

2014 - 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



About the Foundation

The Kendrick, Juliaetta and 7 Ridges Education Foundation was established in February of 2013 by members of the KJ7 community in consultation with the district school board, local school administrators and other school staff. The Foundation is a private, nonprofit entity that represents an important public concern, and our board members work in close collaboration with the education professionals in our schools.

Our goal is to generate funding that will support educational excellence in our public school system, for the benefit of every child in our community. These funds will be derived through corporate contributions, individual donations, institutional grants and local fundraising events.

Board of Directors

Billie Waide, Tawnya Feldman, Dale Wolff, Sarah McDowell Lamont, Dirk Hammond, Jim Brocke, Polly Taylor Dennler

Ex Officio Superintendent Dr. Lindsay Park, Dylan White (ASB President: 2013-14), Ryan Lawrence (ASB President: 2014-2015), Layne Harris (ASB President 2015-2016).

Message from the Foundation Board

This is the Foundation's first annual report, and as a board composed of proud community members, we are inspired to reflect on this major milestone and all that we have accomplished together since we began this journey. We are excited about the Foundation's early successes and appreciative of the enormous support received from the community, as well as from alumni living all over the country.

Less than 3 years ago, we accepted the task of developing an education foundation for the KJ7 community, at the invitation of District Superintendent Cal Spangler. There was a great deal of new information for us to absorb and a large volume of work to be accomplished, so at times the task seemed daunting, and we were driven by the fear of failure to attain such a worthy and important goal. However, we were also honored by the faith placed in us, and excited about the Foundation's potential to expand educational opportunities for local students.

As we look back on our short history, we are thrilled by the positive impact the Foundation has already produced, and delighted by the opportunity our activities have afforded us to work directly with local youth, and get to know them better. We were truly moved to see the enthusiasm of elementary school applicants for the Innovative Student Grants program, and inspired by how the funds were used to create new learning activities. It was also wonderful to see graduating seniors benefitting from the first Benscoter Lyle Scholarships for

post-secondary education, which one student described as follows: "Receiving the scholarship was a game changer for me. I will work even harder because of the faith you have in me."

One of our most important challenges has been maintaining communications—getting the word out about the Foundation, keeping the community informed about who we are, what we do, what are planning, and what we hope to achieve in the future. But it has also been challenging to locate all of the people we need to keep informed, and to determine how we can best communicate with them. Our alumni database list is still quite incomplete, and we welcome any contact information community members can provide for former schoolmates. As an all-volunteer board, we have limited capacity for outreach and communications development, but we hope to increase our skills with social media, and to build on our connections with local media outlets (newspaper, television).

Of course, one of our most crucial ongoing efforts is generating funds to support Foundation programs. We are constantly seeking new ways to communicate effectively with potential donors, and to create projects that meet educational needs while inspiring continuing donations. It is extremely helpful for us to hear from community members and alumni about their ideas for enhancing the academic opportunities available to local youth.

History of the Foundation

The development process for the Foundation began in February of 2012, when the Planning Committee started to seek input from the community about the existing needs, potential benefits and overall viability of the project. After determining that ample support would be available, the committee began initial development planning.

Committee members spent a year gathering ideas and researching applicable regulations, legal requirements and operational guidelines, with the advice of a professional consultant who has expertise in this specific area. As part of this process, they conducted a thorough analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats pertaining to the project.

Armed with the promising results of these investigations, the committee embarked on the process of drawing up the necessary foundation documents, and submitting them for approval as required. All of these efforts met with success, and thanks to the dedication of planning committee members, district and school administrators, teachers and staff, parents and other concerned community members, all of the requirements were completed to establish a non-profit education foundation for our school district.

The Kendrick, Juliaetta and 7 Ridges Education Foundation is an organization created by and for our community, with the sole purpose of enhancing the educational opportunities available to our local youth. We believe that it will fulfill a vital role in providing a conduit for much needed financial and moral support that can significantly improve the quality of every student's school experience.

Mission and Vision of the Foundation

Our Foundation is dedicated to the goal of adding value to our school system through financial and in-kind contributions from individuals, businesses and granting organizations, as well as volunteer support offered by community members. It is a partnership between Foundation participants, district and school administrators, educators, parents and students, which can unify our community in support of our children's future.

Our Mission Statement

"The KJ7 Education Foundation is an independent, nonprofit, community-based organization designed to provide opportunities for stakeholders in the community to support and enhance the quality of education for all students in the Kendrick Joint School District #283."

Benefits to Students

Our Foundation is already transforming the lives of students in our community by providing financial support for school programs and scholarship opportunities for graduating seniors. Funds generated are being used to purchase supplementary scholastic materials, upgrade or replace essential equipment, and sponsor field trips or other educational experiences designed to enhance existing programs and curricula.

For high school graduates interested in pursuing higher education, the Foundation offers scholarship support to help students build on the strong basic foundation they receive in our schools, and improve their professional prospects. The scholarships will also provide incentive for students to excel in their studies, maintain high performance levels, and model responsible behavior.

Accomplishments

Since its formal launch in October of 2013, the Foundation has been working with enthusiasm and dedication to support the development of new opportunities for students in our district. Thanks to the generous donations of community members and local businesses and organizations, the Foundation has been able to establish or facilitate the following initiatives.

Funded Programs

Benscoter Lyle Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded every year to support the post-secondary educational goals of students graduating from Kendrick High School. Ten scholarships were awarded to members of the Class of 2015, and the total combined amount of the awards was \$25,000.

The Benscoter Lyle Scholarships are funded through a generous endowment gift to the Foundation from Richard and Vicky Benscoter, who believe that quality of life and ability to achieve life goals are rooted in education. Four generations of the Benscoter family were born and raised and worked their farms on American Ridge, so their own roots are deep in the community, and they are committed to ensuring its future. The scholarship fund also honors the memory of family members William and Dorothy Lyle, who likewise believed in and supported the Kendrick Juliaetta and 7 Ridges community.

In an endowment gift, the amount donated is invested to generate earnings, so the original donation is never spent. It continues to earn dividends that can be used to pay for programs or activities, and in the case of the Benscoter Lyle fund, the endowment will ensure that scholarships will be available to every senior graduating from Kendrick High School, for as long as the Foundation exists. This is such an important benefit for the youth in our community, and it inspires us in our work to build and expand the scope and range of Foundation activities, with the support of other community members and school alumni.

Teaching Resources Grants

This program offers teachers and administrators the opportunity to devise and deploy programs or projects that promote higher levels of student learning in new ways. The program was designed to encourage and reward creative approaches to accomplishing educational objectives.

During the spring semester of 2015, grants were awarded for three innovative teaching projects proposed by educators at Juliaetta Elementary School and Kendrick High School. The projects will be completed in the fall.

Innovative Student Grants

This program offers students the opportunity to devise and deploy activities or projects that will enhance their learning experience. The program engages students in the educational process by allowing them to propose classroom study in areas of special interest, and to design new ways for their classes to learn.

Six grants were awarded in the Spring semester of 2015, and the recipients submitted reports to the Foundation detailing the results of their activities.

Additional Activities

In addition to our funded programs, we have established annual events and activities designed to enhance communication and cooperation between local students and the community.

Community Building Day

Last year saw the first celebration of this wonderfully successful event, in which local youth donated their time and energy to help complete community projects, from landscaping to building renovation.

Reception for Seniors and Families

A special gathering was held to honor graduating seniors, and to give students and their families a chance to meet informally with Foundation Board members, teachers, school administrators, and others involved or interested in local educational development.

Locust Blossom Festival Float

The Foundation provided transport for Kendrick High School Seniors who created an Education Foundation float for the Locust Blossom Festival, and rode the float in the parade.

Charter Donor Campaign

This hugely successful campaign celebrated the Foundation's first official fundraising year by recognizing the trailblazing spirit of early contributors. Everyone who has given since the Foundation's inception has been designated as a Charter Donor, and these names will all go down in Foundation history. This designation honors the visionary pioneers who have helped to lay the cornerstone of a community effort that will surely transform our local educational system. The Directors wish to thank everyone who contributed and participated in the campaign.

To date the Foundation has recognized [number] Charter Donors, and the campaign is officially at an end. However, alumni of district schools can still qualify by donating before June 2016, as communications were delayed due to the complications of locating current contact information.

Students at Juliaetta Elementary School and Kendrick High School worked hard to coordinate a fundraising penny drive, which garnered more than \$500, and enabled every student in the district to qualify as a Charter Donor. This remarkable effort demonstrated the commitment of local youth to the enhancement of their own educational opportunities. The penny drive was so successful that it will be expanded to a community-wide annual event.

Special Appreciation

It would be impossible to describe the establishment of the Foundation without recognizing the visionary leadership of retired Superintendent Cal Spangler, who invited us to investigate the feasibility of an education foundation for our district, and then urged its development, collaborating fully in the process and providing constant support, advice and encouragement. He held the vision for the Foundation so firmly and shared it so skillfully with the exploratory committee, inspiring us with ideas about potential benefits the Foundation could offer, and motivating us to engage this complex task.

The District #283 School Board members sitting during the development period were instrumental in securing startup funds, and provided enthusiastic support for the Foundation's establishment. We are deeply indebted to past and present School Board members who have contributed to this effort in so many ways: Bud Henson (retired), Deb Klatt (retired), Don Parks, Steve McDowell, and Bert Brocke.

We also recognize the important contribution of Juliaetta's Zion Lutheran Church, which donated the proceeds from the sale of the church building to provide supplemental startup funds.

The Board of Directors expresses deep gratitude to all who assisted so steadfastly with the Foundation's development process. Without their support and encouragement, this exciting new community asset would never have made it past the planning stage.

Plans and Goals for the Coming Year

New Objectives

- ❖ Expand communications with the public, to inform the community about the Foundation and its activities through local publications, social media, and community presentations.
- ❖ Create an Education Foundation email update list for students, parents, teachers, community members, and other interested parties.
- ❖ Update and augment the alumni database
- ❖ Implement a "Welcome to Kindergarteners" program, with free t-shirts for the children, and notes of introduction to the Foundation for parents.
- ❖ Expand the annual Penny Drive fundraising event to include the whole community

Continuing Programs and Activities

- ❖ Innovative Student Grants
- ❖ Teaching Resource Grants
- ❖ Benscoter Lyle Scholarships
- ❖ Community Building Day
- ❖ Senior Class Reception
- ❖ Float in the Locust Blossom Parade



A Foundation Family

We wanted to include a wonderful example of a true-blue Foundation family that has embraced the organization and its mission, and is making the most of all it can offer. Angie Tweit is a teacher at Juliaetta Elementary School, and her children are enrolled at or recently graduated from district schools. She has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Foundation since the early development phase, and has encouraged her students and her children to take part in its programs. She was also the co-recipient of one of our first Teaching Resources Grants.

Here is how Angie describes the benefits of the Innovative Student Grant program in her classroom:

"The grants give students the opportunity to explore what interests them and further investigate questions they have been pondering. I would never imagine introducing circuit boards in kindergarten; however, one of my students wrote a grant to purchase a circuit board set and introduce it to the class. From the writing of the grant to the experiments in the classroom, this student took the lead and taught the class (including me, the teacher)! When something didn't work, this 5-year-old would go to the manual, troubleshoot, and try again—powerful learning in action. I saw an amazing ripple effect as other students in the classroom witnessed their peer taking charge of his own learning, instead of going to the teacher for the answers. What better way to prepare today's students for the challenges of tomorrow."

Angie has a daughter enrolled at Juliaetta Elementary, and here is what she has to say about the Foundation and its programs:

"I like the Foundation because it lets the kids who might not get a scholarship actually get a scholarship for college. I am in 6th grade and I am going to work hard in school so by the time I am a senior I might be able to get a Foundation scholarship and go to college to get a degree in criminal justice. This year I want to apply for a student grant to learn more about forensic science. I really like detective work and unsolved mysteries."

Angie's son Dylan was a recipient of one of four foundation scholarship awarded in 2014, and also served on the Board as a Student Representative. He had this to say about the Foundation:

"I was really amazed after attending my first board meeting to realize how much the community wants to see us succeed after high school. It opened my eyes to how fortunate I am to be from a community that believes in the younger generation. I was able to use my scholarship at the University of Idaho. I have enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp and will be able to enter as PFC-E2, thanks in part to the Foundation."

The Board is enormously proud of the accomplishments of students, school staff and other community members like the Tweits, who have already proven how our Foundation can expand the educational opportunities available in our district, all through the support of local citizens who care about the future of our region and the youth who call it home.

Our Donors

The KJ7 Education Foundation Board expresses deep gratitude to the many donors who have contributed financially and through volunteer or in-kind support from our inception to August 2015.

Everyone who has contributed since the Foundation's inception has received the honorary designation of Charter Donor, in recognition of their visionary spirit in supporting this exciting new enterprise.

The following listing unfortunately does not include in-kind donors, as our record-keeping system was not fully functional in our first official fundraising year. We thank all those who provided much-needed support, and we will give full acknowledgment and recognition to all future in-kind donors and volunteers.

Donors

Jim Bamberry
Dick and Vicki Benscoter
Bill Blewett
Mildred Brammer
Jim and Lori Brocke
George Brocke Jr.
Skip and Janell Chilberg
Colter's Creek Winery
Don and Julie Cooper
Darrel Craig
Curry, Inc.
Linda Dahl
Mark and Polly Dennler
Everett L. Farrington
Mark and Tawnya Feldman
Fritz and Cindy Fliger
Jim and Emily Fredenburg
Don and Marilyn Eichner
Gritman Medical Center
Craig Groseclose and Lorelee Ohrtman
Doug and Sharon Harris
Dirk and Nancy Hammond
Andrew and Cassie Heimgartner
Phil and Donna Heinen
Buddy and Alice Henson
Ruth Ann Hutcheson
Don and Terry Kerby and Family
Latah Federal Credit Union
Earl and Sandy Lawrence
Doug and Julie Lind
Jim Lohman
Dana Magnuson
John and Vicki May
Sarah McDowell
Steve and Carol McDowell
Hermina Meyer
Marlene Meyer
Tony and Cathy Moran
Dr. Lindsay Park and Cherie
Lyle and Sharon Parks
Mike and Dawn Quigley and Gibb,
Garner, Denver, and Derick
Horst and Loeda Reil
Dan and Patty Steigers
Ann Taylor
Dorothy Taylor
Mike and Becky Tefft
Wm and Marian Tunnicliff
Bill and Billie Waide
Jean Welty
Dean and Raina Weyen
Bill and Mary Wills

Memorial Gifts

Tribute for Doug Clayton
Mark and Polly Dennler
Phil and Donna Heinen
Tribute for Jewell Dennler
Jean Clemenhagen
Ellen Cosner
Charles Couch Family
Mark and Polly Dennler
Charles and Bernadine Easterbrook
Wanda Haskins
Dale and Arlene Laird
Mark Heimgartner and Bonnie Niemi
Fred and Marla Morscheck
Loren and Karan Morscheck
Ray and Cathy Morscheck
Don and Cindy Sangster
Bruce and Holly Scharnhorst
Margie Silflow
Gladys Sullivan
Dorothy Taylor
Carla VonLindern
Hal Walker and Brenda Taylor
Tribute for Alice Gruell
Mark and Polly Dennler
Don and Cindy Sangster
Rosalea (Whittum) Gray Sutton
Dorothy Taylor
Hal Walker and Brenda Taylor
Tribute for Freda Farrington
Mark and Polly Dennler
Everett L. Farrington
Andy and Angie Tweit
Tribute for Fred L. Foster
Ray and Janice Vaughn
Tribute for Rose Ann Holt
Mark and Polly Dennler
Tribute for James H. Hornberger, D.D.S.
Teri Tate Hornberger
Tribute for Megan-Erin Ingle
Don and Lawana Ingle
Tribute for Alma Lawrence
Mark and Polly Dennler
Tribute for Walt and Rowena Koepf
Lynn Heimgartner
Tribute for Darrell, Joel and Daren Manfull
Sally Manfull
Tribute for Don Millard
Mark and Polly Dennler
Tribute for Carl Murphey
Barbara Murphey
Tribute for Jack Parsley
Dorothy Taylor
Mark and Polly Dennler

Tribute for Beverly Ann Schupfer Morris

Mark and Polly Dennler
Tribute for Charles Taylor
Dorothy Taylor
Mark and Polly Dennler
Don and Cindy Sangster
Hal Walker and Brenda Taylor
Tribute for Eldon Taylor
Ann Taylor
Tribute for Doris Wilson
Cynthia Black
Tribute for Kenneth Wilken
Marga Blair
Margaret and Paul Kerbrat
Marlene Meyer
Marjorie Wilken,
David Wilken,
Eva Kirkland
Wayne Wilson

Honorary Gifts

Tribute for Dirk Hammond

Leland Slind

Tribute for Sarah McDowell and Chris Lamont

Mark and Polly Dennler
Dorothy Taylor

Tribute for Steve McDowell

Don and Ann Parks

Tribute for Charles Partee

Karen Kirkham

Tribute for Polly Taylor Dennler

Dr. Leslie Munson

Student Donors

All students enrolled in district schools during the 2014-2015 academic year earned the Charter Donor designation, through donations generated by their Penny Drive fundraising effort.

Financial Statement

CPA-prepared annual financial statements are on file with the Kendrick Joint School District office, and can also be requested from any Foundation Board member.

Summary of Financial Position as of June 30, 2015

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,323
Interfund, Due from	\$ 100
Investment securities	<u>\$ 499,191</u>

TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 520,614
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LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

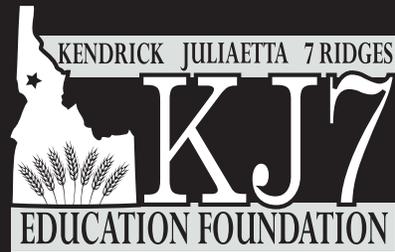
Interfund, Due to	<u>\$ 100</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 100
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Unrestricted	\$ 20,706
Temporarily restricted	<u>\$ 499,808</u>

TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 520,514
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 520,614</u>
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