

## GALESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# FOUNDATION FACTS

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### Board of Directors...

We are truly fortunate to have a diverse board filled with hard working volunteers that have a commitment to helping our students achieve their very best. We would like to welcome two new members to the Foundation's Board of Directors...Valerie Hawkins and Molly Kleine.

#### Valerie Hawkins:

After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1998, Valerie married John Hawkins, moved to the Galesburg area and began teaching for District 205. She has taught several grade levels for the district with her most current teaching assignment being first grade at King Elementary. In 2009, Valerie completed a Master's of Elementary Education degree from Western Illinois University. Her two children both attend Gale Elementary in Galesburg. Valerie joined the Foundation in 2010 to further assist the students of District 205 and to help meet their educational goals.

#### Molly Kleine:

Molly was born and raised in Galesburg, attending District 205 schools and graduating in 1991. She and her husband, Jeremy – a 1989 GHS grad, have two children who attend Steele Elementary School. Molly has been teaching third grade at Nielson Elementary School for 14 years. She serves on various committees at Nielson and currently is the Vice President and 'chief duck seller' of Steele School's PTO. She and her husband are also very involved in other community service organizations as well as active members of their church. Molly joined the Foundation in 2010 and believes that all children deserve to have the same positive educational experiences that she had growing up in District 205.



*Molly with her son  
Kannon, tagging our ducks  
for our 15th Annual Rubber  
Duck Race!*

It isn't just a "Three R" world anymore; the one-room schoolhouses are closed. Science, computers, foreign languages, visiting authors, are all part of a good education; it's a competitive world. The opportunities for youth today are limited only by the quality of their education. The Foundation has become an integral part of Galesburg's educational environment for students in District 205 on many different levels. As we continue our efforts, we look forward to working closely with the district to identify the best way to serve our students.

### Churchill Jr. High Duck Challenge...



*Churchill students won their  
duck sales challenge & toss  
water balloons at teacher,  
Sue Dickinson & Principal  
Bart Arthur!*

Churchill Jr. High School tried something new this year to inspire students and faculty to sell more ducks in the annual school duck sales competition. Sue Dickinson, 6th grade teacher, rallied the school around a fun event ... "Soak the teachers!" The challenge was to sell over 500 ducks with the reward being several teachers and principal Bart Arthur would be 'soaked' by select students tossing water balloons at them. As you can see by the picture, the challenge paid off and Churchill came in third in the school competition with duck sales of 576, a new record for the school. Congratulations Churchill!

#### School sales contest results:

1. Galesburg High School
2. Nielson Elementary
3. Churchill Jr. High
4. Gale Elementary
5. Steele Elementary
6. Silas Willard Elementary
7. Lombard Middle School
8. King Elementary
9. Cooke Elementary

## Duck Dollars helping our schools...



The **15th Annual Rubber Duck Race**, held last September at Lake Storey, was our best race to date! Thanks to all those who 'adopted' ducks this year — we sold the most ducks ever in our 15 year history!!

Our school competition really took off this year with two schools surpassing the most ducks that any school has ever sold! Galesburg High School just nipped Nielson Elementary by a mere 12 ducks! Schools were selling fast and furious on race day and it came right down to the wire. This is a great tribute to the hard work that our students, teachers and parents put into making the race a great success!

We began our race with our traditional 'Beach Fun Run' and had nine school representatives competing for the traveling **"Ducky Award"**. Teachers and administrators were taken through a course of fun tasks on the beach and then over to the water slide area where they flew down the slide and 'plucked' the winning ducks! Bailey Cavanah, of **Nielson Elementary School**, became the first female participant to win the Beach Fun Run and plucked this year's Grand Prize winner. With Nielson coming in second in sales, they also won the **"Most Improved Duck Sales Award"** with an increase of nearly 54% over last years duck sales! The **"Top School — Most Ducks in a Row"** award was given to **Galesburg High School** for selling the most ducks of all the schools (see photos).



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

**Bailey Cavanah, Teacher,  
Nielson School &  
Tom Wallace, GPSF  
President with the "Most  
Improved Duck Sales" award**

This year we raised over **\$23,000** that will go right back to our schools. The foundation board sets a dollar award for each school based on the number of students in the school. Principals then submit their funding requests to the Foundation. In addition, the schools PTO's or fundraising groups that sold ducks for their schools this year also receive money which totaled nearly \$6,200!

Grant requests for 2010 Duck Dollars are just now being received and we will let you know how the schools use this year's duck money in our next mailing. Budgets are shrinking and the duck dollars we are able to return back to the school truly helps fill the gaps in funding they're facing.

In 2009 we funded over **\$14,000** worth of projects, equipment and assemblies. **Lombard Middle School** allocated their funds to purchasing a Powerlite Multimedia projector which is used in several classrooms along with their computer lab.

At **Galesburg High School**, the Art Department used their monies to go toward the purchase of a new laptop computer that will work with their Smart Board. A digital camera and projector was bought for the Math Department. The Family & Consumer Science Department purchased new shears and rotary cutters. A life size human skeleton will benefit the Special Education Department. New web cameras and classroom sets of novels round out the high schools grants.



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

**Tom Wallace, GPSF  
President, presents Nielson  
Elementary School Teacher,  
Bailey Cavanah, the  
Beach Fun Run  
Traveling Ducky Award**



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

**Tom Wallace, GPSF  
President presents Dan Powell,  
GHS Teacher the  
"Top School — Most  
Ducks in a Row" award**

(continued next page)

## More re“duck”ulously good news...



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

**Beach Fun Run School Participants:**  
*Miranda VanUnnik, Lombard; Dan Powell, GHS; Bailey Cavanah, Nielson; Maury Lyon, Steele; Lacy Mathews, Gale; Nick Young, Churchill; Katie Ruehmer, Cooke; John Shelly, Silas Willard and Kristin Friemark, King*

**Gale Elementary School** used their money to help purchase and renew licenses for Study Island. This web based program is used for ISAT preparation and as an aid in the Response to Intervention process. Students find topics organized with a lesson, assessment questions, and explanations and can also be utilized at home. This helps students gain confidence when taking the ISAT.

Three all school assemblies at **Churchill Junior High School** were made possible by monies awarded to the school. An anti-drug program along with two motivational programs were presented to the all students and staff.

We work hard to support our students and teachers by matching educational needs with the resources of our dedicated donors. **Thank you** for coming out, having fun and most importantly helping our schools and students with your



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*  
**Teacher Nick Young from Churchill Junior High plucks one of the winning ducks!**

generous donations!

A special **THANK YOU** to our **Top Sponsors** and **Quacker Backers**...we ask that you keep them in mind when you need anything!

### **TOP SPONSORS:**

Blick Art Materials  
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### **QUACKER BACKERS:**

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We also want to thank all those who donated prizes, gift certificates, time and freebies. It is truly the hard work of all these people and companies that make our race the success it is!

## Memorials...

Selecting an organization to donate to is a very personal decision. We'd like to thank all those that choose to make the **Galesburg Public Schools Foundation** the recipient of their friends and loved ones memorial donations. This year, memorial donations were made in the names of *Art Fish, Betty Vitale, Jack Larson, William Graham, Charles E. Krause, Homer Zumwalt, Maury Beck, Joseph Patterson, Robert "George" Miller, John Chapman and William Westfall*. These monies are used to help our students in many different ways. Our condolences are extended to the family members and friends for their loss. We appreciate their thoughtful consideration of the Foundation.

*Please help us save money! If you would like to receive future mailings of our Foundation Facts newsletter and Annual Support letter, please send us an email at [gpsf@grics.net](mailto:gpsf@grics.net) and let us know!*

**Thank you for your support!**

## Donating in today's economy...

The Foundation believes that effective community support is needed to provide the best educational opportunities for our children. We are fortunate to have a community supports that belief through its generous gifts. When you make a donation to the GPSF, you're saying that you won't accept an average education in our community...that students deserve the best. Those that don't have children in schools, know that strong public schools promote strong communities and that their donations help shape the future of Galesburg.

There are many different ways to support the efforts of the Foundation - each a vitally important process that helps form the financial backbone of our Foundation. Whether you have 'adopted a duck' during the Duck Race, our largest fundraiser, sent in a memorial after the loss of a loved one or remembered us during our Annual Support Campaigns...for those donations, we say **thank you!**

**Planned Giving** is another way to donate to the Foundation. Planned Gifts are popular because they can provide valuable tax benefits and/or income for life. Most bequests are made through Wills, Life Insurance and Retirement Plans. Donors should contact their attorney and/or tax advisors to get information on the benefits of these gifts. **Matching gifts** from your employer is yet another way of doubling your donation to the Foundation. Please check with your employer to see if they offer this option. All gifts to the Foundation are **tax-deductible**.

*Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference.*

## Who Are We...

The **Galesburg Public Schools Foundation** is a chartered, 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt not-for-profit foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to raise funds to supplement educational, extracurricular and interscholastic programs in District 205, and to strengthen the relationship between the public schools and the community.

*Believe  
In It!*

**Thank you** for your past support of the **Galesburg Public Schools Foundation** programs. Educators today face many challenges. The opportunities for youth today are limited only by the quality of their education. We hope you will continue to support the Foundation in its endeavor to enhance our youth's education...an education that prepares them for the next step in their lives and gives them the desire to be lifelong learners.

### *Help us Help our Students Succeed!*

Yes, I want to support GPSF's innovative educational opportunities for all District 205 students.

My **tax-deductible** investment in education is: \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_ other.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

My gift will be matched by \_\_\_\_\_ (company name). Enclosed is my employers matching gift form.

\_\_\_ I would like to volunteer my time or services to help the Foundation.

*Fall 2010*

Please clip and return with your **tax-deductible** gift to:

**Galesburg Public Schools Foundation (GPSF) P.O. Box 687 Galesburg, Illinois 61401**