



Wayland Union Education Foundation

PO Box 192

Wayland, MI 49348

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www.waylandfoundation.org

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2007-2008**

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meet some of the opportunities you see in this report. As a result, the Directors have made efforts over the past several years to increase the awareness of the WUEF in our schools, communities, and with alumni. We ask that you consider becoming a part of the activities of the WUEF through your financial support.

Visit our new website at
www.waylandfoundation.org

Thanks Jeff and Welcome Rochelle!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff Geshel, for his service to the Wayland Union Education Foundation.

Although Jeff will no longer serve as a Director, we will continue to benefit from his expertise as he has elected to remain on our Public Relations Committee.

We welcome Rochelle Roe, who has joined us as a Director. We're excited about having her on board. Rochelle is a member of our Finance and Investment Committee.

Thank you 2006-2007 Donors

Thanks for your contributions last year. We are a 501 (c) 3 organization, and therefore may have certain tax advantages for you. If you are interested in becoming a donor, please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Directors, or drop us a note for more information. Your contributions are used to promote Educational Excellence for the students of Wayland Union Schools.



Wayland Union Education Foundation

2006-07 Annual Report/Newsletter

November, 2007

www.waylandfoundation.org

"The mission of the Wayland Union Education Foundation is to acquire funds and other assets for the purpose of supplementing and enriching the educational experience for the students of Wayland Union Schools."

If you enjoyed the production of Oklahoma! - get ready - Brigadoon is coming...



Last spring, The Wayland Union Education Foundation, underwrote and produced the musical "Oklahoma!" with the support of Wayland Union Schools and Community talent. The musical was a big hit. We are now ready for our second venture, and will be presenting "Brigadoon" the classic family musical, on March 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2008, in the Wayland Union High School Auditorium. The Lerner and Loewe musical, is the story of two young New Yorkers hunting in

the Highlands of Scotland who become lost. When they become exhausted and are sure that they will never find their way out, the mist lifts, to reveal to them the village of Brigadoon; a village which exists for only one day in each century. Show tunes include *Heather on the Hill, I'll Go Home with Bonnie Jean, and Almost Like Being in Love*. The fate of the two adventurers and the misty mood of this Highland setting is complimented by beautiful, 18th century costuming. Auditions will take place in the Wayland High School Auditorium on Tuesday, December 4th, from 2:45-6 pm, and again on Saturday, December 8th, from 1:30-5 pm. Auditions are open to everyone, for this multi-generational musical. If you are interested in auditioning, you should prepare a short reading/recitation

(lasting for about one minute) and a song to sing. An accompanist will be available. You will be asked to demonstrate some of your skills by learning a short, simple Scottish dance, that will be taught to you as part of the audition process. No material or songs should be taken from Brigadoon for your audition. If you are interested in being part of the cast, but are unable to make the above audition dates, call Director, Andy Zerban, at (269) 792-1071, to schedule an appointment. Musicians interested in playing in the pit orchestra will have the opportunity to audition in January. Technical Crew to help with set, costumes, props, make-up, etc. will also be needed. Be sure to watch for additional information regarding this event in the Penasee Globe, and the Green and White.

Highlights of our 2006-07 fiscal year

The Wayland Union Education Foundation (WUEF) is pleased to report on a very successful 2006/2007 fiscal year. The Foundation awarded over \$47,000 in grants, and program investments during the year. A summary of some of these programs follows, and you will find them sketched out in more detail elsewhere in this report. These opportunities are made possible because of the donation of money, time, and talent by many in our community.

Teacher Innovation Grants are awarded each fall on a competitive

basis and provide up to \$1,000 to fund new ideas to stimulate student learning experiences. The WUEF funded over \$12,000 in Innovation grants during the past school year, with many of those programs described in this report and on the foundation's new web site.

Camps, competitions & conferences are awarded based upon application to the WUEF. Almost \$5,000 was provided to assist students to participate in state and national competitions and attend educational camps to develop their talents and skills.

National Teacher Conference awards are made based upon application by

teachers, support by school administration, and approval by the WUEF. The emphasis for these awards is to bring fresh new ideas into our school district by assisting teachers in attending national events. The teachers then coordinate the effort to process the information learned throughout the school district. The foundation provides a maximum of three awards each year. **Scholarships** are awarded to graduating seniors, annually. Scholarships are awarded through the High School Guidance Department. Earnings from the Foundation's investments are sufficient to only

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\$12,000+ in Innovation Grants Awarded in 2006-2007

Connie Scheel-Baker Elementary 4-Yes Program

4-Yes students visited Bysterveld Park, in Dorr, three times during the school year to observe the changing seasons. The children enjoyed a variety of opportunities including art and science activities, as well as fishing, snowshoeing, photography of a changing environment, and writing/dictating related stories and poems. The children were also able to take part in gross motor activities. This was an opportunity for increased participation by parents in the 4-Yes program while providing experience that these children might not otherwise have.



Karen Hunter-Baker Elementary "Learning Landscapes"

Enhances the play ground experience for all Baker students. It also provided for HS art classes to participate in a school-based project. Learning Landscapes provides exceptional opportunities to engage in playful learning through markings painted on the hard top surface of the Baker Playground. This is a benefit to all Baker students, as well as WHS Art students who drew & painted the 'landscapes'.

Betty Onopa - Dorr Elementary Physical Education Pedometer Partner Fitness Fun

The use of pedometers coincides with the Wayland Union Schools P.E. Philosophy of providing students with knowledge, skills, fitness and attitudes necessary to lead healthier lifestyles, and life-long activities. This program was used with 3rd & 4th graders.



Rexanne Francis Dorr Elementary-Kindergarten

The phrase "children learn by doing" is particularly true with math. Mrs. Francis proposed that kindergarten students catch "math fever" through the use of math tubs filled with games or manipulatives that focus on specific math concepts. Children sang about math, read about math, cooked with math concepts, and played meaningful and purposeful math games at school and at home. This program helped to increase the level of experiences, as students move from concrete, to abstract thinking.



Lisa Cross - Pine Street - 5th Grade

Lisa was awarded an Innovation Grant for a Math/Science Lab in 2005-06. This year's grant made it possible for her to add more items to her popular and successful lab. "Our school is working toward differential learning. Students love the lab and show results in their attitude toward school and learning." The additions included:

Math: Mastering Math games, assorted "Fractions" activities, library items in electricity, matter & science, light & sound, solar system, plants, chemistry, math. Her project also included dry erase marker board sets.

Janet Johnson, Scott Gunderson, and Principal, Greg Rutten - Pine Street Elementary-Guest Artist-Wendy Popko

All students at Pine Street were able to benefit from this project. Working with Barnes and Noble, Mrs. Johnson organized a free visit to their school from a published illustrator (paid for by Barnes & Noble).



That allowed for the illustrator to see only one grade level for free. They wanted to include all grade levels, which was three additional sessions. The project linked literacy and art education, while giving the students the opportunity to meet a professional illustrator. Janet worked with Art teacher, Scott Gunderson to develop an integrated lesson to reinforce the information provided to the students during the visit.

Lori Howell Pine Street Elementary - 5th Grade Mechanical Engineering Sets from Lego Education.

Goal: To encourage students in math, science and technology. Utilizing motorized Lego sets, students learned mechanical design, construction, teamwork skills and career opportunities in engineering. This was a 6-8 week after-school motorized Lego course, followed by a 6-8 week mechanical engineering course.



Michelle Foster Middle School - Science Audio Enhancement Program

One of Michelle's goals was that this program would become a model for future use in the district. The grant was used to enhance daily activities (40 ft. deep). She believes that this system has a great potential to add to students overall understanding of science and other classes enhanced by improved listening, attention, and overall understanding.

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Dana Omness
Middle School - 8th Grade
"Classroom Jeopardy" with remotes accessible to all teachers in the Middle School. Students were able to

review for quizzes, tests, and the MEAP test. A few years ago, M E A P changed from the winter to the fall. Several teachers decided that their method of review, in such a short time, needed to be more meaningful. Through their research they found a Classroom Jeopardy game that brought the sights, sounds and excitement of the game into the classroom. They purchased the game with three controllers and scoreboards. They also purchased some games that focus on science, math and history. In addition, they have a link that allows them to make their own games using curriculum as the driving force. The Middle School staff have used this system in the past two years to review for MEAP, as well as during the year to supplement lessons. It was very successful, and student knowledge improvement has been measurable. Additional controllers, scoreboards and cartridges were purchased to help assess student knowledge even closer, but creating smaller groups.

Rebecca Black WHS English/Theater "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

The goal of "Got Shakespeare?" was to bring the works of William Shakespeare to the school and community in an approachable manner. It is important to get students to feel confident in their abilities to understand and enjoy a higher level of literature. The standard in high school is that students need to be enrolled in an advanced theatre course in order to participate in theatrical productions. While this is a nice vessel for rehearsal time, it excludes students who may have a solid conflict (band, choir, orchestra, etc) or those who may need to focus on other academic courses. Part 1 - "A Midsummer Night's



Dream", was presented in April, and was produced exclusively after school, giving more students the opportunity to participate in a play. Part 2 - After A Midsummer Night's Dream, casting took place for "Got Shakespeare?" The goal is to have a troupe perform during the 2007-2008 school year in various community and school settings.

Robyn Robinson & Nathan Warsen WHS - Special Education Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program

This was a six-week riding program at Camp Manitou-Lin. The students were from two Cognitive Impaired Spec. Ed. classrooms at the high school. There were 18 students enrolled. They ranged in age from 15-18 years - freshmen to senior. The program offered benefits in many areas including: physical, cognitive, self-care and self-esteem. It included discussions and writing assignments, as well as math applications. Students shared their riding skills, as well as explained and demonstrated other skills they learned during their final session.



Kathy Jo Lough WHS Teaching Consultant "Technology Library"

Mainstreamed students were able to "level the playing field" and succeed in general education classes. Requested technology was placed in a "technology library" and enabled Teacher Consultant students to participate in general education classes as fully as other students. These devices were available for overnight loan to complete homework assignments. They will be tools that learning disabled students can learn to use, and then purchase themselves for success in college and adult life. Equipment purchased included:

- 3 Sony Voice recorders
- 3 Graphing Calculators and
- 2 reading pens



Jan Laman - WHS Choir Director 2-Acoustic Guitars with cases 1-CD player, batteries, headphones 2-Keyboards

Almost 200 students participate in the Wayland HS choral program. One class has 80 students. There isn't enough equipment to go around. The program had several acoustic guitars however, only two of them were in decent, working order. The others were old and missing parts. They had one, working CD player. They had working keyboards, but not enough. In Choral Explorations, there is an average of 10 students per trimester who want to learn guitar, or use one for performance projects. All of the Regional Honors Choir and State Honors Choir pieces are practiced with CDs. All choirs in the WHS Choral Program were able to benefit from this grant. Choral classes, competitions at the regional and state level, and an enhanced ability to learn and perform, was of benefit to all.

Debra Kempainen WHS Business School "Classroom Performance System"

The Classroom Performance System created an interactive classroom environment. CPS allowed both the student and teacher to use technology side-by-side with visual and verbal questioning, and provided immediate feedback for understanding. The instructional use of technology has changed from the occasional use of computer labs to conducting small projects, to multiple computers in a classroom, to multiple hand-held computers at the student's finger tips. Students need to learn with technology. Students, teachers, staff and building administrators K-12, all saw the benefits from this program.

