





# 2013-14

# **Annual Report**



# A Message from the President





Dear Friends,

I am so grateful for the tremendous support this community shows all of our children....sharing your time, talent and treasure so that our kids have the tools they need to be ready to learn, to be challenged to reach higher, and to love learning. Through the Olathe Public Schools Foundation, our community's desire to support our students and teachers is realized.

We've captured the highlights of the past year in this annual report. Take a few minutes to thumb thru and learn more about how Olathe teachers have taken an innovative idea, applied for a grant, and used the proceeds to prepare students for their future. We also provide college scholarships, recognize outstanding staffers and work to support Olathe's most vulnerable students.

Our work is not yet done. With each kindergarten class entering school larger than the last...our ever-expanding district continues to be challenged by the state funding formula, a growing level of poverty among our families, and a world that expects more from graduating seniors.

Please join me in supporting Olathe's students and teachers with your gift. Include the OPSF in your company's sponsorship budget for 2015. Consider a planned gift which will help students long after we are gone. Include OPSF in your family's annual giving plans. Find a way that works for you...so that together we can work for the future of our kids.

With gratitude,

Brian Hamilton

OPSF Board of Directors President, 2013-14

Brian Hault

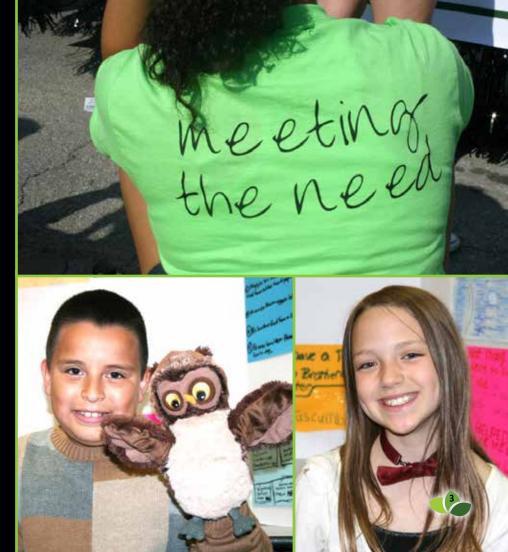




## **2013-14 Financial Statements**

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2014

Assets Checking Account CD Money Market Account Money Market Restricted Funds Investments Other Assets Total Assets	\$92,970 \$89,087 \$186,340 \$2,876,817 \$12,110
Liabilities Funds held on behalf of others	\$21,800
Net Assets Unrestricted Endowment Temporarily Restricted Increase in Unrestricted Assets	\$1,990,931
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,300,696



# District-wide Innovation Grant Rachel's Challenge

# Rachel's Challenge

Focusing on the concept that each one of us can make a positive difference in the lives of those around us, Rachel's Challenge reaches Olathe students at all grade levels with a message of hope and compassion. The Olathe Public Schools Foundation remains committed to providing resources to help staff guide students thru making positive choices. The focus in the 2014-15 school year will be staff training and introducing Kindness and Compassion (KC) Clubs at the elementary level. A culture shift is occurring in our Olathe schools. The new norm is treating others with respect, with kindness, with compassion.

Dream big!

**Choose positive influences!** 

Speak with kindness!

Start your own chain reaction!









# Wimmer Student Care Fund

## Student Care Fund It's hard to focus on science

homework when you worry about how your mom is going to get to chemo treatments in a car that won't run. Trouble at home weighs heavy on some students and makes learning difficult. The Wimmer Student Care Fund helps meet the need when families of our most vulnerable students face financial hardships. Established as a tribute to former superintendent Dr. Ron Wimmer, the fund allows the current superintendent flexibility to direct these non-taxpayer funds to families within 24 hours.



Backpacks Farmers Insurance, Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund, and Sunnyside Elementary Class of 2014: It's easy to assume that all students show up at school ready to learn. However, for a growing number of Olathe students and their families, back-to-school expenses are a real hardship. This year, OPSF volunteers stuffed 1,650 backpacks with school supplies donated by the community and purchased with grants from the above organizations.

### Student Care Fund

c/o OPSF 315 N. Lindenwood Olathe, KS 66062





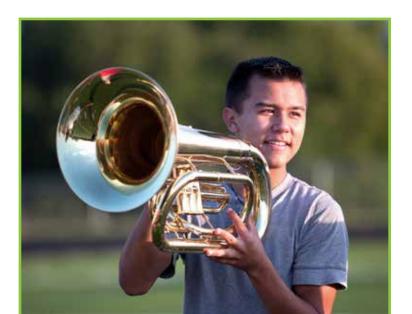
# The A.L.L. Fund

Students who start their college transcripts while still in high school are more likely to attend college upon graduation, be successful at college, and graduate from college. A college education can end the cycle of poverty for a hard-working, financially challenged student.

As part of Olathe's rigorous AVID curriculum, students are encouraged to take the ACT test and enroll in AP-level courses or College Now classes which allow them to earn college credit while still in high school. These options are fee-based and challenging for students who come from families that struggle

financially. Some AVID students find themselves taking the advanced level class, but not getting college credit because they can't afford the fees or tuition.

With your support, the ALL (AVID Lifetime Learners) Fund last year provided \$17,000 in scholarships and test fee stipends...to give these students a hand up towards a better future. While \$17,000 is a great start, we were not able to provide support for all deserving candidates. To support the ALL Fund, visit our website at www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org.





# **Recognizing Excellence**

## **Educator Excellence/CEERA Awards**

Each year, outstanding Olathe district educators and support staffers are chosen to receive the Educator Excellence and Classified Employee Excellence Recognition Awards. These valuable team members are nominated by their colleagues, students, parents and community members for excellence in meeting the needs of students in the classroom and for their work supporting our outstanding education system.

Each month, the OPSF Prize Patrol surprises two educators and two support staffers by bringing together the school staff, students, family and community members who present the unsuspecting recipients with checks for \$500.









# **Classroom and Extended Learning Grants**

Olathe students benefit when their teachers apply for OPSF grants. Their innovative ideas pave the way for learning excellence. Our donors fund classroom and building grants which support teachers and students in a wide range of learning opportunities such as active learning tools, equipment to measure cellular activity in organisms, Google Glass, new textiles for the art room, and funding for advanced equipment for photojournalism class. www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org.





\$96,000 awarded in 2013-14





# meeting the need

## **Scholarships**

With an endowment surpassing the \$2.9 million mark, the Olathe Public Schools Foundation provides oversight and management of 30 scholarship funds, disbursing \$92,750 in scholarships to 82 Olathe students this past year. Scholarships include debate and forensics, children of veterans, visual artists, and students going to school to become educators. For a list of our scholarship opportunities, check out the OPSF website at www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org.







# **Women's Giving Circle**

In April of 2014, the inaugural group of 45 women voted to fund a \$5,000 grant which encouraged female students in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math (S.T.E.M.) while attending a summer camp. "Powerful things happen when women gather," said OPSF board member Nancy Ingram. Each woman in attendance had donated \$100 for the opportunity to be a part of the

very first OPSF Women's Giving Circle. Future gatherings will be held twice a year. For funding and membership information, please contact the Foundation office at (913) 780-8222.











# 16th Annual Autumn Breakfast

Guests at the 16th Annual Autumn Breakfast helped raise more than \$100,000 which will directly benefit Olathe students and teachers. Empowered to make a difference by contributors, the Foundation provided more than \$610,308 last year to directly support Olathe students and staff.

The Foundation highlighted grant recipient teachers Libby Whittle and Kody Willnauer as students from Ravenwood and Regency Place elementary schools sang "Somewhere over the Rainbow" while playing ukuleles they received from a Foundation grant.

Breakfast guests granted more than \$5,000 in wishes submitted by Olathe teachers. The wishes, which were displayed on the breakfast tables, included welding boots for technical students, iPad applications for classroom learning, and CD players with headphones for reading exercises. It was announced during the breakfast that Commerce Bank would match the first \$5,000 in donations granting teacher wishes, extending the total of wishes granted to more than \$10,000.



Olathe Medical Center

**Presenting Sponsor Olathe Medical Center** 

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Validity Screening Solutions





# Save the Date! June 11, 2015 19th Annual Golf Classic



# 18th Annual OPSF Golf Classic

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation's 18th Annual Golf Classic was a resounding success, driving in a record \$93,000 in support of Foundation programs. Initiatives such as Rachel's Challenge, the FRED (Families Read Every Day) Program, and grants for innovative classroom projects are just a few of the ways the Foundation supports Olathe students and teachers.

# Presenting Sponsor Olathe Medical Center



### **Corporate Sponsors**

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Validity Screening Solutions VanTrust Real Estate Rain showers gave way to beautiful weather on June 12th for the 220 golfers at Prairie Highlands Golf Course in southwest Olathe. Nearly every golfer was rewarded for his or her day on the course as there were prizes for every hole and over 100 door prizes. In total, the Foundation gave away over \$10,000 in prizes donated by area businesses.

"The annual Olathe Public Schools Foundation golf outing is a first class event," said Dustin Avey, Piper Jaffray. "It is a great way to spend a few hours enjoying exceptional hospitality and a great golf course while raising funds to allow the Foundation to provide opportunities and support for students and staff in Olathe."



# Olathe Public Schools Foundation Directed Gifts



Olathe Northwest High School – Tensile Compressor:

As part of Olathe school's 21st Century Program, Olathe Northwest's Aerospace and Engineering program preps students for this nation's most rigorous college engineering programs. With the addition of a \$34,000 tensile compressor, made possible with a grant from the Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Charitable Trust, students are done testing their structures with a rope and a bucket of sand. In-depth data analysis is now possible, allowing students to alter their designs and re-test for improved results.

Ralph Dennis Legacy Fund: In the mid-1950s, a young basketball coach made a huge impression on his players. One of those players, Jim Kean, came back to Olathe this past year to honor Ralph Dennis and create a permanent legacy in his honor. Jim and his family made a \$150,000 gift, creating an endowment in support of the Olathe North men's and women's basketball programs.

Olathe Advanced Technical Center – Plasma Cutter: As architects were designing the welding workshop at the new Olathe Advanced Technical Center, welding instructor Gary Pommier asked them to leave a large open area with a computer drop and electrical access. He dreamed of finding resources to place a Plasma Cutter in that location, allowing his students to train on cutting edge, industry-standard equipment. First National Bank and the OPSF made his dream come true with their \$16,000 grant to purchase this area's first plasma cutter.







### **Honor Roll**

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation would like to thank those who have so generously given to support our educators and our students. (Gifts from July 1, 2013) Every effort has been made to make this report as accurate as possible. If you find an error or omission, please accept our apologies and notify the Olathe Public Schools Foundation at 913-780-8222. Thank you.

\$50,000+ Clay Blair Family Foundation James H. and Rebecca Kean Olathe Medical Center

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Capitol Federal Foundation Farmers Insurance Company, Inc. First National Bank First Student Garmin Mainstreet Credit Union Olathe Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Robert Brogden's Olathe

Buick-GMC Truck

\$5,000 - \$9,999 City of Olathe Commerce Bank Lifetouch Major Saver Holdings, Inc. Olathe Rotary Club Foundation Shawnee Mission Medical Center United Way of Greater Kansas City

\$2,500 - \$4,999 CBIZ CommunityAmerica Credit Union Consolidated Communications **Enterprise Bank & Trust** 

Fishnet Security, Inc. Bob and Mary Fry Heritage Electric Hollis + Miller Architects HTK Architects PA JE Dunn Construction Company KVC Health Systems, Inc.

Piper Jaffray \$1,000 - \$2,499 ALDI Inc. American Legion Riders - Olathe Chapter #153 Arvest Bank AT&T Atmos Energy Corporation **Baker University** Bank of Blue Valley Benevity Community Impact Fund Marlin and Judy Berry BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas City Kelly and Joy Boan Steven and Kathryn Carter Children's Mercy City of Lenexa Conner Women Continental Title Company Crawford Sales Company Debbie Swinney State Farm Insurance **Emporia State University** 

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### **Memorial Gifts**

When an individual has passed away, friends and relatives many honor that individual by making a memorial gift to the Olathe Public Schools Foundation.

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Peter Cunningham Czech Us Out Members Debbie Evers First State Community Bank Clair and Patti Habluetzel Patricia Hollon Kevin and Lynette Hudson Mary Hudson Rick and Chris Kennedy Jerry and Eunice Kolb Wayne, Aaron, Logan and Jordan Konopasek

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Manchester Park Social Committee

Trish Wimmer Mike and Kory Norris





Alina Walther

Hans Walther

Alexandra Wilson

### **Tribute Gifts**

Throughout the year, there are many occasions that offer the opportunity to honor a student, teacher, principal, school, individual or couple. You are invited to participate in our Tribute Gift Program by simply indicating the honoree on your gift form or check.

#### Dr. Marlin Berry

Kim Hawkins Olathe Association of Elementary School Principals

#### **Brougham Elementary Staff** Jo Prochko

Carl Daniels. Sr. Carl and Debora Daniels

Ann Eldridge Robert and Linda Wilhelm

#### Ruth Ann Hackler

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Christine Walker Kenneth and Donna Roper

#### **Brent Yeager** Olathe Association of Elementary School Principals



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**Mission:** Connecting financial and volunteer resources to the Olathe Public Schools to recognize and enhance educational excellence.



# You can help meet the needs of Olathe students.

Gifts can be made through the OPSF, which is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In most circumstances, donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

# Ways YOU can contribute!

# **Annual Fund Contributions**

A gift to the OPSF Annual Fund Campaign supports the programs listed in this annual report. Gifts may be made throughout the school year, via check, credit card or pledge.

#### **Bequests**

An attorney can advise you on the many ways to leave a gift to the OPSF while saving estate taxes and/or providing for a survivor.

### **Gifts in Memory**

Pay tribute to someone who valued the Olathe School District or whose life was changed for the better by a district employee. The Foundation will acknowledge your thoughtful gift with a letter to the honoree's family.

#### **Tribute Gifts**

Consider a gift to support the OPSF for a graduating senior, teacher or that special someone who has everything. Your contribution is tax-deductible and will be acknowledged by a gift letter to the honoree.

#### **Staff Campaigns**

District employees can support the Foundation with automatic payroll deductions. Contact an OPSF representative for details.

For more information contact Cynthia VonFeldt at 780-8249.



315 N. Lindenwood Dr. • Olathe, KS 66062 www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org • 913-780-8222

