



Vermillion Public Schools Foundation

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P.O. Box 569
Vermillion, SD 57069
www.vermillionpsf.org

Spring 2014

The Vermillion Public Schools Foundation (VPSF) had an eventful 2013. It has grown through the generous donations from the Vermillion Community. VPSF has established a new endowed fund, the Walter and Margaret Kaeberle Scholarship, along with a number of high school and middle school scholarships, which you can read about, below. First, we will give a little background on the VPSF.

Background of Vermillion Public Schools Foundation

In response to ongoing issues with State and Federal funding for education, a group of civic-minded Vermillion citizens founded the VPSF in 2006. These citizens wanted to provide a fundraising mechanism for those wishing to support the Vermillion Public Schools and continue its tradition of providing a strong education for the children of Vermillion. The VPSF allows citizens a tax-deductible means to directly support educational opportunities for Vermillion schoolchildren that cannot be funded by local, state, or federal dollars. The VPSF also works to enrich existing curricular, co-curricular and extra co-curricular programs with supplemental funding. As you read about the scholarships and funds that are currently benefitting our students, please consider joining our list of donors.

The Siegrist Funds

Edith B. Siegrist, a former USD library professor, established three funds to benefit the Vermillion School District on an annual basis for 20 years: the Library Fund, the Music Fund, and the Scholarship Fund. For the 2012-13 school year, the *Siegrist Library Fund* focused primarily on the purchase of digital and technology devices for the students and libraries. This included iPads, Kindles and MP3 Digital Audio Books along with eBooks for Kindles for use by the elementary and middle school students. The high school library acquired Graphic Novels. The Library Fund also helped bring an author to speak at the Vermillion Public Library.



4th Grade Concert playing drums

Through the *Siegrist Music Fund*, the VPSF purchased a large array of world drumming equipment. World drumming, or drum circle, is a learning activity that fosters a climate of respect, inclusiveness, and creativity as students improvise together and explore the rhythms of their own and other cultures. A “gathering drum,” large enough for several students to sit around, is housed at Austin School. A package of 21 drums (6 different models), 20 accessory instruments, and associated

educational materials resides at Jolley School for use in fourth grade music program, but is available for all grades. A number of instruments were used for a Drum Circle Club at the Middle School last spring and to accompany an African piece sung by the High School choir at this fall's Apple Polishing Concert.

The 2012 *Siegrist Scholarship Fund* benefited both the Vermillion High School and Middle School students. The Scholarship Fund provided two \$1,000 scholarships for seniors based on teacher nominations. The 2013 scholarship recipients were Paige Olson and William Getzin. The Scholarship Fund allowed Middle School students attend USD summer camps. Last summer, five VMS students attended the Lawrence Bros. Science Camp and five VMS students attended the USD Music Camp.

The Kaeberle Scholarship

The family of Walter and Margaret Kaeberle recently established a scholarship in their parents' memory. An annual scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded to a Vermillion High School senior interested in pursuing post-high school studies in religious studies, agriculture, or medical sciences. The 2012-13 Kaeberle Scholarship was awarded to Allison Heine.

The Tennis Fund

In the 2010-2011 school year, the VHS Girls and Boys Tennis programs were among several cuts in the School District budget as State funding for schools fell. Several parents, along with other community members, have worked diligently to raise funds to ensure that these growing tennis programs remain available to VHS students. Fundraising continued for Tennis in the 2012-2013 school year. This represents the third straight year that this group has successfully raised enough funds to keep the VHS tennis programs going. The Foundation was able to provide necessary administrative support for their fundraising efforts.

Activities of Past Supporters of VPSF:

***Class of 1958.** The Vermillion High School Class of 1958 made a donation to the Vermillion Public Schools Foundation. The class's donation provided seed money to begin a VPSF Library Endowment fund.

***Class of 1987.** The Vermillion High School Class of 1987 made a donation that went to help beautify the high school's grounds with landscaping around the auditorium.

***CAP Group Supports VPSF.** Back in the late 1990s, a group of concerned Vermillion School District citizens created the CAP organization for the continuance of extra-curricular activities in the school district, which had been placed on the chopping block. The Funds raised in that effort were donated to the VPSF to continue support of the Vermillion School District.

***All School Reunion – Walk/Run Event.** On a hot August morning in the summer of 2009, the Vermillion School District held an all school reunion. Events included a tour of the high school, a city-wide picnic at Prentis Park celebrating Vermillion's 150th with a Walk/run event. All the funds raised were donated to the VPSF.

Thank you for your support of the Vermillion Public Schools. We look forward to continue providing educational and extra-curricular opportunities for the schoolchildren of the Vermillion School District. For more information, please contact treasurer@vermillionpsf.org.

Vermillion Public Schools Foundation

www.vermillionpsf.org

Enclosed is my gift of: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other: _____

Please designate my gift to the following fund:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Foundation's Greatest Need | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Enhancement Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music Education Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts Education Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Improvements Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Financial Aid Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development Fund | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | \$ _____ |

My Name/Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Mail to: Vermillion Public Schools Foundation

P. O. Box 569

Vermillion, SD 57069

treasurer@vermillionpsf.org

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