

## GALESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# FOUNDATION FACTS

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FALL 2007



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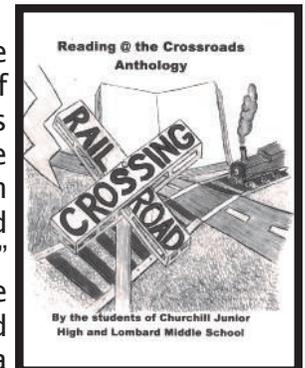
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## Reading @ the Crossroads II... *The Power of Dreams!*

Some experiences in life you just cannot wait to try again... **Reading @ the Crossroads** is one of them. Two years ago, the Galesburg Public Schools Foundation asked representatives of the middle schools two questions: What do you, as teachers, dream about providing your students? What do your students need?

With well established goals in hand, a steering committee set out to create a yearlong focus on reading and writing across the curriculum. The results exceeded all expectations. Two authors made presentations and inspired the students. The literature of Christopher Paul Curtis & Harriette Gillem Robinet was presented, read, and shared by students, teachers and community members who took their time to read and discuss the books and historical moments woven throughout the text.

This highly successful program involved the entire community and spoke volumes about the value of literacy. The Galesburg Register Mail ran stories of Galesburg's history relevant to the times in the books read & students expressed themselves in many different medias. They wrote and recorded ads for the radio; published their own "Kids Page" in the newspaper; read poetry at a local coffee shop; made collages, pencil drawings and board games. In the end, their works were judged and a 56 page Anthology was published with the works of 117 students.



2006  
*Reading @ the Crossroads  
Anthology 2006*

In a memo, Joel Estes, Assistant Superintendent of Schools called the **Reading @ the Crossroads** "one of the most successful curriculum initiative in District #205 history."

Thanks to our donors, the Galesburg Public Schools Foundation, is proud & excited to again offer \$10,000 for **Reading @ the Crossroads II**. It is too early to give details, except that those well-defined goals, along with the enthusiasm and dedication for this project, remain strong. We hope you are as pleased with this project as we are and find it to be an excellent use of your generous donations. ***This dream would not have become a reality without your support!***

## Illinois Reading Council Annual Conference...

Every spring teachers, especially those directly involved with literacy, look forward to the Illinois Reading Council's Annual Conference. The Illinois Reading Council's website states that they are "among the most vital Literacy organizations in the country." Their stated mission "is to provide support and leadership to educators as they promote and teach lifelong literacy."

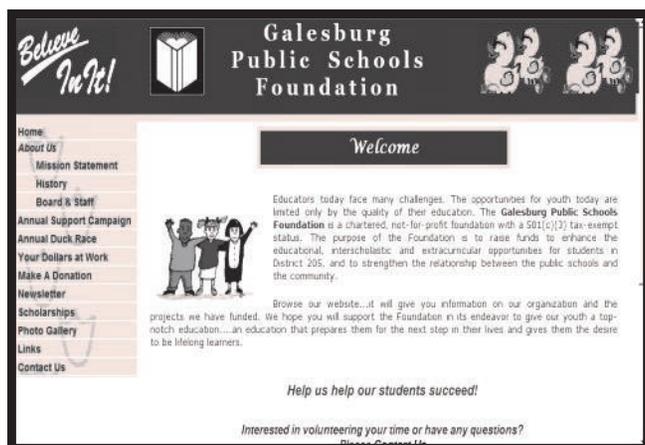
This year the Foundation's **Reading @ the Crossroads I** initiative will be presented at the conference. Several members of the original steering committee will make the presentation on March 14th in Springfield from 1:45PM to 2:45PM. But wait....it gets even better! **Christopher Paul Curtis**, our **Reading @ the Crossroads I** featured speaker, will also be at the conference and has agreed to be part of the presentation.



Congratulations to the **Reading @ the Crossroads I** steering committee - - they have served the foundation, our community and most of all, our students well! Their dedication, professionalism, creativity and enthusiasm for learning was, and remains, a beacon for our student to follow. The Foundation thanks you for your generous gift of time and talents. A special thank you also goes out to the Illinois Reading Council for their support of our **Reading @ the Crossroads** initiative.

## Foundation's new web-site...

This year the Foundation took another step in helping provide our donors and supporters with more information by setting up a web-site. Our new web address is: [www.gburgpsf.org](http://www.gburgpsf.org).



*Foundation's new website home page*

With help from Beth Anne Eisemann along with set up and design work from Dave Shaver of D.A. Shaver Graphics & Web Design, we were able to produce an attractive and easily navigated web-site.

The site is filled with information about the Foundation's history, our board and staff, along with the many different projects we have funded. Scholarships and memorials are listed as well as a photo gallery.

Alumni and interested folks from across the country have contacted us with information requests and donations.

We invite you to visit our site....see the good things your dollars have provided for our students!

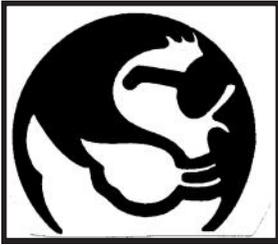
## Memorials...

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's memorial donations were made in the names of Furry, Hawkinson, Erffmeyer and Lew. These monies are used to help our students in many different ways. Our condolences are extended to the family members for their loss and appreciate them thinking of us.

## Scholarships....

The Foundation is pleased to announce a new \$500 scholarship for Galesburg High School. The Wanda B. Sargent Memorial Art Scholarship is available to a worthy student who plans on continuing their education in the art field. A special thanks to Jeanne Purman for thinking of GHS students with this scholarship in her mother's name.

## Some re“*duck*”ulously good news...



The **12th Annual Rubber Duck Race**, held in September at Lake Storey, was a great success...thanks to all those who 'adopted' ducks this year! The event began with a 'beach fun run' with nine school representatives competing for the traveling “*Ducky Award*”. Participants 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! For the second year in a row, **King School** won the beach fun run and fourth grade teacher, Kyle James plucked the Grand Prize winner out of the water (see photo). This year **Steele School** won the “**Most Improved Duck Sales Award**”.

With our new website up and running (see story opposite page) ducks could be purchased on-line and we were also able to give information and promote our sponsors and prize givers.



*King School's Kyle James flies down the water slide to pluck the winning duck!*



*Sharon Gonzalez with parents making calls at our Telethon held at GHS*

As our ‘**TOP DUCK**’, **Dick Blick** was very generous and their support and help is immeasurable. The **Register Mail** along with **Galesburg Broadcasting** were also key in our fundraising efforts. Our fundraising events this year included ‘*Celebrity Bagging*’ at both **Hy-Vee & Econo** stores and a fantastic **Pizza Hut** dine-in promotion. **Happy Joe's** donated *Duck Bucks* again this year...making your duck purchase **FREE!** The Telethon was a big success (see photo) as was our radio Duck-a-thon! Our little duck canisters were also seen around town at various restaurants asking to be fed with your spare change. We want to thank our **Quacker Backers** and **prize donors** who continue to make the race successful and a fun and enjoyable time for all.

This years Grand Prize winner, **Crop Production**, donated back their cash winnings to the Foundation! We would like to thank them for their generosity in donating this \$2,000 back to the Foundation (see photo).



*Tom Warner donates Crop Productions Grand Prize back to Patti Bibo of the Foundation.*

The hard work of our volunteers helped the Foundation raise over **\$20,000** that will go right back to our schools. With the profits of the duck race, the foundation board sets an amount per student to be given back to the schools each year. As of this printing, we have approved several requests. **Gale School** is using their money for a visiting author who will help promote reading; a performance of a local jazz sextet for the music program along with three novel sets for the 3rd grade classes. **Churchill** has been awarded funds for two nationally known speakers, Greg Forbes Siegman and Carl Cannon. Both men inform the students of the importance of tolerance for others, making good choices and staying in school. **Silas Willard** and **King Schools** will also be using their duck dollars for visiting authors, with King also adding a Pioneer Living Exhibit. **Steele School** is purchasing software that addresses phonics, reading, and early keyboarding, primarily for their Kindergarten through 2nd graders.

The board looks forward to hearing what the other schools have planned for their monetary awards and we will let you know how your dollars were spent at a later date.

As our largest annual fundraiser, the Foundation wants to say ‘**thanks**’ to all who helped make our Duck Race successful. **Thank you** for coming out, having fun and most importantly helping our schools and students with your generous donations!

**We are only as good as our Volunteers & Supporters and...**

**WE ARE GOOD!**

**Thank you for your support!**

## Donating to the Foundation...

Selecting an organization to donate to is a very personal decision. Many of you were introduced to the Foundation & helped with donations to our 1st capital campaign to build the gym & pool at Galesburg High School. It's hard to believe that that facility was completed and turned over to the school district in 1993 - - nearly 15 years ago. Though the foundation has not had a more visible project than the gym & pool, we have continued to give back to our students thousands of much needed dollars each year.

There are many different solicitation methods of Annual Giving...each a vitally important process that helps form the financial backbone of our Foundation. Perhaps you have 'adopted a duck' during the Duck Race, our largest fundraiser, or remembered us during our Annual Support Campaigns and for those donations, we say thank you!

**Planned Giving** is yet another way to donate to the Foundation. 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 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 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 2007

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

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