

2011-
2012

Education Foundation Annual Report

Grande Prairie Public School District #2357



Teresa Souliere
Education Foundation
2011-2012



Vision, Mission, Principles

Our Vision:

A strong and sustainable foundation committed to supporting the Grande Prairie Public School District's services to students.

Our Mission:

The Foundation assists the students of the Grande Prairie Public School District by engaging the community to support and enrich learning in our schools.

Our Principles:

- Promoting exceptional achievement in all areas of school life for all students
- Complementing basic education services for students
- Exciting the public about public education and its accomplishments

Board of Directors

George Malcolm, Chairman

Dave McRae, Chairman

Carol Ann MacDonald, Superintendent

Peter Neale, Secretary-Treasurer

Teresa Souliere, Executive Director

Lorne Radbourne, Past Chairman

Bill Aldred, Director

Brenda Howard, Director

Ken Belke, Director

Amber Prior, Director

Stephanie Plante, Director

Ross Young, Director

Janet Longmate, Director

Helen Neufeld, Director

Programs 2011 – 2012

- A. Approximately 150 students and 325 guests attended the 12th Annual **Striving for Excellence Dinner** at the Bowes Family Crystal Gardens Centre featuring guest speaker Mayor Bill Given, a GPPSD graduate. The operational cost of the event was \$20,273.00.
- B. The **Saturday Tutorial Program** at Crystal Park School provides an opportunity for students to get free academic support. The program assists students in grade 4 through 9 and operates each Saturday from 9:00 until 12:00 noon, during October – June.
 - a. The Principal (Charlene Ungstad) indicated that the program on-site was very beneficial and delivered immense results to the students who needed extra support to complete assignments or are behind due to absenteeism and students wanting to have assistance to enhance in their studies.

- C. **Career Technology Studies Scholarship Program** – Scholarships were awarded to five Composite High School students at the 12th Annual Striving for Excellence Dinner held October 2th, 2012. The Scholarships were sponsored exclusively this year by the GPPSD Education Foundation. There were four CTS Scholarships awarded in the Mechanics studies and one for Baking. These scholarships provided students with \$1,000.00 towards their post-secondary studies.
- D. **Chris Gonnet Memorial Bursary** (\$500.00) - was awarded for the second year to one graduating student for her exemplary leadership quality within the school.
- E. **Grade 3 Summer Reading University** – a community endeavor.
- 90 Grade 3 students from the region (three school districts) who were not reading at grade level attended the three week Grade 3 Reading University program in July 2012
 - Grande Prairie Regional College once again hosted the program with instructors from the Grande Prairie Public School District.
 - The GPPSD Education Foundation contributed \$10,000 to the project.
 - The two other local school districts made contributions in direct proportion to the number of their students participating in the program.
 - Funding and gifts in kind in the amount of nearly \$90,000.00 was procured from local businesses, community and literacy supporters. .
 - The operational cost of the program was \$90,000.00.
 - Thank you to the fundraising initiatives and program enthusiasm of community leaders; Linda Side, Visa Truck Rentals, Rhonda Side, Devco Developments and Sandra Mellon of RBC contributed to the continued success of Reading University.
 - Feedback from parents and students enrolled in the program was very complimentary.

Community Partnerships 2011-2012

- The **Grande Prairie Regional College** generously contributed their venue for the Grade 3 Reading University.
- Partnership continues with the **Tri-District Hockey Tournament** organization raised \$14,634.00 from the hockey tournament for students with serious illness and disabilities for needed equipment.
- Vista Radio**, parent company of local station 104.8 FREE FM continued with its seven year commitment to provide the Foundation with a yearly grant of \$12,500 that is used to support Music Programs in the district.
- The Foundation accrued \$2300.00 of **investment income** from Encana & Cenovus shares.
- Canadian Tire** provided the Foundation with a generous donation of \$2,500.00.
- WestJet** donated two tickets to anywhere they fly for our fundraising event in the spring - a value of \$2500.00.

- G. **Towne Centre Furniture** provided the Spring event with a leather recliner worth \$1,300.00
- H. **Happy Trail RV** supplied a helicopter and fishing trip to Kinuseo Falls for the spring event, the prize was worth \$3,000.00.
- I. **Haliburton** supplied the event with a BBQ for our live auction activities.
- J. **Planned giving** for two policies \$1,268.00
- K. **Donations for the Lakeland Playground Society** - \$7941.00
- L. **Donations from local businesses** - to support our fundraisers equated to a retail value of \$26,000.00.

School and Community Support 2011-2012

- A. The Grant Committee supported the following programs:
 - i. **Grande Prairie Schools Snack Program** - \$5000.00
 - ii. **Saturday Tutorial (Crystal Park)** - \$4,000.00
 - iii. **GPPSD Music Program** - \$12,500.00 – instrument replacement
 - iv. **First Nations Metis & Inuit Program** – registration cost for 12 students and 2 chaperons to attend the local Spirit Seekers Conference - \$500.00
 - v. **Grade 3 Summer Reading University** - \$10,000.00
 - vi. **Finishing Touch Grad Society** - \$1500.00 to assist in overhead costs for graduating students unable to afford grad attire
 - vii. **DTPS Student Convention (Derek Taylor School)** - \$1,000.00
 - viii. **Free Field Sound System (Hillside School)** - \$1,000.00
 - ix. **SBEAD Program (Hillside)** - \$2,000.00
- B. School Playgrounds:
 - A. **Swanavon Parents Association (Playground)** received financial support from the Foundation grant program of \$2,000.00.

Total Funds Allocated to Programs... \$39,500.00

Fundraising 2011-2012

- A. The **Casino** in November of 2011 garnered the Foundation \$38,000.00. The next opportunity for a casino will be approximately two and half years.
- B. The Foundation hosted the annual sports fundraising event, '**Tailgate Party**' with football hall of famer Matt Dunigan. The event entertained more than 250 guests and generated over \$11,000.00 for programs and initiatives supported by the Foundation.

- C. The **Women Investing in Literacy & Leadership (WILL)** luncheon with keynote speaker Manjit Minhas was very well received and earned \$6,000.00.
- D. The internal monthly **50/50 Lottery** generously supported by the GPPSD staff netted the Foundation a total \$8,400.00.
- E. A matching grant from Alberta Government's **Community Spirit Grant Program** earned the Foundation \$8,300.00. The Foundation has an opportunity to acquire up to \$50,000.00 in matching grants through this program; to date the Foundation has received approximately 80% of potential funding for the three year period.
- F. **Friends of the Foundation Program** fundraising initiative, acquired revenue for the past year of \$5,100.00.

Future Considerations

Proposed Activities for 2012-2013

- Review criteria and format of Striving for Excellence Award program.
- Focus on Grant writing as a means to the Foundation's sustainability
- Raffle Ticket Sales for "Jet Away Raffle" – two tickets from WestJet – Sell \$20.00/ticket
- Engage additional community leaders for open Board Member positions
- Apply to Swan City Rotary to participate in Cash & Camping Super Lottery
- Garner corporate sponsorship to support and offset cost of Striving for Excellence

Goals for 2012-2013

1. Establish stronger organizational practices for effectiveness, growth and sustainability
 - a. Annual review of strategic goals
 - b. Develop specific action plans
 - c. Review and update action plan and progress
 - d. Develop board policies and best practices
2. Fund-raise with ease
 - a. Develop fundraising scenarios and activities
 - b. Develop event models, templates, checklists and guidelines
 - c. Integrate volunteer development and fund-raising
 - d. Increase donor motivation
 - e. Increase volunteer engagement

3. Maintain a strong and diverse board
 - a. Recruit for diversity and passion
 - b. Clear job descriptions for executive and committees
 - c. Orientate new members to set them up for success
 - d. Board Manual
4. Increase profile and community awareness
5. Future success
 - a. Clear articulation and documentation of processes and policies
 - b. Intentional development of the next generation of board members
 - c. Balance fund-raising efforts to match program aspirations
 - d. Rotating leadership and sharing workloads to avoid burnout
 - e. Broaden capacity
 - f. Create documents/strategies to raise community awareness of the Foundation and its role

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Souliere

Teresa Souliere
Executive Director
Education Foundation
Grande Prairie Public School District #2357

