



Foundation News

Kettering Education Foundation Newsletter

DISTRICT, FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP WILL BENEFIT STUDENTS

What started out as a means of improving fifth-grade math scores on the Ohio Achievement Test (OAT) has grown into a project that will benefit students district wide. Through a partnership between the district's Technology Department, the Kettering Education Foundation and the Community Foundation of Kettering, \$24,000 has been earmarked to purchase Student Response Systems (SRSs) and projectors for use in all of the district's fifth-through-10th-grade classrooms.

Student Response Systems, provide teachers with immediate feedback with regard to how well the students comprehend the material in the lesson that is being taught. Each student has a radio frequency clicker at his or her desk that transmits student responses to the teacher's computer software program. Periodically, as the teacher is moving through the lesson, he or she will put a multiple-choice question up on the SmartBoard or screen, and students will respond by clicking in their answer on the response pad.

"This provides the teacher with an excellent method for formative assessment," says Debbie LeValley, director of Technology Services. "Teachers can quickly check for student comprehension and either re-teach the concept, if needed, or

know to move on to the next concept in the lesson."

LeValley was able to get the ball rolling on the project by providing the seed money, through the Technology Services budget, to purchase a limited number of Student Response Systems that were piloted in four fifth-grade classrooms this past school year. "After seeing how beneficial the systems were, we knew that we needed to find a way to get these into more of our classrooms," she says.

Enter the Kettering Education Foundation. "Our goal with the Foundation is to supplement the excellent educational opportunities the district provides to our students," says Matt Wahrhaftig, executive director of the KEF. "When I heard about the Student Response Systems, I knew right away that this need was a perfect match with our mission. Debbie made a presentation to my board, and they gave their unanimous approval to contribute to the project. We also applied to the Community Foundation of Kettering, which awarded us an additional \$5,000."

"With the \$12,000 provided by the two foundations, as well as the use of some Title 1 and Technology funds, we are going to be able to purchase the systems for every math teacher in the district in grades five through 10 and we're also going to be able to provide them for our special education math resource rooms, which serve our seventh through 10th graders," says LeValley.

While the SRSs are an interactive tool, only the teacher knows how a particular student responds to the questions that are asked. This, notes LeValley, is a real plus. "The teachers who piloted the systems last year found that those students who didn't normally tend to participate in class felt more comfortable participating with the SRS."

"I really liked having the Student Response System in my classroom," says Fred Kleinhenz, a fifth-grade teacher at Orchard Park School. "With the clickers, every student is actively engaged in the lesson, and immediate feedback is provided for both the teacher and the students. It's a great way to see if students understand the concept being taught and what might needed to be re-taught."

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OUR MISSION

To create opportunities for interested citizens, organizations and businesses to enhance the educational opportunities in the Kettering City School District.

“I knew that we could not donate a million dollars, but my wife Deborah and I could donate seed money to start the process,”

Dr. Jerry Barnett

SEED GIFT COMING TO FRUITION

In 1994, Dr. Jerry Barnett had a vision. He was talking with his daughter, who at the time was working for the Bexley Education Foundation in Bexley, Ohio. “She mentioned to me that the Bexley Education Foundation had just undergone a major campaign to raise \$1 million,” says Dr. Barnett. “At the time, I had just become involved with the Kettering Education foundation, and I thought that this fledgling foundation would benefit from an endowment fund. I knew that we could not donate a million dollars, but my wife Deborah and I could donate seed money to start the process.” That is exactly what the Barnetts did in 1994 when they

donated \$1,000 to establish the Kettering Education Foundation Endowment Fund.

An Endowment Fund is defined as an account that is invested in order to earn a return of income and



growth. A percentage of the account value is then used each year for a specified purpose.

Fast forward 14 years. The KEF has grown from

a fledgling not-for-profit foundation, to a fully mature organization that is making a real impact in the quality of education in the Kettering area. The KEF has been diligent in its efforts to raise funds for innovative and extraordinary programs, and the results are tangible. In the last 15 years, the KEF has supplied the Kettering City School District with more than \$203,000 in funding, and the endowment fund plays an important role in that.

The Barnett’s are still donating \$1,000 a year to the Kettering Education Foundation’s Endowment Fund, but their donations have now been joined by others and the value of this account is now almost \$330,000. This year, the

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SOUTHDALE 4th GRADER WINS SOITA PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WITH CAMERA PURCHASED THROUGH KEF GRANT

Dylan Flaute, a 4th grade student at Southdale Elementary, won the SOITA Digital Photography Contest for his grade category. The contest challenged students to “capture and share their vision of the world.” Dylan used a digital camera that was purchased through

a KEF grant. His picture centered on a tree and bridge in the woods behind Southdale. He commented, “I think that this picture is my vision of the world because it shows that man-made and natural elements combined can make something beautiful.”



Winning Photo by Dylan Flaute

Foundation News

FOUNDATION AWARDS \$20,700 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

At several events held in May, the Kettering Education Foundation presented scholarship awards to 10 outstanding graduating Fairmont seniors totaling \$20,700.

The scholarships were awarded through eight scholarship funds that have been created in the last two

years. The recipients of this year's scholarships are listed in the column to the right.

All of the scholarship awards benefit graduating seniors, although the emphasis of each scholarship can be significantly different.

"We are fortunate to

have wonderful donors who have established quality scholarships that award



Front: Amanda Zennie, Marie Byer, Andrew Hohler; Back: Marci Duckro, Lloyd Shannon

students for very diverse skill sets, including leadership, work-ethic, school spirit, community service, and academic excellence," said Matt Wahrhaftig, Executive Director, KEF.



Michael Witt, Michael Armstrong, Mark Manker & Eric Schwenker

Foundation Scholarships

Ray Albrecht Scholarship

Amanda Zennie - \$1,000

Sally Roush Brown Scholarship

Eric Schwenker - \$6,000

The Chief's Scholarship

Andrew Hohler - \$750

Marie Byer - \$750

Mary Lou Holland Scholarship

Lloyd Shannon - \$1,000

Chase Hale Scholarship

Michael Witt - \$4,000

James Lockwood Scholarship

Mark Manker - \$5,000

Thom & Penni Meyer Scholarship

Marci Duckro - \$500

Sydney Albrecht - \$200

Ed Rish Scholarship

Michael Armstrong - \$1,500

Support Youth
through the Kettering Noon Optimist
and the Kettering Education Foundation

Fall⁴ Education

Fourth Annual Gala Event

Friday, October 10, 2008
6:30 – 9:30 P.M.

Presidential Banquet Center
(off David between Marshall & Bigger)

Tickets \$30
in advance, \$35 at the door
includes great hors d'oeuvres
and a chance to win \$500 in Cash Drawings!
Tickets available at Town & Country,
Optimist Members and KEF Members

For Information Call
(937) 293-7516 or (937) 499-1496
or (937) 293-8059

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ENDOWMENT*continued from page 2*

Endowment Fund provided \$9,000 for scholarships for graduating Fairmont seniors and \$3,500 to help fund classroom grants.

"A large endowment fund is a critical tool that will help ensure the longevity of the Kettering Education Foundation," says Matt Wahrhaftig, Executive Director, Kettering Education Foundation "One of the Foundation's long-standing goals is to have more than \$1 million in endowed assets. This would generate \$50,000 a year for grant and scholarship support. Combine this with a healthy annual fund and the KEF has the very real possibility of being able to provide \$100,000 or more in support on a yearly basis. When you start talking about this level of funding, all of a sudden it opens up a whole new range of possibilities."

Increasing the Endowment Fund is a goal that the KEF is working hard to achieve. Just this year, the board made the decision to start placing 20 percent of all funds raised from special events into the fund, as well as any financial surplus that the Foundation may have at the end of its fiscal year.

The Foundation is also working with individual donors and corporations to generate contributions. Finally, one of the quickest ways to grow any endowment fund is through planned giving. A gift from either life insurance or one's estate can enable an individual to make a larger donation than they may have ever been able to provide on their own.

"For many years, colleges and private institutions have done a fantastic job of publicizing

the fact that you can support their causes through a bequest gift," says Wahrhaftig "Yet many people don't realize that they have this same ability to provide for their public high school through foundations like the KEF."

The Barnett's vision and generosity through the years have made a large difference, and their gifts combined with many others will have a permanent impact on education in the Kettering area for many years to come.

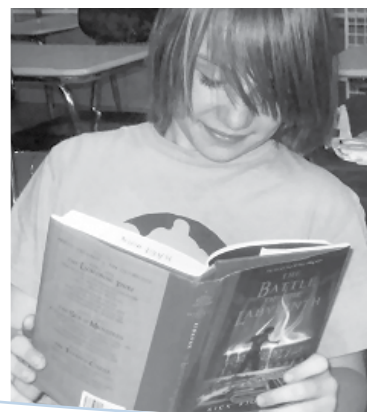
If you are interested in making a gift to the Endowment Fund, or want more information on planned giving, please contact Matt Wahrhaftig at (937) 499-1496.

"One of the Foundations long standing goals is to have over \$1 million in endowed assets"

Matt Wahrhaftig

GRANTS IN ACTION

Left: Oakview Elementary students using supplies bought through the "Wonderful World of Study."



Right: A Kettering Middle School student enjoying a Boy themed book as part of the "Books for Boys" project.