



ISSUE NO 11

OCTOBER 2014

The Laker Educational Foundation

Our mission is to encourage Creativity, Innovation and Excellence in Education



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Letter from the Foundation Board

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

Never in its history has there been a more exciting time to be connected with the Laker Educational Foundation. Because of your generosity and commitment, it has been a successful year. We are truly blessed to live in a community that has always placed a tremendous value on the education of its children. Your allegiance to continue the strong tradition of educational excellence and outstanding student achievement has been overwhelming.

If you haven't heard, we will be hosting our 1st annual Blue Jeans Ball on October 24, 2014. The event will be held at Green Acres Event Center in Eden Prairie. We are very excited about the event and hope you are as well. The details are located on the events page of this newsletter. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, do so soon. A limited number are available.

At the end of this month, we will be reviewing all of the grant requests received. It's then up to the grant committee to come to the board with recommendations on how funds will be allocated.

Busy times ahead! To all of you who have given so generously and worked so diligently to ensure the foundations' success, we offer our heartfelt thanks!

Hope to see you at the Blue Jeans Ball!

The LEF Board of Directors

Fall Grant Deadline Announced!

(If the request falls within our mission, you are eligible.)

Grant applications are accepted from teachers, staff, students and community members. The foundation reviews all applications and allocates funds that fall within our mission. The next grant deadline is spring.

Last day to submit your grant request is **October 30, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.**

Need help or have questions? Call 952.226.0063.

Applications can be found on our website: www.lakerfoundation.org

Thanks to our Donors

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all those who have donated to the foundation and all those who have volunteered their time and talents to help out at our events.

(A complete list of donors can be found on our website)



L to R: Lori Frank, Maria Belden, Sara Wintheiser, Mallory Retzlaff

At a recent foundation board meeting, Maria Belden & Sara Wintheiser from Speiker & Company in Prior Lake, presented a check to LEF from proceeds raised at the Fall Community Fest. The funds were part of a fishbowl game the employees of Speiker & Company put together and 100% of the proceeds were donated to LEF. The amount they raised was matched by Speiker & Company.

We are very appreciative. Thank you!



It's a bit early to be thinking of the holidays, however keep in mind the foundation has an awesome way to thank that special teacher, principal or support person in your student's life.

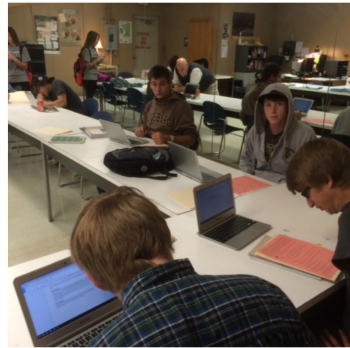
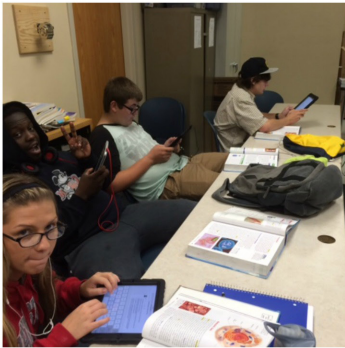
Donate to the foundation by purchasing a **gratitude greeting**. Everyone benefits! Watch for details forthcoming!

LEF Grant Recipient Update

Bridges Area Learning Center students were recipients of a cart of chrome books and iPads from the foundation.

We decided to follow up and see how the devices were being used.

Comments from the Bridges ALC Coordinator Dave Brown: *"The iPads and Chromebooks are used every single day, almost every period. They have been a vital component of our school and are a major tool to draw students into the lessons and engage them in their learning. They also are great for breaking out students for individualized time as needed based on their needs and the needs of the class."*



October is United Way Month

The United Way is a coalition of charitable organizations that join together to pool fund raising efforts for non-profit groups. The national United Way organization serves as an umbrella for over 1,300 United Ways throughout the U.S., and each follows this basic model, with most United Way fund raising focusing on the workplace through employee payroll and employer matching funds.

Have you considered the United Way? All you need to do to designate a donation to the Laker Educational Foundation is to write our name and address on your pledge form. Just listing the Laker Educational Foundation, Prior Lake, MN works also. Even if you don't itemize on your tax return, you can take a deduction.

You can give securely online by credit card or you can mail a check to:
Greater Twin Cities United Way, 404 South 8th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Non-itemizing MN taxpayers can deduct 50% of charitable contributions exceeding \$500. To learn more about this law, visit the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

Featured Grant

The following is just one example of how our foundation gives back to the students in the community.

"Inspiring Innovation Through the Use of 21st Century Technology: Fab Lab"

John Maresh and Jennifer Reinhardt at Prior Lake High School were recently awarded this grant.

Summary of the grant request

Students will learn to identify needs in their community and invent solutions by developing designs and creating products utilizing technology, software, and 21st Century manufacturing processes. Students will also learn business/entrepreneurial aspects of running a business by applying business skills and strategies to market the products to consumers. The funding from this grant would be used to acquire a new vinyl printer and cutter.

Intent of the project and the impact or effect on the community it serves

Students will gain "real world" experiences as they learn to use 21st Century manufacturing processes that are used in the business world. Students will gain business skills as they identify needs, develop products, and market the goods. As more manufacturing is being brought back to the United States by major corporations, our students will gain insight into the skills, knowledge and attitudes that a company, like 3-M, is looking for in its new manufacturing employees. Students will also gain insight into careers through our collaboration with the University of Minnesota as a part of this project.

The vinyl cutter that would be acquired with these grant monies would be used to produce vinyl graphics like those seen on the sides of athletic helmets, "PL" window clings, and similar items. This device can also print posters 20" wide and up to 12" in length for clubs, organizations and other district departments.

The Fab Lab opened at Prior Lake High School with an inaugural class of 28 students. The name of the course is Build, Design and Sell: Innovations, Inc. Recently an article was submitted by the Prior Lake American regarding the Fab Lab: http://www.swnewsmedia.com/prior_lake_american/news/education/article_c448e0ce-a228-5390-9fc3-f5cc4cf7fc73html

Student Comments

Curriculum

"Fab Lab is an amazing program. It teaches you about costing your materials, designing your dreams, and making them come alive." Sam Beaumont

"In Fab Lab, we design, build, and sell in a real world like setting." Michael Raplay

"Fab Lab is giving students opportunities to pursue their interests as no other class has, can, or will." Abby Muraski

Collaboration

"Students are teaching other students."
Austin Nord

Work Ethic

"It's not how creative your work is, it's how much work you are willing to put in."
Dylan Dooley

"Even if you think you're done, there is always more you can do." Jack Kramer



This was the 281st grant awarded by the foundation.

The Foundation is located in Prior Lake and Savage, and its mailing address is P.O. Box 840, Prior Lake, MN 55372. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt public charity under the Internal Revenue Code, and contributions are tax deductible, subject to limitations in applicable law. No goods or services are provided to any donor in exchange for contributions. Unless otherwise specified, contributions to the Foundation will be used for its general charitable purposes and endowment. This disclosure is made under Minn. Stat. 309.556.



Events Line Up

1st Annual Blue Jeans Ball - Friday, October 24, 2014

Limited number of tickets are available...purchase today!

1st Annual

DINNER * RAFFLES * SILENT AUCTION
BONFIRE * LIVE MUSIC

The Laker Educational Foundation
invites you to our

Blue Jeans Ball

Friday, October 24, 2014

7:00 to 11:30 pm

Green Acres Event Center
14150 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie

"The Place to Be in 2014"

Tickets \$45.00 per person and on sale at
www.lakerfoundation.org

For more information 952.226.0063

