



# community connection

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

[salinaeducationfoundation.com](http://salinaeducationfoundation.com) 785-309-4729

Fall 2021

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

## New Trustees

### **Katrina Paradis** (Teacher Representative)

Katrina Paradis is an English teacher at Salina Central High School where she has taught for 28 years. She currently serves as the English department chair. Katrina earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and her master's degree from Kansas State University. In 2012, she was named a Kansas Master Teacher. She has one daughter, Madeline, a graduate from Salina Central, who currently attends Columbia College Chicago. Katrina has served on numerous USD 305 and community committees, most recently serving as the vice-president of the Salina Art Center Board. She has been a building liaison for SEF and a gracious recipient of several grants for her classroom including a collaboration with South High for a Slam Poetry event featuring community poet mentors and students from both high schools.



### **Crystal Stuart**

Crystal Stuart and her husband Ryan have called Salina home for nearly two decades. Following graduation from Bethany College, she worked

for USD 305 in the business office before choosing to work from home to raise their two boys. She has worked remotely for Signature Personal Insurance LLC, based out of Roeland Park, for the past 13 years. Ryan is currently an assistant principal at South High, after teaching and coaching basketball and tennis for 19 years. Coming from a family of public education supporters, Crystal is delighted to join the SEF board to support and promote the positive impact it has on the district.



### **Bonnie Welty**

Bonnie Welty is retired from USD 305 after spending 32 years in education. She spent the last 5 years as the principal at Lakewood Middle School and was a principal in the Shawnee Mission district before coming to Salina. Bonnie taught health and physical education in Shawnee Mission, Wichita and Newton school districts. Bonnie is an adjunct professor at Kansas Wesleyan in the



education department. She officiates high school volleyball and enjoys reading and spending time with family and friends.

### **Jacob Yarochowicz**

Jacob was born and raised in Salina. He attended Coronado Elementary, South Middle, and is a graduate of Salina High School South where his mother, Cathy has taught PE/Health for the last 29 years. He graduated from Kansas State in 2020 with a degree in finance. He works for BeWealth in Salina as a Financial Advisor. In his free time he is either out on the golf course or in the gym.



### **Retiring Trustee**

At its annual meeting on August, the board of trustees recognized Taylor Urban for her years of service as a trustee. Taylor served the Salina Education Foundation as a Teacher Representative Trustee from 2018 to 2021, and was the chair of the grant allocations committee. Taylor is a former LIFT recipient and taught for many years at South Middle School.



## From the Director

When I was a sixth grader one of my teachers hosted an informal running club for her students. We were called “Untamed



Wind” and met a couple of times per week after school for group runs. Running wasn’t something I would have tried on my own, but a teacher’s great idea gave me an opportunity to try something new. I enjoyed the social aspect of being with my peers and felt a tremendous sense of accomplishment when completing a run. I remember the feeling of excitement when I finished four miles for the first time.

Salina Education Foundation exists to connect you with the great ideas of USD 305’s teachers and staff. Your support gives teachers the opportunity to try innovative and creative projects which create lifelong memories for our students. You made it possible for 49 classrooms to participate last year in projects funded through Sudden Opportunity Grants. Your generosity supported projects promoting physical activity, reading, science, music, math and more. Because of you, teachers know they can try something new. Because of you, students learn that they can do things they never dreamed possible.

Thank you for your tremendous support of the Salina Education Foundation and the students, teachers and staff we serve. Lives are enriched and memories are made through your kindness.

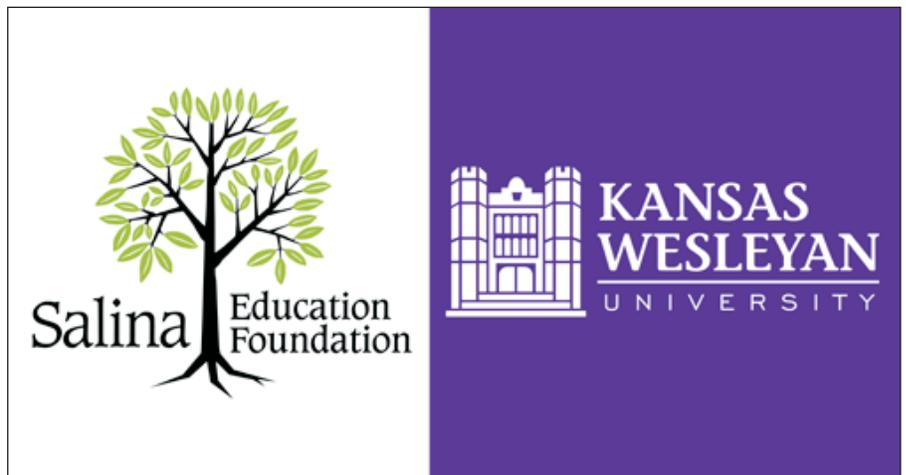
Michael Chambers  
Executive Director

## New Partnership with KWU

Salina Education Foundation and Kansas Wesleyan University have partnered to sponsor the new RISE scholarship program. “RISE celebrates the values of diversity, equity and inclusion,” said Vice President of Advancement and University Operations Ken Oliver. Qualified, selected transfer students attending KWU will be eligible for a \$22,500 scholarship as well as a \$5,000 forgivable loan.

“Growing our teaching staff to reflect the diversity of our students and community is a priority for us,” said Linn Exline, USD 305

Superintendent. At the conclusion of the program and upon completing certification requirements, students will be provided the opportunity to become a teacher in USD 305. Salina Education Foundation will administer the forgivable loan portion of the program. “We are delighted to have the opportunity to partner with Kansas Wesleyan University and support Salina Public Schools in developing a diverse teacher workforce,” said, Michael Chambers, Salina Education Foundation’s executive director.



## Joan Barhydt Memorial Fund

Joan Barhydt taught in USD 305 from 1977 until 2005. Joan’s widow Bob shared that “as a Special Education teacher, Joan had a passion for helping students with learning disabilities reach their greatest potential.” Recently, Bob and his children, as well as Joan’s siblings, established the Joan Barhydt Memorial Fund. The permanently endowed fund will provide grants

for projects which will enhance the opportunities available to special education students across the district.

For information on contributing to the Joan Barhydt Memorial Fund, or any Salina Education Foundation Fund, or to create your own fund, please contact Michael Chambers.

# Fall Social-Celebrating your impact!



Salina Education Foundation's trustees, donors and guests gathered at the Salina Country Club on September 24<sup>th</sup> and traveled Back To The Future for its annual donor appreciation event. Michael Chambers, Salina Education Foundation's executive director said, "This annual event celebrates the many great things that supporters make happen in our schools."

The event featured presentations by Mrs. Linn Exline, Dr. Patricia Bandre' and Mr. Eddie Creer.



Exline provided information about the district's mission and vision and highlighted some of the many great things happening across the district.

Dr. Bandre' presented information about two grants she received from the Salina Education Foundation. One featured grant supported the construction of Little Free Libraries by Industrial Art students. The libraries are placed at some of the district's elementary schools. Another grant supported the Breaking Barriers Project for students at Oakdale Elementary. Students read books featuring famous athletes who had overcome barriers and become champions in their sports. Students then worked together to identify characteristics and traits the athletes had in common which helped them to overcome adversity. The project culminated in an art project featured in the school's hallway.

Mr. Eddie Creer presented information about the multi-year

## Grant Partners

The work of the Salina Education Foundation is supported 100% through the generosity of individuals and businesses in our community. Your support of our programs demonstrates a strong commitment to a healthy community. Local businesses need employees who implement critical thinking skills and can meet ever-evolving business needs. Perhaps this is the year you fund a specific grant. We can help you match the topics that are important to you to projects happening in USD 305. Contact Michael at [michael.chambers@usd305.com](mailto:michael.chambers@usd305.com) or 785/309-4729.

Developing Musicians grant he received. The event concluded with Mr. Creer directing a performance by South High's New Dawn Singers.



Thank you to the following sponsors for making the event possible this year:

Achterberg, Angell & Craft  
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The Market Shop  
Woods & Durham

## 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

## Board of Trustees, 2021-22

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Katy Ebert.....Secretary  
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Crystal Stuart  
Bonnie Welty  
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Superintendent

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**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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- \$1000-2999 **SEF Benefactor**
- \$500-999 **SEF Patron**
- \$100-499 **SEF Supporter**
- \$10-99 **SEF Friend**
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