

GOVERNOR NEWS

*A publication provided by the Pierre Educational Foundation
for Pierre Public School District 32-2*

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EARLY FALL 2009

BACK TO SCHOOL: UPDATE FROM THE PIERRE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

From Pierre School District Superintendent Kelly Glodt

The Pierre School District is very proud of the ongoing academic and extra-curricular successes we have achieved. We continue to score well above the state and national averages in regards to student achievement. This is a testament to the quality students, staff, parents, and community members that attend and/or are involved with the Pierre School District. Last year, our students not only excelled but our staff also received numerous, well-deserved, accolades and commendations following our very successful district-wide North Central Accreditation review. From my slightly biased point of view, there could be no better place to grow up, live, and attend school than Pierre!

The 2009-2010 school year will be the first year for the Riggs Academy at T.F. Riggs High School. The Riggs Academy will provide credit recovery as well as other alternative educational opportunities for our students. We will continue to work toward becoming a Professional Learning Community through the use of our Building Leadership Teams. The goal of this initiative is to create a collaborative atmosphere where shared decision making empowers all staff members to be more involved in the overall educational process of our district. We have an outstanding staff with a wealth of experience! Working together as a team will produce results that we never felt possible.

We will continue to work on providing the best educational opportunities possible for all our students. We continue to review, revise, and expand the full continuum of services we provide all students in order to achieve our mission, "To Cooperatively Inspire All Students to Achieve Their Potential." Please assist us in our mission by simply taking the time to have a conversation with the school aged children in our

community. All parties involved will benefit from such a simple gesture – they all need to know we care about them and their future success!

Educational foundations are critical in providing support so that our students can receive the best educational opportunities possible. The mini grants provided by the Pierre Educational Foundation not only challenge teachers to go above and beyond, but also assist a great number of students who are fortunate enough to reap the benefits. I would like to thank those of you who have taken an active role in enhancing the Pierre Educational Foundation, and encourage everyone to consider supporting their efforts.

Let's all help MAKE this a great school year!



PEF Mission Statement

The Pierre Educational Foundation promotes the further educational development of the Pierre School District students, staff and graduates through the delivery of quality educational opportunities and resources.

FROM THE PEF PRESIDENT

Being a member of the Pierre School District Educational Foundation has been a very fun and rewarding experience over the past several years. I am proud to be serving as President of a board of very fine community members that have quality educational opportunities as their focus. The Pierre School District remains one of the finest districts in the state of South Dakota. We are fortunate to have this quality system for our children to attend.

I was a School Board member for the Pierre School District over the past 3+ years and it is no accident that our school has such a high reputation. The persistent effort of our administrators to hire the best available teachers pays off in the classroom. One of the largest testaments to the quality of our students was a statement from the president of one of the State's major universities. They stated that Pierre was among three or four schools that they didn't have to worry about the kids being ready for the transition to college coursework. The students from T.F. Riggs High School are always well prepared and ready to step into the college classroom.

The Pierre School District is also taking steps to help our students that may be struggling to keep up in the classroom as well. The addition of the Riggs Academy will be a great addition and help our educators to meet the demands of all of our students.

The Foundation that we are involved in plays a supporting role to the school district. The mini-grant process allows teachers to get necessary supplies to provide important innovative learning ideas that may not otherwise be introduced to students. There are several scholarship programs that come from the funds in the foundation that help deserving students attain post high school educational opportunities. That is what makes this foundation so exciting. The funds that are provided here are used to help our district's students excel even further than they already do.

As with all Foundations, it is vitally important that we have the community support we need to continue to build the base so even more opportunities can be created for our students. Please take the time to consider making a donation to PEF. It is a donation for our kids, our students, and our future.

Thank You!
Brad W Cruse
Pierre Educational Foundation President
T. F. Riggs, Class of 1984

PEF SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

James and Gertrude Mueller Scholarship

The James and Gertrude Mueller Scholarship is an annual scholarship awarded to a graduating senior entering the medical field. The 2009 award winner was Kyle Cichos who was awarded \$2,470.00. Cichos is attending the University of South Dakota in Vermillion where he plans to study Medicine to become either a surgeon or family physician.



Charles "Lindy" and Shirley Feeney Scholarship

The Charles "Lindy" and Shirley Feeney Scholarship is an annual scholarship offered to a graduating senior who is a dedicated track athlete and in need of financial assistance to further their education. The 2009 award winner was Seth Brotherton who was awarded \$1,000.00. Brotherton is attending the SD School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City where he will participate in their mechanical engineering program.



Peter Norbeck Wegner Fund / Fran Ruzick Travel Fund

The Peter Norbeck Wegner Fund is dedicated to financially supporting the debate program at T.F. Riggs High School. Another fund to support debate is the "Fran Ruzick Travel Fund." This fund was recently formed in honor of the late and former debate coach, Fran Ruzick, to assist with travel expenses that the current debate team will incur.

Irene I. and Herbert C. Emde Scholarship Fund

This fund is currently building its endowment base and the Foundation hopes to start awarding this scholarship in the near future. Once the fund is mature, the scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who is pursuing a teaching career.

Those wishing to support any of the PEF scholarship funds may send their tax-deductable donation to the PEF, PO Box 94, Pierre, SD 57501. Please specify your fund designation on your check.

Spring 2009 Mini Grants

Twice annually, PEF awards mini-grants to fund educational programs within the Pierre Public School District. Without the mini-grant program, these projects would not receive funding. Since the program was established in 1996, \$99,918.85 has been awarded to educational programs. The spring 2009 mini-grant recipients are:

- \$500.00 to Jefferson Elementary for **“Tending the Garden: Enriching Jefferson Elementary’s Well-Loved Bookroom.”** This grant will allow staff to purchase additional books for the bookroom.
- \$600.00 to Jefferson Elementary for **“Eyes on Learning.”** This grant will allow Mrs. Pogany to purchase a documentation camera to make classroom lessons more interactive, visually stimulating, and timely. The document camera will have the ability to project everything from show and tell, math games, demonstrations and science experiments so all children can see and participate.
- \$639.84 to T.F. Riggs High School for **“Multimedia Memory Upgrade.”** This grant will allow Mr. Gill to upgrade 16 Gigabytes of additional high speed RAM for use in Microsoft Vista on the multimedia computers.
- \$1,500.00 McKinley Elementary School for **“McKinley Playground Equipment.”** This grant will be combined with other grant and fundraising dollars to help McKinley Elementary update their playground facility, which has the oldest and most used playground equipment in the district.

The next round of applications will be due October 1, 2009, and grant recipients will be announced November 1, 2009. For more information, visit www.pierreeducationalfoundation.org.

Past Mini Grant

In the fall of 2008, \$545.00 was awarded to Hope Armstrong at Georgia Morse Middle School for **“Marble Roller Coasters!”** This grant taught the 6th grade students the standard for physical science – describing how push/pull forces act on an object producing motion. The marble’s course allowed the students to experience success or failure immediately and first hand.



Coming this fall:

2009 Golden Apple Pledge Drive

Be on the lookout for your “2009 Golden Apple Pledge Drive” letter, being mailed in September. The Pierre Educational Foundation is asking alumni to reflect upon the education they received within the Pierre Public School District, and commit to making a three-year pledge to the Foundation. Help PEF raise funds to ensure that the Pierre Public School District continues to be a place of excellence.



“Round Up for Education” is an optional charitable monthly contribution program. City of Pierre residents can sign up to have their monthly utility bill rounded up to the next full dollar amount. The excess change is then donated to the Pierre Educational Foundation. Example of how the program works: Monthly utility bill is \$96.82; bill would be rounded up to \$97.00 and the excess \$0.18 would be donated to the Pierre Educational Foundation. The maximum donation amount per month would be \$0.99 or the maximum per year would be \$11.88.

To sign up, visit the City of Pierre website at <http://ci.pierre.sd.us/roundupform.aspx> and submit your “Round Up” Application electronically. You can also pick up a sign up form at the Pierre City Hall office.

Note: Individuals who pay their bill automatically through ACH monthly, are not eligible to participate in the “Round Up for Education” program due to software limitations. For those individuals who would still like to participate and contribute to the Pierre Educational Foundation, a tax-deductible donation may be mailed to: Pierre Educational Foundation, PO Box 94, Pierre, SD 57501.

PIERRE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Pierre Educational Foundation
211 South Poplar
PO Box 94
Pierre, SD 57501

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PEF Alumni Updates are posted on the PEF Website at www.pierreeducationalfoundation.org. Visit our website to read updates on alumni - and to submit your update!

Thank You Donors!

PEF would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all individuals, families and businesses that have contributed money to the Foundation. The following is a recent list of contributors. We apologize if we have missed any names; please contact us and let us know. A complete list of lifetime givers (\$1,000.00+) is available on the PEF website.

Benefactor (\$2,500+): Sam Ruzick Jr.

Patron (\$1,000 - \$2,499): Michael & Judy Weisgram

Sponsor (\$500 - \$999): Class of 1958, Nadine (Hasek) Amy, Mansour Karim, Stephen R. & Mary Lynn Myers, Martha Nelson, Tom Roberts, Peggy Stout, Phyllis Zimmerman

Supporter (\$250 - \$499): Jim Ackerman, Verne & Deb Brakke, Charles H. Burke Sr., Wayne F. Echelberger Jr., Lynette Kautz, Sandra Polster, Terry Treiberg, Patricia Williams

Donor (\$51 - \$249): Pat Blankenburg, Pauline Donaldson, David Ebach, Thomas Allen Evans, William Floyd, William Fritz, Jonette Herman, James Hunt Jr., Randall Ice, Mark W. Johnson, Jill Lindsteadt, Tanya Lindsteadt, James Mellon, Brian S. Miller, Barb Nail, Tanya Noble, Doug Oakeson, Jerry Parkinson, Frankie Patencio, John Peller, Marcene Rummler, John Shangreaux, Fiona Sohns, Jack Steiner, Clark Stone, Edward Tegland, Galen Theobald, Franklin Tucker, Fred Tweet

Friend (\$50 and under): Adams Central Public Schools, Anna Marie Anderson, Harlan Anderson, Jeraldine Anderson, Deloris Baumgart, Janice Bergson, John Biggs, Sherry Block, Mavis Board, Ron & Kathy Boehler, Joseph Brewer, Kathleen Bykowski, Capital Motors, John Childs, Sheila Clark, David Collins, Samuel Colvin, T. Douglas Devine, June Drebing, Jean Eberly, Constance Edwards, William Efting, Shirley Eisnach, Peggy Ellwein, Wanda Erbe, Don Frazier, Ray & Bev Frerichs, Jacqueline Gerenz, Jo Gilbert, Mary Grange, Shirley Halligan, Edith Herbert, Dan A. Hosman, Dick Howard, Daniel Hoyt, Paula Huizenga, RC Jahraus, Calvin Jassmann, Joan Johnson, Nancy Kelley-Gillespie, Charlie Koch, Donna Lehne, Phyllis Lindbloom, John Lawrence Lindquist, Margaret Logan, Garry & Sally Marrone, James Matthews, Robert McCullen, Mary Ann McCurdy, McDermott & Miller, Charles McGuigan, Kathryn McNulty, E. Jay Mickelson, Jerry L. Miller, Shirley Miller, Jonathan Moore, Dennis H. Morrissey, Beverly Parrott, Tom & Judi Pavelka, Bob & Harriet Reinsch, Bob & Karen Roback, Paul & Deborah Schmoltdt, Ethel Scott, Kathryn Suiter, The Hair Affair, The Visiting Vet, Nancy Tumer, Carol VanRoekel, Cindee & Rod Wachter, Anton Wegner, Vicky Wetz, Thomas Woods, Marilyn Zellitti, Mark Zickrick

CONTRIBUTION FORM

YES! I want to support the Pierre Educational Foundation with a tax-deductible donation. My gift is enclosed. (The Pierre Educational Foundation qualifies for matching gift programs).

_____ Benefactor (\$2,500 or more)

_____ Supporter (\$250 - \$499)

_____ Patron (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

_____ Donor (\$50 - \$249)

_____ Sponsor (\$500 - \$999)

_____ Friend (under \$50)

_____ Please check here if you would NOT like PEF to list your name as a donor in an upcoming newsletter.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Maiden Name _____

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City / State / Zip _____

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