

Foundation Report – May 2013

Thank you for those who supported the Cinco De Mayo Silent Auction & Fiesta on May 5th. Not only did we have a lot of fun, but we raised approximately \$10,000 in the process. Hundreds of auction and raffle items donated by local businesses and generous individuals really made the night a success. A highlight of the night was honoring our Pillar Award recipients, Dan Reavy from Verizon, alumnus Jim Finnemeyer, educators Steve Frederick, the entire NPSD Technology and Engineering Education Department and Carol Fink as volunteer and heart of the Foundation.

You many know that Carol Fink has served the Foundation for many years in her role with the NPSD School and Community Engagement Department. Upon her retirement in June, the Foundation now plans to contract the services that were previously provided by that department as her position is not being filled but will be distributed to others within the school district. The Foundation wants to thank the school district for its long-standing support of the Foundation which includes but goes well beyond the excellent work that Carol has provided.

Plans are being made for fundraisers for the 2013-2014 school year. Of course these plans include the annual golf classic on August 19th, a charity luncheon at Bacco and possibly a new event for the spring. I will keep you posted as we progress with plans. On Tuesday of next week the grant committee will review 30 grants proposals for next school year. We have set aside \$18,000 for funding of programs next year, not to include mid-year grants. Recipients will be notified by the end of May.

At the June 1st Lansdale Day, the Foundation along with the NPSD Office of School & Community Engagement will have a table to provide information to those attending. Please stop by if you will be there.

In grant news, Ellen McKee recently took her AP English class to the Newseum in Washington D.C. with Foundation funds. Of course Ellen knows the value of the trip and wrote afterward to the Foundation that “the afternoon at the Newseum proves the power of the written word more elegantly and poignantly than her best lesson.” Maybe that is why she had all of her students write notes to the Foundation thanking us for the opportunity to visit the Newseum. They wrote about the impact of seeing the headlines, articles and artifacts that detailed historical events they have learned about including the Civil War, the Titanic, 9/11 and the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and JFK. One student wrote, “Seeing the newspapers put events like the Gettysburg address, the sinking of the Lusitania and more put into perspective much better than any textbook.” Another student wrote, “The best part was looking at the Pulitzer Prize winning photographs. The meaning that each one captured really spoke to me and made the field trip unbelievable.”

If you have any questions about the Foundation you can contact Christine Liberaski at the ESC.