

## GALESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# FOUNDATION FACTS

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FALL 2011



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## A special thank you...

Galesburg is a very generous community! What else can we say...we sold a record number of rubber ducks in our 16th Annual Rubber Duck Race and then, the Grand Prize winner, donated back their winnings to the Foundation!

One of **Western Illinois Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery's (WOIMS)** little rubber duckies swam the fastest and came in first in our duck race last September. WOIMS then turned around and donated their \$2,000 first place prize back to the foundation to allow us to have one of our most profitable duck races to date! Thank you Drs. Kaspar and Bobofchak...your donated dollars will be put to great use for our students in District #205!

Over the many years that we have run our duck races, the Foundation has been very fortunate to have several prize winners donate their winnings back to the Foundation. **F & M Bank, Crop Production Services, Wells Fargo Bank and Galesburg Cottage Hospital** have all turned their winning dollars back over to the Foundation to allow us to give even more dollars to our local students.

We want to say **thank you** to all those who help us have such a successful fundraiser...whether you bought one duck or 100 ducks...your donation has made a big impact on our local school district!



*Western Illinois Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery donates back their 1st place check after winning the 16th Annual Rubber Duck Race!*

## Schools work hard to raise funds...

Once again this year our schools caught duck fever and sold a fantastic number of ducks! School PTO's and clubs use the duck race as a fundraiser for their own groups as they receive a portion of **each** duck they sell. The rivalry between schools heats up and many schools hold special events to help increase their duck sales.



*Callista Hutchison of Lombard Middle School, along with her sister Anissa in her duck tutu, go door to door, selling ducks in their neighborhood!*

This year one student from Lombard Middle School, Callista Hutchison with the help of her younger sister, Anissa, went door to door and set up tables at several business to help sell ducks for Lombard. Dressed in T-shirts they made saying "Thanks! Have a Quacky Day!" they were profiled in The Register Mail newspaper and did on-air interviews with Terry Cavanaugh on WGIL radio. Their efforts helped Lombard come in 4th in our school sales contest!

### School sales contest results:

1. Galesburg High School
2. Gale Elementary
3. Churchill Jr. High
4. Lombard Middle School
5. Silas Willard Elementary
6. Nielson Elementary
7. Steele Elementary
8. King Elementary
9. Cooke Elementary
- and 10. GHS—North

## Duck Dollars helping our schools...



Volunteers were really 'quacking up' and working hard to set a new record this last September, for the most ducks ever sold...and they succeeded!! The **16th Annual Rubber Duck Race** held at Lake Storey, was our most successful race to date! Thanks to all those who 'adopted' ducks this year — we sold the most ducks ever in our 16 year history!! This is a great tribute to the hard work that our students, teachers and parents put into making the race a great success!

Our traditional 'Beach Fun Run' kicked off the event and had ten 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! Courtney Jude, of **Gale Elementary School**, won the Beach Fun Run and plucked this year's Grand Prize winner. Gale also won the new award "Percentage Ducky" - which was given to the school that sold the most ducks per student enrollment! Kevin Dennis from **Lombard Middle School** ran the course and flew down the water slide complete with a head camera...he accepted the "**Most Improved Sales**" award with Lombard's duck sales rising 47% above what they sold last year! The "**Top School — Most Ducks in a Row**" award was given to Brie Shadensack, of **Galesburg High School** for selling the most ducks of all the schools (see photos).



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

*Tom Wallace, GPSF President presents Kevin Dennis, Teacher, Lombard Middle School with the "Most Improved Duck Sales" award!*

This year we raised over **\$27,000** that will go right back to our schools. In addition, the schools PTO's or fundraising groups that sold ducks for their schools this year also receive monies which totaled nearly \$6,200!

2011 Duck Dollars grant requests are just now being received and we will report on how the schools use this year's duck money in our next mailing.

In 2010 we funded over **\$14,000** in projects, equipment and assemblies. **Lombard Middle School** allocated their funds to purchase a mounted SmartBoard. **Nielson Elementary School** used several years of 'duck dollars' to update their audio/visual systems. At **Galesburg High School**, the Social Studies Department used their monies to go toward the purchase of a new Smart Wireless Slate to use with their SmartBoards. Ten new calculators were purchased for the Special Education Department and the Music Department purchased backdrops for their Madrigal Dinner.

**Gale Elementary School** used their money to help purchase and renew licenses for their Study Island program. Additional Accelerated Reader books and tests were bought by **Silas Willard Elementary School** and **Churchill Junior High School** continued to fund three all school assemblies which include an anti-drug program along with two motivational programs for all students and staff.

We work hard to support our students and teachers by matching educational needs with the resources of our dedicated donors. A special **THANK YOU** to our **Top Sponsors** and **Quacker Backers** along with 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 duck race the success it is!



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

*Tom Wallace, GPSF President, presents Gale Elementary School Teacher, Courtney Jude, the 2011 Beach Fun Run Traveling Ducky Award & the Percentage Ducky Award!*



*Photo courtesy of Sue Dickinson*

*Tom Wallace, GPSF President presents Brie Shadensack, GHS Band Teacher the "Top School — Most Ducks in a Row" award!*

## Foundation awards grants...

In addition to awarding grants to the schools from our duck race, in 2011, the Foundation funded several other important projects and programs.

One such program was the **Jack Larson Rent-Free Band Instrument Program** for the 2011-2012 school year. This program was established in 2003 as a collaborative effort between Jack Larson and the District 205 band department. Its initial goal was to put good quality band instruments in the hands of students from families with financial needs who otherwise would not be able to afford an instrument. Students who qualify for free or reduced price lunches are eligible for the program. In addition, students who are selected must have a history of responsibility, cooperation and commitment in school. Over 100 instruments have been obtained for the program. The number of students being served by this program has grown each year since its inception and it is anticipated that over 100 students in grades 6-12 will be provided instruments in the 2011-2012 school year.



*Patti Bibo, GPSF Administrator presents \$2,000 to Bart Arthur, principal & Nick Young, dean of students both of Churchill Jr. High, for Churchill's Social Emotional Learning mentoring program*

Dean Petrie, District 205 Fine Arts Coordinator, stated that maintenance of the current instrument inventory has become a higher priority than the purchase of new instruments, so this year's funds will be allotted to maintenance.

Another program that the Foundation funded in 2011 was the **Churchill Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Committee** for their morning mentoring program. This program was originally funded by a state grant that has expired, but the program was so beneficial to the students, that Churchill requested funding from GPSF.

The Breakfast Club meets every morning from 7:10am until 7:50am and has shown outstanding results in the way of increased attendance, homework, grades and test scores. Approximately 35 students attended the club on a regular basis last year where they received homework help, guidance, or just had conversations with fellow students and a mentor teacher.

## Special Recognition...

In September the Galesburg Public School Foundation was recognized by the District #205 Board of Education for their many years of working to raise money to enhance the educational opportunities of students in District #205. GPSF board members were presented an plaque during a Board of Education meeting. We look forward to continuing to work with all members of the school district towards a common goal of helping our students succeed in the years to come.

## 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 *Norm Winick, Charles Krause, Bill Klapp, Jan Guenther, Virginia "Ginny" Swanson, Dorothy E. Simms, Peggy Johnston, Jonathan "Bud" Parkin, Debbie Jo (Scott) White, Dustin A. Frazier II and Dr. J. Wayne Rehn.* 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.



*District 205 Board of Education President Rick Welty, Galesburg Public School Foundation Board members, Doug Mustain, Sandy Wallace, Lynn Armstrong, Molly White, Foundation Administrator Patti Bibo, GPSF board members Kristi Perez, Cheryl Hauslein, Connie Wessels & Superintendent of Schools Gene Denisar*

*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!**

## Your Donation IS Important...

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 that 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, 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 2011*

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

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