

# Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation *Annual Report 2010-2011*

*Building financial support to promote and recognize excellence in our schools*



Grant Early Childhood Center students enjoy new library books purchased with funds provided by the Foundation in partnership with the Giacometto Foundation.

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Executive Director

## From the Chairman

Greetings! On behalf of the Board of Trustees, let me say thank you for your interest and support of the Foundation. As detailed in this annual report, the Cedar Rapids Community School District Foundation continues to have a direct and substantive impact in our community by advancing educational opportunities for children in the district. Funds from CRCSF help thousands of school children participate in field trips; enjoy after-school enrichment programs in critical learning and growth areas such as art, science, math and reading; and learn using new equipment and materials that otherwise would not be available. Also, in an effort to promote and foster lifelong learning, the Foundation is the steward for several endowed scholarships that provide direct aid for outstanding students pursuing additional education after high school.



In 2011, the CRCSF was pleased to welcome Karen Swanson, CFRE, as our new executive director. Karen's commitment to our school system rests in part from her strong ties to the Cedar Rapids schools and community. A graduate of Jefferson High School, she now has a young child in our schools. After graduating from Baylor University, Karen spent most of her career supporting the philanthropic community as a successful grant writer. This unique blend of civic awareness and non-profit experience results in Karen being a wonderfully passionate and skilled advocate for our foundation. I'm confident under Karen's leadership the Foundation will continue its strong growth and service to our school children.

Our community continues to face the challenges brought on by the flood of 2008 while simultaneously dealing with the uncertainty of this difficult financial stretch. Our schools persist in their excellent capacity to serve the needs of our children thanks in large measure to the wonderful employees of the school district. Indeed, we are fortunate to live in a community with dedicated, talented teachers and staff who are unwavering in their commitment to our children. The CRCSF shares this dedication and directly supports the efforts of these professionals with a variety of programming, most notably by providing development grants for teachers.

The Foundation also serves as an important partner with the school district, providing an excellent avenue for the public to collectively improve our schools. The CRCSF is a bridge for everyone wanting to enrich the lives of children. Our supporters include parents with children in the community schools, young professionals beginning careers in the Corridor, thankful District alumni looking to give back, teachers and staff of the district with donations through payroll deductions, and business partners who recognize the economic necessity of maintaining our well educated workforce. The Foundation represents a direct and effective mechanism for all in our community to dedicate time and talent to do one very simple yet critically important task: secure opportunities for all of our students to master the knowledge and skills necessary to live enriched lives that will in turn benefit our community for decades to come.

Thank you for your generous support of the Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation. The work of the Foundation can only be sustained with the gifts that our friends provide. We thank you for this continued assistance, and I invite you to become more involved with our effort to support our schools.

Very truly yours,

David T. Hayes  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

## A Few Words from the Executive Director

I am honored to be the new Executive Director of the Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation. As an alumna of the Cedar Rapids Community School District, I can honestly say the work of the Foundation makes a difference – for staff, teachers, and students. Each day I am privileged to lead an organization that provides funding for field trips, capital equipment purchases, professional development for faculty and staff, classroom support, and endowed scholarships.

The Foundation is poised to be a catalyst for new educational programs, activities, and growth. I was thrilled to watch three new Foundation programs unfold this year – *Corridor Goes Casual for Kids*, *Elementary Music Teacher Grants*, and the University of Iowa Community Credit Union's *Welcome Back Students Week*. Response to the initial year of these programs has been positive, and the Foundation is committed to ensuring their long-term success.

In 2012, the Foundation, in partnership with our corporate funders, will remain dedicated to bridging the gap between the school district's funding and what the teachers need in the classroom. I am amazed by the generous outpouring of contributions earmarked for our schools' students and programs – despite difficult economic times. Foundation donors truly encourage young people to embark on successful futures ... by supporting quality educational programs. Thank you for your generosity.



Karen A. Swanson, CFRE  
Executive Director



### The Foundation's New Look

- \* Check out the Foundation's new website at [www.crcsf.com](http://www.crcsf.com)
- \* Make sure you LIKE the Foundation on their Facebook page at:  
[www.facebook.com/CedarRapidsCommunitySchoolDistrictFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/CedarRapidsCommunitySchoolDistrictFoundation)



\* The Foundation is excited to unveil its new logo. It compliments the district's new logo, unveiled summer 2011, and brings a modern, dynamic, growing visual to the mission that guides the Foundation's work.

## 2011 Senior Scholarships

### JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

#### Robert L. Geuder Scholarship

*Jacob Rozendaal*

#### Gordon Wilhelm Memorial Scholarship

*Jonathan Haut*

#### Tom Campbell Memorial Scholarship

*Allissa Buelow & Landon Sheetz*

#### Walt Hartman Scholarship

*Jordan McCormick*

#### Alice F. Bizulis Memorial Scholarship

*Tanner Unkel*

#### Alan Zazza Memorial Scholarship

*Alec Brown & Katie Naber*

#### Nancy Parmater Champion Memorial Scholarship

*Chandler Schafbuch*

#### Polaski Family Scholarship

*Nicole Werling*

#### Judy and Larry Blum Scholarship

*Emily Huber*

### KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

#### George Novak Memorial Scholarship

*Marco Rice-Trejo*

#### James Schneekloth Memorial Scholarship

*Jacob Losch*

#### Ewoldson Fine Arts Scholarship

*Molly Hutchcroft*

#### Alice F. Bizulis Memorial Scholarship

*Rylee Daniels*

#### Grant Rutherford "Excellence: One Stroke at a Time" Memorial Scholarship

*Christian McKee*

#### JoAnne Beasler Memorial Scholarship

*Chandini Reddi*

#### Joy Gaddie German Scholarship

*Brittani Sherzer*

#### Tom and Carol Ryder Cougar Student Scholarship

*Maddie Hemesath*

#### Buelow-Rutherford Memorial Scholarship

*Shane Goodall*

#### Otto Weidersberg Memorial Scholarship

*Christian McKee*

#### Tom White Memorial Scholarship

*Joshua Carew*

#### Paul Anthony Music Scholarship

*Brian Crew*

### METRO HIGH SCHOOL

#### Iowa Retired School Personnel Association "Future Educator's Award"

*Stephanie Pierce*

#### Alice F. Bizulis Memorial Scholarship

*Connie Kuehl*

#### Otto Weidersberg Memorial Scholarship

*Ashley Hurt*

#### Tom White Memorial Scholarship

*Gloria Perkins*

### WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

#### John Charlson Physics Award

*Joseph Eken*

#### Evelyn Daugherty Memorial Vocal Music Scholarship

*Neeladri Ghosh*

#### Henderson Memorial Scholarship

*Tia Dawson & Ian Fischer*

*& Neeladri Ghosh*

#### Richard and Jeanne Sentman Scholarship

*Sara Larson & Kaitie Parsons*

#### Aenille-Stewart-Swaney Memorial Scholarship

*Jordan Brown*

#### Alice F. Bizulis Memorial Scholarship

*Alejandro Jordan*

#### Susan Hovelson Shimon Memorial Scholarship

*Adam Sailor*

#### Catherine Gendreau Memorial Scholarship

*Carrenna Bailey & Nicholas Seng*

#### Friends of the City PTA

#### Scholarship

*Natalie Neppel*

## Foundation Launches New Programs

The 2010-11 year saw the initiation of three new Foundation programs:

- Elementary Music Teacher grants – Thanks to an anonymous donor at the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation, each elementary school music teacher in the school district received \$100 annually to support their classroom.
- Corridor Goes Casual for Kids – The school district participated in the *Corridor Goes Casual for Kids* program. In response, the Foundation was the recipient of \$1,835 in donations from faculty and staff choosing to dress casual on September 1, 2011.
- UICCU Welcome Back Students – The University of Iowa Community Credit Union sponsored *Welcome Back Students* events at elementary schools. Each participating school received \$500 to spend on school-related needs.



UNIVERSITY OF IOWA  
COMMUNITY  
CREDIT UNION

## Giacoletto Foundation Continues Support for Schools

The Foundation is proud of its continuing partnership with the John P. & Lawrence J. Giacioletto Foundation – the largest donor to the Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation. This partnership, now in its fourth year, provided more than \$50,000 in student- and school-based funding in 2010-11. The contribution underwrites two annual programs:

Student Enrichment Fund Grants – Provided in the fall to teachers who apply for classroom-based funding. Grants of up to \$100 are provided for such expenditures as: library books, calculators, chess sets, smartboards, and activity boxes.

School Project Grants – Provided in the spring to teachers seeking larger, capital needs. Grants range from \$500 to \$10,000. A sample of grants funded in 2011 includes:

- Harding Middle School – Autistic students sensory room
- Grant Early Childhood Center – Preschool technology
- Metro High School – Robotics in the classroom
- Taylor Elementary School – Outdoor classroom



*Alex, a student in the Harding Middle School's autistic program, experiences the fiber optic light curtain, which allows for a unique sensory experience in the new Autism Sensory Room. Funding for the Sensory Room was provided by the Giacioletto Foundation via the Foundation's School Project Grants program.*

## Hills Bank & Trust Funds Field Trips

The Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation was honored during the 2010-11 school year to receive \$14,520 in funding from Hills Bank and Trust Company to support the *Kids in the Community* field trip program. This donation provided Cedar Rapids public school students the opportunity to experience hands-on learning at many of the cultural, educational, and historical sites in and around our community.

A total of 67 field trip grants were awarded to schools to benefit nearly 6,000 K-12 students. Field trips included visits to such venues as the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Carl & Mary Koehler History Center, Grant Wood Studio and Visitors Center at 5 Turner Alley, Mississippi River Museum, State Capitol, Wickiup Nature Center, Hancher Auditorium, Indian Creek Nature Center and the Iowa Children's Museum. Grants were awarded to the following schools: Arthur, Cleveland, Garfield, Grant, Grant Wood, Harrison, Hiawatha, Hoover, Johnson, Kenwood, Madison, Monroe, Nixon, Polk, Taylor, Truman, Viola Gibson and Wright elementary schools; Harding, McKinley, Roosevelt and Wilson middle schools; Jefferson, Kennedy, Metro and Washington high schools.

# Hills Bank and Trust Company

Member FDIC



## Pearson Grant Provides Extra Programs

The Grant Early Childhood Center again this year received a \$12,000 grant from Pearson to fund its before/after school program, with a new summer component added this year. The grant underwrote educational enrichment classes and activities for students age 3-7. Program topics included science, math, reading, and the arts. The summer program provided students and their families the opportunity to participate in outdoor fitness classes, a summer reading program, and several science activities with field trips. Pearson has supported this program since 2010.

# PEARSON

## Runners ‘Lace Up’ for Schools

An atmosphere of energy and excitement prevailed for more than 500 young people and adults at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual “Lace Up for Learning” 5K, 10K, and Family Fun Run May 7, 2011 at Kingston Stadium. Proceeds benefit the Foundation’s funding of school projects, programs, equipment needs, and curriculum supports that enhance the educational experiences for student of all ages.

The event is known for its one-of-a-kind Olympic style finish and offers a 10K course. Schools continue to offer running clubs as a way to introduce students to fitness and train for the race. The Foundation is pleased that many parents join their children on the course, making “Lace Up for Learning” a great family event. New to the Race this year was chip timing. With equipment donated by the Cedar Valley Running Association, chip timing requires that athletes wear a small, lightweight chip (tied on shoelaces) that uniquely identifies them as they cross strategically placed, electronic mats in order to manage electronically the task of collecting and processing results at the end of the race.

Visit the “Lace Up for Learning” website at: <http://laceup.cr.k12.ia.us/> for more information, race results, photos, and a list of event sponsors.



## SAFE Fund Assists Students in Need

In response to the devastation caused by the 2008 flood, the Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation established the School Flood Relief Fund. The fund was designed to address immediate needs of the 1,800 students, 100 staff, and schools affected by the Flood. While the immediate and basic needs of many have been met, ongoing challenges persist. In response, the Foundation initiated a program in 2011 called the Sports, Academics, Fine Arts and Enrichment (SAFE) Activities for Kids. The SAFE program offers financial assistance for participation in extra-curricular activities to at-risk/low income students, and/or those who were affected by the 2008 flood, and/or those attending a school located in a flood-affected neighborhood. In its first year, the SAFE program was pleased to assist in removing financial barriers related to program fees, equipment needs, and transportation costs. Supported by The Witwer Trust and the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation, nearly \$16,000 was disbursed to enrich student’s lives and positively impact their educational experience through participation in school-sponsored extra-curricular activities.

## Grants Support Professional Growth

The Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation presented a total of \$1,260 to Cedar Rapids Community School District educators to further their educational professional development.

- Stephanie Rose, librarian at Madison and Harrison Elementary Schools, received the Ernie Pence Memorial Grant. She took a course in learning resource centers and services at the University of North Texas.
- Madison Elementary School first grade teachers, Heather Hess and Nikki Barker, used their grant to purchase a classroom library of books to accompany their dialogic reading guides.
- Stacy Haynes-Moore, a Jefferson language arts teacher, enrolled in a University of Iowa graduate workshop on digital media for high school journalism advisors.
- Franklin Middle School music teacher, Valerie Shanley, attended the Midwest Clinic of the International Band and Orchestra Conference.
- Joan Steinmetz, Kennedy High School science teacher, enrolled at the Colorado School of Mines for a course titled Colorado Ecosystem Field Studies.



*Pictured (L to R): Foundation Chairman David Hayes, Foundation Executive Director Karen Swanson, Foundation Secretary Sue Pence, Heather Hess, Joan Steinmetz, Nikki Barker, Valerie Shanley, Stacy Haynes-Moore, and Stephanie Rose.*

## Staff Returns Support to Foundation

“Making a Difference Together” is the theme of the Foundation’s Staff Payroll Deduction program. Over the years the Foundation has experienced an outpouring of support from district employees through the payroll deduction program. Staff involvement in this program lends credibility to the work of the Foundation and shows a level of support that speaks loudly to potential donors. During the past year nearly 200 employees of the school district contributed more than \$15,000 via the Staff Payroll Deduction Program.

<b>Together All Donors Make a Difference</b>	
Sources of Income (2010 - 2011)	
Service Clubs/Other.....	3%
Payroll Deduction .....	8%
Special Events .....	11%
Individual Donors .....	11%
Businesses.....	16%
Grants.....	24%
Bequests/Memorials.....	27%

## Foundation Manages Funding Programs

The Cedar Rapids Community Schools Foundation is proud to serve as the fiscal agent for many fine programs that have a relationship with the CRCSD. This past year, the Foundation managed funds for the following organizations: Jefferson Grateful Gran-nies, the Bob Brooks Fund, Page Turners, The Academy for Scholastic & Personal Success, the Cedar Rapids area chapter of Iowa Retired School Personnel Asso-ciation, and the Homeless Program.



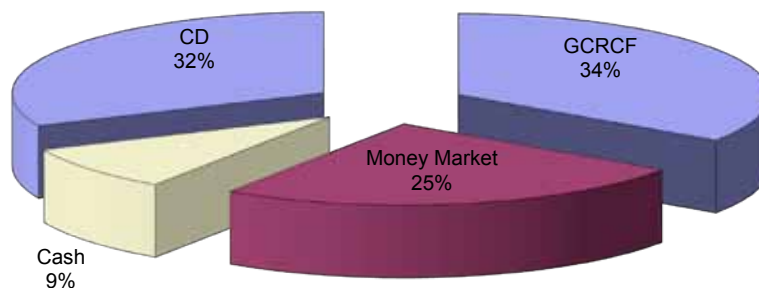
## Foundation Reports Successful Year

The Foundation completed its fiscal year on September 30, 2011 and is pleased to report contributions of \$245,418 and the granting of scholarships and awards of \$15,800. The portfolio return in 2011 was positive .96%. The Foundation maintains three years of projected operating funds in CDs, cash, or money market investments. This conservative approach has helped the Foundation preserve its principal investments during a down-turn in the economy.

### Statement of Activities Activity From 10/1/10 through 9/30/11

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	General Funds	Total Funds
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Contributions	17,604	138,165	89,649	245,418
Transfer				-
Investment Income	4,614	1,241	1,785	7,640
Total	22,218	139,406	91,434	253,058
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Scholarships and Awards	15,800	92,763	25,634	134,197
Professional Development Grants			860	860
Staff Recognition			3,295	3,295
Professional Services			33,639	33,639
Administrative			41,900	41,900
Fee Allocation	297	2,636	(2,933)	-
Total	16,097	95,399	102,396	213,891
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	6,121	44,007	(10,962)	39,167
Change in Portfolio Market Value	(1,686)	(307)	(562)	(2,555)
Increase / (Decrease) in Fund Balance	4,435	43,700	(11,524)	36,612
Beginning Fund Balance	310,920	57,678	144,117	512,715
Ending Fund Balance	315,355	101,378	132,593	549,327

Investment Portfolio 9/30/2011



## Foundation Donors

### October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011

**\$25,000+**

Giacoletto Foundation

**\$10,000 -- \$24,999**

Cedar Rapids Community School  
District Payroll Deduction  
Program  
Greater Cedar Rapids Community  
Foundation  
Hills Bank & Trust Company  
Kernels Foundation  
Pearson

**\$5,000 -- \$9,999**

Cedar Rapids Symphony  
Orchestra  
Rockwell Collins

**\$1,000 -- \$4,999**

Alliant Energy Foundation  
Anonymous  
Lawrence & Judith Blum  
Cedar Rapids Toyota-Scion  
Coldwell Banker Hedges Assoc.  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
John & Joy Fitzgerald  
Gordman's  
International Paper-Cedar River  
Paper Mill  
Randy Krejci  
Liberty Mutual  
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Perfect Game, Inc.  
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Rick Sellers  
Solon-Andreas Foundation  
Transamerica/AEGON  
United Way of East Central Iowa  
Donor Designated Fund  
University of Iowa Community  
Credit Union  
Karen Zazza

**\$500 -- \$999**

The Becker Fund  
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Robert Bowsby, II  
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District  
Bill C. Fitch  
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Robert & Marilyn Hovelson  
John Deere Classic  
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Kenneth K. Kinsey  
Lane & Melissa McMullen  
Robert Novak & Kathleen  
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Jeff & Francesca Novak  
William & Charla Osborne  
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**\$1 -- \$499**

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Christopher Baber  
Anglea Bachmann  
Brad Bader  
John Bader  
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Courtney Ball  
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Darryl Button  
CR Retired Teachers  
CRANA

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Andrew Eirp  
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Stephanie Estrada  
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Susan Hand  
Mark Hanrahan  
Robert L. Hansen

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 William R. Happel, Jr.  
 Terri Hardy  
 David Harris  
 Lileah Harris  
 Linda Harrison  
 Dana Hartman  
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 David Hayes  
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 Jack & Jackie Heins  
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 Beth & Dave Hill  
 Rick L. Hill  
 Colin & Wendy Himori  
 Bonnie Hinrichs  
 Elizabeth Hladky  
 Lynnette Hodson  
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 Wayne & Linda Howes  
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 Kenneth Kaiser  
 Fred Kaneshiro  
 George & Mary Kanz  
 Kori Kaufmann  
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 Marilyn Keller  
 Andrea Kelley  
 Jennifer Kelling  
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 Arthur Kelsey  
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 James & Nancy Knigge  
 Karen Knight

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 Robert & Joan Kocher  
 Stefan Koczo  
 RF Kolek  
 Amanda Kolsrud  
 Vani Kovvuri  
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 Clarice Krippner  
 R.A. & C.B. Krippner  
 Tim Kroeze  
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 Kynne Kruse  
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Kalli Morris  
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 Lisa Nagle  
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 Josie Norton  
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 Carmin Ohrt  
 Eric L. Oliver  
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 Sandra Ong  
 Deann Ongie  
 Tiffany N. Orr  
 William Osborne  
 Russell Oviatt  
 Theresa R. Owen  
 Julie Pameticky  
 James Park  
 Angela Parker  
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