



GRAND FORKS
Foundation for Education
& Alumni Network



**ANNUAL
REPORT 2019**

Enriching Grand Forks Public Schools
With Grants, Scholarships and Alumni Services.

Thank you...

It might be two simple words, but for the students and staff of Grand Forks Public Schools and the Grand Forks Foundation and its board of directors, it is all we have to give you in return for your support this past year.

Thank you for raising enough money to ensure every student has the choice of a hot meal at lunch.

Thank you for providing our students in need a seat on the bus, thus securing their seat in the classroom.

Thank you for your support as we reached readers over the summer, checking out over 8,000 books.

Thank you for supporting our graduating seniors with generous scholarships and awards that will help ease the financial burden of continuing their education.

Thank you for helping us fund enriched and innovative classroom projects across the district.

Thank you,



Emilia Hodgson
Executive Director
(701) 787-4866
ehodgson290@mygfschools.org



Grand Forks Foundation for Education Board of Directors - 2019

Back Row (L-R): Dan Richards, Becky Bryan, Alex Reichert, Lisa Heher, Meghan Compton, Lisa Hoplin, Betsey McIntyre, and Kristy Paranica.

Front Row (L-R): Rich Clement, Laura Schweigert, Emilia Hodgson, Yanci Johnson, Carol Sween, and Joel Schleicher.

Not Pictured: Mark Rios and Joan Knecht.



Statement of Activities

As of June 30, 2018

(with comparative totals for 2017 - Restated)

	2018	2017
Support & Revenue		
Gifts and Bequests	\$261,637	\$198,757
Alumni Network Revenue	\$28,499	\$25,636
Investment Income	\$146,917	\$251,061
Refunds and Reimbursements	\$468	\$1,615
Grant Revenue	\$25,154	\$42,446
Fundraising Project Revenue	\$18,363	\$22,485
Additional Revenue	\$1,187	\$1,617
Total Support & Revenue	\$482,225	\$543,617
Program Expenses		
Scholarships & Awards	\$132,081	\$142,380
Alumni Network	\$47,992	\$49,743
Management and General	\$205,449	\$176,889
Fundraising Expense	\$13,050	\$17,200
Total Expenses	\$398,572	\$386,212
Changes in Net Assets	\$83,653	\$157,405
Beginning Net Assets (RESTATED)	\$2,460,814	\$2,303,409
Ending Net Assets	\$2,544,467	\$2,460,814



CHAIR AFFAIR - FOR A SEAT TO EAT

The 2018 Chair Affair Social and Art Auction took place on, Thursday, September 13, 2018, at the Gorecki Alumni Center on the University of North Dakota campus. This unique event featured an array of chairs, individually designed and crafted by talented local and regional creators. Over \$12,000 was raised to pay for school meals for our students whose families are experiencing financial hardship.



2018 Chair Affair Organizers, L-R: Meggen Sande, Becca Bahnmilller, Emilia Hodgson, Becky Ronkowski, and Nikki Fournier.

Working off of the theme "A Seat to Eat," 23 artists contributed chair designs for The Chair Affair. Contributing artists included Adam Kemp, Kimberly Forness Wilson, Carrie Sapa, Courtney Olson, Meggen Sande, Becky Ronkowski, Schroeder Middle School Students, Becky Smith, Jessie Thorson, Kyleen Guttormson, Heather Krause, Jamie Sebby, Becca Bahnmilller, All Seasons Garden Center, Andrea Stroh, Amy Knudsvig, Brenda Cole, Darren Thompson, and Kina McVeigh. The evening was sponsored in part by Keith & Becky Ronkowski, Valley Oral & Facial Surgery, and Riverside Dental.

To the artists, the sponsors, and the donors, on behalf of the students who have benefitted from your talents and generosity, we thank you!!!

“SECURE A SEAT” GIVING HEARTS DAY 2019 CAMPAIGN

The Grand Forks Foundation for Education participated in **Giving Hearts Day** on February 14, 2019, raising **\$68,000** for our “Secure A Seat” campaign!

The funds raised that day will be used to purchase a large, transit vehicle to transport homeless, foster care, and at-risk students to and from school, as well as to provide bus tickets to support our students and families experiencing financial distress.

The Foundation received matching funding from generous sponsors including Grand Forks Scheels, the Myra Foundation, Thrivent Financial, the Satrom Family, Meredith & Joel Larson - Dad Band Fundraiser, Xcel Energy, and Thomsen Homes.

We know that education is a key factor in breaking the poverty cycle. We have wonderful educators, and we need to ensure ALL students have a seat in their classrooms. Changing lives means creating an opportunity for young people to access education that will move them from their current situation to a situation that they can dream and believe is possible. We cannot do this unless they are in school. Our young people will not disappoint us if we invest and believe in their capacity to live their lives to the fullest potential.

On behalf of the students who will benefit from your support, THANK YOU!!



Fall 2017, the Foundation awarded \$10,695 in Mini-Grants

The Mini-Grants have been funded through the Foundation for Education since 1992. Awards are usually for classroom-level or grade-level projects. All areas of curriculum and all grade levels are eligible for Mini-Grants.



\$520 to Katie Hillestad and Ben Franklin Elementary for her project, "Strumming Up Success - Ukuleles."



\$2,000 to Emily Lundby and Pre-K Early Childhood Special Education for her project, "Getting the Ball Rolling - Adaptive PE Equipment."



\$1,224 to Kati Larson and Grand Forks Central High School for her project, "Turning into Clay - Pottery Wheel."

Spring 2018, the Foundation awarded \$8,787 in Mini-Grants

Mini-Grant funding derives from income from our permanently endowed funds. These projects provide our students with enriched opportunities, field trips to robots, and everything in between.



\$750.00 to Tyler Nelson and Red River High School for his project, "Red River Leadership Council - Character Challenge Course."



\$990 to Tiffany Mannausau and all elementary technology partners for her project, "Creating Independent Coders."



Spring 2018, the Foundation awarded \$29,011 in Impact Grants

The Bill and Shirley Brown Endowment for Education makes the Foundation's Impact Grants possible. Income from the Brown Endowment is used to fund projects with the potential for lasting influence at the district or grade level, or at one or more schools.



\$5,000 to Loren Hoheisel and Discovery Elementary for his project, "Unmanned Aircraft Systems Education Exploration and Pilot Program for Elementary Students."



\$4,775 to Brad Sherwood and Central and Red River High Schools for his project, "Guitar I and Guitar II New Course Additions."





Join the Grand Forks Public Schools Alumni Network!!

Reconnect With Classmates

Joining the Alumni Network provides you with the opportunity to stay in touch with cherished classmates and keep up with what's going on in Grand Forks and Grand Forks Public Schools.



Receive 4 Issues of the Red Cent Newsletter

Don't miss out on feature stories about graduates and how they've grown into successful professionals. Hear from our guest writers who share their memories of growing up in Grand Forks. Keep up with classmates as they submit their alumni updates.



Catch up on Alumni News | Search for Classmates | Get Reunion Info

Most importantly, when you add an extra donation, you help the Foundation on our mission to support our students and schools with enriched opportunities, grants, and scholarships.

Visit donate.gffoundation.org/membership, or use the enclosed return envelope, to join the Alumni Network or to renew your membership!!

Funds That Support Student and Educator Scholarships

AE2S Good Samaritan Fund provides scholarships for needy K-12 students to help with emergency or enrichment needs that are not being met or supported by other means.

Alerus Good Citizen Scholarship for both Central and Red River HS graduates who've demonstrated citizenship, a work ethic, and their best effort academically.

American Crystal Sugar Company Scholarship for graduating Red River and Central HS seniors pursuing a post-secondary education in one or more of the following fields of study: science, agriculture, engineering, mathematics, or technology.

Brian Barclay Memorial Scholarship for one or more student graduating seniors from Central HS, the recipient should be involved with the GFC Football program, and should have demonstrated good citizenship.

John Beach Scholarship for a Central HS student who is either a participant or a supporter of both music and athletics.

Herman Berg Memorial Scholarship for a graduating senior from Central HS who are interested in agriculture-related study or endeavors.

Berg Scholar Athlete Award for Central HS student athlete who will be attending an NCAA Div II, Div III, or NAIA college to continue their football career.

Vincent Berg Scholarship for needy students district-wide in grades nine through twelve, to help enhance their high school experiences.

Ed and Bea Bohnhoff Scholarship for a football player graduating from Central HS.

Ali Borgen Smile Wide Scholarship for a GFPS student participating in Grand Cities Children's Choir and/ or the SPA program, or involved in private music lessons.

Markus Bryant Spirit Scholarship for a graduating Central HS student honored as a Spirit Award recipient.

John E. Conneran Scholarship for a Red River or Central HS graduating senior pursuing a post-secondary degree based on academic achievement, participation in baseball and additional extra-curricular activities.

Deeks Pizza Scholarship given to a graduating Community HS student who is pursuing a post-secondary education. The scholarship recipient should be a student who is determined, may have overcome hardships, and found success at Community.

Devon Daley Foreign Language Scholarship for a Central HS graduate who is interested in traveling abroad for language purposes.

Kathleen Dunn Scholarship for Red River HS graduating seniors.

Tom Edwards Award for Excellence in Social Studies for outstanding students in social studies graduating from Central and Red River HS.

McCain Endres Memorial Award An annual award given to five graduating seniors of Central HS who have shown good character and who have had an impact on their school and classmates.

Dona Erickson Scholarship for outstanding art students graduating from Red River HS.

Denny Everson Music Scholarship for a graduating senior from Red River HS who was actively involved in the music department.

Evju and Plefan Math and Science Scholarship for a Central HS graduate who has demonstrated scholarship in advanced math and/or science and has significant financial need.

Joe H. Ford Scholarship for a graduating male or female student-athlete at Central and Red River HS who demonstrated dedication to the school's basketball team.

Anne Fritzell Scholarship for a Central HS female athlete; based on citizenship, character, leadership, acceptable scholarship, and athletic excellence.

Robert Fullmer Scholarship for male students graduating from Central HS.

Sergio "Serge" Gambucci Scholarship for Excellence for the outstanding student athlete graduating from Central and Red River HS.

Greater GF Retired Teachers Assoc. Scholarship for Excellence & Character given to a graduating student of Red River, Central, or Community, who has been successful in academics, shows leadership qualities, is of high character, and has financial need.

Amelia Josefina Gray Humanitarian Scholarship for a female student graduating from Red River HS who is pursuing a post-secondary degree in the medical field at UND.

Celeste Hackenberg Scholarship for female students graduating from Central HS.

Bailey Henke Memorial Scholarship for a Community HS graduate who was successful in English, was a comfortable fit in Community and made a smooth transition to HS.

Glenn "Red" & Margaret Jarrett Memorial Scholarship for a graduating Central HS boy or girl student athlete who demonstrated leadership qualities and is of high character.

June E. Johnson Scholarship for a graduating Central HS girls interested in school or community government or the political process.

Russell LaDouceur Memorial Scholarship for a Red River HS student athlete who participated in certain sports and a good student who has shown good citizenship.

Ashley Leabo Scholarship for a graduating Community HS student pursuing a post secondary education not limited to a four year program.

Lewis & Clark Explorer Scholarship for a Grand Forks graduate who attended elementary school at Lewis & Clark.

Arnold Lindsay Scholarship for hockey players graduating from Red River HS.

Frau Merritt Scholarship for a Red River HS senior who has completed at least three years of a foreign language and is pursuing a post secondary education.

Mykel MacCarthy Scholarship for a Central or Red River HS Student who is pursuing a post-secondary education with an emphasis in journalism.

P.E.O. Nancy Gerik Stenseth Memorial Education Scholarship for a Red River and GFC female student who has demonstrated personal growth over her high school career.

Perry Nakonechny Award given to a senior Red River HS boys' hockey player who has a team first attitude, respect for others, works hard in practice, perseverance to work through challenging situations, and courage when facing adversity.

Julian Norby Hands Up For Kids Scholarship to help needy K-8 students fully participate in school-related opportunities.

John and Jean O'Keefe Scholarship for students graduating from Central and Red River.

Gordon "Red" Opstad Scholarship for a graduating Central HS student who is pursuing a degree in education. The student should have also attended either South or Valley MS.

Ray Pelton Secondary Scholarship for students graduating from Community HS.

Bill Pond Music Scholarship for a graduating Central HS senior involved in instrumental music.

Promise Scholarship for a Community HS graduate who is pursuing a post-secondary education and whose cumulative GPA has risen during their time at Community.

Red River Marketing Scholarship for a graduating Red River HS student who is an active DECA member with a GPA of 2.5 or higher, and has completed two years in the RRHS Marketing Program.

David L. Sande Memorial Scholarship for a Central HS senior attending a post graduate institution pursuing a degree in the medical profession field, preferably dentistry.

Don Schlaefer Scholarship for students graduating from Central HS.

Elroy and Donald Schroeder Scholarship for students graduating from Central HS.

Sherwood Scholarship to enhance Central and Red River students' school music experiences.

Mark Solberg Music Scholarship For a graduating Central HS graduate attending the University of North Dakota and will continue his or her involvement in music.

Jason Stadstad Scholarship for a graduating Central HS student.

Kathryn E. Uhrich and Jeffrey D. Holmes 1983 Excellence Scholarship to a Central HS senior who excels in academics but also shows exemplary leadership skills in extracurricular activities, and/or community service.

GFC High School Vision Scholarship for a Central HS graduate who has overcome many obstacles, yet has persevered during their pursuit of a post-secondary education.

Douglas Wolenez Memorial Scholarship for a graduating Central or Red River HS student attending a post graduate institution pursuing a degree in the medical field.

Adam and Kristine Zach - Emerging Leader Scholarship for a Grand Forks graduating senior. The recipient should have read one of the following books; "7 Habits of Highly Effective People," "The Next Generation Leader," or "How to Win Friends and Influence People," and reference it in their personal essay.

Zimney Foster PC Band Scholarship given to a graduating Central HS band student who is pursuing a post-secondary education.

WELCOME NEW ALUMNI NETWORK MEMBERS!

Christina Axelrod
Arne Bakke
Gaines 'Mitch' Baukol
Dan Bry
Jennifer Carlson
Jodi Pierce-Danzl
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Frank Tupa
Doris A. Vinger
John and Stacy Warcup
Linnea Williams
Linda Young

CONGRATS ALUMNI NETWORK MEMBERS CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

June Noack
Patrick Budge
Ron Rybak
Nancy Lewis
Eric Tofte

Marc Schanilec
Todd LaHaise
Michael Geatz
Dr. Larry Nybladh and Karen Nybladh

The Foundation helps donors achieve their goals to sustain the school experiences that they value most. It would not be possible without donors like you to touch the lives of the students and educators of the Grand Forks Public Schools. With that we would like to acknowledge our donors for their financial contributions to the Foundation for Education for 2018.

(Those names in **GREEN** entered the indicated giving club during 2018.)

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