

# Philanthropy in Action



2017-2018 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



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## DISTRICT 129 BOARD OF EDUCATION

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\*West Aurora Alumni

## From the President

The term, philanthropy, is one which sometimes seems to belong to an elite, well-moneyed class of individuals. As a result, most of us don't think of ourselves as philanthropists. In reality, however, each of the names within this report is a philanthropist – an individual whose gift has made a difference. This sort of grassroots philanthropy is important because it provides opportunities for so many who, without those gifts, may not realize the potential which exists in all of us.

The A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools believes in the transformative power of education and funnels its efforts, through the allocation of philanthropic gifts, to the staff, students, and community which is West Aurora District 129. The very existence of the A+ Foundation is due to the generous nature of our supporters. And, while A+ is proud of its key endeavors like the Hall of Honor, Excellence in Education, Fund-A-Need, and Banding Together, if it weren't for the continued support of our community, alumni, and sponsors – our very own philanthropists – A+ wouldn't be able to implement these initiatives and honor our mission. These 'West-side Philanthropists' contribute in a variety of ways – bequests, corporate sponsorships, endowment contributions, honorariums, #ILGive, individual donations, payroll deduction, planned giving. Regardless of the mode of support, we are grateful beyond words.

This A+ Annual Report applauds the philanthropist in each of its donors who, in his or her own special way, is changing the lives of students by supporting and promoting educational and cultural programs in District 129 schools. The benefit to the student is immeasurable, and, in the short term, will be seen through that student's smile. But, in the long term, these gifts will be manifested in that student's pride of accomplishment and that student's belief in his or her future self.

Thank you for your continued support.

Don Pilmer  
President  
A+Foundation for West Aurora Schools



Class of 1987 enjoy their 30th reunion with A+ Foundation at Banding Together.

# SAVE THE DATES

Hall of Honor

APRIL 26-27, 2019

Banding Together

SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

## West Aurora High School Alumni Scholarship

Congratulations to **PAULINA REYES SANCHEZ** who is the 2018 recipient of the West Aurora High School Alumni Scholarship. Paulina has long-term goals which involve her academic initiatives of pursuing engineering as a profession. *Engineering, the creative application of science, mathematical methods, and empirical evidence to the innovation, design, construction, operation and maintenance of structures, machines, materials, devices, systems, processes, and organizations,* has fascinated Paulina.

As a result, Paulina plans to attend the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) to pursue a degree in Chemical Engineering. But her goals don't stop there. She also would like to obtain her Masters in Biological Engineering with a minor in Engineering Management.



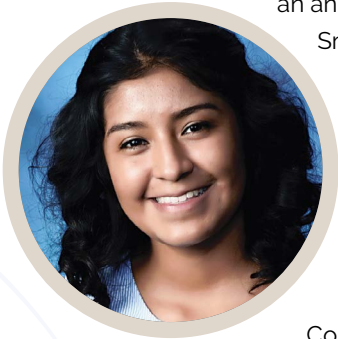
## Smith School Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to **KARINA ANTUNEZ** who is the 2018 recipient of the Smith School Scholarship. She plans to attend University of Illinois-Chicago to pursue Civil Engineering. She wants to be part of construction projects that people will utilize.

Karina Antunez has been selected to receive the Smith Elementary School Scholarship, an annual scholastic award given to a graduating senior who attended Smith Elementary School. Karina, a 2018 graduate of West Aurora.

*Civil engineers conceive, design, build, supervise, operate, construct, and maintain infrastructure projects and systems in the public and private sector, including roads, buildings, airports, tunnels, dams, bridges, and systems for water supply and sewage treatment.* Karina wants to be a part of these types of construction projects that all people use.

Congratulations, Karina.



## Our Mission

The A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools supports and promotes educational, cultural and charitable programs for the students and alumni of School District 129. Our foundation provides this support through grants, programs and scholarships to enhance lifelong learning opportunities for their recipients.



## PAST HONOREES

Adam Slaker, 1873  
 Frank H. McWethy, '01  
 Ruth VanSickle Ford, '15  
 H. Ashley Barber, '29  
 Robert McWethy, '37  
 E. Neil Foster '38  
 John Drury, '45  
 Arthur R. Wyatt, '45  
 Richard Olson, '47  
 J. Allison Binford, '48  
 Edward Ochsenchlager, '50  
 Max Baratz, '52  
 Phyllis Bleck, '54  
 Robert Garrison, '54  
 Dennis Olden, '57  
 Martha Evans Sloan, '57  
 Albert Alschuler, '58  
 Phillip E. Johnson, '58  
 Walter Bothe, '59  
 William C. Gifford, '59  
 James Puklin, '59  
 H. William Habermeyer, Jr., '60  
 Bruce Scafe, '60  
 George Everitt, '61  
 Kittie Barton Frantz, '61  
 Pam Kohn Hait, '61  
 Arthur Lage, '61  
 Carol Cauldwell McElroy '61  
 Robert Taggart, '61  
 Thomas F. Gallagher, '62  
 James Groninger, '62  
 Wendell Minor, '62  
 Thomas Ochsenchlager, '62  
 Joan Swinehamer Edwards, '63  
 Raymond W. Reed, '64  
 William Beschorner, '65  
 Linda Demetry Cowan, '66  
 Paul Ormond, '67  
 Thomas C. Ewing, '69  
 Randy Shilts, '69  
 Stephen F. Sundlof, '69  
 Michael Fagel, '70  
 Eric Halfvarson, '70  
 Thomas Skilling, '70  
 Michael Cavender, '72  
 Bruce Kammenzind, '76  
 R. Lawrence Hatchett, '77  
 Kathleen L. Forsell Caldwell, '79  
 Rodger Piolet, '79  
 Jacqueline Pongracic, '79  
 J. Scott Jordan, '80  
 Michael Oros '80  
 Annbritt Gemmer duChateau, '83

## 2018 Hall of Honor Honorees

### John Cordogan, '73



John C. Cordogan, AIA (American Institute of Architects), West Aurora Class of 1973, has created one of the largest and most successful architectural and engineering firms in the greater Chicago area, Cordogan Clark and Associates. On the top twenty list of Crain's Chicago Business, Cordogan Clark's portfolio includes educational, cultural, hospitality, municipal, recreational and residential projects. His work is included in the permanent collection of the Chicago Historical Society and the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Design. He has garnered recognition and awards for numerous projects, among which are:

- **Greenman Elementary School**
- **Herget Middle School**
- **41st & 43rd Street Pedestrian Bridge, Lake Shore Drive, Chicago**
- **John Dunham Partnership School**

His international impact includes a 1997 collaboration with the Zhou Brothers in conjunction with the 2008 Beijing Olympics handling the structuring and programming of the Timegate Monument, bringing the timelessness of the Chinese culture to the Olympics.

### John Dunham, '43



In 1943, John Dunham took the reins of the Dunham Company, founded in 1913 by his father, Thomas Dunham. During John's tenure, Dunham Company became Equipto, and became an industry innovator of steel shelving for retail, medical, automotive, education, and government market sectors. With Aurora as the national headquarters, Equipto went global doing business in Central and South America, Canada, Mexico, Asia, and the Middle East.

Aurora, however, was home and the community flourished under his generosity. His lasting impact would be to leave his neighbors a safer and more prosperous community. The Dunham Fund has grown to support all aspects of the Fox Valley Community through its grants to non-profits including the Dunham Educational/Vocational Training Center, John C. Dunham STEM School on the Aurora University campus, Waubensee Community College Early College Academy, A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools, West Aurora High School - Renovated Science Lab, Fred Rogers East Aurora Magnet School, Paramount Theatre - Broadway Series, and the John C. Dunham Pavilion at RiverEdge Park. John Dunham remains a force whose name is synonymous with Aurora and her successes.

### Leslie (Roney) Johnston, '90



The global apparel industry employs over 150 million people whose jobs are to create fashion. The reality of the industry, however, is that cotton farmers often handle dangerous pesticides and factory workers often make clothes in dangerous conditions. Leslie Johnston, Class of 1990, Executive Director of C&A Foundation, believes that the apparel industry has the power to change. Leslie and her team work to create dignified work, improve working conditions, and accelerate the sustainability journey of those businesses which are the industry's backbone.

Leslie's impact is seen through:

- **Transitioning smallholder farmers to organic cotton.**
- **Eradicating forced and child labor.**
- **Improving working conditions in factories.**
- **Creating a multi-stakeholder innovation platform**

Leslie has also advised several organizations on their strategies as a member of the Aspen Institute's ANDE Executive Committee and TechnoServe's Global Advisory Council. She serves as a Board Member of GoodWeave International (US), the Organic Cotton Accelerator (NL), Fashion for Good (NL), Cotton Connect (UK), and the COFRA Foundation (CH).

More information about Hall of Honor and our honorees can be found on the A+ website at <https://www.sd129.org/Page/2691>.

### William C. Murphy, '38



Following graduation from West High in 1938, William C. (Bill) Murphy received a full scholarship from Harvard University. Graduating in 1942, he then began his service in the U.S. Navy aboard the escort carrier U.S.S. Corregidor during WWII. In 1949, he returned to Aurora to practice law with the firm of Reid, Murphy, Ochenschlager & Hupp, one of the largest and most successful law firms in suburban Chicago.

He was a member of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA), the American Bar Association (ABA), the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA), the American Law Institute, the Kane County Bar Association (KCBA) (President 1972-1973), and American College of Trial Lawyers.

Regarded as one of the best trial lawyers in Illinois, his skill and eloquence were models for two generations. His notable cases included *People v. Isaacs* (1969), *Vendo Company v. Stoner*, and *Molitor v. Kaneland Community School District*. The latter was a landmark lawsuit, which abolished the doctrine of sovereign immunity in Illinois and allowed individuals to sue government entities for negligent conduct.

### Nancy Ochenschlager, '57



Nancy Ochenschlager, Class of 1957, is hailed nationally as the "Mother of Cultural Festivals" for her career as Associate Producer for events which celebrate diversity and support humanitarian and philanthropic goals. In 1982, she became the Associate Producer for The New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival "a cultural feast in which thousands of musicians, cooks and craftspeople welcome 400,000 visitors each year."

For 30+ years, Nancy was responsible for this large, 10 day fair with food booths, arts and crafts booths, and multiple stages featuring indigenous music styles and evening concert series featuring such notables as Eric

Clapton, Bruce Springsteen, Charlie Wilson, Public Enemy, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, and gospel, R&B, African, Latin, Caribbean, and folk music.

Nancy coordinated President Bill Clinton's Inaugural events and organized the Saratoga and Bermuda Jazz Festivals. Nancy's lifetime of embracing cultural differences led to her 'retirement' in Guatemala and the non-profit Amigos de Santa Cruz Foundation.

### Roy J. Solfsburg, '61



Roy J. Solfsburg III, Class of 1961, created structures that combined utility and awe. As the Senior Managing and Designer Partner at Holabird and Root, a premier architectural firm, he distinguished himself as an architect known for his performing arts centers, corporate buildings, hospital architecture and residential designs.

Some of his notable designs are captured in Northwestern University's McGaw Memorial Hall renovations, the Saenger Theatre in Pensacola, Florida (whose four-year restoration project elevated it to the National Register of Historic Places), and the Casa Cameleon, the Solfsburg vacation home on

Florida's Sanibel Island (featured in *Architectural Digest*).

Roy's honors include the American Institute of Architects (AIA) National Honor Award, the Florida Governor's Award, 100 Top Architects in the World-*Architectural Digest* (1991, 1992), and Fellow of AIA.

### David M. Theno, '68



- **It's about saving lives.**
- **Remain unrelenting in your passion for food safety.**
- **Never forget to have that deep concern for people who are victims of illness.**

With these three goals, Dr. David M. Theno, Class of 1968, encouraged food companies to make food safe for customers. In 1993, Jack In the Box became the face of a deadly outbreak of E coli, killing four and injuring hundreds in the Pacific Northwest. Dave was recruited to investigate and determine what could be done to stop it from happening again. His strategy and commitment

to food safety not only changed the company, but Dave's solutions transformed the entire food industry. His suggestions for new guidelines, stricter rules, and concern for consumers persuaded the USDA and the FDA to endorse HACCP (Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point). This industry-changing move became the fundamental safety program for meat inspection. Dave ushered in the modern era of food safety.

## Our Vision

enrich  
THE CURRICULUM

inspire  
EXCELLENCE IN  
STUDENTS  
AND STAFF

expand  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT

foster  
ALUMNI  
CONNECTIONS



## 2017-18 Fund-A-Need

The A+ Foundation sponsored the following Parent/Teacher Association (PTA), Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO), and Parent/Teacher/Student Association (PTSA) projects for 2017-18.

### GOODWIN

Fun Fair

### HERGET

Husky Hangout

### WASHINGTON

4th and 5th Grade Fun Night

### HALL

Santori Library Family Night

### JEFFERSON

8th Grade Dance

### WEST HIGH

Hot Chocolate Fridays

### FEARN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **Enriching Reading through Literature** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation Reading Fund
- **Lyrics2Learn** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

### FREEMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- **Guided Math Station Tools** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

### GREENMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **Literacy Bags** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation Reading Fund
- **One Book, One School** – Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation

### HALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **SWAG – Students Who Are Great** – Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Summer Reading Program** – Funding provided by the Sherry Eagle Endowment Fund
- **Friends of Aurora After School Program Summer Reading Mentor Program** – Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Green Screen is the Place to Be** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Girls' Club** – Funding provided by Neal and Mary Clark Ormond

### HOPE WALL SCHOOL

- **Getting Ready for School** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

### SCHNEIDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **Listening Center Read Alongs** – Partial funding provided by Jim and Clare Toynton and the A+ Foundation Reading Fund
- **Morning Tubs – The Power of Play** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Schneider Multicultural Celebrations Around the World** – Partial Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

### SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **Second Grade Scholastic News Subscription** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Smith Superstar Peer Buddy Group** – Partial Funding provided by the A+ Foundation



## TODD SCHOOL

- **Kinderbop Spectacular** – Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Parent Resource Lending Library** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation Reading Fund
- **Family STEM Nights** – Funding provided by George and Brenda Malina
- **Watch D.O.G.S.** – Funding provided by George and Brenda Malina

## JEFFERSON/McCLEERY

- **Jefferson/McCleery Reading Buddies** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

## JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **8th Grade US History Field Trip to Naper Settlement** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Funding for Spring Musical** – Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Wireless Stage Microphones** – Funding provided by Kerry Proczko and the A+ Foundation
- **Senior Citizens Band Breakfast and Concert** – Funding provided by Jim and Clare Toynton, Neal and Mary Clark Ormond and the A+ Foundation

## JEWEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **"There's a Spy in the House"** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

## WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **Students Get "Hooked" on "Booked"** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **My Genius** – Funding provided by the Sherry Eagle Endowment Fund

## WEST HIGH SCHOOL

- **Work Program Community Field Trips** – Partial funding provided by Ingrid Roney and the A+ Foundation
- **Successful Transitions** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Parent/Student College Tour** – Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Escape the Classroom** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Book Club** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation Library Fund
- **Restorative Justice** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Kleenslate Customizable Dry Erase Boards** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Business Professionals of America** – Funding provided by the A+ Foundation
- **Above the Influence** – Funding provided by Gary and Mary Jewel
- **Marching Band Uniforms** – Funding provided by the North Aurora Lodging 1 LLC



Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.

—Desmond Tutu





## Excellence in Education Banquet

### 2018 Excellence in Education Award Recipients

The Excellence in Education Banquet was held on March 8 at the Aurora Country Club. This special event honors the highest achieving, Class of 2018 students graduating from West High School and the educators who have influenced them. The evening is dedicated to the recognition of academic accomplishments by the top 5 percent of the graduating senior class and the support from their parents and educators. Each student honored selected the educator who had the biggest impact on his or her scholastic life. These educators include elementary, middle and high school teachers, music and dance instructors, mentors, tutors, coaches and club sponsors.

### CLASS OF 2018: Excellence in Education Scholars

Mariah Barnett  
 Stella Barrera  
 Isabelle Barriball  
 Emma Boyle  
 Beth Bunnetto  
 Shannon Casey  
 Alonso Cisneros  
 Carrick Coakley  
 Sarah Denovellis  
 Theresa Dolasinski  
 Saarah Hall  
 Erin Inglesias  
 Hannah Johnson  
 Daniel Keller  
 Olivia La

Kaylin Lay  
 Mercedes Maglio  
 Emily Manko  
 Riley McCabe  
 Tyler McLaren  
 Kyle Melles  
 Pranav Menon  
 Ryan Miller  
 Melanie Oswald  
 Sofia Papoutis  
 Sofia Patida  
 Deviena Pratomo  
 Kristen Raffanti  
 Paulina Reyes Sanchez  
 Allison Riggs

Jacqueline Rivera  
 Sienna Rucka  
 Elizabeth Stefancic  
 Matthew Sullivan  
 Alexis Tartaglia  
 Vanessa Terrazas  
 Zachary Thorell  
 Dustin Tomas  
 Gabriella Tovar  
 Jane Voris  
 Maria Zamudio  
 Cameron Zimmerman

### 2018: Excellence in Education Educators

Vic Anderson  
 Christi Castenson  
 Jason Christiansen  
 Meghan Cochran  
 Andrea DiDonato  
 Sue Fowler  
 Ryan Gatbunton  
 Valerie Heinkel  
 Jennifer Hornburg

Steven John  
 Thomas Kraus  
 Amy Lopez  
 Matthew Love  
 Sue Ludwigs  
 Lauren Mackey  
 Andrew McCann  
 Heidi Ochenschlager  
 Jennifer Pauley

Robert Payne  
 Mike Runge  
 Rod Schueller  
 Steve Stern  
 Christina Tammen  
 Theresa Thum  
 Levi Treadway  
 Teresa Waldinger  
 Lauren Wasulko





## Banding Together

In its sixth year, the family which is District 129 Music gave a fresh spin to their yearly Banding Together event. Students, alumni (kudos to the Class of 1987's reunion with 90+ in attendance), staff and community members came together to enjoy an evening of music, fun, and reconnecting. Hosted by Two Brothers Roundhouse, the talented performers rocked the night away. All proceeds from the concert, which amounted to over \$4800, go to the Halfvarson Endowment Fund for music education and the Meg Papadolias Endowment for the Arts, helping District 129 students pursue careers in music. The night was perfect, as everyone enjoyed an evening "under the stars". Banding Together has also become a great reunion meeting spot. Last year, the class of 1987 enjoyed their 30th reunion at Two Brothers, listening to live music by West Aurora's past and present musicians and enjoying their company.

Mark your calendar for September 22, 2018 for Banding Together VII.

## District Fine Arts Festival

Members of the A+ Board awarded recognition to twenty-one students at this year's festival. Categories for the awards were: Hope Wall, Pre-K – 1, 2-3, 4-5, middle school, and high school with recognition being given in areas such as drawing, painting, 3-dimensional art, digital art, and photography. Ribbons and certificates were given to all honorees. Elementary students also received a book, *Shakespeare's Seasons*, illustrated by Shannon Whitt, a West Aurora alumna. Secondary students received a certificate and a \$20 Amazon gift card. Entries this year were wonderful and it was difficult to make decisions!! The recipients were:

- **Hope Wall:** Citlali Arendondo, Sara Mull, David Leana
- **Grades K-1:** Jazmyn Villalpando, Hall; Benedite Kupa, Nicholson; Logan Ferreiro, Goodwin
- **Grades 2-3:** Kanleyah Mayberry, Greenman; Kyli Garcia, Goodwin; Chasity, Hill
- **Grades 4-5:** Maggie Pendell, Freeman; Fiona Lin, Goodwin; Jacci Garfias, Schneider
- **Middle Schools:** Jaylen Andujar, Kara Fowler, Emma Camp, Washington; Molly Best, Jewel
- **High School:** Caitlin Bower, Claire Matrisciano, Victoria Smith, Natalie Diaz, Leslie Gonzalez



Life's persistent and most urgent question is "What are you doing for others?"

—Martin Luther King Jr.



**THIS YEAR THE A+ FOUNDATION SPONSORED THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S GOLDEN APPLE WINNERS.**

Congratulations to the West Aurora 2018 Golden Apple recipients Brad Hillshiem, Kim Orchard, and Corrine Rapp.



ILGIVE RAISED  
OVER  
**\$15,070**

## Giving Tuesday's #ILGIVE Campaign

A great big thank you goes to the generous people who donated to our Foundation's "Giving Tuesday" campaign on November 28. Giving Tuesday gives us an opportunity to unite our community around causes in which we truly believe and help nonprofit organizations connect to the larger community. With your help, we can continue to provide support to enhance lifelong learning opportunities for the students, staff, and alumni of West Aurora. The money raised on Giving Tuesday goes directly to student programs and events.

### We appreciate you!

*Katie Pool, Mark and Susan Siekierski, Elizabeth Lundeen, Debbie Steinheimer, Lois Sanders, Bart Grometer, Randy Steinheimer, Jennifer Herman, Don Pilmer, Kerry Proczko, Cherie Esposito, Scott Robowski, David Richert, Richard Kerns, Mike Laurx, John F. McKee, Frank and Char Voris, Kirhofer Sports Inc., Patrick and Ingrid Roney, Patrice Perez, Scott and Michelle Voris, Brian Dahl, Mary Clark Ormond, Dawn Gluting, Joseph Henning, Michael Morcos, Laura Beatus, Laurel Ormond, Old Second National Bank, Sanjay Shetty, George and Brenda Malina, Neal Ormond, Bert and Pat Swanson, Linda Pilmer, Ralph and Linda Voris, Olsson Roofing, Randi and Bob Ochenschlager*



Don't judge  
each day  
by the  
harvest  
you reap,  
but by  
the seeds  
you plant.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

## Donor Appreciation Breakfast

The A+ Foundation for West Aurora School hosted its 2nd Annual Donor Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday, November 18. The event was held at the new Nancy Hill Elementary School in Aurora, a vibrant neighborhood school which blends the old and the new through the restoration of the original Hill School WPA tile and wood murals, original 1888 millwork, closets, doors, casings, and the original Nancy L. Hill School limestone plaque. The 60+ guests were treated to a delicious breakfast served in the beautiful library media center which houses some of the recently restored old murals which had graced the District's buildings.

Not only were these donors surrounded by the past beauty of the District's history but they were also informed of some of the new and exciting programs that their donations have helped fund in the West Aurora School District. Dr. Brett Burton talked about Washington Middle School's after school program, *My Genius*. *My Genius* offers students a variety of activities which focus on these students' talents while working on raising their reading levels. Ms. Kelly Jacobson spoke on the importance of the *Peer Mediation/ Restorative Justice* program that is in place at the high school. This program helps students who have been in crisis remain on the right track to individual success. The breakfast program concluded with entertainment from the Hill School Choir under the direction of music teacher, Kelsi Miller. This group of students meets on a regular basis both to practice and perform at various events.

Ingrid Roney, Executive Director of A+, believes it is important (and fun) to say thank you and "to show sponsors what their donations are funding, is an important component of any Foundation." She continues to applaud that the A+ sponsors and said events such as the Donor Appreciation Breakfast "lets us brag about West Aurora and show off some great programs that are now in place because of their generosity."



## Financials

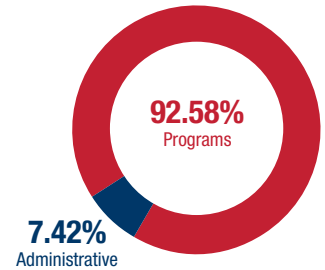
FUND	Balance as of 12/31/2016	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance 12/31/2017
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Administrative Endowment Fund	243,868.86	37,344.23	10,099.64	271,113.45
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Fund	68,150.28	272,856.51	289,060.62	51,946.17 <sup>1,2</sup>
A+ Foundation for West Aurora High School Science Fund	305,787.14	500,050.00	1,527.87	804,309.27
Dr. Sherry R. Eagle Education Endowment Fund	87,065.88	14,071.56	2,817.22	98,320.22
Sten & Lucile Halfvarson Endowment Fund	15,073.42	4,348.23	518.68	18,902.97
Janet Kircher Isler Endowment Fund	166,949.48	26,704.73	1,132.47	192,521.74
Meg Papadolias Endowment Fund	24,469.32	5,817.80	531.15	29,755.97
West Aurora High School Fund in Memory of Richard J. Dorsey	4,998.80	—	90.62	4,908.18 <sup>1</sup>
Richard & Carole Wyatt Endowment Fund	40,639.78	6,808.20	61.88	47,386.10
West Aurora High School Library Endowment Fund	89,354.34	23,477.49	1,825.16	111,006.67
Smith Elementary School Scholarship	1,000.00	75.00	1,002.25	72.75
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Reading Endowment Fund	90,019.52	20,297.02	443.84	109,872.70
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Reading Initiative Fund	203,175.60	10,550.00	3,323.20	210,402.40
John W McDougal M.A.C. Scholarship Fund	6,324.39	325.00	1,003.35	5,646.04
West Aurora High School Alumni Scholarship Fund	—	1,000.00	1,000.00	— <sup>1</sup>
A+ Foundation checking account held within the CFFRV	5,322.31	14,314.08	13,088.97	6,547.42 <sup>1</sup>
Checkbook at Old Second National Bank (#10101021524)	518.08	2,000.00	1,209.05	1,309.03 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total of all funds</b>	<b>1,352,717.20</b>	<b>940,039.85</b>	<b>(328,735.97)</b>	<b>1,964,021.08</b>

### NOTES:

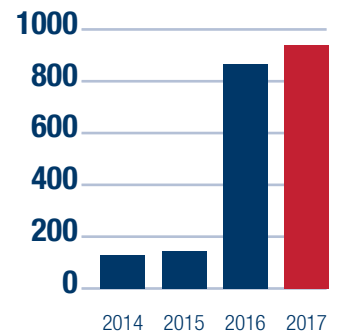
<sup>1</sup> These funds do not include investment of its principal and therefore will not include dividends, interest income or realized and unrealized gains and losses.

<sup>2</sup> The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2017 report from the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley was corrected to include an additional \$2,935.64 in contributions. This addition has been reflected in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Fund Balance Report as we had already approved the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Report.

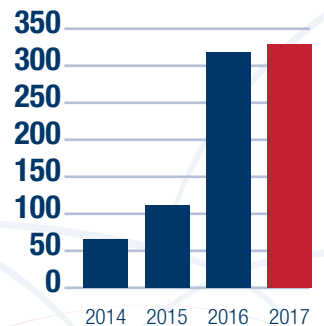
### PROGRAM SERVICES vs. ADMINISTRATIVE



### FOUNDATION RECEIPTS (IN THOUSANDS)



### FOUNDATION DISBURSEMENTS (IN THOUSANDS)



## 2017 Lifetime Giving to the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools

DICK DORSEY  
SPORTSMANSHIP  
WINNER



**Faith Pokryfke** is a standout softball player who also excels in the classroom. Faith has garnered a 4.18 GPA and ranks at 46th out of 746 in the senior class. Her coaches praise her and her resolution. One coach said that "Faith is a very respectful student-athlete. While there are things that have not gone her way, she pushes past them and tries to get better. She is determined not to let these things get to her and figures out a way to make things better." Faith exhibits all those characteristics that will make her a success in all her endeavors.

### PLATINUM STAR \$250,000

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The A+ Foundation has made every effort to guarantee the accuracy of this list of generous donors. If an error or omission has occurred, we sincerely apologize & hope you will bring it to our attention by emailing us at [info@aplusfoundation.org](mailto:info@aplusfoundation.org) or writing to The A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools c/o Randi Ochsenschlager, 1877 West Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60506.

## 2017 Donors

The following list reflects donations made during calendar year 2017. Thank you to again to all our contributors for their support of the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools!

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How wonderful that no one need wait a single moment to improve the world.

—Anne Frank

DICK DORSEY  
SPORTSMANSHIP  
WINNER



**Dustin Tomas** is an outstanding pitcher on the baseball field. Dustin has a more than respectable 4.48 GPA and ranks 23rd out of 746 in the senior class. His coaches say that "Dustin shows respect both on and off the field. He would never act out on anything that did not go his way. He brushes it off and moves on to the next play without hesitation." Dustin's ability to keep his head above the fray and his eye on 'home plate' will serve him well in his future.



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

—Margaret Mead

## Certificate of Appreciation

A big thank you to all that purchased Certificates of Appreciation to recognize our parents, teachers and staff that make a difference. In donations, ranging from \$20-\$50, this grass roots initiative raised over \$3,000 for the Foundation this school year. These monies are used to support programs within the schools of designation. We would like to thank Randy and Debbie Steinheimer for spearheading the program. Their energy and creativity have helped to grow this program each of the last three years.

### A+ Certificates of Appreciation Recipients

We would like to congratulate all of our teachers, staff and volunteers that were recognized with Certificates of Appreciation during the past school year.

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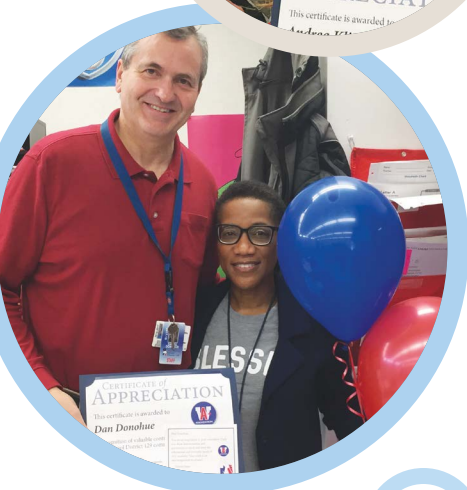
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\* indicates received multiple certificates



## John McDougal,

West High's beloved head basketball coach from 1965 until 1976 passed away October 28, 2016, at the age of 92. His family established the McDougal Athletic Charter Award in his honor. McDougal coached basketball at the high school and college level for 40-years. He qualified for the Illinois Elite 500 Club and ranks among the state's winningest head coaches with 692 wins, 556 of them at the high school level. While at West his 1973 team finished third in the IHSA state tournament and his 1976 team finished second. Coach McDougal left West to become the head coach at Northern Illinois University, later moving to Western Michigan University and retiring in 1997 after finishing his career in coaching at Rockford Lutheran High School.

A scholarship has been named in his honor for John McDougal, an Aurora Basketball legend, and all he has done for Aurora and for the sport of basketball. His love of the game, however, was second to his humanity, love for his students and teams, and his belief in the character of youth. As a result, the McDougal Athletic Character Award was created.

This year's recipient is **Edward Fowler,**

a West High, 2018 graduate. Edward plans to attend Illinois State University to pursue a degree in Physics. His goals are lofty but, with his qualities of academic excellence and persistence, his success is assured. He would like to work for NASA or another research facility researching the physics of space.

***Congratulations, Edward!!***



## 2017 Memorial Gifts

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**FOR** Richard Ebeling **FROM** Dave and Mary Ann Petree

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Irv Ochenschlager  
Claire Ethington

## District Teachers and Staff Giving Back

Thank you to the district teachers and staff members who have continually given to the A+ Foundation through payroll deduction. This year we double the amount of givers. We appreciate you!

Pamela Abdullah  
Sandra Acuff  
Diane Angelo  
Patricia Ashman  
Laura Beatus  
Sarah Biewer  
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Alarm Detection  
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These gifts are donations by area businesses, big and small, which help fund A+ programs. These gifts are targeted to specific events or their distribution is left to the discretion of the A+ Board.

## CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT

**Kevin Fitzpatrick's** life embodies Hale's philosophy. Kevin has, indeed, 'done something' wonderful, and the children that Kevin has influenced through his philanthropy learn that they, too, can do something great. A former special education student who struggled with reading his whole life, Kevin, through his continued generosity, has dedicated himself to helping children overcome the problem he had in school. Kevin struggled to 'keep up' with his classmates. He struggled in his ability to read at grade level, and research has indicated that elementary school students not being able to read at grade level is the major reason they eventually lose interest in school and drop out. Kevin, in tandem with The A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools, is helping to address this problem. Through Friends of Aurora's After School Programs (FAAP), Kevin, a 1979 graduate of West High School and local businessman, has committed a lead gift of \$10,000 to this effort. His generosity also includes his tireless promotion of the reading programs and his continued financial gifts. His support underscores FAAP's goal (and one of the goals of the A+ Foundation) to ensure that children be given the support necessary to become successful readers by the third grade.



Kevin is one of the primary funding partners for FAAP, and his continued leadership and support of A+ and the Aurora community couldn't be more appreciated. He embodies the philanthropic spirit, and that spirit has the ability to cause those students whom his gift touches to believe in themselves and their ability to believe that they, too, "...can do something." Thank you, Mr. Fitzpatrick for being one who believes that he can do 'something' and make that something great.

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.

—Edward Everett Hale