



Madison Central School Educational Foundation Newsletter

"INVEST IN THE BEST"



From the Director, Beth Knuths

*"The Foundation is the harmony to the District's melody.
Neither is as rich and strong standing alone,
but together create a truly unique and beautiful result."*



The Madison Central School Educational Foundation, Inc.

- We believe in the importance of education.
- We gather resources, distribute them and are good stewards of the funds entrusted to us.
- We are fair, honest, consistent in all of our practices.
- We have the skills to promote what needs promoting and keep confidential what needs to be kept confidential and we know how to distinguish the two.
- We encourage our educators to develop ideas that will innovate and enrich their classrooms.
- We listen and are ready to react when educators and/or students have innovative ideas.
- We honor alumni, staff, donors, friends and volunteers and make them feel an integral part of our mission.
- We find ways to connect donors to projects they care about and show them how their support makes a difference.
- We model philanthropy at every opportunity, so our students today may become our donors tomorrow.

After 2 ½ years serving as the Foundation's second part-time director, I am resigning in order to have the flexibility to be available to family members who live out of town. I will miss working with the Foundation's Board of Directors, educators, students, donors and friends. I have had the privilege of working with a very passionate Board of Directors who worked as a team to keep the Foundation growing in order to have the biggest impact on our schools. I have enjoyed adding new scholarships and Endowment funds and working closely with generous donors who are motivated to invest in students' educational experiences. Coordinating the Foundation's Educator Grants has given me a greater appreciation of our educators, who make efforts to innovate their classrooms and enhance their students' learning, and of our Administration, who are very supportive. I am proud of what the Board and I have accomplished and I will always be a supporter of the MCSEF.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the MCSEF!
Beth Knuths

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From the Board — Postponed Philanthropy Dinner

The Board was sad to accept our director's resignation. Beth was passionate about doing work that makes a difference and she's a strong proponent of education. Under her leadership this past 2 ½ years, the Educational Foundation reached a new level. We have added new scholarships and Endowment funds, a scholarship reception event and some new fundraising campaigns. Beth found ways to connect donors to projects they care about and show them how their support makes a difference. Beth was especially good at getting our news out and showing people who we are and what we do.

With Beth's departure, we were struggling with the idea of hosting our annual Philanthropy Dinner originally scheduled for October 28. Our seventh annual Philanthropy Dinner was supposed to have a Harry Potter theme, but the Dinner seemed a bit daunting without an executive director in place. **We will postpone the Philanthropy Dinner.** We hope to hire a new part-time executive director soon and be in a better position to put on our Dinner next fall.

We thank you for your support which has allowed us to grow and further our efforts and goals to enhance education in Madison Central Schools.

Jennifer Gross, President Rod Goeman, Vice President Susan Hageman, Secretary

Deb Bloom Ed Fiegen Lisa Martin Charlie Moore Lori Norby Lee Threadgold Marli Wiese



Montgomery's and MCSEF support 2nd grade field trip

Eric Sinclair, president of Montgomery's, matched a MCSEF Norm Johnson educator grant award to send Madison Second Grade students to the Sertoma Butterfly House and Outdoor campus in November. "Last Spring, we received requests for more funds than we had available, so the grant committee decided to treat the three field trip requests differently," said Lori Norby, MCSEF Board member. "The Foundation asked Eric Sinclair if Montgomery's would be interested in being the partner-funder for the 2nd grade field trip and he agreed." Sinclair, who has been a past member of the Foundation Board of Directors, agreed to support the project because he believes that field trips are educational.



Lori Norby, Board member, with Eric Sinclair



Have A Seat! Auditorium Chair Sponsorship Program Supports Performing & Fine Arts Grant Fund



Individuals, families, alumni and businesses can sponsor seats in the Madison High School Auditorium through the Madison Central School Educational Foundation's "Have A Seat!" program. Proceeds go to the Performing & Fine Arts Grant Fund which provides grants to educators and programs within the Madison Central School District to enhance performing and fine arts experiences for students Pre-K through 12. The Foundation will affix an engraved name plaque on the seat's arm indicating the sponsor. Through this program, sponsors can leave their mark or legacy in the High School Auditorium, and at the same time, impact students through this new grant program.

For more information about sponsoring a seat, please contact:
madisoneducationalfoundation@k12.sd.us



Foundation Provides Coloring Activity at District Registration

Students were invited to color owl postcards for the Foundation's WHOOOO Is The MCSEF? marketing campaign. Jennifer Gross said, "We hope there are a few refrigerators in Madison decorated with an owl card and a few more families who learned about the Foundation and what we do." Thank you to Board

members Deb Bloom, Susan Hageman, Marli Wiese and parent volunteer Kirstie Meyer for volunteering to supervise the coloring activity.



***First grader, Danica colors owl cards at
District Registration Event***

Madison Regional Health System Provides Hand Sanitizer for Classrooms



The Foundation would like to thank Tammy Miller at Madison Regional Health System

for providing funds to purchase hand sanitizer for Madison Central educators for their classrooms. Madison Regional Health System staff and the Foundation Board of Directors wish our educators, staff and students a healthy school year. The bottles were distributed by the MCSEF at a recent district staff meeting.

Evelyn K. Jones Scholarship Awarded to Ten Students

Ten members of the Class of 2016 each received a \$1,000 Evelyn Krueger Jones Scholarship from the Madison Central School Educational Foundation. They are: **Sherif El-Gayar, Amanda Ricke, Sydney Swenson and Jordan Thompson**, who are attending South Dakota State University; **Hailea DeJong, Jason Gale and Jennifer Weist**, who are attending University of South Dakota; **Hadassah Meyer**, who is attending Brigham Young University; **Simone Droge**, who is attending University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and **Taner DenHoed**, who is attending Dakota Wesleyan University. These students graduated with a 4.0 or greater grade point average, which qualified them to receive an Evelyn Krueger Jones Scholarship.

Evelyn Krueger was a member of the Madison High School Class of 1930. After graduation, she obtained her teaching certificate at Eastern State Normal School and taught for one year in Juniata. She earned a B.S. degree in library science from George Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee and a B.S. in nursing from Yale University. Evelyn married Frank Jones and settled in Delaware where she worked as a teacher, librarian and nurse there and in Washington, D.C. Three years after her husband's death in 1996, Mrs. Jones moved to Bethel Lutheran Home in Madison, where she passed away on September 28, 2001. The couple had no children and were philanthropic, giving back to their communities to support causes they felt were important, such as higher education.

The Madison Central School Educational Foundation was one of the recipients of the couple's philanthropy. The Evelyn K. Jones Endowment's earnings are used to fund these scholarships in her name. Dr. John Sweet, former District Superintendent, credited Evelyn Jones' generous gift as being the impetus that really got the Educational Foundation going. **The MCSEF has awarded 79 Evelyn K. Jones Scholarships since 2004.**

Susan Hageman, MCSEF Board member commented: "This year, \$20,000 in scholarship money—a new record!—was awarded to members of the Class of 2016 through the generous support of our scholarship donors. I have no doubt all of our scholarship recipients through continued hard work and determination will be successful. They should be very proud of their accomplishments."



Pictured are seven recipients of the Evelyn K. Jones Scholarship



Olivia Boldt Received the Wenk Family Scholarship

Senior Olivia Boldt received a Marcia and Ray Wenk Jr. Family Scholarship to attend the University of Nebraska Cornhusker Summer Marching Band Camp in Lincoln in July. She participated in leadership and percussion clinics during this camp and performed in the final camp performance at Memorial Stadium. "Thanks to the Wenk Scholarship from Marcia and Bud Wenk, I was given the opportunity to experience an unbelievable five days at the UNL Cornhusker marching band camp. This camp not only allowed me to gain new skills, but I was surrounded by musicians from around the area who share my passion. I learned many new techniques and observed effective teaching styles that I can bring back to Madison High School. I am ecstatic to bring all of this new knowledge and make the high school drum line grow as a unit. This scholarship has undoubtedly given me the proper tools needed for success pertaining to myself as well as the Madison High School marching band," said Boldt.

Boldt has been playing snare drum in the Spirit of Madison Marching Band for four years. She will be drumline section leader again this year. "Olivia is a very talented and committed student. She was selected by the scholarship review committee because of her willingness to share what she learns with her fellow band members," said Foundation Director, Beth

Knuths. Boldt, a percussionist and marimba player, participated in All-State Band two years and participated in All-State Orchestra last fall. She plays percussion in the Madison Community Band during the summer and also is a member of Pursuit Drum Line of Sioux Falls. Boldt also participated in SuFuDu for three years.

The Marcia and Ray Wenk Jr. Family Scholarship was designed to help students attend extra-curricular summer camps and workshops to learn leadership skills and skills pertaining to their activity or sport which they can bring back to Madison High School to impact their program and fellow students.



Olivia Boldt





Shan and Theophilus Represent MHS at HOBY

Juniors Kevin Shan and Anna Theophilus recently attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership camp at Dakota State University. Both students received scholarships from the Madison Central School Educational Foundation to represent Madison High School at the Camp in June. Shan said, "Over the course of the four day seminar, all of us ambassadors made new relationships, received insightful advice from state leaders, and learned invaluable life leadership skills." Theophilus added, "The leaders at HOBY encourage all of the student ambassadors to have a goal of 100 service hours within the next year. This goal has opened my eyes to all of the possible ways of helping people in my community, and has given me an even greater desire to want to make a difference." Shan concluded, "After coming home from HOBY and reading letters from fellow ambassadors and staff, I really realized how amazing this seminar is and how appreciative I am for the opportunity to attend. It brings society's future leaders together and teaches them how to effectively lead to make positive impacts on the world. I plan on returning to HOBY as a volunteer staff member in the future, and I will try to utilize what I learned at HOBY to serve my community and beyond. Thank you MHS and MCSEF; HOBY was truly OUTSTANDING!"

Foundation President, Jennifer Gross said, "The Foundation has supported students to attend this program for a number of years now. Students like Kevin and Anna return from HOBY Camp with confidence in their leadership skills and a commitment to service to their school and community."



Alum gives credit to MHS Forensics Programs and Coach Trudi Nelson



Kim Sweet Rubenstein

When Kim Sweet Rubenstein '97 heard about the Jeff and Trudi Nelson MHS Forensics Endowment Fund, she was quick to show her support and encourage her fellow debate and oral interp friends to support the fund to honor Trudi Nelson, their coach. Kim is Local News Editor at the Kitsap Sun in Bremerton, Washington. Kim told the Foundation, "I have what I consider a successful career in journalism because of the skills nurtured in forensics. The four years I devoted to debate and oral interpretation in high school set the stage for a career path that requires critical thinking, research, creativity, the ability to think on my feet and the courage to speak up."

"I was lucky to compete in debate and forensics during the Trudi Nelson era. She was fiercely competitive. She saw the potential in all of us, and nothing was more exciting for her -- or us -- than watching members of the team bring home a state championship in debate or oral interp or qualify for the national tournament. And many people did during her years as coach."

"Spending every weekend from October to March at tournaments was intense -- and exhausting -- for a high school student. But I will say that Trudi and debate were a big influence in helping me develop persistence and a "stick-with-it" attitude."

The interest off this new endowment will be used to enhance the debate and oral interp programs at Madison High School for many years to come. Contributions will be accepted at any time. Honorariums for Coach Trudi Nelson will be put into this fund.



2016 Memorials (June 1 – September 1)

Bert Verhey

Diane Aus
Susan & Dave Hageman

JIM WINESBURG

Students on Jim's bus route:
Jenna Doblar Latham, Chelsi Johnson Bade,
Ashley Johnson Lauck and Kaylee Johnson

Myron Nelson, '62

Marilyn & Gene Hexom
Jean Tommeraasen
Barb Feige
Diane & Myron Plack
The Nelson Family

Susan Reinart

Beth Knuths
Diane Aus
Rhonda Johnson

Leo Koppinger

Anonymous

Robert Tunge

Dr. Cotton Koch

George & Marcene Scully Scholarship

Lori Wilbur

Jim Thompson Memorial Ag Scholarship

Karen Tullos
Lyle & Joyce Poppen

Glen Wilbur Memorial Scholarship

Lori Wilbur
Craig Wilbur

***STAFF**

***Alumni**



Match Your Gift

MANY CORPORATIONS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED FOUNDATIONS MATCH CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THEIR EMPLOYEES OR RETIREES TO THE MADISON CENTRAL SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION. IF YOUR COMPANY HAS A MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM, YOUR GIFT COULD DOUBLE OR TRIPLE IN VALUE. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR PERSONNEL OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Our Mission



Our Mission:

To facilitate private and corporate support for Madison Central School District.

Purpose:

The Madison Central School Educational Foundation, Inc. is organized to promote, enhance and enable educational opportunities and school improvement activities in the Madison Central School District.

Contributions:

The 501(c) (3) status allows individual donations to the Foundation to qualify as charitable giving and tax deductions. It also allows the school district to receive grants and other funds from foundations and organizations.

Invest in the Best!



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