

Holdrege Public Schools Foundation Newsletter

holdregedusters.org

“Giving Back to Education”

November 2013

Who Are We and What Do We Do?

Education foundations nationwide were created in the late 1970's as public school budgets across the country were significantly reduced. To offset the serious financial crisis in our schools, and to bridge the financial gap between what was needed for our students and state and federal funding, the Holdrege Public Schools Foundation was formed in 1988 with a \$30,000 grant from the Phelps County Community Foundation for the purpose of establishing an endowment. For more than twenty years our community has responded to the district's needs with tremendous support, recognizing that in today's world, private funding is crucial for public education. Our Foundation Committee is comprised of three school board members, two staff members, and four community members who meet monthly and work on various projects throughout the year.

HPS Foundation Committee

HPS Board of Education

Matt Allmand, Chairman
Tim Gustafson
Teresa Kroll

Community Members

Grant Ericksen
Steve Kness
Mary Oman
Kathy Vetter

HPS Staff

Todd Hilyard
Sandy Dunaway (Ad Hoc Support)



Take this opportunity to help the HPS Foundation grow!

GIVE 2 GROW is a one-day fundraising event on November 21st. It's your chance to make a real impact when your gift to the HPS Foundation is matched by the Phelps County Community Foundation. Last year's match day was very successful with nearly \$11,000 contributed to the HPS Foundation, as well as additional matching funds of more than \$2,200.

Join us in our mission to enhance educational programs and give back to the students of HPS. Your investment is guaranteed dividends!

Find out more ... click to go on the **Give2Grow** website below. Please contact the HPS Central Office prior to November 21st if you have questions. Walk-in donations will also be accepted at the Phelps County Community Foundation office from 8:00am—7:00pm on November 21st.

<http://give2grow.razoo.com/story/Holdrege-Public-Schools-Foundation-2013>

Students Benefit from 2013 Grants

Teacher grant requests totaling \$7,560.42 were received from teachers and \$6,560.42 was awarded for the 2013 teacher grant cycle as follows:

- \$1,765.42—Tom Brestel—Spectrophotometer Science Lab (phase 2)
- \$1,500.00—Casey Klein—Capture the Moment, Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment System Implementation
- \$1,300.00—Jeff Moore—Agricultural Education Welding Lab Update
- \$1,995.00—Terry Shield—3D Prototype Printing

How Can You Help?

If you would like to make a donation or memorial in honor of or in memory of a loved one, to help us in our effort to “Give Back to Education”, please contact the school at (308) 995-8663 or send a check to Phelps County Community Foundation, HPS Foundation Fund.



Christmas Gift Giving Options

Do you have the person on your Christmas list who has everything and you just don't know what to give them? How about a gift to the HPS Foundation in their honor? Your gift will benefit many HPS students through the Foundation's grant program.

Please contact the school or send a check to the Phelps County Community Foundation, HPS Foundation Fund.

The Mission of the Holdrege Public Schools Foundation is to support and enhance the educational efforts of students and teachers by providing funding for innovative and challenging programs, learning experiences, and activities.

Mr. & Mrs. Rick Ackerman
 Ag Service Associates
 Ag West Commodities, LLC
 Ms. Karen Aldama
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Allen
 Allmand Brothers, Inc.
 Almqvist, Maltzahn, Galloway &
 Luth, PC
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 Ed's Electric & Plumbing
 Edward Jones Investments
 Erickson Agency, Inc.
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 First National Bank of Holdrege
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 Super 8
 Glenwood Telecommunications, Inc.
 Grant W. Ericksen, CMFC
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Grassmeyer
 Ms. Brenda Gray & Ms. Janet
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 Great Plains Agency, Inc.
 Great Western Bank

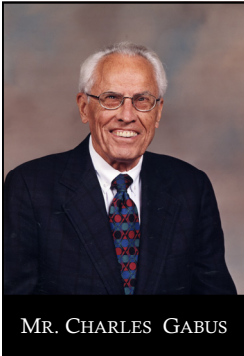
Green Landscapes
 Mr & Mrs. Lee Grove
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Gustafson
 Mr. & Mrs. John Hartwig
 Mr. John W. Hasselquist
 Hausmann Construction, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill A. Henderson
 Mr. Robert Hendricks
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 HHS Class of 1973
 Ms. Sandra L. Hilsabeck
 Mr. & Mrs. Todd Hilyard
 Dr. Grant Hinze DDS, PC
 Ms. Janet Hixon
 Ms. Nancy Hoeck
 Holdrege Auto Parts
 Holdrege Family Dental Care, PC
 Holdrege Family Vision Clinic
 Holdrege Irrigation
 Holdrege Pharmacy
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 Inc.
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 Phelps County Title Company
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 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shearman
 Mr. & Mrs. Berdene Shefstad
 Shelter Insurance
 Mrs. Robin Shield
 Mr. John L. Singletery
 M. C. Daniel Smith
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 South Central Diesel, Inc.
 Mrs. Edna Suhr
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 Mrs. Norma Waller
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Waller
 Mr. & Mrs. Monte Wendell
 Mr. Gary A. Westergren
 Woods & Durham, CPA

*Thank you to all who have
 contributed in the past year to
 the Holdrege Public Schools
 Foundation through memorials,
 fundraisers, and donations.*

Charles Gabus Endowment Gift



MR. CHARLES GABUS

In 2008, HPS received a \$100,000 gift from former Holdrege resident, Charles Gabus, in memory of his wife, Frances Hardy Gabus. Mr. Gabus desired that this gift be endowed and the interest be used to purchase library and textbooks for Holdrege High School. Mr. & Mrs. Gabus and their family lived in Holdrege and operated Charles Gabus Ford, later moving to Iowa. Mr. Gabus wrote that their three children, Jan, Pat, and Gene all graduated from “the outstanding Holdrege High School.”

The HPS Foundation Committee is deeply appreciative for this gift and the impact that it has on educational opportunities for our students.

We hope that this gift will help to raise awareness of the efforts of the HPS Foundation and serve as a catalyst for future gifts.”

Looking Forward to 2014



Mark your calendar for the 2014 HPS Foundation Golf Tournament to be held in conjunction with Swedish Days on June 20, 2014. There will be flag prize incentives and cash payouts for the top teams.

Proceeds will be used to provide grants to enhance the educational efforts of students and teachers in the Holdrege Public Schools. Brochures will be available next spring online and at the HPS Central Office, Phelps County Community Foundation, and the Holdrege Country Club.



Gabus Funds Invest in Next Generation



Business Education instructor Jason Hale displays the curriculum materials that were purchased through the Gabus endowment.

This year, HHS was able to update curriculum in the area of Business Education. Textbooks and supporting items were purchased for a number of courses including, Accounting, Business Law, Personal Finance, Marketing, Introduction to Business, and Diversified Occupations. The print and digital resources will be used to help our students better understand the world of business. Thanks to the Gabus family, their educational investment helped the school district make these purchases that will be available to our students for many years to come.

2013 Golf Tournament



The fifth annual 2013 HPS Foundation Golf Tournament was held in conjunction with the annual celebration of Swedish Days at the Holdrege Country Club on June 14th. The tournament was a great success with 58 golfers competing in perfect weather.

Thanks to the tremendous support of business and community sponsors and participants, the HPS Foundation raised nearly \$12,000!



2013 Golf Tournament champions Tom Carlson, Erin Carlson, Scott Gardner, and Charlie Reeser

Results Matter

Results Matter in Nebraska is a child, program, and family outcomes measurement system designed and implemented to improve programs and supports for all children birth to age five served by school districts. The Nebraska Department of Education requires school districts to participate in the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system.

Child observation and data collection is an ongoing process throughout the year for all children to collect data for the assessment.



Teacher grant recipient Casey Klein works on numbers, letters, colors, and shapes with a 3-5 year age student at Headstart.

Capture the Moment

The iPad Mini may be small, but it is making a big impact in the HPS Early Childhood Education department. Teacher grant recipient Casey Klein, early childhood and special education teacher, and the other early childhood staff members utilize the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system to document each child’s progress in 23 objectives covering skills in social-emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, and English language acquisition. Teaching Strategies GOLD has developed an application through Apple to assist teachers with documentation. The “app” allows teachers to record ongoing assessments using video, audio, picture, and written form for students in all developmental and academic areas.

Casey’s grant provided for three iPad Minis, as well as additional apps that include Bitsboard (recognition of letter, number, emotions), Autism iHelp, Articulation Station, Nursery Rhymes for Kids, Touch & Learn, Count & Learn Money, Jungle Time, and more.

Casey said that the app has allowed us to “Capture the Moment” without taking time away from student learning and parent coaching. The app scores data and uploads it right to the NDE website, a real time-saver! We are able to use the iPad as a “mirror” to help students recognize themselves and point to facial features. The students have enjoyed learning how to use the math and reading apps.

Shana Nitchie, speech pathologist, states that the mini iPads have been very useful in targeting sounds at the word, sentence, and story levels. The iPad also has the capability of recording the student’s speech, so they can receive auditory feedback of how they are articulating each sound.

Preschool teacher Betty Amen noted that information can be documented more easily with a video clip or photo than with an observation note. We upload the video and image files and add a note about the context in which the information was collected.

We also take photos of special visitors who come to the classroom, such as the librarian or fire fighters. We can then show them to the students to, once again, help facilitate language.



Teacher Betty Amen and a student record a guest speaker reading to the preschool students.



Speech pathologist Shana Nitchie works with a student on articulating sounds with a memory game.



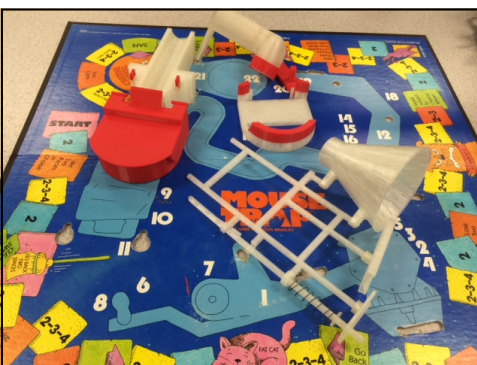
Terry Shield and Duster Grant show the new 3D printer and items created with its output.

CADD Students Learn in 3D

Thanks to HPS Foundation grant funds and a generous donation from Allmand Brothers, Inc. of Holdrege, a MakerBot Replicator 2 Desktop 3D Printer has been purchased for teacher Terry Shield’s students in the Computer-Aided-Drafting and Design (CADD) class.

Projects created with the 3D printer provide students with valuable insight into the automated manufacturing process. These processes are common to the manufacturing industry which will hire many of our graduating students. It will also provide the students valuable feedback in the design process.

(continued on next page)



These are examples of the true-to-life capabilities of the MakerBot Replicator 2 Desktop 3DPrinter.



Duster Grant joins students Harley Scott and Trent Anderson in the Ag Shop to check out the new industry-standard Millermatic Wire Feed Welder.

New Arc Welder Keeps Ag Students on Forefront of Real-World Industry Skills

Funds from teacher grant recipient Jeff Moore’s HPS Foundation Grant were used in conjunction with donations from the Holdrege FFA Alumni Group to purchase a new Millermatic 252 Wire Feed Welder. The new machine was researched and purchased through Matheson Tri-Gas and put into operation in August with the Introduction to Power class. The machine will get more use during the school year, with other sections of the Introduction to Power and Metal Fabrication classes utilizing it extensively. The implementation of this grant has helped update the equipment for the high school Ag Shop with a newer model that is used in industry. The MIG welder that the Ag Lab had up to this point was a 2001 model, with another model that dates back to the 1980’s. Students have quickly adapted to using the Millermatic and have developed some new techniques.

The students enjoy the digital read-outs, and teacher grant recipient Jeff Moore definitely enjoys knowing that the machine is reliable and consistent with industry and output.

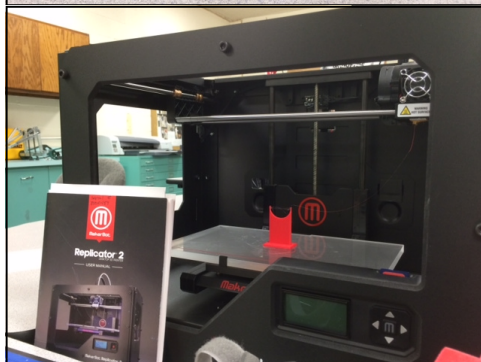
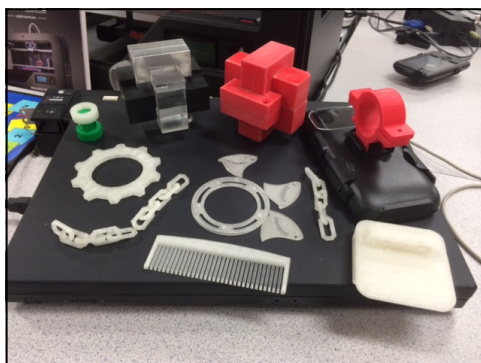


Senior Ethan Johnson shows the new welder, cabling, and safety helmet.

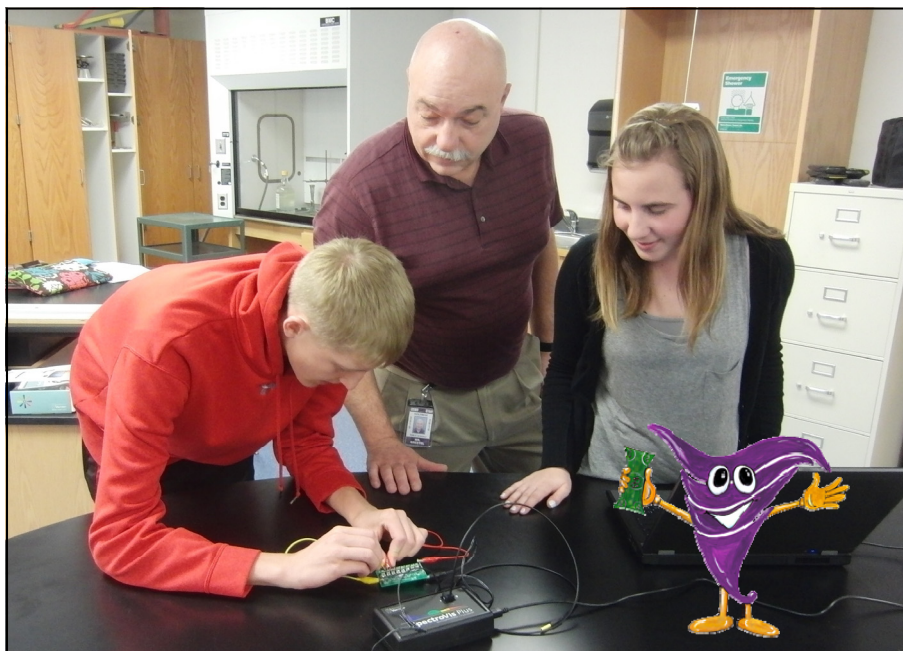
3D Printer (*continued*)

Mr. Shield stated that previously, one of the challenges he had as an instructor, was to inspire students to design models and study engineering when they never actually see, hold, touch, or feel their designs as a final physical product. To many students, the models they design on the computer screen are often perceived as unobtainable “fantasy” objects. The 3D printer takes models the students design with computer-aided drafting software and creates plastic versions. HPS has now been able to join the ranks of other schools that offer students the opportunity to learn this technology.

Matt Allmand, President of Allmand Brothers, Inc. and Chairman of the HPS Foundation Committee commented, “The community is one of our five stakeholder groups and this was a great opportunity to serve the community and help support students learning about an important emerging technology.”



The 3D Printer and items fabricated by CADD students.



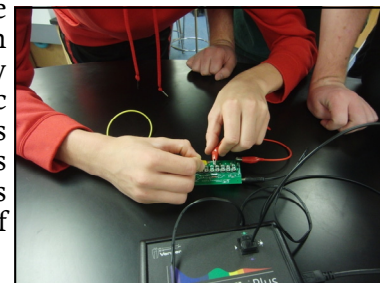
Science teacher Tom Brestel and Chemistry students Isaac Hohman and Margaret Gardner show Duster Grant how to find wavelengths of different color light emitting diodes using the SpectroVis Plus.

Spectrophotometer Lab Expands

The ability for HHS students to learn about spectroscopy, the study of visible light dispersed according to its wavelength, has been expanded in Tom Brestel’s science classrooms thanks to a follow-up grant to purchase two additional spectrophotometers and the corresponding interface needed to link student computers.

Spectroscopy is a staple of many science vocations. Chemists use spectroscopy to identify compounds and concentrations of compounds in solutions. Physicists use spectroscopy to identify wavelengths of light. Astronomers use spectroscopy to identify the elements in stars. Hospitals use various spectroscopic techniques to test oxygen content of blood and many other medical tests. Spectroscopy is used to help students understand these concepts in Physics, Chemistry, and 11th Grade Applied Science classes, so, most of the student body benefits.

Mr. Brestel has used the Spectrophotometers in a Chemistry Lab involving finding the energies of the photons emitted from different color LEDs to make use of Plank’s Constant. The students used the spectrophotometers to find the frequency of each of a red, orange, yellow, green, and blue LED to show that the energy of the emitted photons was proportional to the frequency. This provides a major step in the understanding of quantum theory needed to explain the electrons in atomic orbitals. The Applied Science students will do a simplified version of this activity in the 3rd quarter and the physics students will do an extended version of the activity in April or May.





Join the Holdrege Duster Alumni Association

One of the HPS Foundation Committee’s goals is to extend the reach beyond the community to maintain a viable database that will help Holdrege High School Alumni keep connected and will be a valuable tool for organizing reunions and communicating with classmates. The response to initial efforts in contacting alumni and creating the Duster Alumni Association has been overwhelmingly positive with nearly \$20,000 in membership contributions as well as a pledge for an estate gift of \$100,000! Our goal is to continue reaching out to all alumni via email newsletters to keep them abreast of the growth, development, and success of the HPS Foundation and the Holdrege Public Schools system.

If you are a Holdrege Alum, join us in our mission to enhance educational programs and give back to the students of HPS. Your investment is guaranteed dividends in any economic time.

If you have questions or would like to be added to the e-mail list, please register from the Alumni tab at holdregedusters.org or call the Holdrege Public Schools Central Office at (308) 995-8663.



Alumni feature writer Kristine (Long) Jacobson, husband Chadd Jacobson, and their future Duster alums Sam, Andrew, and Ella

The Face Behind Our Alumni Recognition Features

HHS alums and HPS Foundation supporters have been enjoying the monthly Alumni Recognition Features the past year via email. We’d like to extend appreciation to our alumni feature writer. Kristine (Long) Jacobson and husband Chadd graduated in 1990 from HHS and from UNL in 1994. Kristine’s degree in journalism prepared her well for working at the Kearney Hub and for the past 10 years at the YMCA of the Prairie, where she is currently serving as the marketing manager. Chadd is a farmer and owns a Sygenta/Golden Harvest seed dealership. The Jacobson’s have three children—Sam is an eighth grader at HMS, while Andrew and Ella are third graders.

Kristine shared, "I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Duster alums from across the decades this past year. It's fun to hear how our graduates have made an impact, some right here in Holdrege and some around the country and world."

Duster Alumni Association—Join Today!	
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP—billed annually (couple rate—if both are HHS Alumni) Please check appropriate category and submit with payment as directed below.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiast—\$25 or \$35 per couple	<input type="checkbox"/> Fan Club—\$50 or \$75 per couple
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheerleader—\$100 or \$150 per couple	<input type="checkbox"/> Purple & Gold Pride—\$250 or \$350 per couple
<input type="checkbox"/> Duster Lifetime Booster—\$1,500 or \$2,000 per couple—one-time only payment	
NAME(S)	
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SEND TO: Phelps County Community Foundation, 504 4th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949	