



Foundation Information Sheet

Mission: The Lake Washington Schools Foundation supports academic excellence and success for all students.

We Value:

- Enabling and ensuring resources to accomplish excellence in education.
- Rich and varied learning experiences that encourage all students to reach their maximum potential.
- Programs that support the diverse needs of our students.
- The development of strong community support.
- The equitable and transparent allocation of resources.

Status: 501c(3) Non profit corporation date February 22, 2005

Donor Levels: **Legacy League** **\$15,000+**
Legacy League status is for donors who over time give \$15,000 or more in donations. One can reach Legacy League status as quickly as they choose.

Platinum Circle **\$10,000- \$14,999**

Gold Circle **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Silver Circle **\$1000-\$4,999**

Why a Foundation? Research shows that support from a schools foundation raises test scores and increases individual student potential and performance.

Schools foundations provide the enrichment opportunities that local levies cannot fund.

Our neighboring school districts have schools foundations that each raise between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 per year for supplemental educational opportunities.

Achievements: Between March 2005 and January 2011, we raised over \$1.3 million and:

- **Distributed 407 New Teacher Grants totaling \$81,400** to every new LWSD teacher with one year or less of teaching experience;
- **Funded 189 Classroom/School Enrichment Grants totaling \$286,607** to support innovative and engaging educational projects that enrich and enhance the Lake Washington School District curriculum;
- **Granted \$130,000** to the Lake Washington School District specifically to fund STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs in the high schools.

- **Contributed \$35,000 towards the first phase of a district-wide effort to strengthen K-12 science curriculum** by offering junior high Science Challenge Grants of up to \$5,000 each to pilot opportunities for experiential and engaging hands-on science curriculum.
- **Awarded \$47,300 to fund the purchase of innovative science lab technology** that enables students to explore and investigate scientific inquiry in biology, chemistry, physics, and physical science that they currently only read about, and to acquire skills and aptitudes they will need to be future ready.
- **Granted \$35,500 through the Access Fund** to help low-income students defray some of the costs of attending schools, such as classroom fees.
- **Awarded \$91,000 to LINKS**, a district-wide mentoring program developed to bring students together with caring adults who offer guidance and encouragement to enhance the academic, social and emotional development of students at risk.

**Foundation:
Priorities**

Enrich the Quality of Our Schools

Provide opportunities for individual schools to address specific needs of their community to improve the quality of education received; for LWSF teachers to be supported and leaders in their field; and for sufficient materials to ensure all students have the opportunity to be successful.

Engage the Support of Our Community

Convey to the community the importance of education and building collaboration; build community connections by acting as ambassadors for public education by locating stakeholders and keeping them informed and involved; provide the necessary resources needed for all children in Lake Washington School District; support activities for all parents to be involved in meaningful ways with their local schools.

Empower our Students

Ensure resources to provide enhanced learning opportunities for all kids to pursue their passion and reach their potential

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