

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

NAPSF News June 2020

Hello Nebraska K-12 School Foundation Friends!

# NAPSF Member Spotlight: Papillion-La Vista Schools Foundation

John Erickson



Dear NAPSF Friends,

This has certainly been a wild ride as we join our fellow Foundations in addressing the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

It is heartening to know we have colleagues like our National Association of Public Schools Foundation - Nebraska Chapter members who are living these challenges together. You are all one phone call away as my Papillion La Vista Schools Foundation team thinks through what we will do with our events, how will we reach out observing social distancing precautions and how will we get our Kids Club Summer Program up and running safely. It is truly evident that we are stronger together and we will survive and thrive in this new reality because our students and educators need us now more than ever.

I will share what we are doing not as a "we have all the answers" article, but rather as information others might use as they chart their own course. We also want to hear what you are doing.

While our Kids Club before and after school program shut down with our schools, we applied and received the CARES PPP program funding to keep us going for a couple months keeping our employees with us planning for the future. We have re-opened June 1st and are finishing our 4th week without incident. We cancelled our Unified Sports and Activities event planned for April and planned an online event, moved our June golf event to August and, for now, kept our 500 person Gala - Hall of Fame award celebration on its original date of October 17th. We continue to consider the current environment and safety issues relating to this event.

Our office has been working remotely and just completed safe reentry to the office. Our development team is exploring giving our corporate sponsors who receive indoor and outdoor signage recognition during sporting contests other high-profile on-line recognition to make up for any cancelled games. We are telling all our constituents we are still here. We first are concerned for them and want them to know we appreciate them, will be back and their partnership with us is more important than ever. We are trying to get creative with social media and looking at ways to partner with our donors and students in our elementary schools to pay it forward to help others who are in need of the basics like food, utilities, and gas through our Student Emergency Fund. We are reaching out to our alumni to help them connect with each other and us.

We are keeping close to other not for profit organizations in our community to help partner in support of their efforts. We have put on hold any major campaign announcements until stay at home guidelines start to lessen and are participating in Omaha Gives and other national days of giving. We are doing our best to let staff know everything will be ok and we are here for them.

We are telling our Board and community that while this is a setback, our mission is more important than ever. Thanks to all of our members who continue to fight the good fight, but still have time to help others including their fellow NASPF members.

We are indeed stronger together.

Be well, John Erickson | Executive Director 402-829-1340 | jerickson@paplv.org



The NAPSF Board has decided to do a virtual annual meeting and mini-conference this fall. If you would like to help plan this event, contact Traci Skalberg at <u>tskalberg@gips.org</u>. More details to come.



Our focus at NAPSF this year has been to **'Tell our Story.'** To that end, we are going to start highlighting foundations that are a part of NAPSF. We want to give everyone a better look at how our individual Foundations operate and the impact they have.



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**OUR MISSION:** The Foundation strives to enhance educational opportunities for the students of Papillion La Vista Community Schools by offering the opportunity to participate in activities and take advantage of programs that would not otherwise be possible.

We execute our mission by supporting and connecting parents, alumni, community leaders and staff, retired, and current, to areas of the schools they are passionate about to foster investment to make these areas even better aligned to student opportunity, donor interests and district priorities.

**WHAT WE DO:** Founded in 1986 with a simple but powerful mission, the Foundation is a 501c3 and run by a 31 member Board of Directors. Today, we have 15 ongoing programs we fund and one that we run: Kids Club, before and after school and summer childcare program.

This is our flagship program supporting all work and activities of the Foundation. Kids Club provides baseline funding for our ongoing programs and operations to assure 100% of our donors investments go to the program they are supporting. This allows us to create endowed and expendable funds aligned to donor interest and enhance opportunities as well as helping our alumni keep connected with each other and their schools.

**OUR IMPACT:** In 2019, the Foundation gave over **\$1 million** to support students of Papillion La Vista Community Schools. These funds were aligned and continue to be aligned with district priorities and support over 15 ongoing programs and more. The Foundation continues to partner with donors to establish endowed and expendable funds currently totalling over 80 aligned with donors' specific interests and district priorities, to make sure current and future generations of students benefit from outstanding opportunities and programs.

Our Kids Club program annually serves over 1,200 students during the school year and over 700 during the summer months. The Foundation celebrates our donors, community and alumni yearly through our Gala & Hall of Fame Awards and our Swing for Kids Golf Tournament.

PROGRAM IMPACT: The Student Emergency Fund provides emergency basic needs such as food, shelter and transportation to students and their families when there is no other place to turn for support. Outdoor Education offers all sixth grade students a unique overnight camping experience at the Eastern Nebraska 4-H Camp. Our Graduating Senior Scholarship Program recognizes the value of continuing education for the graduating seniors. The Teacher Grant Program encourages unique and innovative ideas from District educators that improve and enhance the learning experience for students. The Papillion La Vista Community Schools' Career Academy Program allows students to receive in-depth exploration, hands-on experience and on-the-job training. Cooperation BEST (Better Educate Students for Tomorrow) connects businesses to Papillion La Vista Community Schools to enhance the educational experience of each student. Middle School Tutoring offers after school tutoring four days a week district middle schools; the Foundation provides the funding for teaching staff to work with junior high students to provide the extra help if needed. Pioneer Days gives all 4th grade students the opportunity to experience a re-created, one-room schoolhouse - at the historic Portal School in downtown Papillion - allowing students to connect to the lives of the pioneer studied in the curriculum. Elementary Arts provides 5,500 Kindergarten through 6th grade elementary students the opportunity to enrich their education by exposing them to various arts experiences.

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# COVID-19 Relief in Nebraska

Our Nebraska Foundations showed up in a big way these last few months. Several of our foundations set up directed funds



specifically to help with COVID relief. That amount totaled over \$350,000!

Several foundations did not set up their own fund but worked closely with their local community foundations. We have heard that foundations helped set up wireless access for students who did not have home internet, helped provide laptop bags for students to work remotely as well as helping families struggling at home.

When you look at the student impact, our Nebraska Foundations helped support over 100,000 Nebraska students. And that only reflects the numbers that were reported to us. What an amazing impact our Nebraska Foundations are having on students throughout the state!



# Lincoln Public Schools Foundation

Read this article from the Lincoln Journal Star from May 1, 2020 detailing how the LPS Foundation responded to the COVID Crisis.

LPS Foundation deluged with requests to help from families

# DHHS to be Releasing Millions of CARES Dollars

Last month, Governor Ricketts announced plans for CARES Act funding. There will be an application process for this funding. These are expected to be available the end of June. For current information, visit the DHHS website, linked below.

**DHHS Community CARES** 



## **NAPSF Website**

Don't forget to log into the NAPSF website and submit your school foundation success story. You can submit stories <u>here</u>.

## **NSFA Membership**

All members of NAPSF receive a NSFA membership. This includes free NSFA Webinars and discounts for NSFA conferences.



### **NAPSF Members**

We are currently 30 members strong at the Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations. Our current membership is below:

Anselmo-Merna Public Schools Foundation

Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Foundation

Aurora Public Schools Foundation

Beatrice Educational Foundation

Bellevue Public Schools Foundation

Bennington Public Schools Foundation

Cardinal Education Foundation (South Sioux City)

Central High School Foundation (Omaha)

Columbus Public Schools Foundation, Inc.

Cozad Public Schools Foundation

Creek Valley School Educational Foundation

DC West Schools Foundation

Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation

Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools

Gering Public Schools Foundation

Grand Island Public Schools Foundation

Hastings Public Schools Foundation

Kearney Public Schools Foundation

Millard Schools Education Foundation, Inc.

Norfolk Public Schools Foundation Northwest Education Foundation Ogallala Public Schools Foundation Omaha Public Schools Foundation Papillion La Vista Schools Foundation Ralston Community Schools Foundation School District 145 Foundation for Education (Waverly/Eagle) Scottsbluff Schools Foundation Wayne Community Schools Foundation Westside Community Schools Foundation, Inc. York Public School Foundation

### Haven't Become a NAPSF Member Yet?

The Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations is a state affiliate of the National School Foundation Association. This means that as a member of the Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations, you will get the discounted conference rate and all other full benefits of membership to the national organization as well as Nebraska. You pay one rate to Nebraska and get two memberships Statewide and National! What a deal!

#### Learn more about NAPSF membership benefits



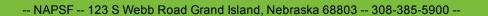
#### **Upcoming Meetings**

#### **NAPSF Board Meeting**

When: Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 10:00am - 12:00 pm Location: Zoom Meeting - Link to be shared later

#### **NAPSF Annual Meeting**

If you would like to help plan this event, contact Traci Skalberg at tskalberg@gips.org



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