

# Gift to

# EDUCATION

## SPENCER COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOUNDATION

### FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The Foundation is fortunate to have a supportive board of Trustees bringing an array of knowledge and talents to the table. Board members from our community include:

Dick Montgomery (President), Sally Otis Phelps (Vice President), Dave Woodcock (Treasurer), Jim Higgins (Secretary), Steve

Bomgaars, Ross Brockshus, John Goede, Treva Graves, Shelly Helmink, Beth Magnuson, Angie Schmillen Mingus, Gay Spark, Lori Schaeffer Taylor, Bob Whittenburg, Greg Ebeling (School Superintendent) and Dean Mechler (School Board Representative).

To administer the philanthropic mission of the foundation on a daily basis, the Foundation has two part time familiar faces in the community, Heidi Toale and Tammy Higgins. Please contact them if you would like to give some form of "Gift to Education" or have any questions/suggestions for the Foundation. The number is 712 262-8950 or visit the website [www.spencerschoolfoundation.com](http://www.spencerschoolfoundation.com)

#### WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION?

The Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization funded by donations, bequests and annual giving programs. (No operating funds are received from the State of Iowa or the School budget)

The Foundation's goal is to enhance and enrich educational opportunities for students and teachers, partner with businesses to meet needs and expand horizons that will impact the entire community. Annual contributions and partnerships from and between school employees, businesses, community, alumni and friends impact our school and our community. Scholarships are a direct result of the heart-felt gifts presented to the Foundation as well.

### \$400,000 DVERGSTEN GIFT TO THE FOUNDATION

A generous \$400,000 family gift was presented to the Foundation with the commitment to generate \$200,000 in private matching funds. This total of \$600,000 will benefit our students, staff and community.

### "GIFT TO EDUCATION" ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

The Foundation has a significant challenge to meet as the result of obtaining a generous gift from the Dvergsten Charitable Foundation. With this gift the Foundation has committed to raise \$200,000 in matching private funds. This \$200,000 challenge, in addition to the ongoing enhancement of our students and staff for the betterment of our education and our

community, has become the natural kick-off for the "Gift to Education" Annual Giving Program.

The Foundation invites you to participate by making a contribution to the annual giving program. Your past and future gifts to education are appreciated and continue to make a difference to the educational opportunities and partnerships for our students, staff, alumni and community as a whole.

## THE SPENCER COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOUNDATION PRESENTS \$100,000 GIFT FOR SMART BOARDS



Last school year the Foundation asked all the teachers what they would do to enhance and enrich education in the Spencer School District. From this list of over 325 ideas, the Foundation board summarized a teachers' need/wish list. The outcome was an overwhelming amount of requests for Smart Boards. Based on the needs of the district, the Foundation awarded the school \$100,000 for the purchase of Smart Boards. This is very exciting news and the foundation believes this wonderful "Gift to Education" will not only jump start the school's technology plan but also enhance and enrich educational opportunities for the students, staff and community of Spencer for years to come.

## SHS Alumni Addresses Foundation Recipients

The Foundation was honored to recognize the guest speaker of the event, as one of our own. Brea Whittenburg Schmidt of Iowa City was born and raised in Spencer, Iowa, graduating from Spencer High School in 2000. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Iowa and graduated from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 2007. Brea is currently in her first year of specialty training in pediatric dentistry at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and will graduate in June 2009 as a pediatric dentist. She married Nate Schmidt, who also grew up in Spencer and graduated from Spencer High School in 1999. Brea's address was an excellent fit for the event with her message being from the perspective of alumni, past recipient of a scholarship, college student and donor to the Foundation. She shared that her and her husband Nate, have such an



Brea Whittenburg Schmidt

appreciation for the great foundation and quality education that Spencer Schools provided them. As a result, they have made it a personal commitment to give back to those who have helped them become who they are today as well as making a difference. She said that you do not have to be wealthy and giving may be done in many different ways through time, talents and/or small annual contributions.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CEREMONY

The Spencer Community School Foundation hosted their annual Foundation Scholarship Award Ceremony on April 13, 2007. The event was a huge success and presented over \$50,000 to 58 different graduating seniors. Generous contributions made through bequests, memorials and cash gifts in honor or memory of loved ones made these scholarships possible.



## Why Give?

- The spirit of sharing and assisting our present and future students at Spencer Community Schools that will enhance community growth
- Spencer Community School Foundation donors can receive tax benefits
- Having the opportunity to impact multiple areas of students and education at Spencer Community Schools
- Keeping your educational foundation strong for those who follow you

## ALUMNI

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

- What would you like to see in the next newsletter?
- The Foundation would like to keep track of alumni and friends and learn what is going on in your life. Please share your stories with us, tell your classmates about our newsletter and encourage them to go to our website [www.spencerschoolfoundation.com](http://www.spencerschoolfoundation.com)
- If anyone has an updated list of classmates addresses or know who may have a list please contact us.
- Please consider making a contribution to the Spencer Community School Foundation



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[foundation@spencer.k12.ia.us](mailto:foundation@spencer.k12.ia.us)  
**(712) 262-8950**

## HOW TO GIVE

- Make a cash gift by enclosing a check or request to be billed.
- Choose to turn in stock certificates or securities.
- Make a planned gift through your will or other instrument that will provide long-term assistance, while not affecting your current spendable income, such as retirement plan shares. Whatever form you choose, you will create a legacy that will live forever and touch the lives of many.
- You may gift any amount to the foundation general endowment fund, or a named fund may be created through the foundation at a designated level. You may choose to name your endowed scholarship, equipment or unrestricted fund in your name, or in honor or in memory of a loved one.
- Please contact the Foundation Office at (712) 262-8950 with any questions.

## YOUR "GIFT TO EDUCATION"

**YES!** I accept your invitation to make a difference for the students, teacher and schools as needs exceed the unfortunate funding cuts and decreased enrollment challenges.

Payment Options Include: (Please complete the best option)

Please bill me for the full amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to the Spencer Community School Foundation**

Name and/or Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

May we list your name(s) and/or business as a donor? ( ) yes ( ) no

Are you a Spencer Community High School graduate? If so, what year and the name used at graduation? \_\_\_\_\_ (year) \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

# THE SPENCER COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOUNDATION IS HERE TO SAY....

## The Tiger Pa's are back!

Only a couple of years ago the Tiger Pa's entertainment group was established by some loyal parents and willing participants. Now, by popular demand, the Spencer Community School Foundation has grasped the mission by coordinating and encouraging participation in support of our kids and in celebration of the Foundation

Fun Night. All junior and senior dads/guardians are invited to practice and perform at the Spencer Community School Foundation's Fun Night during the half time of the girls' game and half time of the boys' basketball game. The Foundation plans to host this event again in 2009, with assistance from some Tiger Pa alumni.



### OTHER FOUNDATION SUCCESSES

- High School Metal Technology Program was established as a result of the partnership between area businesses and the school. Raised over \$75,000 from area businesses to purchase new equipment and now an additional \$35,000 has been contributed and growing.
- Spencer Community School Foundation awarded over \$25,000 during the 2007-08 school year and presented more than \$105,000 in various grants over the past 5 years to students, teachers and classrooms.
- Since 2000, over \$341,000 has been awarded to 447 students in the form of scholarships resulting from generous gifts to the Spencer Community School Foundation.
- Exceeded \$102,000 in donations for the Middle School Kruse fundraiser to enhance the music rooms and programs.



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