

Holdrege Public Schools

Foundation Newsletter

holdregeusters.org

“Giving Back to Education”

November 2016

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 five community members who meet several times annually and work on various projects throughout the year.

HPS Foundation Committee

HPS Board of Education

Teresa Kroll, Chairman
Tim Gustafson
Shaun Jensen

Community Members

Chris Ecklun
Grant Ericksen
'Chelle Ham
Mary Oman
Jamie Rooks

HPS Staff

Todd Hilyard
Sandy Dunaway (Ad Hoc Support)



Take this opportunity to help the HPS Foundation grow!

GIVE2GROW is a one-day fundraising event on November 17th. 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 \$35,930 contributed, a bonus of \$500, and additional matching funds of \$10,351. After processing fees, the total available to the HPS Foundation and supported special projects was nearly \$44,700.

This year we are focusing on general support of the HPS Foundation.

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 on the arrow to go to the **Give2Grow** website. You can make your donation online now or by November 17th. Walk-in donations will also be accepted at the Phelps County Community Foundation office from 8:00am—7:00pm on November 17th.



Summary of 2016 Grants

Teacher grant applications are accepted annually until March 28th for consideration by the HPS Foundation Committee. The committee makes recommendations for awards to the Board of Education at their regular April meeting.

Grant policy stipulates that fund earnings and up to 10% of the expendable balance may be awarded. Due to lower fund earnings, limited grant funds were available for 2016. Teacher grant applications totaling \$11,672.22 were received, and two of the requests were awarded for the 2016 teacher grant cycle as follows:

\$1,656.12—Betty Bricker—Makerspace within the HMS Library

\$357.32—Melissa Ericksen—ELMO Visual Presenter for HMS 5th Grade Classroom



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—John Williams
 Ag West Commodities, LLC
 Alden & Ruth Carlson Remainder Trust
 Almqvist, Maltzahn, Galloway & Luth, PC
 Allmand Brothers, Inc.—Briggs & Stratton Corporation
 Mrs. Kathryn A. Anderson
 Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Anderson
 Anderson, Klein, Brewster & Brandt
 Anderson, Klein, Swan & Brewster
 Mr. & Mrs. Tony Badertscher
 Batie & Thorell Insurance Agency, LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Bauer
 Becton Dickinson
 Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Belgium
 Bergman Ag, Inc.—Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bergman
 Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Berney
 Bilka Chiropractic, LLC
 Mrs. Barbara Blackburn
 Mr. & Mrs. B. J. Blase
 Mr. & Mrs. John Boehler
 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Bricker
 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Brinkman
 BRJ Farms, Inc.
 Bruce Furniture & Floor Covering
 Bruning State Bank
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Carlson
 Central Valley Irrigation, Inc. & Central Valley Electric
 CHS Agri Service Center
 Clinch Enterprises
 Ms. J. A. Dahlstrom-Quinn
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis DaMoude
 DeWald Deaver Law Firm, PC
 LLO
 Dier, Osborn, Cox & Nelsen, PC
 Mr. & Mrs. David DiGiovanni
 DLR Group
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Drews
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dunaway
 Duster K-Lawn
 Eakes Office Solutions
 Mr. & Mrs. Chris Ecklun
 Mr. & Mrs. Matt Ecklun
 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ecklun
 Ed’s Electric & Plumbing
 Edward Jones Investments—Mr. & Mrs. Steve Allen
 Mr. & Mrs. Grant Ericksen
 Mr. & Mrs. LeMoyne Exstrom
 Mr. Kevin Faimon
 First National Capital Markets
 First State Bank of Holdrege
 Four G Farms—Todd & Nancy Garrelts
 Fritz’s Meat
 Ms. Ann Fuerst
 Great Plains Agency, Inc.
 Great Western Bank

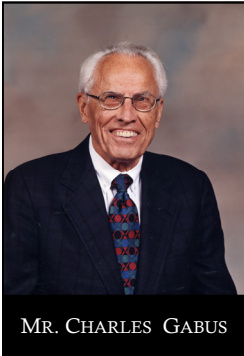
Green Landscapes, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Gustafson
 Gutterz Fun Center/Aviator Lounge
 HAR Livestock Dispatch, Inc.—Allen Anderson
 HHS Class of 1961
 HHS Class of 1966—Ms. Darlene Schaap
 HHS Class of 1972—Mrs. Linda Reiser
 HPS Duster Boosters
 Mr. & Mrs. Jason Hale
 Mr. & Mrs. Greg Ham
 Mr. John W. Hasselquist
 Mr. & Mrs. Dale Herrington
 High Plains Medicine
 Hilsabeck Sporting Goods
 Mr. & Mrs. Todd Hilyard
 Dr. Grant Hinze DDS, PC
 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Hoefl
 Doug Hohman Family Dentistry
 Holdrege Auto Parts, Inc.
 Holdrege Family Dental, LLC
 Holdrege Family Vision Clinic, PC
 Holdrege Irrigation, Inc.
 Holdrege Optimist Club
 Holdrege Pharmacy
 Mrs. Lexie Hollertz Frahm
 Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Holt
 Home Federal Bank
 Hometown Realty—Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pfeiffer
 Ms. Suzanne Hunke
 Mr. David Hunt
 Husker Irrigation, LLC
 J D Lumber
 Mr. & Mrs. Chadd Jacobson
 Janssen Auto Group
 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Johnson
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Johnson
 K & D Motor & Electric, Inc.
 Kimberly Tax Service

Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Klein
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Klein
 Mr. & Mrs. H. Stephen Kness
 Mr. Mogens Knudsen
 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Komenda
 Kroll & Sons Construction—Mr. & Mrs. Darrel Kroll
 Mr. & Mrs. D. Scott Latter
 Lincoln Federal Savings Bank
 Livestock Feeders Service, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Duane Long
 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Ludeke
 Lunchtime Solutions, Inc.
 Lundeen-Isaacson Insurance Agency
 Mr. & Mrs. Jon McClymont
 Robert J. McCormick, Attorney
 Ms. Shirley Messersmith
 Mid-States Automation & Control, Inc.
 Midwest Ag Insurance—Kent & Tammi Sturgis
 Mr. & Mrs. Dale Murdoch
 Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Murdoch
 Jeanette M. Nedrig, CPA
 Mr. & Mrs. David Nelson
 Ms. Jolene Nelson
 Nelson-Bauer Funeral Homes
 New West Orthopaedic & Sports Rehabilitation, LLC
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Olson
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Oman
 Outdoor Properties, LLC—Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Wells
 Perry, Guthery, Haase, & Gessford, PC LLO
 Mr. & Mrs. Kent Person
 Ms. Carole Peterson
 Phelps County Title Company
 Phelps Memorial Health Center
 Popple Construction
 Mrs. Amber Porter
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Powers

Principal Financial Group
 Pro Building Supply, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Raddatz
 Mr. David Raddatz
 Real Estate Connection
 Mr. & Mrs. LaRon Rooks
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl Root
 Mr. Cody Samuelson
 Keith D. Samuelson Land Leveling, Inc.
 Sargent Irrigation Company
 Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Schneider
 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Schoneman
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Schrock
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schroeder
 Dr. & Mrs. Steve Schulz
 Securities America—Mr. & Mrs. Terry Buskirk
 Shopko
 Sign Pro—Curt Bennett
 South Central Diesel, Inc.
 State Farm Insurance—Mr. & Mrs. Randy Grassmeyer
 Studio B Photography
 Mrs. Edna Suhr
 The Screen Machine, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. David Thorell
 Titan Machinery
 Tri-County Glass, Inc.
 Mr. & Mrs. Troy Urbom
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Vetter
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Waller
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Waller
 Wells Flying Service
 Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Wells
 Mr. & Mrs. Monte Wendell
 Mr. & Mrs. Shane Westcott
 Mrs. Vicki C. Westcott
 Mr. Gary Westergren
 Mr. & Mrs. John Williams
 Ziemba Roofing Company

*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.”

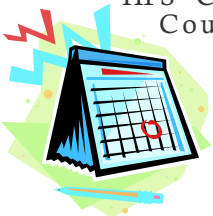
Looking Forward to 2017



Watch for information on the 2017 HPS Foundation Golf Tournament to be held next summer at the Holdrege Country Club. There will be flag prize incentives and cash payouts for the top teams.

Tentative plans are to hold the tournament on the Saturday of the annual Swedish Days celebration, June 17th.

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



Teachers display some of the curriculum acquisitions for the 2016-17 school year: Deb Erickson—family consumer science, Terry Shield & Don Kosmicki—instructional technology, Jeff Moore—agricultural education, and Jeremy Ham—industrial technology.

This year, HHS updated curriculum in the areas of agricultural education, industrial technology, family consumer science, instructional technology, special education, speech pathology, guidance, and English language learning. Thanks to the Gabus family, their educational investment provided almost \$1,200 this year to help the school district make these purchases that will be available to our students for many years to come.

2016 Golf Tournament



The seventh annual 2016 HPS Foundation Golf Tournament was held in conjunction with the annual celebration of Swedish Days at the Holdrege Country Club on June 18th. The tournament was a great success with 76 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 nearly \$9,000!



2016 Golf Tournament champions Tim Gustafson, Del Gustafson, Jeff Benjamin, and Monte Sheffield



HMS students Nathaniel Hastings and Cole Bailey work with Betty Bricker to create and program a LEGO Mindstorms EV3 robot.



Above, Matthew Garringer and Cole Bailey assemble LEGO robots. Below, Mrs. Bricker with Rylan Jensen and Keegan Harper as they begin their first Arduino electronics project.



According to Mrs. Bricker, “Businesses and industries of today are looking for people who are self-motivated, who can think outside the box, and adapt and work together as a team. This Maker program provides exactly that type of environment!”

If You Dream It, You Can Create It!

HMS media specialist Betty Bricker’s grant involved implementing a Makerspace program within the library. A makerspace is an inquiry based, do-it yourself space set aside for hands-on learning through exploration, construction, tinkering, or play. The students initiate the learning challenge and the teacher acts as the facilitator while they learn through investigation and play.

After being awarded the grant, Mrs. Bricker purchased three LEGO Mindstorms Education EV3 kits, along with two extension kits which allows students to build, create, and program robots to do anything they can imagine. Arduino kits, which are open-sourced prototyping platforms that give students experience with electronics, circuits, and programming, were also purchased.

Mrs. Bricker implemented the Makerspace in September and said, “Since the Makerspace is a student initiated learning process, there was no training necessary for the students. Their learning comes through investigation, experimentation, and trial and error. Their first challenge with the LEGO Mindstorms EV3 is to build a simple robot and identify how the different motors and sensors work and use basic programming to learn how the robot responds to the programming. Once they have an understanding of the process, their innovative creations could be endless. It is somewhat the same process for the Arduino kits. The first challenge for the students is to complete a lesson which helps them identify the components of the Arduino platform and the concepts of basic electronics. From there, they will have the knowledge of circuits and code to create their own exciting projects.”

The Makerspace program simulates real-world investigations and provides experience in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and 21st century learning skills for the careers of tomorrow. Using these tools, students can transform abstract STEM concepts into tangible learning experiences.

How Can You Help?

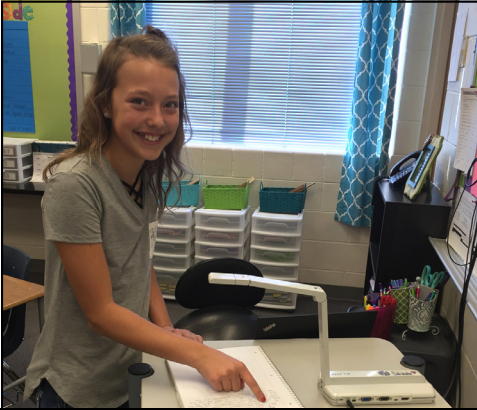
If you would like to make a donation or memorial in honor of or in memory of a loved one, to help us in our effort to “Give Back to Education”, please contact the school at (308) 995-8663 or send a check to Phelps County Community Foundation, HPS Foundation Fund.

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.





Avery Hurlbert shares a reflection paragraph about the Skittles experiment conducted in class.



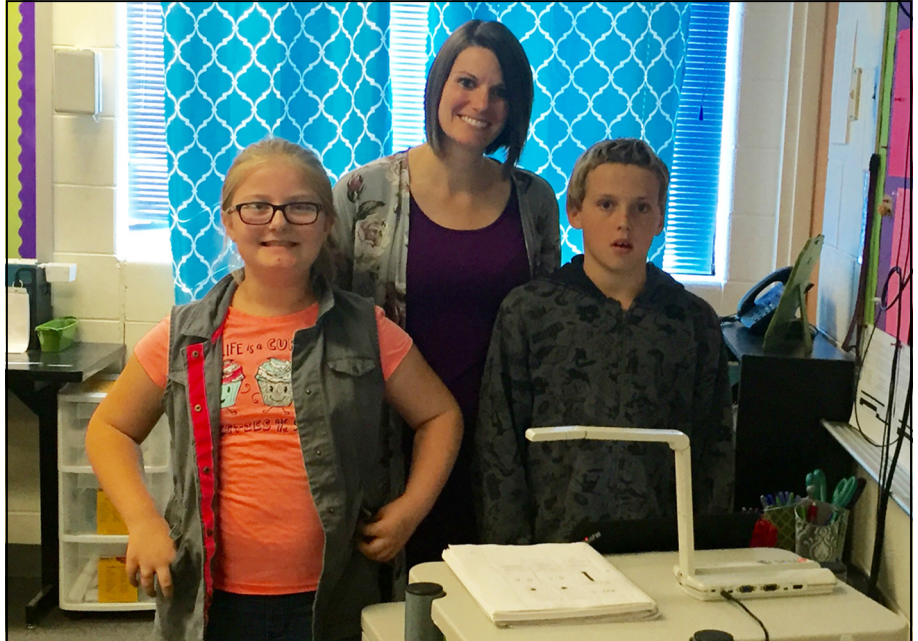
Connecting with Duster Alumni & Patrons

The HPS Foundation Committee reaches beyond the community to keep alumni and patrons abreast of the growth, development, and success of the HPS Foundation and the Holdrege Public Schools system via emailed newsletters and alumni recognition features.

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 email list, you can register from the Alumni tab at holdregedusters.org or call the Holdrege Public Schools Central Office at (308) 995-8663.

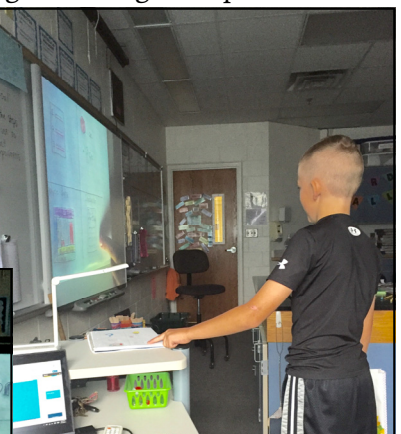
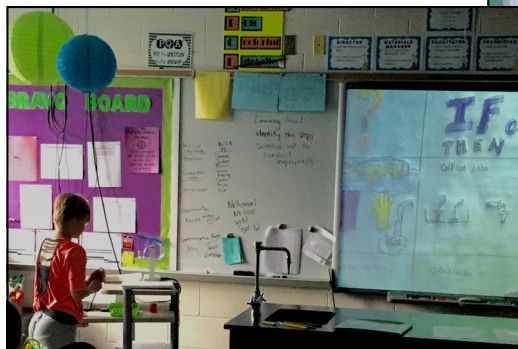
Elmo Makes Science More Interactive



HMS 5th grade science teacher Melissa Ericksen with students Gabby Klein and Chase Hopkins.

Grant recipient Melissa Ericksen, HMS 5th grade science teacher, was ready on the first day of school this year to use the Elmo document camera purchased with grant funds in her fifth grade science classroom. The camera helps display examples of the teacher’s and students’ interactive science notebooks for the entire class.

Mrs. Ericksen said that there was no training involved for the use of the document camera. She commented, “The teacher and students have been able to display their work to other classmates without having to hold it up or walk around the room to the different table groups of students. Also, when I am able to guide my students through teacher guided practice it lets me use the same format in my personal notebook that the students will be applying to their own notebooks. By being able to display this using the Elmo document camera, it makes it an easier visual for students to see instead of just writing or drawing the page up on the markerboard.”



Above, Daylen Scheele displays drawings using the Elmo document camera. At left, Anaica Erickson demonstrates the Scientific Method to classmates.