



**Milwaukee Public Schools
FOUNDATION, INC.**

June 2010

MPS Foundation – Selected Highlights

Gifts and Grants - The MPS Foundation has received contributions totaling over \$2.2 million and awarded grants totaling \$1.7 million to MPS schools and programs. (As of December 2009) More than 120 MPS schools or programs have received grant funding or benefited in some way.

The MPS Employee Combined Giving Campaign (workplace giving campaign) is a primary source of income for the foundation's undesignated fund. The MPS Foundation is also included in the district's spring United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF) campaign and city employees are able to donate funds to the foundation as a part of the city's VISIONS campaign. Contributions to the MPS Foundation through UPAF and Visions are designated for the MPS Arts Fund. Hundreds of parents, community representatives, organizations, and private foundations continue to provide donations designated for specific schools or programs.

Advised Fund - An Advised Fund was established with the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to support the MPS Foundation's mission and goals long into the future and to help ensure long-term growth. A portion of the monies used to establish the Advised Fund came from generous donations made in memory of Ann Shansky, who was an elementary school teacher in MPS for 34 years.

School Designated Funds – Eight MPS schools currently have a designated fund under the MPS Foundation: Craig Montessori School, Fairview School, Hartford University School, Honey Creek School, Lincoln Center for the Arts, MacDowell Montessori School, Maryland Montessori School, and Gold Meir School.

Teacher EXCEL Grant Program - The Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc. sponsors the Teacher EXCEL Grant Program to fund creative classroom projects that enrich student-learning experiences. Classroom teachers in Milwaukee Public Schools are eligible and invited to apply for grants up to \$750 for activities to be conducted either during the school year or summer. Over nine years, 450 Teacher EXCEL Grants were awarded totaling \$326,225. (2000 through 2009)

Reading Is Fundamental – Funding provided to support Reading Is Fundamental in MPS – a book distribution program for students at 52 schools. During each school year, more than 24,000 students select and keep three books. Over the last seven years, the MPS Foundation awarded grants totaling \$39,500 to support RIF, which provided free books to more than 140,000 students. The majority of the funding came from unrestricted gifts; grants were also received from the Northwestern Mutual Foundation and US Bancorp Foundation. (2003 through 2009)

Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc.

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Excellence in Education Awards – Each month, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors recognizes an outstanding school, student, staff member, or parent/ community member for a display of excellence, achievement, and/or innovation. Teachers awarded the School Board's Excellence in Education Award receive a \$250 monetary award from the Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc. The program was initiated through generous contributions made by School Board Director Jeff Spence. Since 2001, 50 MPS educators were recognized and awarded grants totaling \$12,500. (2001 through 2010)

National Board Certification Grant Awards – The MPS Foundation has provided support to teachers who successfully completed all ten aspects of the rigorous National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification process. Over the last seven years, 50 teachers received grant awards to help with the program costs for a total of \$50,915. (2004 through 2010)

MPS Scholarship Program - A new Milwaukee Public Schools Scholarship program was established in 2009 through a generous (\$100,000) anonymous donation to the MPS Foundation. The donor provided seed funding to establish the scholarship program as a show of support for public education in Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin. In the first year (June 2010 high school graduates) five \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to students enrolled in the Milwaukee Public Schools to attend a public college or university in the state of Wisconsin. The scholarships may be renewed for up to three years pending successful completion of renewal criteria and availability of funding. (2009-2010)

Website – Online Giving – A website was established and is maintained for the MPS Foundation, which includes the capability for online donations. Visit: www.mpsfoundation.net

MPS Partnership for the Arts –MPS Foundation is partnering with Arts @ Large on a matching grant project funded through the MPS Partnership for the Arts. The project will involve students from four different schools to work on a collaborative artwork with an experienced community artist. The artwork created will be installed at the MPS central services administration building to serve as a permanent public art piece showcasing the talents and skills of MPS students. In addition, a portion of the artwork will remain at each school site. The MPS Partnership for the Arts provided \$10,000 in funding and the MPS Foundation provided matching funds in the amount of \$10,000. (2010)

Project Lead The Way Evaluation – The Faye McBeath Foundation provided a \$20,000 grant to support an external evaluation of MPS' Project Lead The Way to assess the impact of this middle and high school pre-engineering program in MPS. (2010)

Student Field Trips – The Richard & Ethel Herzfeld Foundation provided a grant for \$19,386 to fund transportation for field trips for MPS students. (2010)

Dental Treatment Program – This program provides free dental treatment services to eligible children in Milwaukee Public Schools from low-income and uninsured families. Hundreds of students have received dental treatment through generous donations from the Tellier Foundation and Dr. Alfred Bader totaling over \$50,000. (2009)

Automatic External Defibrillators - The Wisconsin Coalition of Asian Indian Organizations presented a check for \$65,395 to support the Milwaukee Public Schools Automatic External Defibrillator program. The funds were used to purchase 49 defibrillators for MPS schools as well as support training activities. (2008)

Desmond Mason Charity Art Show – A grant in the amount of \$55,194 was awarded to Thirty-fifth Street School to support the school's educational program. Funding was made possible through contributions received from the Desmond Mason Charity Art Show designed to support the school. (2008)

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Vision Project 20/20 – This program provides free follow-up exams and prescription eyeglasses to eligible children from low income and uninsured families. A donation from the Wisconsin Coalition of Asian Indian Organizations provided funding to serve about 100 MPS students. (2006 and 2007)

Community Learning Center Summer Program – Donations totaling \$266,000 were received to support Milwaukee's Summer Community Learning Center (CLC) Program in 2006, which involved an extensive collaboration with ten (10) Milwaukee area Community Based Organizations. Funding allowed the program to operate at 32 sites and serve over 4,500 of Milwaukee's neediest children. MPS provided kindergarten through eighth graders with summer school learning opportunities in the morning and the CBO's engaged kids in the afternoons and all day on Fridays with recreation enrichment including art, music, dance, sports, fitness, field trips and nutritious meals. Funding was made possible through restricted donations from: Assurant Health Foundation, Robert W. Baird & Co. Foundation, Elizabeth A. Brinn Foundation, Greater Milwaukee Foundation - Mr. & Mrs. Richard Weiss, Dorothy Inbusch Foundation, Inc., Johnson Controls Foundation, Marshall & Illsley Foundation, George Mosher, Northwestern Mutual Foundation, Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and the WE Energies Foundation. (2006)

Tauscher's Reading Challenge – Mark Tauscher, offensive lineman for the Green Bay Packers, provided support to improve literacy through his TRIFECTA Foundation. Tauscher donated funds in 2005 and 2006 to support the Teacher EXCEL grant program and sponsored a Reading Challenge for elementary school students. Students were challenged to read 500 minutes during the month of October 2006. The TRIFECTA Foundation and Associated Bank sponsored the Reading Challenge and providing thousands of incentives for participating students. A total of 86 MPS elementary schools participated in the Reading Challenge, representing more than 37,000 students in grades kindergarten to eighth grade. Participating students received a Reading Challenge Certificate signed by Mark Tauscher. Four MPS students were selected to receive 3 tickets to the December 17, 2006 –Packers vs. Lions game. Following the game, students and their guests met with Mark Tauscher and received a behind the scenes tour of Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin. In addition, 10 MPS students were selected to receive a football personally autographed by a Green Bay Packer. (2005 and 2006)

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June 2010
K. Kirchhoff