allows side-by-side comparison videos. Our team has gained so much from this wonderful program! Thank you to the foundation.

-Coach Stephanie Flaten and
Coach Leah Peterson



STEM Summer Camp

STEM camp was offered to students completing grades 5-7. During our two day camp we did a variety of activities and experiments based on science, technology, engineering, and math. Some of our highlights include making Rube Goldberg machines (putting together many simple machine to complete a task), making and racing CO2 cars, and working with Newton's three laws to launch straw rockets. We had 9 students participate this year and look forward to more next summer. Our goal is to also create an elementary family fun night where students and families can come in and enjoy some STEM activities together.



Luther Crest Trip for 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade

In September the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students visited Luther Crest for an environmental learning day. While there they went to four different stations. One station was the survival station in which the students had to use their thinking skills to make a shelter with only a few supplied materials. Another station focused on spaces needed for plants to flourish and what happens when those spaces are invaded. The third station used our senses to figure out what animal we were tracking in the woods. The last station focused on the journey of the water cycle. It was a very fun and educational day!



Gymnasium Sound System Upgrade

With the additions that we have made to the sound system in the gym we now have the capability of using up to 5 wireless mics also including hand free packs. This will allow us to have more microphones out during homecoming skits, fall and One Act plays, along with other activities in the main gym. We also have the opportunity to control some of the sound from the scores table during sporting events which should help eliminate some of the PA issues that we have had in the past.

Flexible Seating in 4th Grade

Mr. Tony Thielke used funds to purchase 5 wobble cushions, 2 wobble chairs, 2 balance balls, and some fidget pencils. Students have made use of these items in the classroom every day. They have access to them while working at their desks or if they choose to work in another location around the room.

These items have definitely helped some students who need some sort of movement while completing their reading and/or math in the classroom.



Rekenreks Class Set

Rekenreks are a visual and tactile tool to help children develop number sense skills. This was used to enhance our current math curriculum. A classroom set was purchased for the 1st grade students.



Additional Chromebook Cart for Elementary

A cart of 35 Chromebooks was purchased for the Elementary students to use. A Chromebook is a laptop of a different breed. It runs Google Chrome and is designed to be used with internet connection. Students can use these devices independently or in a whole class setting. Teachers can utilize some of the software that accompanies their current curriculum. Students can also use them for research and they are easier to handle than a standard computer.



Return Service Requested

Investing resources
in our communities
for regional success

West Central
Initiative

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Fergus Falls MN 56538-0318

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