



2007-08

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Hear the Roar!

Panther Foundation
1415 81st Avenue
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432
763-795-5155
PantherFoundation.org

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

The 2008 Annual Report

Thanks to a caring community, we're making a difference in the lives of a lot of kids

Some people have asked, "What is the Panther Foundation?" That's a great question with a simple answer. The Panther Foundation raises money and gives it away in the form of grants to enrich the learning experiences of students in District 16. That's it! It's simple and it's fun!

We have just completed the fourth year of the Panther Foundation, and it was our greatest year so far! The commitment of the Board of Directors and our faithful members and supporters has allowed us to touch the lives of the 4,600 Blaine, Fridley and Spring Lake Park students in District 16 in ways otherwise not possible. Think about it - if it wasn't for the generosity of so many, what is inside this report would not have been possible.



As in the past, our annual GrandGala was a huge success! On February 9, 2008, at the TPC in Blaine, more than \$70,000 was raised at a dinner that included both silent and live auctions. Through the generosity of our guests, an additional \$9,000 was raised to help provide Activity Buses for After-School Enrichment Programs allowing students to participate in after-school activities. Because of this reliable transportation, many students in grades K-8 can now be involved in the valuable experiences of after-school activities.

Inside this report, you will read about the grants awarded by the Panther Foundation during the 2007-08 school year. Grant applications were received from parents, staff members and community residents that spanned the years from Early Childhood through high school. We proudly awarded 49 grants, totaling \$82,186, touching the lives of students of all ages.

And let's not forget the fun we had last fall at the second annual Staff Follleeez! Over 130 staff members from all schools and programs provided an evening of fun and laughter which helped raise nearly \$2,500 for the Panther Foundation.

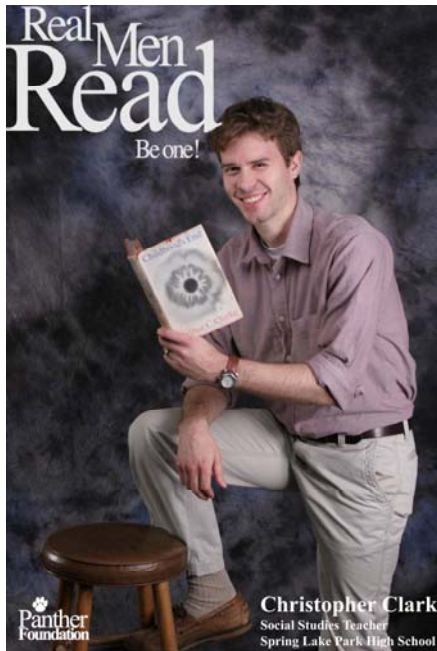
All of this is not possible without the amazing generosity and energy of our many members and our friends. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Panther Foundation, "Thank You!"

Remember by working together, we make a difference.

Sincerely,

Glenn Martin
2007-08 Chairperson
Panther Foundation





Our 2007-2008 Grants

A world of good programs, good deeds, and great students

Forty-nine grants were awarded in 2007-08 totaling \$82,186. Every dollar the Foundation invests in grants or initiatives comes from community members through a donation, membership, fundraising event, matching fund, or special gift plan. Thank you!

Learning Alternatives Advisory Speaker Series

Funding supported the costs associated with bringing in field experts and professionals to speak with Learning Alternatives Community School students.

Manga & Comic Book Club

Funding allowed for the purchase of about 100 Manga (Japanese comics) and graphic novels for the Spring Lake Park High School Media Center.

Drumline Equipment

This funding made it possible to purchase drums for the Spring Lake Park High School Drumline/Pep Band.

National Skills USA Conference

This grant allowed a student from the high school's Construction Trades program to attend and compete at the 2007 National Skills USA Conference.

Jump Start/Hand in Hand

Funds helped purchase classroom materials, provide enrichment opportunities for Hispanic families, and provide a music therapist for Autistic children in Early Childhood programs.

July 2007

Total awarded: \$6,369

One Small Thing

This grant funded mini-celebrations for Learning Alternatives Community School students as well as welcome bags that included the handbook, notebook, pen and pencil to develop school connections and boost self-esteem in students.

Tubas for 5th Grade

Funding purchased three tubas for the 5th grade band program at Westwood Intermediate School.

National FCCLA Competition/Convention

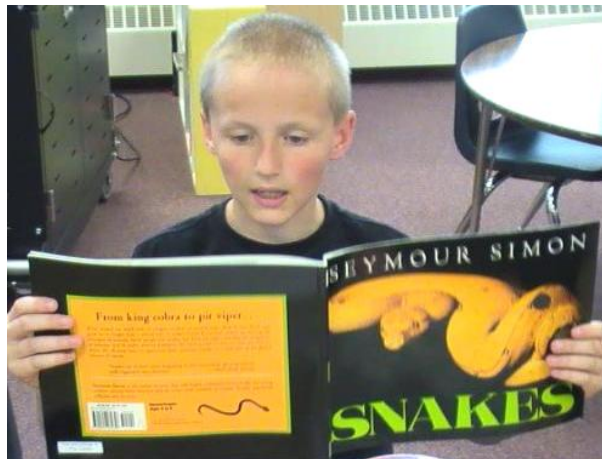
This grant assisted two high school students to attend and compete at the National Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America Convention in Anaheim.

Core Knowledge: Using Exercise Balls as Student Seating

Funding purchased thirty exercise balls to be used as student seating in a middle school classroom. This innovative seating helps students focus and offers new and exciting opportunities for student learning.

October 2007

Total awarded: \$26,611



Nonfiction Text Development

Funding increased the number of non-fiction textbooks in the Park Terrace Elementary library.

School Supplies for All

Provided each school with funds to purchase backpacks with basic school supplies to assist identified students and families.

Ceramics B & C

Enabled the high school art department to purchase four potter wheels.

"Make A Difference Day"

Funding provided for a Family Service Day to Support our Troops. A joint project between the Community Education Department and Spring Lake Park Parks and Recreation.

Writing Lab

Funds helped off-set the supply costs of the high school's pilot Writing Lab project.

Football Team "Palm Desert Trip"

Assisted with costs associated with the Varsity football team's trip to Palm Desert, Arizona where they served as good-will ambassadors for the school and community.

The Holocaust Presentation

Funding allowed 350 10th grade students to participate in a presentation on the Holocaust and its relevance today.

Timeline Books

Funding enabled purchase of a digital camera to document the year in detail for all three Kenneth Hall third grade classrooms.

Guided Reading Books

Funding greatly increased the number of guided reading books in the Park Terrace library.

First Lego League

Supported the middle school Robotic Team and competition expenses.

Speaker for FCCLA

Allowed the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America students to facilitate a speaker on the topics of Drinking and Driving and Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Enrichment/Supplemental Materials

Purchased age-appropriate books, reading and math manipulatives and education games at Kenneth Hall.

Automated External Defibrillators

Purchased a portable life-saving AED for Opportunities in Emergency Care program.

English Language Learners at Home

Provided unique learning opportunities for English Language Learners that extended beyond the school day and walls.

Grade 3 Dictionaries

Run in conjunction with Blaine/Ham Lake Rotary to provide dictionaries to all third graders.

January 2008

**Total awarded:
\$28,861**

Flashmaster

Purchased hand-held electronic teaching tools for Woodcrest Elementary students to use to practice and enhance basic math skills.

Say Yes to No Book Club

Parent and community members participated in discussions and received this book at no cost.

After-School Transportation

Provides transportation for elementary students following after-school classes.

Preschool Scholarships

Allows families/children to continue preschool education despite financial hardship.

Choir Tour to NYC

Provided aid to individual students for the high school Concert Choir tour to New York City.

2008 Tech Tour to Arizona

Ensured all students could participate in the Tech Tour to Arizona.

Reading Achievement/Audio Books

Purchased audio books and CD players for the high school media center to provide innovative ways to engage students in reading.

Grade 1 Making Words

Provided Kenneth Hall teachers with a set of magnetic letters to use while engaging learners in reading instruction.

Kenneth Hall Storyteller

Funding allowed for an Artist in Residency for one week at Kenneth Hall Elementary.

Concordia Language Villages

Assisted middle school students with travel expenses to attend Spanish-speaking educational camp.



Kenneth Hall/Northpoint Book Room Enrichment

Purchased guided reading books for the bookroom at Kenneth Hall/Northpoint.

Cultural Explorations & Appreciation

Provided curriculum resources and transportation for Learning Alternatives students to attend the Festival of Nations.



Life Skills Boxes

Provided the supplies needed for Girl Scout troop to produce Life Skills boxes for special needs students.

Primary Book Series

Purchased 511 titles of books for media centers in all three elementary schools.



Parent Involvement Conversation Groups

Implemented a pilot outreach program at Woodcrest Elementary with Hispanic families to increase their engagement in their children's education.

March 2008

Total awarded: \$20,345

Middle School Show Choir Festival

Provided bus and entrance expenses for middle school Show Choir Festival in Shakopee.

Early Childhood Developmental Posters

Provided learners in the Early Childhood Family Education program with supplies and materials to develop three sets of posters on early childhood development.

4th/5th Grade Organizational Project

Project to loop Westwood Intermediate School 4th grade students into 5th grade (keeping students together and same teacher), providing tools necessary to learn critical organizational skills.

Basic Skills Classroom Library

Purchased books for a Basic Skills Classroom library rich in literature, non-fiction, and series books.

Middle School Performance by Marcoux Corner

Funded a performance for all middle school choir students by a cappella group Marcoux Corner.

Panther Den

Purchased new supplies for the Panther Den, a safe, constructive, supervised after-school "hang-out" for high school students.



Life Skills Green Thumbs

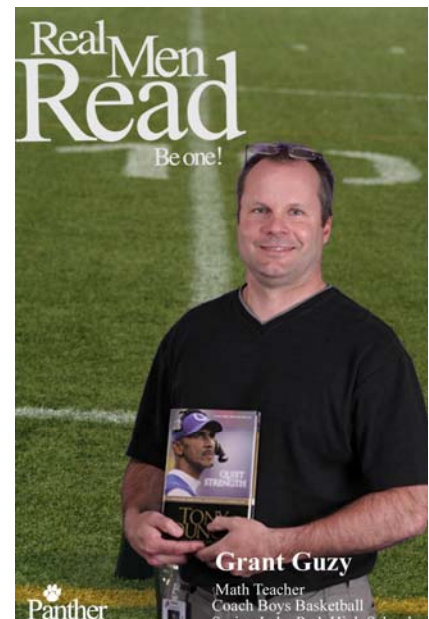
Provided unique real-life learning opportunities in environment and landscaping for Life Skills Transitions students. *(This was the 100th grant awarded in Foundation history.)*

Opportunities in Emergency Care EMS Competition Aid

Supported the high school's OEC academic team participation at the international competition in Texas.

Early Childhood Playground Project

Partially funded new playground equipment at Woodcrest Early Childhood Center, in collaboration with the Early Childhood Advisory Council.



Real Men Read

The Foundation supported the implementation of a reading program at the high school to increase boys' interest and achievement in reading.



Panther Foundation Members & Partners

We couldn't do it without you. Here are the Panther Foundation's Lifetime, Gold, Silver, and Bronze members, and our "Partners" who have contributed time, goods, and services.

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 *denotes new or returning membership in 2007-2008

Lifetime Members

\$1000+

Allegra Print & Imaging
-- Tom Newland
Kenneth Hall Elementary
Kraus-Anderson
-- Mark Kotten
Village Bank
-- Don Kveton & Barbara Nellesen
Walters Recycling & Refuse
-- George & Sue Walter
Wold Architects & Engineers
-- Greg Dehler
Jim Amundson
Theresa Berset-Klis
Neil Brown
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Marilynn Forsberg
Tim & Julie Gotham
Jim & Barb Hasling
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Joel & Jolene LeVahn
Leo Luskey
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*Antoinette Mortensen
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Craig Poeschl & Barbara Lind
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Lance & Julie Vandenbroek
Don & Cathy Weiss
Al Yee Litt
Nancy Yee Litt

Honorary Lifetime Members

Hollis & Catherine Cavner
Don Helmsetter
Roger Moody
Kathleen Serpinas

Gold Members \$250+

*HealthPartners
-- Nancy McKay,
-- Greg Dahlgren
Dave & Anne Alto
Mike Callahan
Ellen Delaney
Don & Linda Helmstetter
Erik Hendrickson
Sandra & Evan Johnston
*Judi Kahoun
*Wendy & Bill Koschak
*Ed & Sharon Krumme

Sue Kvidera
Tom Larson
Joel & Jolene LeVahn
Jerelyne Nemanich
Colleen Pederson
*Randy & Tammi Provart
Jeff Ronneberg
Andrew Tortora
Dessie Walter
Grant Walter
James Westrum
Joel Young

Silver Members

\$100+

Quality Document Solutions Corp.
--John L. Turner
Spring Lake Park Lumber
--Dann Francen
Tom Ambrasas
Jeanne Bennett
Lynda Bergeron
*Dave Carlson
Jane Covart
*Kandi Danielson
Terry Dussault and Mary Mueller
*Elizabeth & Jeff Eggert
Jim Elert
Gary Erickson
Dave & Kim Fehringer
Tim & Julie Gotham
Claudia Hagberg
*Chris Hasling
Jim & Barb Hasling
*Wendy Hatchner
Michael Hay
Frank Herman
*Jess Holle
Lollie & Jeff Jensen
Caroline King
*Jennifer Kunze
Paula Lanoue
Jodi Lichtsinn
Randy Lichtsinn
Richard and Marianne Matton
*Cindy McKay
*Tom McVary
Cheryl Norman
Maria Norman
Mike & Lisa Ojile
David Olson
Jay & Denise Onstad
John & Dianne Proulx
Susan & Wayne Pyatt
Phil & Leslie Richard

Jason & Sharon Roeske
*Scott & Stephanie Sample
Kathleen Serpinas
Laura Shalbetter
*Karen Snedeker
Jim Stern
*Mark White
*Nyle Zikmund

Bronze Members \$25+

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Calista Alden
Mary Allstatt
*James Anderson
Judie Anderson
Kristin Anderson
*Pamela Anderson
Pete Anderson
Shelley Anderson
Shawn Arlt
Mary Bacha
Ann Baldwin
*Phyllis Banecraft
*Katherine Jo Behm
Janet A. Benson
*Susan Benson
Stacy Benz
*Connie Bernardy
*Kallie Ann Binkowski
Amy Bjurlin
Alesha Blom
Mickey & Susan Bluedorn
*Miranda Boys
*Jerene & Tony Briant
Carol Brostrom
Jill Brown
Joel & Jan Burda
Sue Byl
Mike Callahan
Barbara Camp
*Shannon Camp
*Tania Chance
Julia Corneil-Smith
*Rebecca Crislip
*Alyssa Donley
Jill Driscoll
Julie Fahey
Zaiga & Austin Felix
*Jon Forman & Karen Kendzora-Forman
*John Fulwider
*Jennifer Furness
Sharon Gageby
*Stacy Gerding
*Thomas Gibbs
Kristin Goessel-Seery
*Donald Grund
*Cheryl Gustafson

*Amanda Halter
Michael Hartman
*Nancy Helmuth Londoche
Audrey Hendrickson
Michelle Hendrickson
*Sarah Herlofsky
Mark Heule
Mike Hoyne
*Chris Huber
Judy Innvaer
*Tori Jensen
Jennifer Jensen
*Tyron Johannes
Bonnie Johannessen
Danny Johnsen
*Noreen Johnson
Ryan Julien
Jeanne Kalien
Linda Kennedy
Roy & Donna Kill
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Kathleen Krull
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Alison LeVahn
Erik LeVahn
Jacob LeVahn
Julia LeVahn
Diane Lindo
*Duane Lindstrom
Brooke Magid-Hart
*Eileen Manning
*Cindy Mark
*Vicki Martin
Marna McComb
Corine McLellan
*Lori McNulty
*Kevin Metzgi
Barb Mewaldt
*Tricia Miller
Lorrie Murdy
Lisa Noetzel
Jean Nolby
Dena Norman
Bill Norton
*Christy Noyes
*Dan Omann
Angelina Palumbo
Connie Palumbo
Genevieve Palumbo
*Valerie Pap
Marianne Paulos
*Lucy Peterson
Marci Peterson
Melissa Peterson
*Ron Pflager & Gloria Stenstrom
Thomas Polta
*Patsy Ramberg

*Jo Rapp
Tonya Rootes
Paula Sammons
*Roger Schmidt
*Jim Schonrock
*Amanda Sherman
Jerry Slepica and Jean Thimmesch
*Linda Smith
*Erin Stalsberg
Michael Steel
*Mike Strong
*Rebecca Swanson
*Maggie Tennesen
Jeff & Kathy Thayer
*Rich & Kelly Thompson
Kathie Thorne
Marsha Timlin
*Nichole Todd
Diana Ursin
Mark Wallinga
Amy Walsh
*Greg & Lissa Walter
*Gene Ware
Kelly Wenzel
Amanda West
Christy West
*Darlene West
*Tony & Yvonne White
Sue & Tom Wimler
Teresa Workman
*Clyde & Andrea Wyatt
Peter Yelle
Richard Young
*Anne Young
Margaret Zachau

Partners and Supporters

Linda Bader
*Julia Castillo
*Rupal Dave
Kristin Golmen
*Lori Henry
Susan Leet
*Lisa Marshall
Maureen Raverty
Lesli Sutor
*Mary Jo Tichich
*Betsy VanBurkleo
*Glen Victorey
*Heidi Zisla
Marge Zobitz

Community members attending the Panther Foundation GrandGala raise \$72,000 to benefit kids

The fourth annual Panther Foundation GrandGala, held February 9 at the TPC of the Twin Cities Clubhouse in Blaine, raised more than \$72,000.

"The generosity of guests and our event sponsors were just amazing," said Jodi Lichtsinn, GrandGala chairperson and secretary of the Panther Foundation board of directors.

Included in the \$72,000 raised at the GrandGala was over \$9,000 for this year's "Fund-A-Dream" project. Gala participants funded 111 separate buses—at \$80 each—to help make after-school activities busing available at five district schools.

The GrandGala also featured both silent and live auctions. Spirited live auction bidding—netting over \$20,000—took place on items including Flights for Fun flying instruction, Five-day trip to Mexico, Twins ceremonial first pitch, Boundary Waters retreat, Hot Air Balloon Party, and An Evening in Tuscany-Dinner for Six at the Superintendent's Home.

The Spring Lake Park High School Jazz band was a big hit, offering their time and musical talents while GrandGala attendees arrived and mingled.

"The Panther Foundation and the students we serve owe a tremendous thank you to businesses who contributed to the event," said Terry Dusssault, Foundation vice-chairman. It truly was a night to remember, thanks to the support of our contributors, guests, and volunteers."

Event Sponsors

Village Bank
Kraus-Anderson
Wold Architects & Engineers

Corporate Contributors

Allegra Printing
Blaine/Ham Lake Rotary Club
Gallagher & Associates
M&I Bank
Tournament Liquors
Timothy's Fine Jewelry
UBS Financial Services
Walters Recycling



The 2007-08 grants program, membership renewal, third annual GrandGala, and a healthy financial picture . . . thanks to you.

Panther Foundation financial picture

June 30, 2008 (unaudited)

Revenue	
Donations/Membership	\$ 26,567
GrandGala	\$ 75,590
Staff Folleeez	\$ 2,348
Interest	\$ 374
Total	\$104,879
Expenses	
Grants Awarded	\$ 82,186 ¹
Special Projects Awarded	\$ 16,010
Membership	\$ 3,041
Gala	\$ 13,118
Staff Folleeez	\$ 233
General Operating	\$ 4,004
Total	\$118,592
 Endowment Fund Total	 \$ 25,000

¹Amount paid out in fiscal year is less – due to carryover grants and actual grant spending



Special Projects

Included in the \$72,000 raised at the GrandGala was over \$9,000 for this year's "Fund-A-Dream" project. Gala participants funded 111 separate buses—at \$80 each—to help make after-school activities busing available at five district schools for kids who otherwise would not be able to participate.

Our list of Special Projects

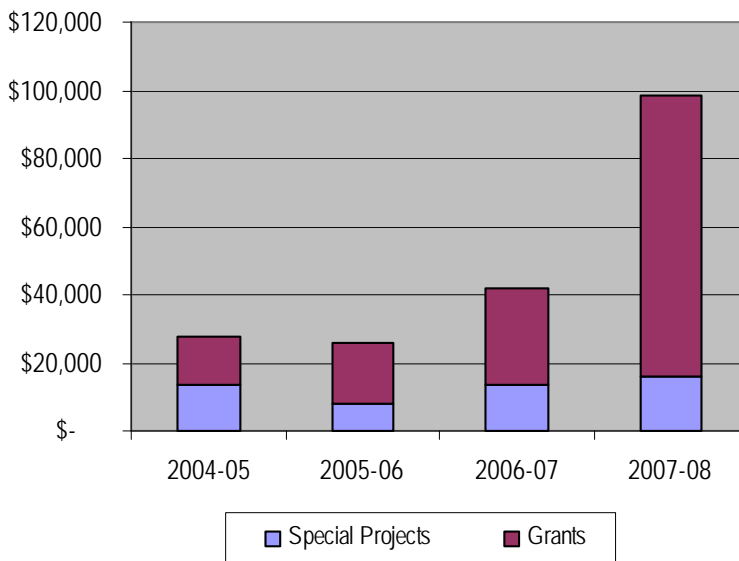
2007-08 **\$16,010**
 After-School Transportation/After-School Activities, Staff Membership Drive Building Stipends, 3rd Grade Dictionary Project, Kindergarten Welcome Book Project

2006-07 **\$13,748**
 Mobile Computer Lab-Westwood Complex, Staff Membership Drive Building Stipends, 3rd Grade Dictionary Project

2005-06 **\$8,200**
 Mobile Computer Lab-Westwood Complex

2004-05 **\$13,250**
 Fine Arts Center Projector System, Classroom Audio Enhancement System-Woodcrest

Grants & Special Projects Awarded

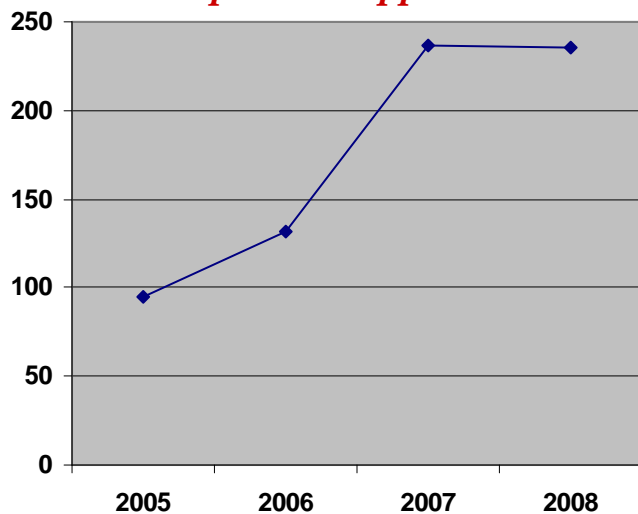


The Panther Foundation is Giving Back...

In addition to the many grants the Panther Foundation awards – there are several District projects and events the Foundation is very proud to be involved with.

- Panther Foundation Sponsored the 2007-08 Staff Folleeez
- Panther Foundation participated in the annual Spring Lake Park High School Homecoming Tailgate Party
- Panther Foundation, with the support of the Blaine/Ham Lake Rotary Club, gave every District 16 third grade student a dictionary

Panther Foundation's Annual Memberships and Supporters



Staff Folleeez was a huge success; put the Fun in Fundraising while raising \$2,500

An enthused audience of 400 cheered the efforts of School District 16 staff on

Saturday, November 17, 2007. Over 100 staff member performed in all manners of family-friendly fun, folly, and even a little talent in the annual Staff Folleeez to raise funds for the Panther Foundation.



Do you know of a worthwhile project that would benefit students?

Students, parents, and staff are invited to submit grant applications to the Panther Foundation. You can obtain an application or learn more about grants by visiting our website: pantherfoundation.org

Panther Foundation Members

Time to renew your membership

Current Panther Foundation members are encouraged – if you haven't already – to renew their memberships before the end of the current year. For your convenience, this mailing has a renewal membership form enclosed.

Thank you for your continued support, and remember your membership is tax deductible!

It's up to you!

Invite a neighbor, friend, or colleague to become a member of the Panther Foundation today. For as little as \$25 your friend will be contributing to amazing work the Panther Foundation does every year.

Spread the good news of the Panther Foundation. For additional copies of this Annual Report please call the Panther Foundation line at 763-795-5155, or invite others to learn more at our website.

Panther Foundation is under "Community" on the home page of springlakeparkschools.org.

Thank You! Allegra Print & Imaging

The Panther Foundation would like to extend a special thanks to one of its long-standing partners, Allegra Print & Imaging, for its assistance in printing this 2008 Annual Report. Allegra (763-780-0792) is located at 8575 Central Avenue in Blaine.

Panther Foundation mission statement

Our mission is to acquire and allocate resources to enrich the educational experiences of students in Spring Lake Park School District 16.