



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

From the Chair

It is my privilege to serve as the chair of the Salina Education Foundation for the 2008-2009 school year. Our third annual "Back to School Breakfast" got our year off to a great start! I hope you were



present to hear our special speaker, Dr. Andy Tompkins, "swing" with the Central Jazz Band and see a clever skit,

"T-E-A-C-H-E-R," presented by the South High Advanced Theatre students. It was a wonderful event!

Research has shown, over and over again, that the single most important factor in student achievement is the quality of the teacher. The Salina Education Foundation is committed to providing resources that will help ensure the quality of our teachers. We award 21st Century Advantage Grants to encourage teachers to think creatively as they teach our young people and Sudden Opportunity Grants that allow teachers to take advantage of great teaching opportunities that arise unexpectedly. We were thrilled to be able to offer a new grant this year called "Outside the Box." This grant will allow teachers to explore the world outside their classrooms. Watch for Karen Bastin's South High students' project to develop an oral history of Salina in collaboration with the Smoky Hill Museum and Community Access TV.

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First LIFT Recipients Begin Teaching

The first day of school marked an important milestone for the SEF: two LIFT recipients began teaching in USD 305! Kaysie Rowson (right), graduate of South High School and Kansas Wesleyan University, is teaching 8th grade math at South Middle School, and Darcy Leech (left), graduate of Central High School and Bethany College, is teaching English at Central High School.

Kaysie reports that she loves the staff and students at South Middle. Darcy is proud to be teaching next door to Karen Abker, the teacher that inspired her to teach high school English.

Extraordinary students becoming extraordinary teachers—that's what the LIFT program is all about!

Partnerships Support New Projects

Three partnerships have provided incredible opportunities for our students:

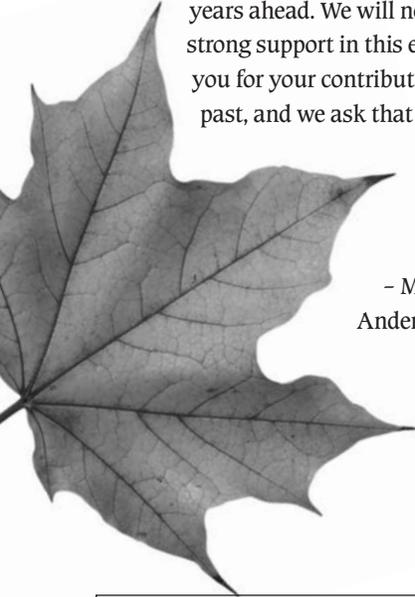
PHILIPS LIGHTING donated funds to support a "Simple Machines" project. All Lakewood students will visit Philips on Nov. 4 to experience how the concepts they learn in their classroom relate to real-life occupations.

SALINA REGIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION continues to support healthy lifestyles, early childhood, and dental access initiatives. One of the projects that the SRHF's support makes possible is a seminar on Nov. 12. A coalition of community leaders including teachers, physicians, dieticians, and psychologists will present, "The Power of One: Standing Together" for targeted middle school girls.

PEPSI supports the Renaissance Program at all middle and high schools as well as the 21st Century Advantage Grant Program. The Renaissance Program encourages and recognizes outstanding leadership and scholarship in students and teachers. The 21st Century Advantage Grant Program supports innovative and creative classroom projects.

The Foundation continues to grow the LIFT program, which has been set up to offer forgivable college loans to outstanding students. If we continue to be successful in providing funds for our grants and the LIFT program, we will surely see huge dividends in student learning in the days and years ahead. We will need your strong support in this effort. Thank you for your contributions in the past, and we ask that you continue to be our partners in the future.

- Mary Andersen



Picture— from left: Veronica Hill, Molly Campbell, Nora Rindt, 2008 LIFT Recipients

LIFT Program

The SEF announced three new LIFT (Loan Initiative for Future Teachers) recipients prior to the Board of Education meeting on March 25, 2008. Molly Campbell, Central High graduate, is attending Johnson County Community College where she is majoring in elementary education. Nora Rindt, South High graduate, is attending Pittsburgh State University and majoring in elementary education. Veronica Hill, South High graduate, is attending Wichita State and majoring in secondary theatre education. All three young women have been active in extra-curricular activities, youth activities, and volunteering in our community. Molly says, "It is important for a teacher to be involved in her community... It would be my intention as a teacher to continue to reach out to the community by being involved with local activities." Keeping our talented youth in Salina strengthens our community. Giving back to the community that supports them is the cornerstone of the LIFT Program. Congratulations Molly, Veronica and Nora!

Leave a Legacy

Maynard Nelson, Salina, understands that planned giving is a great way for a person to continue to support important programs. Why not consider a bequest in your will, revocable trust, or life insurance policy? When you name the Salina Education Foundation as beneficiary, you can help to secure our programs for years to come. The LIFT program will benefit from Maynard's generosity and foresight. If you would like to learn more about how you can leave a lasting legacy, please contact Pam McIntyre, Executive Director.

Thank you Maynard!

SEF Welcomes New Board Members

We welcome Larry Denning and Amanda Michaelis to the Board of Trustees and say farewell to Ruth Cathcart Rake who ends her term on the board. Ruth was instrumental in the development of the LIFT Program and served on the governance committee that selected LIFT recipients. We appreciate Ruth's dedication to the work of the SEF and thank her for her tireless work on behalf of USD 305's staff and students

SEF Grants and Programs

21ST CENTURY ADVANTAGE GRANT: awarded annually for creative and innovative classroom projects

SUDDEN OPPORTUNITY GRANT: quick turnaround grant that supports projects that come up unexpectedly

LIFT PROGRAM: awards up to \$5,000 per year for Saline County residents who wish to become teachers

OUTSIDE-THE-BOX GRANT: NEW! awarded annually for projects that take students outside the typical classroom setting

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Fall Breakfast Honors Teachers

The SEF welcomed Dr. Andy Tompkins, past superintendent of USD 305 and former Kansas Commissioner of Education, as featured speaker at the Fall Breakfast on August 27. Andy's message about the importance of advocacy for teachers, and the work that the Salina Education Foundation does on behalf of USD 305's teachers was appreciated by the 160 guests.

Dr. Tompkins, currently Dean of Education at Pittsburg State University, said that a community that appreciates its teachers will "have a leg up on any other community in the state." In order to attract quality recruits to our community, we must "encourage them, support them, volunteer for them...love them."

Several examples of the extraordinary impact of great teaching were on display that morning. Using the letters TEACHER, Kate Lindsay's South High advanced theatre students presented a skit "spelling out" the importance of a teacher. Ben Rohrer's talented Central High Jazz Combo entertained guests as they arrived, and a video was presented that showed the impact that a teacher had on one student. Steven Hardy, project manager for the rebuilding of Greensburg, Kansas, related how John Wachholz "taught me about caring about this world." The concepts that Steven learned in Mr. Wachholz's high school biology classroom have impacted not only his career choices but will have far-reaching implications for the citizens of Greensburg.

If you were unable to attend the breakfast you can still watch Steven Hardy's tribute to John Wachholz on our website: www.salinaeducationfoundation.com



Guests enjoy South High Theatre students' skit about the importance of a teacher.



Dr. Andy Tompkins and Chairman Mary Andersen at the SEF's Fall Breakfast

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The mission of the Salina Education Foundation is to encourage educational excellence by providing resources to enhance opportunities for the students and staff of Salina's public schools.

2008 SEF Scholarship Recipients

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Christina Bowden

Class of 1959 Scholarship

Veronica Hill

James Maupin Memorial Scholarship

Kelly Pruitt

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Ethan Weis

Class of 1933 Scholarship

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Class of 1940 Scholarship

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Mariah Barnett

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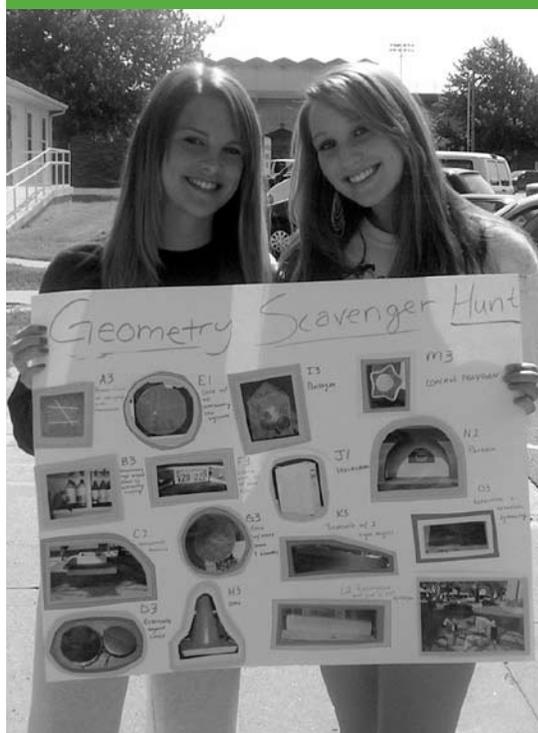
Looking for the perfect gift?

Give a donation to the Salina Education Foundation!

Honor someone special in your life — your child's teacher, a family member, a neighbor — and help your school at the same time.

Give a meaningful gift for any occasion! Birthdays, Valentine's Day, Christmas — Salina Education Foundation donations are always a perfect fit!

Help make a difference. JOIN SEF TODAY!



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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The Salina Education Foundation is a separate non-profit organization whose purpose is to assure excellence in the Salina School District.