



SPARTA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2018

Sculpture Garden at
Sparta High School
Grant funded in 2011

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Sparta Community,

The Sparta Education Foundation completed our twelfth year by reaching a major milestone –funding over \$1,000,000 in educational grants for all five schools in the district. We set this goal back in 2012, and with close to \$130,000 in grant funding for 2018, the total amounted to over \$1,024,000! Our whole community should feel proud of this notable accomplishment. Whether you participated in or sponsored one of our events, volunteered your time, chose the SEF as your charity on Amazon Smile, or simply clicked the donate button on our website, your contribution helped us reach this significant goal.

While the dollar amount of grants we funded is impressive, it is the quality of the grants presented to us that really make a difference in the classrooms. For this we are so grateful to the teachers and administration who have the vision to introduce new and revolutionary programs into our schools that positively impact our students' lives. 2018 saw some changes to the board as well. We welcomed Beth Hofgesang, as a trustee. Active in the community, Beth serves on the board of the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce, is President of her local chapter of Business Network International, and is former President of the Sparta Music Boosters, Inc. Her experience and enthusiasm are invaluable assets.

We said goodbye to our outstanding student liaisons Bayleigh Takacs and Erin Scott as they left for college, but we are excited to have two new student liaisons –Greg Puszcz and Jordan Ouimette. The student liaison program helps keep us connected to the students and their school activities. We couldn't be more impressed by these two young men.

We also welcomed Assistant Superintendent Patrick McQueeney as our administrative liaison; he is new to the district and now calls Sparta home. Patrick is an excellent partner and brings fresh ideas and creative thinking to the board. We look forward to working with him toward our common mission: to enrich the educational experience of children in our public schools.

I'd like to close by asking you to help us spread the word about the important role the SEF plays in our schools. You can help us by liking and sharing our social media posts, talking to your friends and family about volunteering or participating in our events, and attending our board meetings to learn what we are all about. Your support will help us reach our future goal: \$2,000,000 in grant giving.

Warmest regards,
Donna West
President, Sparta Education Foundation

THE SPARTA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Sparta Education Foundation (SEF) is a non-profit, all-volunteer, community-based organization founded in 2006. As an independent, 501(c) (3) New Jersey non-profit corporation, it has its own mission, goals and by-laws that are organized and managed by an independent Board of Trustees. The Foundation is not connected to the Sparta Board of Education or the Town Council. The Board is comprised entirely of volunteers who are committed to encouraging philanthropic support of our five public schools. They are responsible for the organization of fundraising projects and other activities that benefit Sparta schools. During 2018, Sparta Education Foundation's "Efficiency of Funds" remained high for each dollar collected.

We believe that a strong community counts on strong public schools to prepare its children to become productive citizens, strengthen property values and inspire civic pride. As such, the SEF is committed to raising funds to ensure continued excellence. Through the end of 2018 we have awarded grants totaling over \$1,024,000.

OUR MISSION

To raise funds that will enable the Sparta Education Foundation to make ongoing charitable contributions that enrich the educational experience of children in the Sparta Public Schools.

To promote pride and positive awareness in the Sparta Public Schools.

OUR VISION

To engage the entire community in philanthropic giving that strengthens our public schools, supports our teachers, and inspires our students.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Donna West
President



Donna Spinetta
Vice President



Nancy Purnell
Treasurer



Gwen Donovan
Secretary



Danielle Dykstra
*Trustee and
former President*



Andy Garger
Trustee



Beth Hofgesang
Trustee



Dorothy LaBeau
*Trustee and
former President*

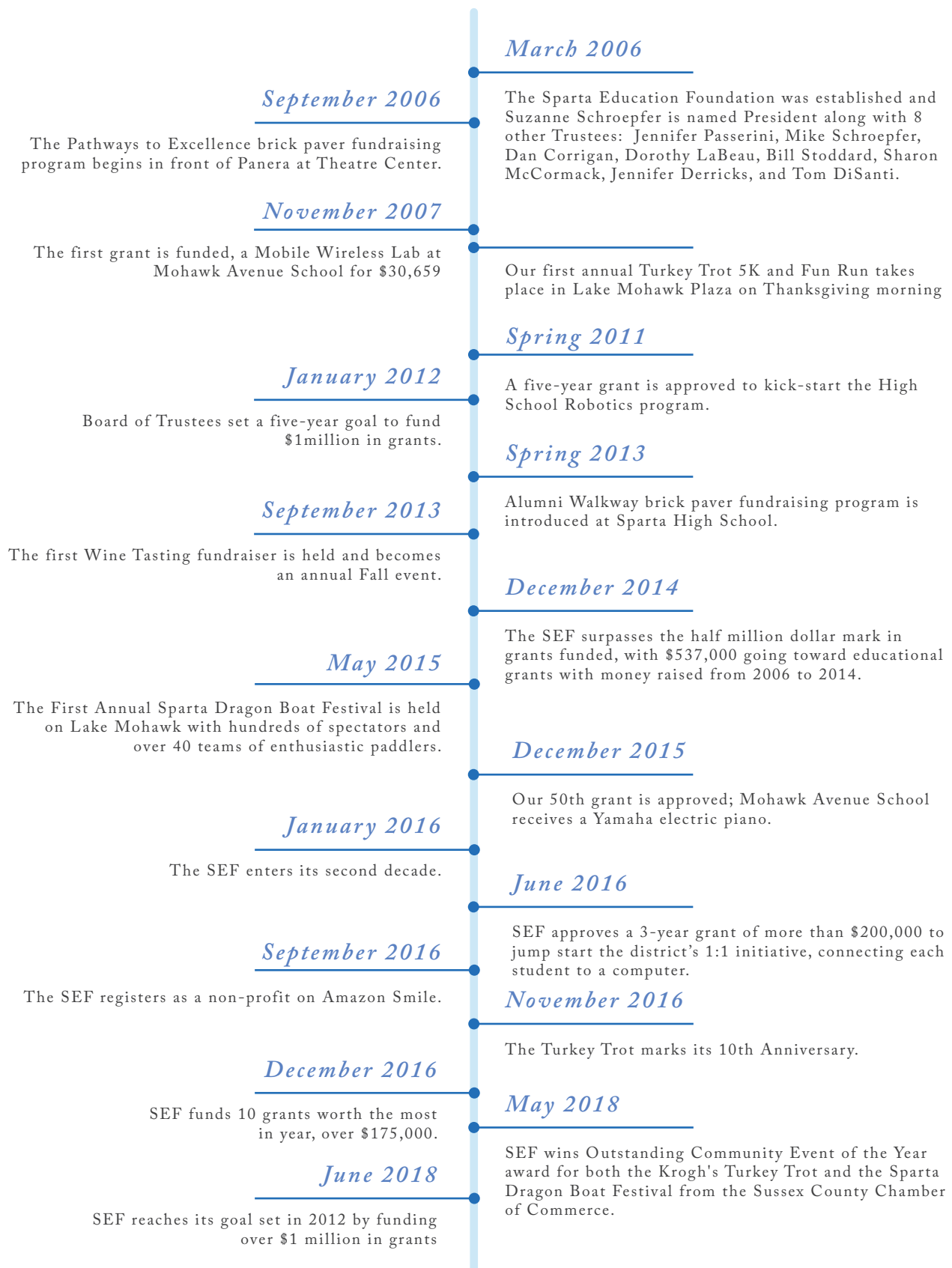


Gregory Puszcz
Student Liaison



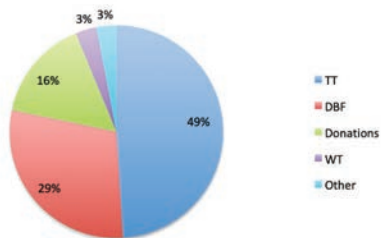
Jordan Ouimette
Student Liaison

SEF MILESTONES

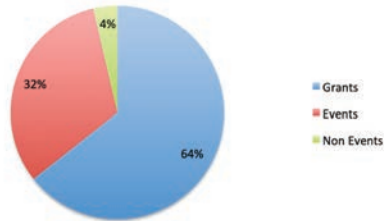


SEF FINANCIALS

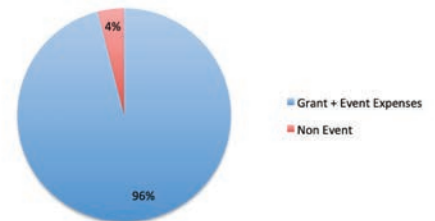
FUNDS GENERATED



EXPENSES



EFFICIENCY OF FUNDS



		TOTAL
TOTAL FUNDS (START OF 2018)		\$108,787
FUNDS GENERATED IN 2018		\$188,421
EVENT REVENUES*	\$160,560	
ADJUSTMENT TO EVENT REVENUE**	\$6,136	
CONTRIBUTIONS & OTHER	\$21,079	
GRANT FUNDS RETURNED	\$646	
EXPENSES IN 2018		\$201,878
GRANTS AWARDED IN 2018	\$129,779	
EVENT EXPENSES*	\$64,498	
ADJUSTMENT TO EVENT EXPENSE**	\$260	
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	\$7,341	
FUNDS AT YEAR END 2018		\$95,330

*Event Revenues / Expenses includes Turkey Trot, Wine Tasting, Dragon Boat Festival, Pavers and NJ Devils

** Adjustments to Event Revenue /Expense reflects funds received / expenses paid in calendar year other than 2018.

Contributions and Other - Grant funds returned, RR&R, Talbots, Rib Eating Contest, In Kind

The Isak Anderson Memorial Fund was established in July 2015.

The 2018 year end closing balance was \$27,123.22.

These funds will be disbursed by a committee of the SEF chaired by the Anderson Family.

2018 GRANTS

In 2018, the SEF funded nine grants totaling close to \$130,000. Grants are reviewed and approved three times a year at board meetings in February, June and November.

Genome Editing CRISPR/Cas9 Classroom Kits

SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

\$1,000

February 2018

Under the guidance of Ken Scognamiglio, science teacher at Sparta High School, students Simon Levien and Will Theilacker wrote a grant for CRISPR/Cas9 Classroom Kits as part of an AP project. This genome editing tool presents a new method of turning on and off genetic traits; it is inexpensive, efficient and accurate. When students were polled at the high school only about 20% of the population who knew about CRISPR, although many were eager to learn more about the gene editing technology. This cutting-edge technology has the potential to cure diseases like cancer, HIV and others. Plans are in place for AP biology and all biomedical classes to use the classroom kits as a major lab.



Activity Furniture



MOHAWK AVE SCHOOL

\$2,077

February 2018

This grant is for flexible seating options to enhance student engagement and promote collaboration. Balance ball chairs, hokki stools, stability balls, mini carpets and standing desks were supplied. Research shows that this type of furniture eliminates restlessness, heightens attention and increases focus levels. This furniture will also increase mindfulness, which is part of a district wide initiative.

2018 GRANTS

SLA 3D Printer

SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

\$6,564

June 2018

This grant funded an SLA 3D printer to expose high school students to a variety of 3D printing methods and allow them to print in various materials. The SLA 3D printer benefits STEM engineering students as well as students taking Architecture & Design courses.

Sound Systems

SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

\$11,589

June 2018

This grant funded eight sound systems for Sparta High School which are designed to meet the needs of students who have auditory processing difficulties. The sound systems allow students to hear clearly and reach their maximum potential. They will benefit current and future students in the high school for years to come.

Rowing Machines

SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

\$9,090

June 2018

This grant provided Sparta High School Physical Education/Athletic Department with ten more rowing machines and a pair of slides to enhance both the Physical Education and Athletic Departments. The primary purpose of this grant is to offer additional opportunities to students who are participating in a variety of athletic endeavors that contribute to a balanced and healthy lifestyle.



2018 GRANTS

Ukulele Program

MOHAWK AVE SCHOOL

\$2,106

June 2018

This grant established a ukulele program at Mohawk Avenue School. The primary purpose is to expose students to an instrument that will allow them to learn music theory and skills, as well as have a chance to demonstrate those skills both vocally and on an instrument.



Robotics Equipment Upgrades



SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

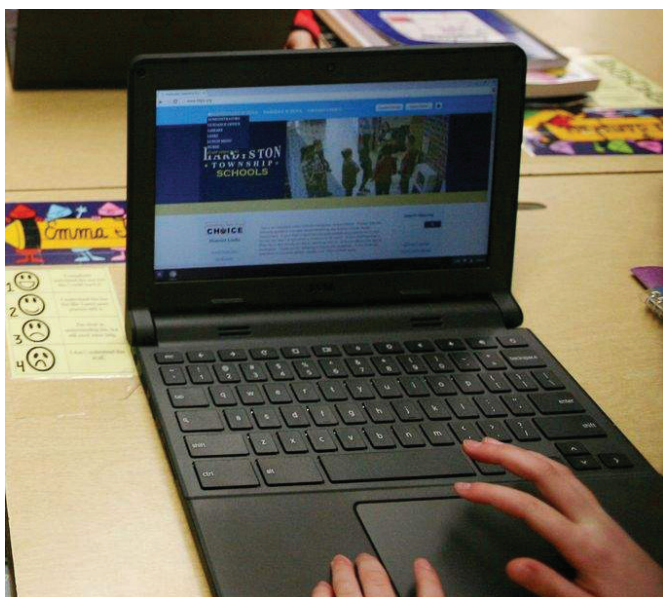
\$19,011

June 2018

This grant replaced and upgraded aging and obsolete equipment for the robotics program at the high school. For the Sparta Robotics Teams to compete at the regional, state and international levels, upgrading to the new VEX V5 processor system was a necessity. This grant also provided an upgrade to the VEX IQ system, a more robust and capable platform for more advanced designing. It is also closely compatible with what is being done at the advanced levels at the high school, which aids students who aspire to move on to more challenging levels.

2018 GRANTS

Year 3 of Chromebooks



SPARTA HIGH SCHOOL

\$67,277

June 2018

This grant concluded the SEF's three-year commitment to bring Chromebooks to high school students. Part of the 1:1 World Initiative connecting each student to a computer, the total amount of the three-year grant is \$201,803.

30 Google Expeditions Virtual Reality Kits

HELEN MORGAN SCHOOL

\$11,065

November 2018

This grant provided additional opportunities to expose Helen Morgan School students to the world of virtual reality as a platform for learning. Virtual reality meets the Next Generation Science Standards by having students focus on key practices such as identifying challenges and problem-solving solutions, engaging classmates in discussions about procedures and results, conducting experiments following scientific methods, and recording data, methods and results.



2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

4TH Annual Sparta Dragon Boat Festival • May 20, 2018

Cool, cloudy weather and a rainy start didn't dampen the enthusiasm of over 750 participants and hundreds of spectators at our Fourth Annual Sparta Dragon Boat Festival on Lake Mohawk. With 37 teams competing in separate heats throughout the day, some in brightly-colored and themed costumes, this high-energy event was just as much fun for spectators as it was for the paddlers. At the end of the day, community-winning teams included the first place Gold Medal to SA American Muscle, Silver Medal awards to RDA Fitness and Bronze Medals to RedShed CrossFit.



2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

DRAGON BOAT SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS

PLATINUM SPONSOR

\$5,000 or greater



GOLD SPONSOR

\$2,000 or greater



LEADERBOARD

\$1,500 or greater



SILVER SPONSOR

\$1,000 or greater



BRONZE SPONSORS

\$500 or greater

Sparta Pharmacy

Liquor Factory

Harte Orthodontics

Jim and Kate Matteson

2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS CONTINUED

FRIEND OF THE FESTIVAL

\$250 or greater

Dr. Joseph H. Lohner, D.D.S

Applebaum Endodontics, LLC

Farmers Insurance/ The Unglaub Agency, LLC

Sparta Dental Associates, LLC

The Sign Connection

GENERAL DONATIONS

ShopRite

C P Engineers, LLC

Gina Loewen



2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

6th Annual Wine Tasting • October 7, 2018



The Sparta Education Foundation successfully hosted their Sixth Annual Wine and Craft Beer Tasting & Food Pairing fundraiser which featured an assortment of gourmet food specially paired with complementary wines and craft beers.

There was a great turnout and guests enjoyed a wide variety of wines and beers to taste and delicious gourmet treats to pair with them. We'd like to thank The Liquor Factory in Sparta for providing wine and beer for the tasting, and KRAVE Café & Caterers for their delicious food pairings. We also appreciate the silent auction items donated by the Russo Family, the Liquor Factory, and J. Thomas Jewelers for the jewelry and gift certificates.

Many thanks also to Kylen and Tom Anderson for generously hosting this event in their beautiful Lake Mohawk home, and to all the guests who came out to support our public schools.



SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS



*Krave Café
+ Caterers*



Liquor Factory



J. Thomas Jewelers



2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

12TH Annual Krogh's Turkey Trot • November 22, 2018

The sun was shining but the temperature in Sparta was in the teens on Thanksgiving morning. Fortunately, that didn't stop hundreds of runners from participating in the 12th annual Krogh's Turkey Trot. This popular fundraiser for the SEF is commonly known as "The Tradition Before the Tradition," when an early morning start leaves plenty of time to prepare and enjoy Thanksgiving. The One-Mile Fun Run kicked off at 8:15 a.m., and the 5K started at 8:45 a.m. Energy levels were high despite the day's frigid temperatures. The first runner to finish the 5K was Rob Russo, 18, of Sparta with a time of 17 minutes and 10 seconds.

Pre-run festivities included the Pasta Party for all registered runners catered by Villa Capri II on Wednesday night at Lake Mohawk Country Club. Additionally, the SEF hosted a food drive, collecting non-perishable donations to benefit the Sparta Ecumenical Food Pantry.

The Turkey Trot is co-chaired by Kylen Anderson, a member of the Sparta Board of Education and Dorothy LaBeau, trustee and past President of the Sparta Education Foundation. Returning race director, Sabrina Lucas, kept the race controlled and on schedule while entertaining the runners and spectators alike.

Scores of local volunteers kept things running smoothly, and Sparta High School's Shacappella sang the national anthem before the race. Sparta School District Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Patrick McQueeney, new to the district and a new town resident, was the official starter.



2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

KROGH'S TURKEY TROT SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS



TITLE SPONSOR

\$5,000 or greater

Krogh's Restaurant & Brew Pub



GOLD SPONSOR

\$2,000 or greater

Thorlabs, Inc.



BIB SPONSOR

\$2,000 or greater

Eastern Propane



GRANDSTAND SPONSOR

\$2,000

Regional Cancer Care Associates



GOODY BAG SPONSOR

\$1,500

Realty Executives



LEADERBOARD SPONSOR

\$1,500

Spavia



WATER SPONSOR

\$1,000 + water for runners

Culligan Water - Andy Ball

2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

KROGH'S TURKEY TROT SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS

SILVER SPONSORS

\$1,000 or greater



Allstate Gargin Agency



*Atlantic Health System
/Newton Medical Center*



Biondo Investments



Dykstra Associates PC



Duphiney Financial Network



Krave Café + Caterers



*Julia "Julie" Killen
Coldwell Banker,*



Integrity Dental of Sparta,



Lake Mohawk Country Club



Pine Cone Chiropractic, LLC



SchoolCraft Studios,



Sharpe Plumbing & Heating



Sparta School Staff



Villa Capri II



Wellness Pediatrics.

BRONZE SPONSORS

\$500 or greater

Star Nails

*Jason Johnson
Peoples Mortgage*

*Elizabeth Burns
Keller Williams Realty
Morristown,*

Lakeland Surveying

South Shore Outdoor

*Askin & Hooker, LLC
Attorneys at Law*

*Be a Foster or
Adoptive Parent
877-NJFOSTER*

Royal Coachman Worldwide

*Weichert Realtors
Dawn Corbo and
Dawnice LaFave,*

Liquor Factory

St. Moritz Grill and Bar

McGuire Chevrolet

2018 TURKEY TROT MOMENTS



For more pictures go to KroghsTurkeyTrot.com

2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Brick Paver Sales

Engraved brick pavers support the Sparta Education Foundation at two locations: Pathways to Excellence in front of Panera at the Theatre Centre, and the Alumni Walkway outside the Sparta High School cafeteria. These ongoing opportunities are an enduring way to celebrate Sparta pride. For an online order form, visit spartaeducationfoundation.org



Rock, Ribs & Ridges

Rock, Ribs & Ridges is a musical event held each June at Sussex County Fairgrounds and the SEF with the help of student volunteers, school administrators, teachers, trustees and community members, earn money to manage the parking for this 2-day event.

The event organizers also host a Rock, Ribs & Ridges Rib Eating Challenge for local non-profits and our own Andy Garger participated and took second place. The money raised from these events help to cover our administrative costs for the year.



3RD Annual Night with the NJ Devils

Strong community support for the Sparta Education Foundation was demonstrated at “A Night with the NJ Devils” fundraiser, the third annual event held in February. SEF supporters cheered on the Devils at Newark’s Prudential Center during this fun-filled event.



VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to the volunteers who are a huge help at our events including the Turkey Trot and the Dragon Boat Festival; our supporters who attend our annual Wine Tasting and Night With the New Jersey Devils fundraisers; and the many residents and parents who visit our tables at Back-to-School Nights, Spring Concerts and at Sparta Day.

Our partnership with the community and our public schools is stronger than ever, and we appreciate the meaningful support we have from so many. From teachers and administrators to the Board of Education and our high school student liaisons, we are grateful for your assistance.

Our monthly board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month except July and August. All are welcome to attend and learn about the latest grants, fundraisers and developments that are underway. We review grants during our board meetings in February, June and November, and we have approved over 75 innovative grants since our inception in 2006.

We welcome new volunteers and board members whose mission and vision matches ours: to enrich the educational experience of children in the Sparta Public Schools, to promote pride and positive awareness in our schools and to engage the entire community in philanthropic giving that strengthens our public schools, supports our teachers, and inspires our students.

Volunteers and community members can also join our committees which meet twice a year and include Marketing and Social Media, Fundraising, Governance and Recruitment Committees.

Keep up with the SEF on our social media sites including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Visit our website at SpartaEducationFoundation.org or send an email to info@SpartaEducationFoundation.org for information about volunteering, sponsorships, making a donation or becoming a trustee.



IN APPRECIATION

We would like to express our appreciation to our schools for their continued contributions to advancing Sparta education and thank them for their support.

MR. CECIL BEAVERS
Sparta High School Interim Principal

MR. MICHAEL GREGORY
Sparta Middle School Principal

MR. DOUG LAYMAN
Helen Morgan School Principal

MS. LAURA TRENT
Mohawk Avenue School Principal

MR. GIUSEPPE "JOE" LEONE
Alpine School Principal

DR. MICHAEL ROSSI
Sparta Superintendent

MR. PATRICK MCQUEENEY
Assistant Superintendent

MS. PAM HINMAN
Business Administrator

MR. CHRIS TAPPEN
Director of Buildings and Grounds

The Sparta Education Foundation would like to extend special thanks to our teachers, students and volunteers for their generous support.

We are also grateful to our liaisons: Kylen Anderson, Sparta Board of Education Liaison; Laura Trent, Principal Liaison; Patrick McQueeney Sparta Administration Liaison; and Gregory Puzcsz and Jordan Ouimette, Student Liaisons; for their time and valuable contributions.

We also want to thank Joyce Toker, Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent who takes the time to ensure all our grants are in order and ready for presentation. Her assistance is invaluable in getting them processed in a timely manner.

A special shout out to Doug Layman, Helen Morgan School Principal, who continues to lend his expertise to the Dragon Boat Festival.



THE SPARTA EDUCATION FOUNDATION
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