



Foundation
for Educational
Excellence
School
District 300

Annual Report 2004

Enhancing and extending learning opportunities for students through school, community and business partnerships.



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL R. SCHMIDT/ THE COURIER NEWS

Foundation-funded projects in action: H. D. Jacobs High School students use forensics science methods to learn, above, and Meadowdale Elementary students enjoy a media center program, left.

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PHOTO COURTESY DAN SZPEKOWSKI/PmS



Message from the Foundation Chair and District Superintendent

The School District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence marked its second year in 2004. This is our first annual report to our community that highlights our Foundation's accomplishments, leadership, membership and community support.

Fourteen tireless volunteers raised nearly \$90,000 last year to support initiatives in the classroom that enhance and extend learning opportunities for all our students. Each school in D300 benefited in some way.

For this, we would like to thank the Foundation's Charter Donors, without whom none of the projects now enriching our schools would be possible. (Please see back page for sponsors.) We also are grateful to the District 300 school board for bringing in a professional consultant to help form the Foundation and move it in the right direction. Thanks also to the dedi-

cated members of the Foundation's Committees, including Leadership, Science and Technology, Fine Arts and Literacy and the various standing committees.

It is an honor to serve a community that so deeply cares about our children's education. We look forward to an exciting future that will include our first community-wide event on February 13, 2005 at Jacobs High School to help fund Fine Arts projects, and we encourage you to attend. We also will begin forming a District 300 alumni network, among other endeavors. With everyone's continued support and hard work, no challenge will be insurmountable.

Sincerely,

Herbert H. Beck, Jr.
Foundation Board Chair

Kenneth M. Arndt
District Superintendent

Statements of Financial Activities

For Year Ended June 30, 2004 With Summary Financial Information for Year Ended June 30, 2003

Revenue, Gains & Other Support	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
GRANTS		
Foundations	\$ 15,000	
CONTRIBUTIONS		\$ 6,875
Individuals and businesses	68,212	
IN-KIND GIFTS		
Consulting-foundation development	16,896	14,700
Printing and publications	2,500	
Investment income	<u>167</u>	<u>5</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	102,775	21,580
Functional Expenses		
Program Expenses	64,495	5,675
Management and general	12,190	7,350
Fundraising expenses	<u>15,217</u>	<u>7,350</u>
TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	91,902	20,375

To request a copy of the School District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence 2004 Audit conducted by Nancy Guthrie, CPA, of Business Matters in West Dundee, contact Cathy Storm at (847) 426-1300.

Foundation Accomplishments

Leadership: A \$2,000 Service Learning program was funded at Lake in the Hills Elementary School to develop leadership skills and good citizenship by incorporating service-learning into grades K-5.

The school-wide project was



Lake in the Hills Elementary students help clean up Barbara Key Park as part of a Foundation-funded Service Learning project.

launched in conjunction with the village of Lake in the Hills' "Make a Difference Day," centered around cleaning up Barbara Key Park. Each grade level then developed a theme and each class adopted a related project. Training and mentoring was provided by Jacobs High School students.

Visual and Performing Arts:

Two Raku pottery projects totaling \$5,500 provided hands-on experiences for high school students and demonstrations by a highly skilled expert. The committee also explored a variety of art education programs with the hopes of introducing an elementary art education curriculum in District 300.

Science and Technology: The Foundation funded more than \$34,000 worth of projects related to science and technology that enabled thousands of District elementary, middle and high-school students to utilize state-of-the-art equipment and resource materials designed to enhance science and technology education. Purchases included digital, hand-held and stereo microscopes, equipment for a high-tech project room, a notebook computer program and science-related media center materials.

Literacy: The Foundation's Literacy and Media Center Enrichment Committee developed and conducted a survey and determined that middle school students needed improved reading scores and media center materials. The Foundation funded a

project to bring Neal Shusterman, the award-winning author of books that include *Shadow Club*, for presentations in all the District middle schools Nov. 15-17, 2004. The author visit was shared with the Algonquin Area Public Library District and Barnes & Noble bookstore at Spring Hill Mall. Classroom book sets were purchased to teach all seventh-grade students, and each school was given \$1,500 to supplement their media centers.

Innovation: The Foundation funded an initial round of 12 Innovation Grants throughout the District for the 2003-04 school year and nine more for 2004-05. Grants of up to \$500 funded projects ranging in focus from computer training, reading and study-skills enhancement to music and environmental studies.

Algonquin Lakes Elementary students participating in an Innovation Grant project focused on television-news production are interviewed by a newspaper reporter after their first broadcast.



LAURA MILANI/ALESSIO

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** Represents 100% participation by D300 Foundation Board of Trustee members, who personally donated a total of more than \$11,500. Present and past Board members include Laura M. Alessio, Andy Alpeter, Dr. Kenneth Arndt, Herbert H. Beck, Jr., John D. Court, Brenda Curry, David A. Dattilo, John Fenzel, Mary C. Fioretti, Ed Garafalo, Wendy Harries, Ian Lamp, Diana Miller, Joe Motyl, Larry Narum, Craig Rakow, Dr. Donna Schuring-Redmer, Mark Seigle, Kristin Weck and Judy A. Young.*



PHOTO COURTESY DAN SZPEKOWSKI

SCHOOL DISTRICT 300 FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Herbert H. Beck, Jr., *Chair* Donna Schuring-Redmer, PhD, *Vice Chair of Programs and Acting Treasurer* Mary C. Fioretti, *Secretary*
Laura Milani Alessio Kenneth M. Arndt, PhD John D. Court Brenda Curry David A. Dattilo Ed Garafalo Ian Lamp Diana Miller Joe Motyl Craig Rakow Mark Seigle



I want to help enhance educational opportunities for School District 300 students!

All donations are tax-deductible, as the Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Please make check payable to District 300 Foundation for Educational Excellence.

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