



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

SO MUCH TO *Celebrate!*

Kewanee Schools Foundation is celebrating 30 years of success in fulfilling its mission of strengthening the educational opportunities for students attending Kewanee Community Unit School District #229 and promoting community engagement in the Kewanee School District. Since 1990, approximately 57,000 children have been positively impacted through the generous support of our alumni, employees and volunteers of the Kewanee School District, local businesses and friends in the community.

The Kewanee Schools Foundation was established on July 11, 1990 as the Kewanee School District #229 Foundation Fund (legal name). It is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors with expertise in elementary and secondary education, business, finance, and law. The Foundation is currently managed by a part-time Executive Director and full-time Foundation Assistant.

The Foundation's first major project was to raise funds for a new all-weather track at Kewanee High School. Nearly \$162,000 was raised and the project was completed in 1994. After about four years of relative inactivity, the Foundation began planning a new campaign to remodel the Kewanee High School auditorium and add a new gymnasium at the high school. The Foundation and numerous community volunteers raised nearly 2.4 million dollars and completed the Robert L. Petersen Auditorium, Good's Gymnasium, and the Pines Trailer Strength Training Center (now known as the Great Dane LLC Strength Training Center).

Over the following three years, the Foundation focused on smaller projects such as landscaping the campus of Kewanee High School and improving scholarship opportunities for students. Today the Foundation manages over \$1.6 million dollars in scholarship funds and, along with the Kewanee School District, distributes over \$100,000 annually to worthy Kewanee High School graduates.

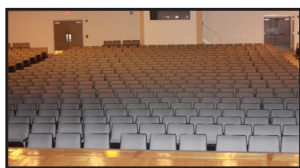
From 2003 to 2006, the Foundation conducted a major capital campaign to expand and renovate the library at Kewanee High School. Over \$523,000 was raised and the Good's Learning Resources Center was dedicated in 2006.

In 2007, the Foundation initiated a major campaign to raise the necessary funding so the district could obtain a \$1,000,000 interest free Federal loan. This mission was accomplished in 2010. These funds were used to repair aging school buildings, provide new technology, and train faculty.

Between 2005 and 2019, the Foundation raised over \$2 million, which included a very generous estate gift from Dr. Frances Horler, former English teacher at Kewanee High School from 1935 to 1945. These funds are being used to upgrade computer technology, equip science labs, and provide instructional resources for teachers.

The Foundation is also very deeply involved in community and alumni activities. It maintains its own website and Facebook page; hosts concerts and special events; assists with numerous class reunions for alumni groups; and provides administrative assistance and support for the Athletic Hall of Fame activities held every other year at Kewanee High School.

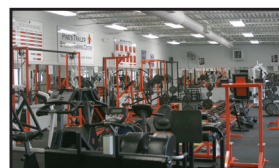
The Foundation is very grateful for the tremendous financial support it has received from its donors and the community over the past 30 years, and looks forward to the next 30 with their continued support.



Petersen Auditorium



Good's Gym



Great Dane
Strength Training Center



Stewart Music Endowment

1994

1998-2001

2004

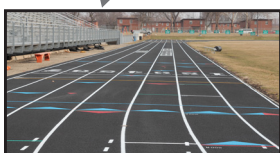
2006

2011

2013

Now it's
up to
you!

Breedlove/Petersen
Track



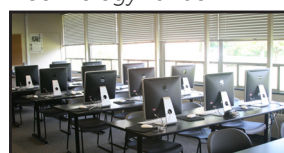
Landscaping
Projects



Good's Learning
Resources Center



Dr. Horler
Technology Funds





**KEWANEE SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION**
"Enhancing Education through Giving"

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Liz Breedlove, *Executive Director*

FOUNDATION STAFF

Liz Breedlove, *Executive Director*
Mindi Goard, *Foundation Assistant*

MISSION

The mission of the Kewanee Schools Foundation is to strengthen the educational opportunities for students of the Kewanee School District and promote community engagement in the Kewanee School District.

FROM THE *President*



Dear Alumni & Friends,

As Kewanee Schools Foundation observes our 30th Anniversary, we celebrate all of the amazing accomplishments made possible through the generosity of so many of our alumni and friends. In September, 2019, we welcomed Liz Breedlove as our Executive Director. Liz has been a wonderful addition to the Foundation, leading our board and staff in a focused strategic direction that will continue to enhance the education of our students far into the future. Liz's assistant, Mindi Goard, has also done a phenomenal job providing support to all of our initiatives during the past year. Our Foundation Board is comprised of community members who place great value on education. They understand and embrace the important role we all play in the lives of our students.

Your donations and support, even during these challenging times, have allowed the Foundation to continue working to provide our students with new technology, state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, as well as innovative educational opportunities. Through your generosity, we've been able to support our teachers as they've developed pioneering solutions for virtual learning so that our students can continue to excel during the pandemic. Many of you also support scholarships for our graduating seniors that provide much needed assistance as they go on to college and pursue their dreams.

We greatly appreciate you and hope that you will continue to support the work of the Kewanee Schools Foundation. Now, more than ever, the children of District 229 need you! On behalf of the Kewanee Schools Foundation, I would like to extend to you warm wishes for the upcoming holiday season. Stay safe, stay well, and enjoy the holidays with your loved ones!

Best Regards,

Lori Christiansen

Lori Christiansen, President
Foundation Board of Directors

2020 FINANCIAL REPORT AND USE OF FUNDS

NET ASSETS

*Without Donor Restrictions	\$3,614,334
With Donor Restrictions	\$4,000
Total Net Assets	\$3,618,334

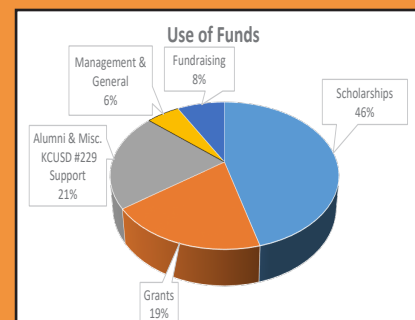
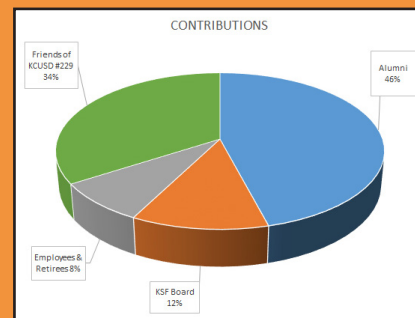
REVENUE

Total Contributions	\$93,829
Investment Income	\$88,703
Unrealized Gains/Losses on Investments	\$69,157
Other Income	\$23
Total Revenues	\$251,712

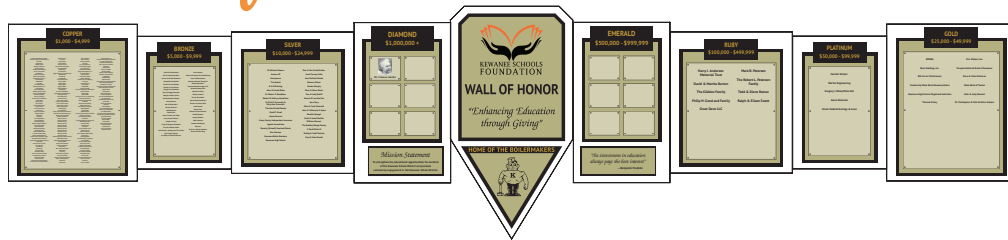
EXPENSES

Program Services:	
Scholarships	\$73,219
Grants	\$30,616
Alumni & Misc. KCUSD #229 Support	\$34,203
Management & General	\$8,933
Fundraising	\$12,809
Total Expenses	\$159,780

* Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets if the restrictions expire in the fiscal year in which the contributions are recognized.
(Audited)



Wall of Honor GETS A FACELIFT



Due to the tremendous support received from Kewanee Schools Foundation donors over the last 19 years, the Foundation was in need of remodeling its Wall of Honor.

The original Wall of Honor was installed in 2001 in the foyer of the Robert L. Petersen Auditorium at Kewanee High School. The increase in the number of donors and donations made since that time required us to re-categorize and add new levels to the Wall to allow for growth, both now and in the future. The newly renovated Wall of Honor recognizes the cumulative financial and in-kind donations made to the Foundation in support of the Kewanee School District.

Peoples National Bank of Kewanee has generously underwritten the cost of the new Wall of Honor system. They were also responsible for sponsoring the original Wall in 2001. The Foundation deeply appreciates their continued generous support and commitment to the Wall of Honor program.

Donors who include the Foundation in their will or estate plan will also become a member of the new Legacy Society and be recognized on a separate plaque adjacent to the Wall of Honor. Once these planned gifts are received, they will be added to the donor's cumulative total and acknowledged on the Wall of Honor at the appropriate level. Joan's Trophy, the vendor completing the wall system, has generously donated the Legacy Society plaque as well as three additional plaques, also adjacent to the Wall of Honor: Friends & Associates; Auditorium Seats; and Steinway & Memorial Garden. The Foundation expresses its gratitude to Joan's Trophy for their generosity.

HONOR LEVEL	GIVING TOTAL	HONOR LEVEL	GIVING TOTAL
Diamond	\$1,000,000+	Gold	\$25,000 - \$49,999
Emerald	\$500,000 - \$999,999	Silver	\$10,000 - \$24,000
Ruby	\$100,000 - \$499,999	Bronze	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Platinum	\$50,000-\$99,999	Copper	\$1,000 - \$4,999



EIGHT *New* BOARD MEMBERS

Pictured front row left to right:
Kaleigh Good, Breanne Cinnamon,
Joline Oswald, Teresa Bryner.

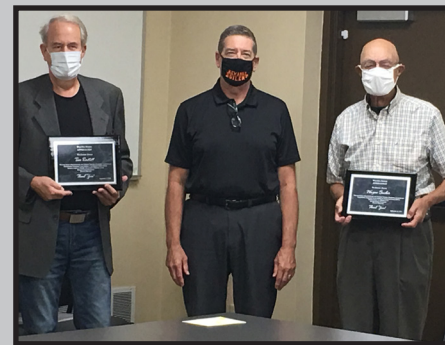
Back row left to right:
Doug Currier, Brandon Yaklich,
Mike Miler and Casie Douglas.

Kewanee Schools Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of eight new members to its Board of Directors. This brings the total number of board members to twenty-one. All are residents of Kewanee.

"We are very pleased to welcome these new Board members, who are all highly engaged within our community and have a history of supporting Kewanee Schools in a variety of ways. They will each bring new perspective and valuable insight as we continue our commitment to enhancing educational op-

portunities for students of the Kewanee School District" stated Lori Christiansen, Foundation President.

The Kewanee Schools Foundation is governed by a board of directors with expertise in elementary and secondary education, business, finance, legal professions, who represent major interests and constituencies of Kewanee Community Unit School District #229 including the Board of Education, alumni, employees, retirees and local business community.



TOM RATLIFF & WAYNE BECKER HONORED

Tom Ratliff and Wayne Becker were honored at the September 14, 2020 meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors for their many years of service to the Foundation and students of the Kewanee School District. Both retired from the Foundation Board effective June 30, 2020.

Dr. Jeff Johnson, President of the KCUSD #229 Board of Education and Foundation Vice-President, presented them with plaques of appreciation recognizing their visionary guidance, exceptional leadership and unconditional commitment to the students of the Kewanee School District and Kewanee Schools Foundation.

Co-owner of Ratliff Brothers, Tom joined the Board in 1995 and became President two years later, a position he held for 23 years. He presided over numerous building campaigns, including those that funded the Robert L. Petersen Auditorium, Good's Gym, Good's Learning Resources Center, and others.

Now a retired agent with Thrivent Insurance, Wayne also joined the Board in 1995 and has assisted in advancing the mission of the Foundation to strengthen the educational opportunities for students of the Kewanee School District and promoting community engagement in the Kewanee School District. The Foundation extends its sincere gratitude to Tom and Wayne. "That is a lot of years of service and we thank you" stated Dr. Johnson.

Enhancing Education **THROUGH GIVING** *(July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)*



Robert L. Petersen Excellence in Education Grants Awarded

Through a generous bequest, the Robert L. Petersen Excellence in Education Grant program was designed to promote excellence in teaching in the Kewanee School District. Bob ("Doc") Petersen was a dedicated school district volunteer who served as an athletic trainer, junior high football/basketball coach, and a member of the Kewanee Board of Education for 28 years. A total of \$3,439 in grants was awarded in 2020 to fund reading and science materials for the 3rd Grade faculty to enhance curriculum and teaching strategies; various novel sets, teacher guides and character development curriculum, as well as recognition rewards for the Alternative Classroom at Central School; Framed photos of students from a variety of cultures and biographies of successful alumni to post in classrooms and central locations to showcase inclusiveness and equity at KHS; and teacher participation in research-based workshops with ideas and strategies to implement in the classroom. In total, nearly \$15,000 has been awarded from the Robert L. Petersen Excellence in Education grant program.

Harry J. Anderson Memorial Trust Grants Awarded

Over \$120,000 has been generously donated since 2015 to the Kewanee Schools Foundation by the Harry J. Anderson Memorial Trust to create and support programs for the children in the Kewanee School District who need training and guidance in order to get a good start in life and become useful, desirable and productive citizens. The 2020 Harry Anderson Memorial Trust grants funded over \$20,000 in

supplies and curriculum support for the SEL and PBIS programs in Grades 4-8; PLATO program for Grades 9-12; Pear Deck program for the District; drills and impact drivers for KHS Industrial Arts; Business Essentials and Personal Finance course curriculums, and Intro to Business supplemental activities and projects for Grades 9-12; Vehicle Career Day materials for Grades K-1; Incentives for the Central Alternative program; as well as funding for Junior Achievement and Dual Credit Scholarships.

KHS Students Receive More than \$100,700 in Scholarships

The Kewanee Schools Foundation and the Kewanee School District awarded \$100,700 in scholarships to the Class of 2020 this year. Awards were presented at the virtual Senior Assembly and were announced at Commencement ceremonies held in May. These scholarships have been made possible through the generosity of many loyal donors to the Foundation and Kewanee School District.



Great Dane LLC Supports KHS Welding Program

In June, the KHS Industrial Arts program received welding equipment and supplies valued at nearly \$16,000, generously donated by Great Dane LLC. The in-kind donation included two new Lincoln Electric welders; oxy acetylene torch; bench grinder; cut-off saw, welding pliers, as well as welding gloves and jackets, for all high school welding students.

These generous donations have enhanced the welding experience for the students and have helped them experience up-to-date industry technology and tools in the classroom. The welding gloves and jackets helped make it possible for all students wanting to explore the field of welding to do so without additional costs. The KHS welding program continues to grow and has had numerous students find employment in the welding industry or continue their post-secondary education in the welding field. "I greatly appreciate the continued support from Great Dane LLC as I build the future of the KHS Welding Department", stated Brad DeWolfe, Industrial Arts Teacher at KHS.

"The Music of Queen"

The Foundation sponsored "The Music of Queen" Concert performed by the KHS Symphonic Band, Concert Choir and Jazz Choir on February 14, 2020 in the Robert L. Petersen Auditorium. Over 300 guests attended the event. Nearly \$2,000 in net proceeds was donated to the Music Department in support of the band and choral programs. A total of \$18,337 has been raised from the annual concerts to support the KHS Music and Theater Departments since 2010 which has funded band camp, concert supplies, recognition plaques, T-shirts and field trips.



FROM THE *Executive Director*

Dear Alumni & Friends,

As we celebrate our 30th Anniversary, we recognize and celebrate all who support us... devoted donors, community partners and our dedicated board and staff. Many great things have been achieved since 1990 which would not have been possible without your commitment to educating the nearly 1,900 students who are enrolled in the Kewanee School District each year. Thank you for your financial and volunteer support to the Foundation over the past 30 years and into the future!

Your gifts strengthen and enrich learning opportunities through the development of innovative programs. Your support provides instructional supplies and equipment; as well as facility and technology improvements. You also provide additional training for teachers of the Kewanee School District to deliver high quality education to prepare students for future success. All of these resources have been of tremendous value particularly this year, as teachers and administrators have been forced to modify the delivery of education to accommodate the COVID-19 environment. Our graduating seniors have also benefitted from your generous scholarship support to help reduce rising college costs. This Annual Report illustrates what we have accomplished together since 1990!

But, additional funds are needed to continue to meet future needs. Won't you consider a gift of \$50, \$100, \$500 or more to the Foundation's 2020 Year-End Appeal? With the increasing number

of children on the Free and Reduced Lunch program within the school district, I assure you that your support is vital! Any level of support would be greatly appreciated.

We wish you and your loved ones' safety, comfort, and all the best, as we continue to navigate COVID-19 into 2021. We care about you! Happy Holidays and stay well my friends!

Kind regards,



Elizabeth Breedlove, *Executive Director*



P.S. Don't delay! In order to receive a tax-deduction for 2020, your gift must be postmarked by December 31 if you itemize. Donations are also accepted online at www.kewaneeschoolsfoundation.org. All gifts are tax-deductible as allowable by law.

Why We Support *KSF*

Colonel Paul and Mrs. Kathleen (Boylan) Ptasnik are great examples of alumni who give back to the students of the Kewanee School System. Their altruism is a consequence of their deep belief in the importance and value of education.

Paul Ptasnik attended Kewanee schools, graduating from Kewanee High School in 1964. Receiving an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, he graduated in 1968 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He and his high school sweetheart, Kathleen Boylan married in June 1968. After retiring as a Colonel in 1995, Paul began a second career as a math teacher and soccer coach, retiring a second time in 2008.

Kathleen (Boylan) Ptasnik attended Visitation Schools and graduated from Kewanee High School in 1965. Kathleen believes that her educational background helped pave the way for her career choice as an elementary teacher, assistant principal and principal. "I always wanted to be a teacher and the many role models at KHS abounded. As a teacher, I wanted to treat each child as an individual, as that is how I was treated. As a principal, I wanted to work with teachers to build a sense of community, just as I witnessed at KHS," shares Kathleen.

Married for 52 years, Paul and Kathleen have three children, seven grandchildren, and have survived 24 moves. In addition to helping their family, they serve as hospice volunteers with emphasis on military veterans.



Paul and Kathleen noted "As we have often said, we are extremely grateful for the education we received from Kewanee schools and feel a duty and responsibility to help provide superb learning conditions to those students who now live in the district. Although we have not lived in the city since October 1968, we strongly believe in giving back to the schools that helped us so much. After seeing how the district is using its resources to provide wonderful learning opportunities for students, we feel confident that our contributions are utilized well. In that respect our lives have changed, knowing we are helping others benefit from an excellent learning environment. All who contribute to the Kewanee Schools Foundation should know their funds will be used to provide the best education for all Kewanee students."



CONTRIBUTORS

July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Wayne Allen
Harry J. Anderson Memorial Trust
Lisa Anderson
Patricia Anderson
Anonymous
Michael Appell
K. John Ast
Tim Atwell
Stephanie Barto
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KHS Class of 1964
KHS Organized Activities
Kewanee Illinois Soccer Club
Kewanee Rebekah Lodge
Kewanee Youth Tackle
Kewanee Youth Wrestling

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Kelli Rashid
Charlotte Razor
Mr. & Mrs. Niles Reamer
William Remick
Susie Rocke

THANK YOU to the following contributors for your kind and generous support over the past fiscal year. Your gifts make a huge difference to the students of the Kewanee School District!
Anonymous donors are listed collectively under "Anonymous".

Mr. & Mrs. Duane Roesner
Lucretia Rux
Ethel Ruzas
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Ron Saey
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Dr. Christopher Sullens
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Sullens
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Tocha

William Taylor Memorial

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Christakos
Deborah Cordrey
Sherry Welch

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In Memory of Ron Oldeen

Dr. Christopher Sullens

In Memory of Joe Quagliano

Mr. & Mrs. John Spets

In Memory of Carol Fleming Richard

Mr. & Mrs. John Spets

In Memory of Madeline Rodak

Dr. Christopher Sullens

In Memory of Rich Ruzas

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Breedlove
Mindi Goard
Bonnie McCommons
Michael Pratt

In Memory of Don Zumber

Matthew Zumber

*Please accept our sincere
apologies if we inadvertently
omitted or misspelled your name,
and be sure to let us know
of the error.*



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SAVE THE DATE!

The Kewanee Schools Foundation
is celebrating its 30th Anniversary
with a special event titled

"All Aboard for Education! 30 Trips for 30 Years"

The event will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at the Kewanee Dunes Golf Club in Kewanee, IL, pending COVID-19 restrictions. Guests will have the opportunity to bid on one of 30 exciting local, regional, and national trips, as well as trips abroad. The trips can be redeemed up to 12 to 18 months following the date of the event. The goal of "30 Trips for 30 Years" is to raise \$30,000 for Dual Credit Scholarships and the Foundation's Unrestricted Fund, which supports the areas of greatest need.

You won't want to miss this exciting event in support of the Kewanee School District.

All Aboard!