



FOUNDATION

2016-2017 Report to the Community



whose story will you help create...



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We appreciate your support.

IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE that we share our 2016-2017 Report to the Community and say THANK YOU for your interest and support of the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools. With your help, **we are making a difference.**

Our 2016-2017 Report to the Community shares results of our programmatic efforts for the 2016-2017 school year and financial and donor information for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2016. Sponsors of a spring program who made their donation in 2017, therefore, will be listed as a program sponsor; however, their gift will not be reflected in the list of donors since their gift was not received during our fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

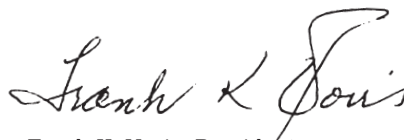
We are extremely pleased to report that we have received two significant grants from the Dunham Fund in 2016. A \$1,000,000 grant for high school science enhancements will provide new technology, science equipment, and collaborative furniture that will refurbish six science department classrooms. The second grant in the amount of \$347,856 will fund Literacy through the Arts, an elementary school afterschool reading program. This program is designed to build from children's inclination towards the arts in support of developing their literacy skills.

Over the weekend of April 21 and 22, Captain Robert McWethy, Class of '37, Dennis Olden, Class of '57 and Thomas Ochsenschlager, Class of '62 were inducted into the West Aurora Hall of Honor, bringing the total number of our Hall of Honor inductees to fifty-three. The Hall of Honor program has the current inductees, as well as returning members of the Hall, interact with high school students in mentoring roles on Friday. It is a relationship that both Hall members and students find beneficial. Saturday, the honorees are officially inducted into the Hall. The life blood of this program is nominations made by classmates and friends. We ask that you consider identifying a potential candidate and submit their nomination. Nominating forms can be found on our website (www.aplusfoundation.org).

The first events of the 2017-2018 school year are our Banding Together musical extravaganza to be held on Saturday evening, September 16th at the Two Brothers Roundhouse in Aurora, and Homecoming, which is Friday evening, September 22nd where you will find our Alumni tent in the North end zone of the football field. We encourage you to put both dates on your calendar and join us for evenings of conversation.

Please find us at www.aplusfoundation.org and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

With appreciation for your interest, support and confidence,



Frank K. Voris, President
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools



Ingrid Roney, Executive Director
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools

SAVE THE DATES

Hall of Honor

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Banding Together

Saturday, September 16, 2017

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.

West Aurora High School Alumni Scholarship

As the Student Representative on the Board of Education, **Tommy Garcia** has become a voice for his peers and for West Aurora High School. His friendships encompass students from all backgrounds. He feels that it is "important to incorporate everyone's ideas...and it's necessary to have every group's voice incorporated in decisions we make." He joined Student Council and is currently the President of the Class of 2017. As a junior, he was the President of the Dance Marathon for Lurie Children's Hospital. He also was President of the Student Service Committee and a Student Ambassador. He also has served as a Link Leader (mentor and liaison for freshman students to ease the transition from Middle to High School).



Academically, Tommy has prepared himself for the career that will make a difference. He was inducted into the French Honor Society as a Sophomore and the National Honor Society as a Junior. In terms of his leadership abilities, he was actively involved in Sports Performance Volleyball Club throughout his high school career where he served as the Team/Program Captain. He was also involved in the Greater Than Club and the DuPage Valley Conference Student Exchange as a Freshman and the Blackhawk/Tomahawk Exchange as a Junior and Senior. In this capacity he met with other student leaders throughout the City of Aurora and participated in open discussion with City leaders.

Tommy will continue his quest for excellence when, this Fall, he enters Marymount University to study Political Science.

Smith School Scholarship Winner

Kennya Hernandez has been selected to receive the Smith Elementary School Scholarship, an annual scholastic award given to a graduating senior who attended Smith Elementary School. Kennya, a 2017 graduate of West Aurora, plans to attend Aurora University to pursue a degree in Special Education.

Kennya's strength of character and her desire to "fulfill the potential my parents have always known me to have" distinguish her from other students. She credits her parents for giving her a solid work ethic, having grown up watching her mother and father work hard to give her advantages they did not have. Her strong ties to family have created her goals. Kennya wants to honor her parents by "getting my teaching degree and being able to give my parents the satisfaction of seeing me graduate. Being able to give back to them for all their hard work and showing them they sacrificed everything for for a good cause would mean everything to me." Congratulations, Kennya.



PAST HONOREES

Adam Slaker, 1873
 Frank H. McWethy, '01
 Ruth VanSickle Ford, '15
 H. Ashley Barber, '29
 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
 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
 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

2017 Hall of Honor Honorees

ROBERT MCWETHY



Robert McWethy, Class of 1937, graduated with distinction from West Point in 1941. With the attack on Pearl Harbor, he volunteered for submarine duty joining the heavy cruiser USS San Francisco in the South Pacific. After finishing an intensive course in Submarine School, he chose the duty assignment of the USS POGY. After sea trials in 1943, the submarine continued on to Pearl Harbor and made six patrols operating from Pearl Harbor and Midway Island sinking or damaging 23 enemy ships. He was presented the Silver Star and, at the age of 24, given the first of his 5 commands. Post War, Lieutenant Commander McWethy's posts included the submarines USS PICUDA, the SKATE (a target ship for the pending A-Bomb tests), and the USS ENTEMEDOR. In 1949, he was assigned to the icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND. It was there that McWethy made the groundbreaking move to examine and implement plans for submarines to operate under the ice pack. With his promotion to Captain, his major command came in 1961 with the USS PROVIDENCE, a 600 ft. guided missile cruiser with a crew of 1400+. In 1966, he received the Legion of Merit for his exceptional work on sound surveillance systems for tracking submarines.

THOMAS OCHSENSCHLAGER



Thomas Ochsenchlager, Class of 1962 had, for 8 consecutive years, been named to the Top 100 Most Influential People by the national magazine, Accounting Today. He has been sought after by venues such as ABC, NBC, Fox, CNN, PBS, Wall Street Journal and other mainstream media to explain the technical aspects of tax policy. Throughout his career, first as Principal for Arthur Young where he was responsible for their Washington DC tax department to his partnership with Grant Thornton LLP where he tracked legislative tax developments and, finally, as Vice President of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants where he interacted with the IRS, Treasury, and Congress in his DC post, Mr. Ochsenchlager impacted US tax policy. After his retirement in 2011, he continued to take the complexities of technical tax topics and make them understandable for students, members of Congress, tax professionals, and tax administrators.

DENNIS OLDEN



Dennis R. Olden, Class of 1957, began his career as a pilot in 1969 after leaving the service where, as a first lieutenant, served as a Psychological Operations officer in Ft. Chaffee, Ft. Jackson, and Ft. Devan. As a pilot for Northwest Airlines he was promptly promoted to Senior Captain flying 747-400's on international routes. In 1998, he was designated as a Certified Senior Advisor and began to instruct other pilots for Northwest. Only the most qualified pilots were chosen as instructors. Olden went on to chair the Northwest Airline Pilots Association Retirement and Insurance Committee where he saved healthcare and pension benefits for retired employees of Northwest, US Airways, and Delta when those airlines went into bankruptcy. He continues his role as advocate for employee benefits through his position as President of the Voluntary Employee Benefits Associates of Tampa, Florida.

Our Vision

ENRICH THE
CURRICULUM

—

INSPIRE EXCELLENCE
IN STUDENTS
AND STAFF

—

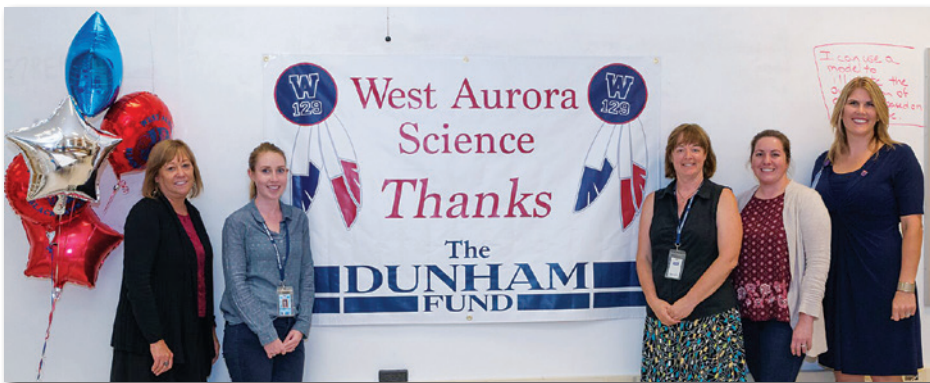
EXPAND
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT

—

FOSTER ALUMNI
CONNECTIONS

2017 Friend of A+ Foundation Award Recipient

Beginning in 2013, the A+ Foundation initiated the Friends of A+ Awards. These awards honor individuals and/or organizations who have made significant contributions to the students in District 129 and who exemplify the traditions of Black Hawk, a man who was highly regarded for his wisdom, loyalty, bravery, and determination towards the interests of his people. The Friends of A+ Award recipients work behind the scenes to enhance the educational experience in and outside of the classroom. Each year, at the Hall of Honor Banquet, A+ presents the recipients with replicas of the bust of Black Hawk created by Gareth Curtis. Our recipient for 2017 is The Dunham Foundation.



The Dunham Fund was established by John C. Dunham in 1996 and, in 2007, was funded in accordance with the provisions of Mr. Dunham's trust.



The fund continues to be nurtured during the intervening years by a board of personally appointed advisors. The Dunham Fund honors Mr. Dunham's life and philanthropy through grants to Aurora, Illinois area organizations that have the vision and programs to help fulfill Mr. Dunham's dream of "making the world a more comfortable, safer place for mankind to live and prosper." The Dunham fund is a self-sustaining money maker as well as a gifting organization. It seeks grant applications from organizations that—as Mr. Dunham did—encourage innovation and collaboration in educational and community development programs and projects to effect positive change in the Dunham Fund service area.

PREVIOUS FRIENDS of A+ AWARD WINNERS

- 2013: Jim & Betty Carson, Brent & Jean Wadsworth
 2014: Janet Momper, Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley
 2015: Joanne Harris, Tanya Wyeth
 2016: Richard 'Dick' Ebeling



...“behind every favorite song, there is an untold story”

—Anonymous



2016-17 Fund a Need

The A+ Foundation sponsored the following Parent/Teacher Association (PTA)/Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)/Parent/Teacher/Student Association (PTSA) projects for 2016-17

Freeman Fun Fair Refresh
Hall Spa Night/Social, Positive/Productive Attitude
Nicholson Fun Run
Herget Husky Halloween Hangout
Jewel Halloween Bash
Washington Friday Fun Night
West High PTSA—Hot Chocolate Fridays

■ 2016 SUMMER SCHOOL ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

This program was offered at all ten elementary schools during the summer of 2016 and funding was provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment

■ FREEMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Non-Fiction Books for Classroom Library—Funding provided by William and Dianne Bartlett

■ GOODWIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Instruments for Goodwin’s music department—Funding provided by the Meg Papadolias Endowment, the Halfvarson Endowment and the A+ Foundation

■ GREENMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Informational texts to support social studies topics and standards—Funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment and the A+ Foundation

■ HALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Three Social Studies Guided Reading Texts programs—Funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment and the A+ Foundation

■ HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Social Studies Guided Reading Texts—Funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment and the A+ Foundation

Chrome Books for Math Intervention—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation and Mallorie Greiner

Uke Can Do It—Funding provided by the Meg Papadolias Endowment, the Halfvarson Endowment and the A+ Foundation

Mural for the New Hill School—Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation and Jo Goodger

■ HOPE WALL

Reading Buddies—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

■ McCLEERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Friends of Aurora’s Afterschool Reading Mentor Program—Funding provided by a lead gift from Kevin Fitzpatrick and a multitude of donors supporting this program

■ NICHOLSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ukuleles for All—Funding provided by the Meg Papadolias Endowment, the Halfvarson Endowment and the A+ Foundation

Little Free Library Project—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation Library Fund

Social Studies Text Books—Partial funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment and the A+ Foundation

■ SCHNEIDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Social Studies Reading Supplements—Partial funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment and the A+ Foundation

LEGO Simple Machines—STEM Group

Funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment and the A+ Foundation

■ TODD SCHOOL

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students)—Funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment

Let's Bring The Animals Back to School—Funding provided by the Janet Kircher Isler Endowment

■ JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mural Project—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

Senior Citizens Band Banquet—Funding provided by the Wadsworth Family Foundation and Jim and Clare Toynton

■ HERGET, JEFFERSON, JEWEL AND WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOLS

IPads for four Middle Schools—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

■ WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Interesting Informational Texts—Partial funding provided by the A+ Foundation

■ WEST HIGH

Successful Transitions—Funding provided by Kerry Proczko and the A+ Foundation

Mobile Language Lab for WI—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

Book Club—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

Restorative Justice/Mediations—Funding provided by the A+ Foundation

Marching Band Uniforms—Partial Funding provided by Gary and Mary Jewel, FundForward Campaign



...“we do not need to know the beginning of a child’s story to change the ending”

—Newood





...“excellence is not a finished chapter but a continuous story that never ends”



Excellence in Education Banquet

2017 Excellence in Education Award Recipients

The Excellence in Education Banquet was held on March 9 at the Aurora Country Club. This special event honors both the highest achieving academicians graduating from West Aurora High School this spring, Class of 2017, and the educator who had influenced them. The evening is dedicated to the recognition of academic accomplishments by the top 5% of the graduating senior class and the support from their parents and educators alike. Each student that was honored selected the educator who had had the biggest impact on his or her scholastic life. These educators included elementary, middle and high school teachers, music and dance instructors, mentors, tutors, coaches, and club sponsors. This program is made possible by West Aurora School District 129 Board of Education, the A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools, and our corporate sponsors. The Board of Education congratulates our honorees and their families.

Class of 2017: Excellence in Education Scholars

Vincenza Alfano	Abigail Risner	Brianna Malczyk
Axel Gallegos	Sydney Butler	Katherine Stephens
Nabaa Hussain	Alison Greenwood	Dawnvel Eddy
Rachel Pangelinan	Eleanor Krantz	Elizabeth Herbert
Allyson Bartell	Rosa Rivera II	Jose Marquez
Melanie Garcia	Nicholas Catalano	Taylor Truckenbrod
Ethan Isaacson	Dominic Groom	Tyler Erickson
Gianna Petersen	Katherine Krasinski	Lionel Hernandez
Chandler Behrens	Tyler Roberts	Jordan Munos
Tommy Garcia	Natalie Cheng	Taylor Vrchota
William Isiminger	Fabian Guerrero	Abigail Foote
Rachel Quade	Spencer Locke	Sarah Hinckley
Sarah Bohler	Kallie Rundle	Amna Osman
Yusra Ghafoor	Julia Connelly	Bailey Ziman
Gillian Jones	Olivia Halterman	

2017: Excellence in Education Educators

Mark Banholzer	Ray Lopez	Laura Wagley
Jorge Espana	Thomas Pierski	Kim Dirck
Quyenn Huynh	Jordan Tokarz	David Hammarberg
Margaret Olson	Angie Cassetto	Edwin Maisonet
Ramona Smith	Steve Freitag	Ken Ruffalo
Adamma Bankhead	Matt Love	Teresa Waldinger
Nicole Faulstich	Eric Rogers	Stacy Enslin
Tom Kraus	Teresa Towles	Elizabeth Hutchinson
Lou Parker	Christi Castenson	Margaret Mortenson
Steve Stern	Ryan Gatbunton	Rodney Schueller
Sarah Biewer	Emily Magee	Amy Winslow
Mark Feigl	Ingrid Roney	

Banding Together

An annual fundraising event, this year's **Banding Together V**, did not disappoint. In its fifth year, Banding Together gathered students, alumni, and West Aurora School District staff to showcase their talents in the musical field. This musical event features student bands, alumni bands and staff bands. Our gracious hosts at Two Brothers Roundhouse helped to set the stage for a number of talented performers to 'Rock On' in support of music education. All proceeds from the concert go directly to the Halfvarson Endowment Fund for Music Education and the Meg Papadolias Endowment for the Arts —and, in doing so, fund our students and their pursuit of MUSIC in District 129. The revelry supported by our community helped raise \$3,000 from ticket sales and online donations. A special thank you to all of the performers who volunteered their time and talents for a good cause. The A+ Foundation looks to the future of the arts and to the future of Banding Together VI, Saturday, September 16th, 2017 at Two Brothers Roundhouse.



District Fine Arts Festival

District 129's Fine Arts Festival was held at West High on Saturday, March 4. Students from every school in the district submitted artworks in a variety of media to be shared with the community. Bands and choirs also performed to packed audiences.

The A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools selected various artwork from each grade level for special recognition. Middle school and high school students received copies of Nancy Hopp's book on art, and elementary students received books illustrated by Wendell Minor. Both were West Aurora graduates. In addition to the books, all recipients received ribbons and certificates.

Those receiving this special recognition were:

- **Hope Wall:** Matthew Mollohan, Kevin Guarneros, Alonzo Terrazas-Jasso
- **Grades K-1:** Louis Lipsey, Greenman; Amelia Simmons, Goodwin; Lynijah Harris, Freeman
- **Grades 2-3:** Alexis Tanner, Goodwin; Sofia Chavez, McCleery; Alaina Nelson-Carrillo, Smith
- **Grades 4-5:** Juliet Horvath, Goodwin; Isaac Aguirre, McCleery; Catherine Morales, Greenman
- **Middle Schools:** Mia Anderson, Washington; Estafany Arteaga, Jewel; Marisa Denovellis, Jewel; Kianna Alexander, Jefferson
- **High School:** Anahi Aguirre, Alex Renninger, Jocelyn Serna, Brenna Kenneavy, Francine Cone





...*"make your life a story worth telling"*
—Anonymous



Giving Tuesday's #ILGIVE Campaign a Success this Year

A great big thank you to the generous people who donated to our Foundation's first "Giving Tuesday" campaign. This year's Giving Tuesday, November 29, a fairly new event created to boost donations to nonprofits in the State of Illinois, proved to be a success thanks to these donors. The A+ Foundation received \$3,500 in donations. The money raised from Giving Tuesday goes directly to student programs and events. We appreciate you!

Amber I. Bartelmey
Julia L Billsten
Julie Bremer
Yaritza Desimoni
Luke Engelhardt
Joan Finn
Anna C. Gonzales
Amy Gray
R. Peter Grometer
Bart Grometer
Howard W. Habermeyer
Katharine E. Hahn
Joseph Henning
Anne M. Jaeger
Kristina Kelleher

Pamela J. Kluber
Aileen L. Mayka
Lisa Metallo
Patricia Nunez
Randi Ochsenchlager
Heidi Ochsenchlager
Mary Clark Ormond
Neal Ormond
Linda L. Pilmer
Don Pilmer
Kerry Proczko
Scott Robowski
Patrick Roney
Linda A. Slaker
Elizabeth S. Smith

Frank Smith
Iolene Smith
Angela Smith
Corinn A. Sparks
Pamela Sperl
Deborah D. Steinheimer
Amy R. Talkington
Emily K. Tammaru
Amy Tomney
Robert Vaughan
Michelle Voris
Frank K. Voris
Scott Voris

First Annual Donor Appreciation Breakfast

The First Annual Donor Appreciation Breakfast was held on Thursday, November 17, at the new West Aurora Administration Office. The breakfast was catered by the culinary students who operate the West Aurora High School Blackhawk Café. The donors were not only treated to a beautiful breakfast but were also informed of just a few of the programs that their donations have helped fund in the West Aurora School District. Kim Orchard and Kelly Jacobson spoke on the importance of the high school's Peer Mediation/Restorative Justice program which helps students who have been in crisis stay on the right track. Jeff Bryant, Assistant Principal at Jefferson Middle School, shared his appreciation for the Foundation's continuing support of their annual, community Senior Citizens Band Breakfast. The breakfast program concluded with entertainment by the Nicholson Drum Group from Nicholson Elementary School led by Music Director Beth Cooper. The group comprised of twelve students meets on a regular basis to practice and perform at various events. "To show sponsors what their donations are really going towards is an important component of any Foundation," says Ingrid Roney, Executive Director, A+ Foundation; she added that "it also lets us brag about West Aurora students and show off some great programs that are now in place because of them."

Financials

	Balance as of 1/1/2016	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance as of 12/31/2016
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Administrative Endowment Fund	\$239,123.74	\$14,482.55	\$(9,737.40)	\$243,868.89
Janet Kircher Isler Endowment Fund	\$164,777.24	\$8,648.24	\$(6,476.00)	\$166,949.48
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Reading Endowment Fund	\$77,224.37	\$12,822.71	\$(27.56)	\$90,019.52
West Aurora High School Library Endowment Fund	\$55,154.88	\$34,199.46	—	\$89,354.34
Dr. Sherry R. Eagle Education Endowment Fund	\$82,342.03	\$4,726.35	\$(2.50)	\$87,065.88
Richarde and Carole Wyatt Endowment Fund	\$35,092.78	\$6,386.85	\$(839.85)	\$40,639.78
Meg Papadolias Endowment Fund	\$23,614.03	\$2,115.39	\$(1,260.10)	\$24,469.32
Sten and Lucile Halfvarson Endowment Fund	\$14,652.03	\$1,360.89	\$(939.50)	\$15,073.42
TOTAL OF ENDOWED FUNDS	\$691,981.10	\$84,742.44¹	\$(19,282.91)	\$757,440.63

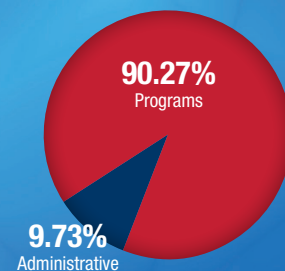
A+ Foundation for West Aurora High School Science Fund	—	\$501,000.00 ²	\$(195,212.86)	\$305,787.14
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Reading Initiative Fund	—	\$217,177.00 ³	\$(14,001.40)	\$203,175.60
A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools Fund	\$80,542.91	\$104,168.20	\$(116,560.83)	\$68,150.28
John W. McDougal M A C Scholarship Fund	—	\$6,350.04	\$(25.65)	\$6,324.39
West Aurora High School Fund in Memory of Richard J. Dorsey	\$4,750.20	\$250.00	\$(1.40)	\$4,998.80
Smith Elementary School Scholarship	—	\$2,000.00	\$(1,000.00)	\$1,000.00
West Aurora High School Alumni Scholarship Fund	\$102.20	\$897.80	\$(1,000.00)	—
A+ Checking Accounts	\$4,046.52	\$18,245.12	\$(16,451.25)	\$5,840.39
TOTAL OF FUNDS	\$89,441.83	\$850,088.16	\$(344,253.39)	\$595,276.60

¹ Includes unrealized market gain of \$27,383.93 and \$11,041.31 of investment income on endowed balances

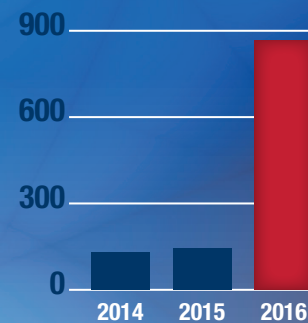
² Includes a \$500,000.00 grant from the Dunham Fund

³ Includes a \$ 187,952.00 grant from the Dunham Fund

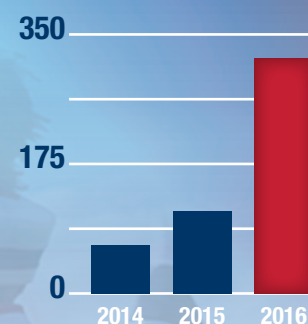
PROGRAM SERVICES vs. ADMINISTRATIVE



PROGRAM SERVICES SUPPORT (IN THOUSANDS)



ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION GROWTH (IN THOUSANDS)



DICK DORSEY SPORTSMANSHIP WINNERS

The A+ Foundation for West Aurora Schools would like to congratulate **Hannah Beatus** and **Jacob Riggs** on their being the recipients of the Richard Dorsey Sportsmanship Award. This award is named in honor of Richard Dorsey, a West High Basketball Coach for many successful years. Mr. Dorsey was considered a role model for sportsmanship and the Richard Dorsey Sportsmanship Awards were established in his honor and memory.



Jacob Riggs was forced to sit out of football as a junior due to injury. He stuck with the sport and was a huge part of the undefeated season this fall. The ultimate team player, he never misses practice, doesn't care about stats, solely focused on winning. Jacob also participates in tennis, where he competes at the #2 singles position, doing so as a fierce competitor, but also with a great deal of respect for his teammates and opponents. He is well-rounded athletically, academically, and personally. He will be attending Waubensee Community College next year.

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

PLATINUM STAR \$250,000

City of Aurora
Dunham Fund

GOLD STAR \$20,000+

Alarm Detection
Kevin Fitzpatrick
Janet Kircher Isler
William & Fran Myers
Richard & Cloe Jean Olson
Family Charitable Fund
VAYA Group
Frank & Char Voris
Ralph & Linda Voris
Voris Family Permanent
Endowment
The Wadsworth Family
Endowment Fund
West Aurora Schools District
Odd Cents Fundraiser
Arthur Wyatt

SILVER STAR WITH DISTINCTION \$10,000

Aurora University
Sherry R. Eagle
Endowment Fund
Emerson Network Power
& Energy Systems
Kevin Fitzpatrick
Grainger Matching
Fund Program
James Groninger
Halfvarson Endowment
Joanne Harris/Robert & Betty
Hosler Harris Fund
Herget Family
Kelmescott Communications
Neal & Mary Clark Ormond
Old Second National Bank
Papadolias Endowment
James & Jo Rydland
Angela & Greg Smith
Scott & Michelle Voris

SILVER STAR \$5000+

Caterpillar Inc.
Clear Perspective Advisors
Community Foundation
of the Fox River Valley
Jane Davis
Isla "Tish" Evers
George Finley
Gary & Mary Jewel
Peter & Judy Kerl
LuAnne Kelsey
Bob & Randi Ochsenschlager
PMA Financial Network Inc.
Read with Me Fund
Robbins Schwartz
Edward & Sharon Stredde

Studio GC Inc.
James & Clare Toynton
Waubensee Community College
West Aurora Alumni Association

BRONZE \$2,500+

Anonymous
Artlip & Sons
Aurora Housing Authority
Jim & Ruth Benson
Cordogan & Clark Architects
Ted & Diane Crawshaw
Crowe Horwath
Sherry & Howard Eagle
Frost Electric
Bruce & Margot Goldsmith
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* District 129 staff members

DICK DORSEY SPORTSMANSHIP WINNER



Hannah Beatus, a softball team player, is known as the ultimate competitor and an incredibly gifted team leader. She leads by example in her play and through her sportsmanship. A two-time captain, she is like another coach on the field, constantly motivating and encouraging her teammates through verbal support. Additionally, she honors the game of softball by being respectful of both her opponents and officials.

When she is off the field, Hannah is also an incredibly involved participant at West. She is a member of DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) and, this year, was a National Award winner for West's chapter. She also gave a "West Talk" about Passion to the entire district. Hannah will be attending Grand Valley State next year on a softball scholarship. Congratulations, Hannah, we are very proud of your accomplishments.



...“sometimes it’s fun
to have someone
recognize the joy
in your story”



Certificate of Appreciation

A knock at the door, a rustle of helium balloons, a click of the camera, a classroom of students murmur and giggle...and in step representatives (also known as the A+ Cheerleaders) from the A+ Foundation delivering a Certificate of Appreciation to an unsuspecting teacher, staff member or administrator. Through these one of a kind, beautifully crafted certificates, community/school members can congratulate, thank, or encourage District 129 employees or volunteers! Personal messages are included and the recipients receive their certificates surrounded by their students and colleagues. Photographs of the presentations are then posted on the A+ website for all to enjoy! The contributions generated by the certificates go right back to fund those who apply for A+ Fund-A-Need grants. This year, A+ raised over \$3000 and recognized over 120 teachers, staff, and volunteers. These Certificates of Appreciation are just another way that A+ recognizes excellence throughout the school year.

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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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!

"The best way to predict the future is to create it". Abe Lincoln

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Pathway of Honor

Mathew Lange
Jan Reynolds
Anna Testone

JOHN MCDUGAL



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 memory. 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.

McDougal's legacy of honoring the competitor and forwarding sportsmanship continues with the first recipient of the McDougal Athletic Charter Award going to Noah Delgado, senior. Noah is a hard-worker who is a true team player. He moved to tight end this year without hesitation because that is what the team needed. Noah will be attending Northern



Illinois University to pursue a degree in Business—Finance.

Noah Delgado
McDougal Scholarship Recipient

...“the truth
of the matter
is you can create
a great legacy by
inspiring others to
tell their stories”

—Bloomberg



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Dr. Paul Eccher, Class of 1981, is the Founder and President of The Vaya Group in Aurora. His business focuses on Leadership Development and developing future leaders. Paul knows firsthand the importance of giving back to the community. Being able to help fund programs that level the playing field for future leaders is important to him and with the right resources and funding, students can achieve to their greatest potential. We appreciate and thank you Vaya Group. We appreciate and thank all of our sponsors this year.

We would like to thank our sponsors and friends for their most generous financial support during the past school year.

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