

Holdrege Public Schools Foundation Newsletter

holdregeusters.org

“Giving Back to Education”

November 2014

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 20th. 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 more than \$12,500 contributed to the HPS Foundation, as well as additional matching funds of more than \$2,300.

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 20th 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 20th. <http://give2grow.razoo.com/story/Holdrege-Public-School-Foundation-2014>

We are lending a hand to a special project this year. In addition to asking for your general support, we hope that you will also choose to dedicate a donation to the Duster Pavilion project. (also see page 6)

Students Benefit from 2014 Grants

Teacher grant requests totaling \$5,734.72 were received from teachers and all of the requests were awarded for the 2014 teacher grant cycle as follows:

- \$952.72—Betty Amen—Toys for Active Learning
- \$1,428.00—Jerry Buck—High Exposure Lens for Yearbook Photographers
- \$3,354.00—Abbie Soneson—School Health Screening Equipment

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.

37 Cattle Company, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Rick Ackerman
 Ag Service Associates
 Ag West Commodities, LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Allen
 Allmand Brothers, Inc.
 Almquist, Maltzahn, Galloway &
 Luth, PC
 Anderson Bros. Holdrege
 Anderson Bros. Kearney
 Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Anderson
 Anderson, Klein, Swan & Brewster
 Ms. Monica A. Anderson
 Mr. Scott Anderson
 Bamford, Inc.
 Batie & Thorell Insurance Agency,
 LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Bauer
 Benjamin's Landscaping
 Bergman Ag, Inc.
 Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Berney
 Bilka Chiropractic
 Mr. & Mrs. BJ Blase
 Mr. & Mrs. John Boehler
 Mr. & Mrs. John Bosco
 Bosselman Energy
 Bradley, Elsbernd, Anderson, Kneale
 & Mues Jankovitz PC
 Mrs. Dana Brinkman
 Bruce Furniture
 Bruning State Bank
 Bunker Hill Farms, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Buskirk
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Butler
 Dr. Robert & Shirley Butz
 Ms. Sheila Caffrey
 Mr. & Mrs. E. Dean Carlson
 Ms. Erin Carlson
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Carlson
 Mr. & Mrs. Warner Carlson
 Casey's General Stores, Inc.
 Central Nebraska Steel
 Central Valley Irrigation
 CHS Agri Service Center
 Mr. & Mrs. Terry Christensen
 Mr. James Clayton & Mrs. Jean
 Keezer-Clayton
 Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Connell
 Country Cookin'
 Mr. Harry Dahlstrom
 Ms. Jane Dahlstrom-Quinn
 Dairy Queen
 Ms. Evelyn Denton
 Dier, Osborn, Cox & Nelsen, PC
 LLO
 Mr. & Mrs. David DiGiovanni
 DLR Group
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dunaway
 Eakes Office Plus
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Ecklun
 Ed's Electric & Plumbing
 Mr. & Mrs. Grant Ericksen
 Erickson Agency, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Erickson
 Mr. & Mrs. Lemoyne Exstrom
 Family Medical Specialties
 First National Bank of Holdrege
 First National Capital Markets

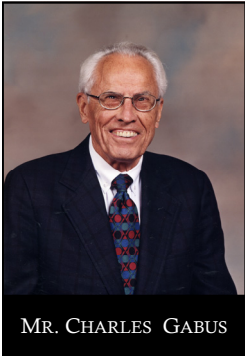
FirsTier Bank
 Ms. Charlene Fischback
 FOE Holdrege Aerie 3132
 FOE Holdrege Auxiliary 3132
 Four G Farms, LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Shane Frahm
 Fritz Bros., Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Fulk
 Ms. Danita Geisinger
 Gem Maker Hospitality Inc. dba
 Super 8
 Glenwood Telecommunications, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Gottsch
 Great Plains Agency, Inc.
 Great Western Bank
 Green Landscapes
 Mr. & Mrs. John Gustafson
 Gutterz Fun Center
 Mr. & Mrs. Jason Hale
 Hampton Commercial Construction,
 Inc.
 Mr. John W. Hasselquist
 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Hendrickson
 HHS Class of 1973
 Hilsabeck Sporting Goods
 Mr. & Mrs. Todd Hilyard
 Mr. & Mrs. Phil Hinrichs
 Dr. Grant Hinze DDS, PC
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Hoeft
 Mr & Mrs. David Hohensee
 Doug Hohman Family Dentistry, PC
 Mr. & Mrs. Allan Hohlfeld
 Holdrege Auto Parts
 Holdrege Family Dental Care, PC
 Holdrege Family Vision Clinic
 Holdrege Irrigation
 Holdrege Pharmacy
 Holdrege Public Schools
 HPS Duster Boosters
 Holdrege Soft Water Service, Inc.
 Ms. Phylis Stelling Hollamon
 Ms. Suzanne Hunke
 Mr. David Hunt
 Husker Irrigation, LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Huston

IES Commercial, Inc., Kayton
 Electric
 J & M Welding, Inc.
 Jeff's Electric
 Mr. & Mrs. Shaun Jensen
 Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Johnson
 Mr. Charles Johnson
 Mr. David Johnson
 Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Junker
 Mr. & Mrs. Randy Kaslon
 Kimberly Tax Service
 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Klein
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Klein
 Mr. & Mrs. Bradly Knuth
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Krohn
 Mr. & Mrs. Darrel Kroll
 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Larson
 Mr. & Mrs. D. Scott Latter
 Livestock Feeders Service, Inc.
 BT Ludeke, Inc. DBA K&D Motor &
 Electric
 Lunchtime Solutions, Inc.
 Lundeen-Isaacson Insurance Agency
 Mr. & Mrs. Swan Lundeen
 Mrs. Betty Luther
 Robert J. McCormick
 Mid-States Automation & Control,
 Inc.
 Midwest Ag Insurance
 Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Murdoch
 Nebraska Ag Specialties
 Jeanette M. Nedrig, CPA
 Nelson-Bauer Funeral Home
 New West Orthopaedic & Sports
 Rehabilitation, LLC
 North Park Animal Hospital
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Oman
 Paulsen, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Paulsen
 Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Pershing
 Person Law Office
 Phelps County Title Company
 Phelps Memorial Health Center
 Popple Construction
 Mrs. Amber Porter

Pro Building Supply, Inc.
 Quilter's Delight
 Ms. Carol Rapstine
 Real Estate Connection
 Runza Restaurant
 S & W Auto Parts
 Sail Inn Lounge
 Keith D. Samuelson Land Leveling,
 Inc.
 Sandy's Jewelry
 Sargent Irrigation
 Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Scheele
 Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schneider
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Schrock
 Mrs. LaVonne Schuller
 Shady Grove Farms, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Shoemaker
 Mr. & Mrs. John Skallberg
 South Central Diesel, Inc.
 Mrs. Edna Suhr
 Mr. & Mrs. Dee Swanson
 Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Thalken
 The Scoular Company
 The Screen Machine, Inc.
 Mrs. Ardelle Thompson
 Mr. & Mrs. David Thorell
 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Titus
 Triple J & D Lumber, Inc. DBA JD
 Lumber
 Mr. & Mrs. Troy Urbom
 Mr. & Mrs. James Van Marter
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Vandell
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Vetter
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Wagner
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Waller
 Mr. & Mrs. Monte Wendell
 Mrs. Vicki Westcott
 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 2015



Watch for information on the 2015 HPS Foundation Golf Tournament to be held next summer. 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



Social Studies instructors Chad Bailey and Todd Veal display the curriculum materials that were purchased through the Gabus endowment.

This year, HHS was able to update curriculum in the area of Social Studies. Textbooks and supporting items were purchased for a number of courses including, Basic History/Government, U.S. History, Government, World Cultures (Geography), Sociology, and Psychology. The print and digital resources will be used to help our students better understand the world.

Thanks to the Gabus family, their educational investment provided more than \$11,000 this year to help the school district make these purchases that will be available to our students for many years to come.

2014 Golf Tournament



The sixth annual 2014 HPS Foundation Golf Tournament was held in conjunction with the annual celebration of Swedish Days at the Holdrege Country Club on June 20th. The tournament was a great success with 44 golfers competing in perfect weather. Thanks to the tremendous support of business and community sponsors and participants, the HPS Foundation raised net proceeds for the tournament of more than \$8,300!



2014 Golf Tournament champions Scott Gardner, Tom Carlson, Erin Carlson, and Charlie Reeser



Health Screening

Elementary health screenings for the 2014-15 school year have been completed using the new hearing and vision equipment purchased with the help of grant funds from the HPS Foundation for Abbie Soneson, School Nurse. The old equipment was used for over 15 years and had a lot of wear and tear from being transported back and forth between buildings. Abbie said, “It was outdated and ready to be replaced! The new equipment is smaller and much easier to transport in between buildings and easy to use!”

Both the hearing and vision screener are digital, making it easy for the person administering the test to simply push buttons to change what the student can see or hear. “With the new vision machine, I have the option to use seven different testing slides to better adapt to the student’s grade level and can also adjust the test based on the needs of each individual student, whether it be identifying letters, pictures, or even screening for color blindness,” noted Soneson.

“The earlier we are able to identify students with hearing and vision problems the more successful they will be throughout their school years,” she remarked.



School Nurse, Abbie Soneson, uses the new equipment to conduct health screening on a student.



Teacher grant recipient Betty Amen assists a preschooler on a scooter.

Toys for Active Learning

The youngest Dusters are an active and busy group with all the world to explore. Thanks to a grant awarded to Betty Amen, preschool teacher, the HPS Early Childhood Education Center purchased age appropriate toys that encourage preschool children to engage in activities that stimulate a variety of skills for differing abilities—coordination, strength, spatial awareness, balance, steering, motor planning, and propelling with and without pedaling.

Two John Deere tricycles, two scooters, two Strider bicycles, and a wagon were purchased for use by the 34 students enrolled in the early childhood program this year.

Mrs. Amen commented, “This year, we have a student in a wheelchair who loves it when the other students pull or push him in the wagon. The students pulling/pushing him have just as much fun while building upper arm strength and practicing spatial awareness by avoiding obstacles. The Strider bikes and scooters teach the students how to balance. The bikes, scooters, and tricycles require the students to use such skills as steering, motor planning, and reciprocal motion. The students are also learning problem solving skills. One day the students tried to hook the scooter to the tricycle. They did not quite master that, but they did hook the wagon to the tricycle, which took three adults several minutes to undo!”



Yearbook in Focus (continued)

The new Tamron lens has enabled student photographers to get the shots they need in fewer events.

Mr. Buck commented, “By cutting down on the hours to cover numerous events, the yearbook staff has been able to move ahead in modernizing the yearbook. Using the extra time, the yearbook photographers are now using other photographic applications to work on a difficult theme for this year’s product.”



Jerry Buck and yearbook photographers Shelby Stehl, Lindsay Warning, and Haley Hixson (Nathan Garringer not pictured) look at recent pictures taken with the new high exposure lens.



High Exposure Lens Puts Yearbook in Focus

The purchase of a Tamron 70-200mm F/2.8 lens, thanks to the HPS Foundation, has enabled the HHS yearbook photographers to take many more quality photographs than before.

Grant recipient Jerry Buck, English/Journalism instructor and Yearbook Advisor, said, “The use of this lens eliminates countless hours of using Adobe Photoshop to adjust photographs taken with an inferior lens.”



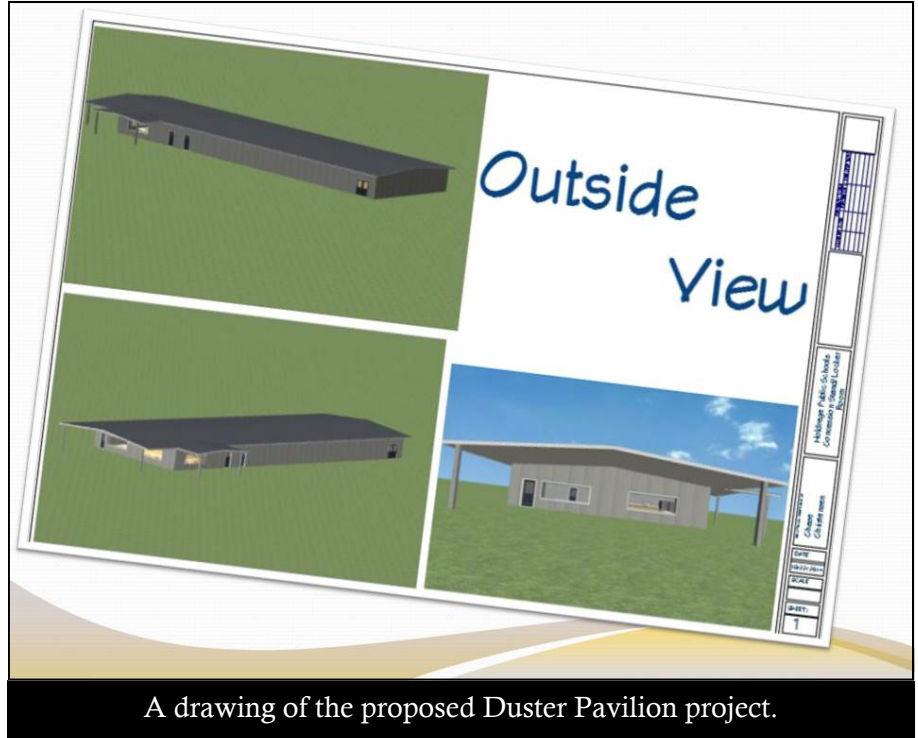


Join the Holdrege Duster Alumni Association

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.



A drawing of the proposed Duster Pavilion project.

The present HHS stadium concessions, restrooms, and shower/locker room facilities were constructed many decades ago. Some improvements have been made to the current stadium concessions, however, the space remains congested, has minimal climate control and lighting, and lacks adequate space to fully cover concession needs.

The restrooms and showers are in poor condition and are not handicapped accessible. Visiting teams currently use the multisport practice facility as their locker room to change and prepare for games, but must go to the other building for restrooms/showers.

The proposed Duster Pavilion Project provides for construction of a new facility to house the stadium concessions, restrooms/showers, and a locker/practice room. The 150x50 steel building will be located in the northwest corner of the stadium complex. Thank you for considering a donation to help make this project a reality!

<http://give2grow.razoo.com/story/Holdrege-Public-School-Foundation-2014>

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)

ADDRESS

EMAIL

YOUR GIFT IS TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **HPS Foundation**

SEND TO: **Phelps County Community Foundation, 504 4th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949**