



SALINA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

community connection

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

salinaeducationfoundation.com 785-309-4729

Fall 2015

Classroom grants to enhance student learning • Exceptional teachers to staff our classrooms

Fall Breakfast—READ!

The Fall Breakfast is a special event when we recognize donors who make featured grants like 7 Wonders of Salina and Central Book Club possible. Breakfast guests learned that Coronado third graders read the William Allen White Award-winning book, *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs*, and then determined the **7 Wonders of Salina**. The students chose these seven wonders: Moka's, Bel Tree Farm, Indian Rock, The Bombers, K State Salina, Jumpin' Joe's, and Great Plains Manufacturing. Students visit each "wonder" and go behind the scenes to learn fun and important information about each place. Guests watched students touring each of the 7 wonders in a video created in collaboration with South High. The students challenged guests to answer four questions about Salina. (See insert box below)



Coronado students



Central High students

The **Central High Book Club** is a diverse group of students who meet monthly to discuss books that they have read. Students shared a book promo that they created and spoke about the process of selecting the book the group would read each month. While every student has a preference for a particular genre, they all are open to the monthly selection and agree that reading different books gives them insights that they otherwise might not have.

Not to be outdone, the trustees listed book recommendations on a special bookmark created for the event. Student artwork adorned the front, and book selections were printed on the back.

The SEF recognizes the importance of reading and has long supported supplemental reading materials

See FALL BREAKFAST, page 2



Want to see the trustee book recommendations? Call Pam McIntyre, 309-4729, and she will send you the giraffe bookmark!

Can you answer these questions from Coronado third graders' grant, 7 Wonders of Salina?

1. Who founded Salina and in what year?
2. In what year did the first public school open in Salina?
3. In 1922 Bob Kindel opened a restaurant in Salina that has become famous in America. Can you name this restaurant?
4. What local person invented a game that is sold worldwide?

(Answers on page 4)

Breakfast Sponsors

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VIP Donors

A very special group of donors is close to our hearts—the **Teachers and Staff** of USD 305. Over 300 of them donate to the SEF, either monthly through payroll deduction or by giving a one-time gift. They also generously name the SEF to receive **Memorial Gifts**, like Stewart Elementary teacher Lori Radiel did recently to honor her father, Ivan Seyfert.

Business Partners are critical to the success of our grant programs. A well-educated work force helps strengthen our community. The SEF commitment to project-based learning helps students learn to collaborate and problem-solve. Our business partners agree that our work is important! Over 150 businesses join us each spring.

Class Reunions donate to the SEF to honor their classmates and the excellent education they received in Salina Public Schools. This year, the Class of 1950, celebrating their 65th reunion, “paid it forward” to the current students of Salina!

Groups and Organizations donate to the SEF. Salina Rotary Club and Delta Kappa Gamma, Mu Chpt. are examples of two organizations that are loyal donors to the SEF.

YOU! Whether you give annually, make the SEF your organization to receive gifts in honor of the friend, teacher, or loved one; whether you give birthday and Christmas gifts to that someone who has “everything” and above all, values education; whether you are seeking a tax-exemption—whatever your reason, know that we appreciate your gift and promise to use it to benefit the teachers and students of our



Donors Janice Ostrom and Maxine Strawn

public schools.

Over \$560,000 in grants has been awarded because of you, our donors—thank you!

Fall Breakfast from page 1

and projects that help teachers engage students in reading. That commitment by the trustees runs deep. Roxanne Bell, Chair of the SEF, told the assembled guests about her grandmother, Sofia Sausen. Sofia and her sister, Lucy, were both teachers in the early 1900's in a one-room school

house in Barton County. The sisters instilled in her the love of reading and the importance of education. Now Roxanne, serving on the Allocations Committee which awards grants, continues her family's legacy in support of public education.



Roxanne Bell's grandmother Sofia Sausen and students

Coming! May 25, 2016 at the Stiefel Theatre



Did you know?

The Annie E. Casey Foundation (www.aecf.org), which focuses on the well-being of children, reports that the biggest predictor of a child's school success (and an indicator of a potential drop-out) is tied to whether or not a child can read at grade level in the **third grade**.

Meaningful Field Trips

More than likely, one of your favorite things about your school years was the field trip. The SEF wants our students to be able to visit important places to see firsthand what they have been studying in their classrooms. One such memorable trip was provided by an **Outside-the-Box Grant**. Brandon Cheeks, Lakewood history and government teacher, received

a grant to take all Lakewood 7th graders to Topeka to visit the State Capitol, the Brown vs. Board of Education Historical Site, and the Ritchie House (Underground Railroad). Students observe, learn, and remember more information because of their trip to these three historical sites. One student even observed that Governor Brownback wore a lime green tie!



Lakewood students with Governor Brownback

In their own words, Lakewood students:

State Capitol

In the middle if you look up it will make you dizzy. There were a lot of paintings about the history of Kansas, there was one about Lewis and Clark, and also one about the Indians. The building is the second highest capitol building in the U.S. There is even an Indian on top, pointing an arrow towards the North Star.

Brown vs. Board of Education

The Brown vs. Board Building was very interesting. We got to go around to some of the classrooms and look at pictures comparing the black and white schools. We also learned about other people and groups who stood up for what they believed in.

The Ritchie House—Underground Railroad

The Underground Railroad was a very interesting thing to learn about. There was a couple named John and Mary Ritchie who helped the slaves escape. John went on fantastic journeys to pick up slaves and bring them to the house. They gave them food, water and clothes, but the slaves couldn't stay there forever. If slaves were caught trying to escape they were hung, beaten, or killed. In Topeka there was a cave under the highway that is there now.

The **Outside-the-Box Grant** is awarded annually for projects that take students outside the typical classroom setting. 7 Wonders of Salina is another example of a great field trip!

Welcome New Trustees

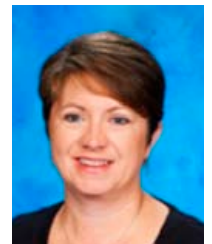
Valerie Andrews and husband Geoff, history and government teacher at Central High, have a 2 year old son, Reid Andrews. Valerie is a graduate of Ellis High School and Kansas State University. She has been a resident of the Salina community since 2006. She is an Advisor Assistant at the Ebert-Stein Group, Waddell and Reed. Valerie will serve on the Finance and Investment Committee.



Bill Sturges and wife Jennifer have had illustrious careers in public education. Jennifer recently retired after 40 years in the classroom, and Bill retired from USD 305 as the district accountant. He has worked for 33 years in both public and private accounting. Bill and Jennifer have two children: Megan, who is President and CEO of Junior Achievement in Kansas and Brian, who is principal at Wakefield K-12 schools. Bill will serve on the Finance and Investment Committee.



Melinda Eitel is the teacher representative to the Board of Trustees. She is married to her high school sweetheart Dave, a loan officer at Sunflower Bank. They have three children: Bryan, Lindsay (a LIFT recipient), and Lauren. Melinda is a kindergarten teacher at Stewart Elementary and has taught for 23 years in Salina Public Schools. She will serve on the Allocations Committee.



Johnna Vosseller joins Nedra Elbl as a representative from the Board of Education. Johnna is currently serving as president of the board. Johnna is a CPA with Clubine and Rettele and will serve on the Activities and PR Committee.



Our Mission

To promote and support educational excellence by providing resources to enhance opportunities for the students and staff of Salina's public schools.

As part of this mission, the trustees of the Salina Education Foundation:

Manage and grow endowment funds, grants, and gifts for specific schools, programs, and scholarships

Award grants to teachers seeking to enhance instruction

Identify and support, through forgivable loans, outstanding Saline County residents seeking to become teachers in USD 305

Build community awareness and support of the Salina Education Foundation

Our Vision

Uniting the community to support excellent public schools

2015-16 Board of Trustees

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A talented quintet from South High's Orchestra performed at the breakfast



YES! I want the BEST for all students in the Salina School District! Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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Salina Education Foundation
PO Box 797
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Answers to questions on page 1.
 1. W.A. Phillips, 1858
 2. 1865
 3. Cozy Inn
 4. Ken Cochran,
 Pop-A-Shot