NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

NAPSF News August 2020

Hello Nebraska K-12 School Foundation Friends!

NSFA Seminar - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 12:00 PM - A Panel **Disucussion on Supporting Anti-racism, Diversity & Inclusion Programming in Your School. Register Here!**

NAPSF Member Spotlight: Wayne Community Schools **Foundation**

Mark Lenihan

School district budgets have become very tight over the past several years, and many rural schools are influenced by a lack of state funding. At Wayne Community Schools, 83% of the revenue the district generates to support a \$12 million-dollar general fund budget is collected through local tax receipts. Our district, like most rural districts in Nebraska, receives no equalization funding from the state aid formula. This puts a large burden on school district budgets and



local tax payers who expect a high- quality educational experience for the students. The latest COVID-19 pandemic has put even more pressure on school districts to maintain a safe and equitable teaching and learning environment for students and staff.

School Foundations play a very important role in partnering with school districts to support initiatives that go beyond regular general fund expenditures. A positive partnership and relationship a school district has with the school foundation is critical to the success of both the school district and school foundation. The Wayne Community Schools Foundation has been in existence since the 1980's. Beginning in 2012, the school district committed funds to establish the first paid executive director of the foundation on a threeyear probationary status. The Wayne Community Schools Board of Education committed the funds to support the position because they understood the importance of the support a school foundation can provide to enhance educational opportunities for the students. As the position evolved, the foundation board has been able to include the executive director position in operating costs, with a \$20,000 fee from the school district. A very valuable component to the success of this endeavor is the relationship between the school district superintendent, and the foundation executive director and board. Some ideas for school administrators and foundation directors that can nurture and enhance that relationship are listed below.

- 1. The superintendent serves as a non-voting member of the foundation board and attends all meetings.
- 2. The executive director of the school foundation attends all meetings of the school board, and provides monthly updates.
- 3. The executive director serves on the school district management team, and is part of all meetings on a regular basis.
- 4. The foundation board and superintendent work collaboratively on goal setting and evaluating the executive director.
- 5. The superintendent works closely with the executive director and foundation board to establish goals for fundraising and scholarships.
- 6. The superintendent and foundation director work closely to plan activities that support the mission of the foundation and school district.

The relationship between the school district and school foundation are maintained and nurtured by the superintendent and executive director. It is critical that both understand their role in supporting the work of the school board and foundation board. Having a positive relationship provides support that is seamless and benefits the students at Wayne Community Schools.

Mark Lenihan Superintedent, Wayne Public School





2020 Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Mark your calendar!

2020 NAPSF Virtual Conference

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2020 Time: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Place: This will be a virtural conference.

Read more at our website: NAPSF Virtual Conference

Registration will open in September.



"Learning for Life, Every Student, Every Day"

The mission of Wayne Community Schools Foundation is to support "Learning for Life, Every Student, Every Day" by working with the School District, alumni, businesses, and community to provide financial support for items not covered by the School District's funding source.

The purpose of the Wayne Community Schools Foundation is to solicit, manage, and distribute supplement funds for educational purposes that may not be funded by the District. Funding is supplemental and does not replace or alter use of tax-based revenue.

The Wayne Community Schools Foundation exists to enhance the interaction of Wayne Community Schools' alumni and friends with the school district.

The Executive Director of the Wayne Community Schools Foundation is Brandon Foote. Brandon can be reached at 402-375-3150, or brfoote1@waynebluedevils.org.

The Wayne Community Schools Foundation goals are listed below:

- · To provide financial resources for programs and initiatives that aligns with the Wayne Community Schools strategic plan.
- To encourage academic excellence and "Learning for Life."
- To promote community awareness and alumni awareness in education and the Foundation.
- Increase our scholarship opportunities for Wayne High graduating seniors.
- Establish meaningful relationships with alumni and community members that will assist the district in obtaining additional resources for enrichment of education experiences.
- Recognize our outstanding students, teachers, and staff for their commitment to educational excellence.

The Wayne Community Schools Foundation projects include

The Kern Track & Field Complex – The Wayne Community Schools Foundation has raised over \$500,000 to improve and renovate the facility. Upgrades include a new all-purpose track surface and field event areas, renovation of concession and restroom areas, and most recently the addition of new LED lights.

IDEA Classroom Grant Project – The Wayne Community Schools Foundation annually offers teachers, counselors, librarians, and nurses a grant that funds classroom projects that directly impact teaching and learning. Matching donors provide additional support to help fund the project award winners.

Technology - The Wayne Community Schools Foundation has raised funds to support the district technology one-to-one initiative. This initiative provides students in grades 5-12 access and availability of a one-to-one device to enhance their educational opportunities.

Kindness Fund - The Wayne Community Schools Foundation supports a kindness fund that raises money to help families in our area who need additional assistance for basic needs such as meals, clothing, bedding, and rent and utility payments.

Scholarships - The Wayne Community Schools Foundation houses several scholarships and awarded 13 scholarships to graduating seniors in 2020, totaling over \$11,000 in financial aid assistance. The Wayne Community Schools Foundation is also adding a scholarship for the Early Learning Center to help a child begin their education.

Grants - The Wayne Community Schools Foundation not only has the IDEA Classroom Project

grant but has also provided grants for the Wayne Community Schools Backpack Program.

Elementary School - The Wayne Community Schools Foundation purchased a gym curtain at the elementary school and has also helped with playground equipment and SWIVLs.

Events - The Wayne Community Schools Foundation puts on an annual alumni basketball and volleyball tournament over Easter weekend and also holds an All-Class reunion as part of Chicken Days the second weekend in July every year.



NAPSF Website

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

NSFA Membership

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



NAPSF Members

2020- 2021 Membership Renewals are now due! Please go to our website and pay your dues for next year, if you have not yet.

NAPSF Membership Form

We are currently 30 members strong at the Nebraska Association of Public School Foundations. A list of our 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!



Upcoming Meetings

NAPSF Board Meeting

When: Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 10:00am - 12:00 pm Location: Zoom Meeting - https://zoom.us/j/96546586016

2020 NAPSF Virtual Conference

When: Thursday, October 29, 2020, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Location: This will be a virtual conference

Upcoming NSFA Webinars

Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 12:00 PM - A Panel Discussion on Supporting Anti-Racism, **Diversity & Inclusion Programming in Your School District**

Our public schools and the ecosystem of our educational foundations must represent the diversity of students from within our respective communities to include all racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. As the professional organization for education foundation leaders, NSFA commits itself to equity, and supports our public school system leadership who values justice and brings forth required change to encompass diversity and inclusion.

Together with foundation leaders across this nation, we will continue our critical effort to sustain and improve public education for all children in our school systems. Collectively we can and will enrich the lives of every student, every day.

About the Program

Join our panelists for this discussion about how districts around the country are using anti-racism programming to ensure that the diversity of all student populations is respected and celebrated. Each panelist will present their perspective and then open the floor for questions, brainstorming and discussion.

About the Panelists

Brian Courtney works in risk management for The Safegard Group and is a Board Member for the Downingtown Community Education Foundation in Downingtown, Pennsylvania.

Tyren Frazier is Executive Director of the Chesterfield Education Director in Midlothian, Virginia.

Gail Rothman is Executive Director of the Decatur Education Foundation in Decatur, Georgia.

You will receive your Zoom Webinar registration link upon registration.

Register Here



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