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www.polkeeducationfoundation.org

In this short monthly e-newsletter, the Polk Education Foundation would like to share with you things that we were able to do over the last few months to support the teachers and students of Polk County, and to also make you aware of any upcoming opportunities. Please forward this newsletter to anyone you feel would be interested in learning more about the Polk Education Foundation.

Have you heard the latest news from the PEF?

Superintendent's Scholars Represent the Top of their Class

Named after our school district's Superintendent, the Superintendent's Scholars Program is administered by the Polk Education Foundation and has been recognizing students with superior grade point averages and test scores for the last 20 years. Superintendent's Scholars Award recipients represent the top 1% of all graduating seniors in Polk County based on their high GPA, SAT and ACT scores. Students must have a minimum 28 on the ACT exam or 1270 on the SAT, and a minimum grade point average of 3.75. Magnify Credit Union returned as sponsor of the program this year, and presented each recipient with a DVD and book of the motivational program entitled "212 Degrees". Students also received a commemorative DVD made by Magnify Credit Union and personalized for each school, noting their honor as a Superintendent's Scholar.



- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Cayley Abrado | George Jenkins High School | Alexandra Lewis | Lakeland High School |
| Brooke Adams | Harrison School for the Arts | Abigail Lubin | International Baccalaureate |
| Melissa Adams | International Baccalaureate | William Luckett | Winter Haven High School |
| Jacob Amis | International Baccalaureate | Caleb Markley | Lake Wales High School |
| Kranesha Andrews | Ridge Community High School | Kristyl Marler | Lake Region High School |
| Nicola Antonelli | George Jenkins High School | Sarah Mayhugh | Ridge Community High School |
| Brittany Appelboom | Winter Haven High School | Lauren McCormack | McKeel Academy |
| Erika Bailey | George Jenkins High School | Sara McIntyre | Frostproof Middle Senior High School |
| Allison Bedford | Harrison School for the Arts | Grace McMullen | Harrison School for the Arts |
| Racquel Bernard | Auburndale High School | Carrie McNeill | Lakeland High School |
| Kaitlyn Bice | Winter Haven High School | Shelby Merritt | Bartow High School |
| Rachel Bouchillon | International Baccalaureate | Suma Metla | International Baccalaureate |
| Emily Boyer | Harrison School for the Arts | Andrew Miller | Lake Gibson High School |
| Adam Bracewell | PCC Collegiate High School | Kristin Mills | International Baccalaureate |
| Bryce Bresnan | Harrison School for the Arts | Emily Minter | International Baccalaureate |
| Patrick Brown | Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School | Mauricio Miranda | International Baccalaureate |
| Kevin Bryan | PCC Collegiate High School | Rebecca Monaco | Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School |
| Daniel Buey | International Baccalaureate | Jessica Monaco | Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School |
| Allison Cahalan | Lakeland High School | Phillip Mondelli | Frostproof Middle Senior High School |
| Christina Campbell | George Jenkins High School | Jessica Moore | Lake Region High School |
| Tyler Campbell | Harrison School for the Arts | Eric Morgan | Auburndale High School |
| Courtney Campbell | International Baccalaureate | Nathalie Moyano | George Jenkins High School |
| Wade Carreno | Lake Gibson High School | Gage Mueller | Lake Gibson High School |
| Aaron Cassity | PCC Collegiate High School | Jonathan Munoz | George Jenkins High School |
| Lindsay Castret | George Jenkins High School | Kathryn Murphy | Bartow High School |
| Librado Chaidez | Haines City High School | Laura Newberry | McKeel Academy |
| Kyle Champeau | Lakeland High School | Joshua Newell | International Baccalaureate |
| Katherine Childs | George Jenkins High School | Kristina Nichols | Lake Wales High School |
| Eddie Chirino | Lakeland High School | Eric Obermeyer | Harrison School for the Arts |
| Robin Clark | International Baccalaureate | Frank O'Harroll | International Baccalaureate |
| Brian Clark | Summerlin Academy | Tasnia Osmani | Bartow High School |
| Brittani Cole | International Baccalaureate | Cary Palmer | Haines City High School |
| Miranda Craig | Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School | Sergio Palomares Cervantes | International Baccalaureate |
| Ashley Cullins | International Baccalaureate | Rachel Patel | George Jenkins High School |
| Jacquelyn Dalton | International Baccalaureate | Janki Patel | George Jenkins High School |
| Sydney Devore | Lake Region High School | Shivani Patel | International Baccalaureate |
| Justin Dickey | Winter Haven High School | Dimple Patel | Lake Region High School |
| Jessica Dye | George Jenkins High School | | |

Jill Dykxhoorn	International Baccalaureate	Megan Petrie	Lakeland High School
Tylor Earl	Lake Gibson High School	Kathryn Phillips	Harrison School for the Arts
Anna Edwards	Lakeland High School	John Phillips	Winter Haven High School
John Erwin	International Baccalaureate	Jessica Poulsen	McKeel Academy
Samantha Espinosa	International Baccalaureate	Jessica Rex	Winter Haven High School
Stephanie Eveland	Lake Region High School	Adam Roberts	International Baccalaureate
Andrea Farinas	International Baccalaureate	Phillip Roddenbury	Lake Gibson High School
Shelby Flynn	International Baccalaureate	Angela Rombola	Winter Haven High School
Carlene Fogle-Miller	International Baccalaureate	Katelyn Ruppert	PCC Collegiate High School
Andrea Fontes	International Baccalaureate	Jennifer Russell	Harrison School for the Arts
Stephen Franzen	Lakeland High School	Toni Sackett	Frostproof Middle Senior High School
Margaret Frates	International Baccalaureate	Nasreen Sadeq	George Jenkins High School
Kevin Freedman	George Jenkins High School	Amanda Sanchez	International Baccalaureate
Alejandro Garcia	Harrison School for the Arts	Joshua Schell	Harrison School for the Arts
Nathan Gates	Lakeland High School	Steven Schrader	International Baccalaureate
Anna Gibson	International Baccalaureate	Benjamin Shaia	International Baccalaureate
Norbert Glass	Winter Haven High School	Victoria Shannon	Lakeland High School
Erin Goding	Lakeland High School	Victoria Sheets	Lakeland High School
Sabas Gonzalez	Frostproof Middle Senior High School	Lindsey Short	Winter Haven High School
Jessica Gonzalez	International Baccalaureate	Cory Smith	Bartow High School
Alexandria Greenhill	George Jenkins High School	Lindsay Snyder	Winter Haven High School
Jackson Hager	George Jenkins High School	Caitlyn Soriano	International Baccalaureate
Katelynn Harrell	Lake Gibson High School	Jamie Steinberg	Harrison School for the Arts
Joshua Hart	Lake Region High School	Allison Stewart	George Jenkins High School
Hannah Hodges	PCC Collegiate High School	Jessica Strickland	Lakeland High School
Shiloh Hodges	PCC Collegiate High School	Caity Strickland	PCC Collegiate High School
David Holdaway	International Baccalaureate	Tessa Syvertsen	George Jenkins High School
Maggie Holland	International Baccalaureate	Christine Tallo	International Baccalaureate
Jeffrey Hubbard	Haines City High School	Thomas Gilbert	Lakeland High School
Lauren Hughes	International Baccalaureate	Allison Thompson	George Jenkins High School
Anna Irby	International Baccalaureate	Christopher Thornburg	Bartow High School
Meagan Johnson	Harrison School for the Arts	Emily Tonjes	Lake Wales High School
Andrew Joynes	Lakeland High School	Amith Umesh	International Baccalaureate
Lauren Kalogridis	International Baccalaureate	Rachel Van Middlesworth	Lakeland High School
Jared Kerber	Lakeland High School	Gavin Waid	Lake Wales High School
Cheyenne Kiddy	International Baccalaureate	Heather Weaver	Summerlin Academy
Erin Kiste	Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School	Cori Wells	Lakeland High School
Christopher Kline	Harrison School for the Arts	Katie Wellslager	Lakeland High School
Tyler Konkol-Bennett	Bartow High School	Emily White	Auburndale High School
Harish Kotipoyina	George Jenkins High School	Samuel White	International Baccalaureate
Emily Kullberg	Lake Region High School	Garrett Williams	Harrison School for the Arts
Angelina La Salle	Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School	Olivia Williams	Harrison School for the Arts
Cassidy Lancaster	Bartow High School	Jeremy Williams	Kathleen High School
Matthew Lauer	George Jenkins High School	George Williford	Harrison School for the Arts
Loni Lebanoff	Lake Region High School	Lewis Winstanley	Lake Region High School
Krysta Ledford	PCC Collegiate High School	Kyle Wise	Lakeland High School
Reagan Lee	International Baccalaureate	Asami Wright	International Baccalaureate

PEF Awards Over \$500,000 in Scholarships

Through the generosity of donors, the Polk Education Foundation awarded 337 scholarships totaling \$551,250! We'd like to thank all of the scholarship donors and recognize the students below for their accomplishments.

Cheryl Abercrombie	James and Martha Vaughn Memorial	Alexandra Lewis	Denis Fontaine Memorial
Melissa Admas	Evelyn Clark Badcock	Shalonda Lewis	Education & Enlightenment
Lindsey Aderholt	Take Stock in Children	Jessica Lewis	Mitchell "Mike" P. Stiles, Sr.
Molli Ali	State Representative John Wood	Jennifer Lewis	Take Stock in Children
Kayla Allen	North Lakeland Kiwanis	Taylor Locascio	Rex Hart Memorial
Yesenia Alvarez	W.S. Badcock Career Education	Abigail Lubin	A-Team Academic Excellence 2009
Jacob Amis	Florida Society of Mining Engineers	William Luckett	Fred Henderson Memorial
Nicola Antonelli	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Jacquelyn Madalena	John H. Hays Meml. "WHHS Class of 1961"
Brittany Appelboom	Ray and Anna Martin	Caleb Markley	George Jenkins
Joslyn Armstrong	Bartow Elementary Academy	Darren Mathews	Joey Knapek Golf
Jasmine Armstrong	PCBA Foundation/ FHB Foundation	Jennifer Maxwell	Kiwanis Club of Lakeland
Mandy Athey	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Sarah McCain	North Lakeland Kiwanis
April Aviles	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.	Audrey McCranie	LHS Class of 1968
Alejandro Aviles	PCBA Foundation/ FHB Foundation	Amber McGoff	Claudia Martin
Daniel Bagwell	PCBA Foundation/ FHB Foundation	Taylor Meche	Cleveland Heights 4-Ball Invitational
Jessica Barber	President's Round Table Safety Award	Stephon Mikell	A-Team Academic Excellence 2009
Brandon Barger	Ollie Jackson Memorial	Fabienne Missial	Take Stock in Children
Cody Barnes	Bob Biedenkapp Memorial	Jessica Moore	Dr. John A. Stewart
Allison Bedford	Polk County School Board Children's	Celenne Morfin	Lake Region Faculty
Lindsey Bedsole	George R. "Bob" Wiggs	Amanda Moss	Lake Wales Class of 1974

Maranda Bell	Herff Jones/Wayne Anderson Memorial	Hannah Murdock	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.
Brianna Bell	Polk County Gator Club	Chelsea Myers	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union
Racquel Bernard	State Representative John Wood	Jessica Nason	PCBA Foundation/ FHB Foundation
Thomas Bevis	Chartered Prop. Casualty Underwriters Ethics	Kaley Nesvacil	North Lakeland Kiwanis
Kaitlyn Bice	Polk County School Board Children's	Joshua Newell	Ray and Anna Martin
Kaylea Bowden	Huntington Learning Center	Chau Nguyen	Jim Bailey
Kaira Bowens	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.	Baoquan Nguyen	Rex Hart Memorial
Casie Bracewell	Take Stock in Children	Daina Noel	ChairScholar
Claressa Brekke	Publix Credit Union	Tyler Noel	Polk County School Board Children's
Jessica Brown	Coach Jim Grazier	Danielle Odri	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.
Scott Brown	Polk County Builders Association Found.	Courtney O'Neil	North Lakeland Kiwanis
Patrick Brown	State Representative John Wood	Tasnia Osmani	Emily E. Sinclair
Stephen Burrage	C.A Boswell	Cary Palmer	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.
Leah Burroughs	Huntington Learning Center	Sergio Palomares-Cervantes	Florida Society of Mining Engineers
Allison Cahalan	Ollie Jackson Memorial	Tamara Parchment	Education & Enlightenment
Tyler Campbell	Janis James Colle	Ronak Patel	George Jenkins
Courtney Campbell	W.S. Badcock Academic	Parth Patel	Polk County Gator Club
Suzanne Cannon	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Dimple Patel	PEF Special
Jessica Carter	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Shelby Pawley	Karla Speight Nursing
Lindsay Castret	PCBA/Florida Home Builders Found.	Sarah Perry	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union
Kansas Chambless	State Representative John Wood	John Phillips	Gifted Education Scholarship
Kyle Champeau	Pepsi Bottling Group	Kathryn Phillips	Janis James Colle
Candace Cheatwood	Robert A. Lee	Caleb Pickrell	L.L. "Nurmi" Nelson Memorial
Amanda Cheng	Sandi Allen Memorial	Rachel Pilkey	Lake Region Faculty
Jessica Ciccica	Cntrl Fla GLASSoholics-Marian Petteway	Jessica Pineda	Take Stock in Children
Brian Clark	Florida Society of Mining Engineers	Jessica Piotrowski	McDonald's
Kaitlin Calrk	Lake Region Student Council	Shane Prevatte	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Tiffany Coleman	George Jenkins	Benjamin Pugh	Florida Air Museum at Sun'n Fun
Kayla Collier	Tully and Mary Dunlap Memorial	Jimmy Quinteros	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Bradley Congdon	State Representative John Wood	Andrea Ramirez	Lake Region Faculty
Marissa Constant	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.	Pedro Ramirez	Take Stock in Children
Robyn Cortello	Huntington Learning Center	Chelsea Randall	Watson Family
Emily Cotter	Florida Society of Mining Engineers	Ceara Randle	Take Stock in Children
Jonathan Crawl	PCBA Foundation/ FHB Foundation	Christina Ratliffe	State Representative John Wood
Carmen D'Agostino	Women's Club of Winter Haven	Kaleigh Ray	Scott Helvenston Memorial
Jennifer Davis	PEF Director's Award Scholarship	Vanessa Revelo	W.S.Badcock Career Education
Tony De la Rosa	Karla Speight Nursing	Tiona Richardson	Bartow Ford
Billy DeMent	W.S. Badcock Career Education	Latoya Riley	Alena Violette / Amber Jones Scottish Unit
Clifford Debrose	Polk County Builders Association Found.	Hector Rivas	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Sydney Devore	Pepsi Bottling Group	Adam Roberts	Polk County School Board Children's
Heather Diffey	Florida Society of Mining Engineers	Emily Roerts	Robert Ness Memorial
Lynn Dorce	Sunco Carrier, Inc.	Rachel Robertson	Rex Hart Memorial
Sara Drolshagen	George Jenkins	Omar Rodriguez	Ben Hill Griffin, Inc.
Angela Duclos	Krater Family	Hector Rodriguez	ChairScholar
Kewanna Dyer	ChairScholar	Jennefer Roman	ChairScholar
Ashley Earls	Polk Education Association	Angela Rombola	Pepsi Bottling Group
Ashlyn Eldridge	LHS Class of 1977	Dusty Rose	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Elizabet Estridgeh	Bobby L. Moore Strive for Excellence	Andrew Rose	Take Stock in Children
Andrea Farinas	Polk County School Board Children's	Joseph Rowe	State Representative John Wood
Corey Firebaugh	PCBA/Florida Home Builders Found.	Felicia Rowell	Karla Speight Nursing
Keaton Fish	Polk County School Board Children's	Nasreen Sadeq	Richard Lewis Memorial
Stacy Fleurssaint	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Amanda Sanchez	Emily E. Sinclair
Kaly Flood	Maxcy Foundation Inc. Special	Liliana Sanchez	Grenelefe Residents
Candice Flores	Take Stock in Children	Alejandro Sanchez	State Representative John Wood
Shelby Flynn	George Harris Memorial	Elizabeth Sansolo	McDonald's
Tania Franco	Take Stock in Children	Joshua Schell	Florida Society of Mining Engineers
Nelda Franco-Gomez	Take Stock in Children	Marieke Schikora-Gendreau	PEF Special
Alejandro Garcia	Polk Education Foundation Academic Merit	Steven Schrader	Douglas L. Smith Memorial
Jazzalin Gee	Edward Ackerman Memorial	Kyle Schuck	LHS Class 1967
Caylyn Gilbert	Cleveland Heights 4-Ball Invitational	Alyssa Scott	LHS Class of 1977
Joseph Gillin	Lakeland Christina Rotary Club		

Travis Glanton	Take Stock in Children	Shani Scott	North Lakeland Kiwanis
Norbert Glass	Tad Stoler Memorial	Jessi Searing	Derek Wayne Brown "Remember Me"
Kayla Goff	Floral Avenue "Al Bretz"	Suzanne Shaske	Polk County School Board Children's
Julian Gomez	Polk County Builders Association Found.	Jonathan Shemansky	George Jenkins
Sabas Gonzalez	PEF Special	Brieanne Sigler	Lake Region Faculty
Jaronn Goodman	McDonald's	Karina Siriano	Chair Scholar
Mary Gosnell	ChairScholar	Alexandr Slaya	Corry Alan Rankin
Kayla Gray-Lewis	Pepsi Bottling Group	Zachary Sloman	Cleveland Heights 4-Ball Invitational
Alexandria Greenhill	GJHS Academic Booster Club	Kayla Smith	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Charity Gressner	Jake and Jennifer Peacock	Altoniece Smith	Winter Haven High School Class of 1965
Albert Haney	Wogan Stanhope Badcock Sr.	Erik Soderstrom	Lakeland Sister Cities International
David Harden	Ben Hill Griffin, Inc.	Shanelle Soldiew	Take Stock in Children
Mary Hardin	GJHS Academic Booster Club	Damonica Solomon	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.
Christian Harmon	Richard G. Shiflett Memorial	Amelia Soura	Polk County School Board Children's
Roxanne Hartfield	Lakeland Sister Cities International	Phillip Spangler	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.
Georgia Herard	Take Stock in Children	Kelsey Starmer	Pepsi Bottling Group
Cameron Herndon	Robert A. Lee	Jamie Steinberg	Bob Biedenkapp Memorial
Araceli Herrejon	Haines City NE Polk Chamber of Comm.	Ravine Stephens	Take Stock in Children
Miles Hickman	PCBA Foundation/ FHB Foundation	Jassie Stephens	Take Stock in Children
Susan Ho	Edward Ackerman Memorial	Emily Steshyn	LHS Class of 1976
Shiloh Hodges	Polk Education Foundation Academic Merit	Jordan Stills	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union
Maggie Holland	Mary Clark	Corey Stinson	President's Round Table Safety Award
Christopher Holmes	Betty Winsett	Paula Tagalos	Publix Credit Union
Kasmine Holton	TEMPO	Karresa Tarver	Take Stock in Children
Rochelle Hoyt	Pepsi Bottling Group	Jessica Tate	Frostproof Rotary Technical/Vocational
Sheila Hugi	Polk County Gator Club	Loren Taylor	Michelle Windisman Memorial
Kyrrhon Hymes	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Brittany Thigpen	Polk Education Association
Angela Jaimes	Barbara Clark Memorial	Allison Thompson	Pepsi Bottling Group
Joel James	TSIC	Daniel Tidwell	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Catricia Jean Louis	McDonald's	Emily Tonjes	Polk Education Foundation Academic Merit
Alexis Johnson	Frostproof Rotary Academic	Brian Trank	Wogan Stanhope Badcock Jr.
Logan Johnson	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Ryan Trudeau	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union
Meagan Johnson	Polk County School Board Children's	Brigida Vale	McDonald's
Amber Johnson	Saddle Creek Corporation	Rachel Van Middlesworth	Denis Fontaine Memorial
Cyndie Jones	Nujak Companies Edgar T. Pickett Jr.	Catherine Vega	Lake Region Student Council
Decara Jones	Polk County Gator Club	Martin Viteri	Polk County Builders Association Found.
Lindsey Jorris	MIDFLORIDA Federal Credit Union	Gavin Waid	Maxcy Foundation, Inc. 4-Year
Ahanna Jose	Kiwanis Club of Lakeland	Heidi Weeks	Brigadier General Morgan S. Tyler
Corey Joyner	Marie Allen Huddleston	Gaelyn West	Lakeland Sister Cities International
Andrew Joyner	Ollie Jackson Memorial	Samuel White	Polk Education Foundation Academic Merit
James Karson	A-Team Academic Excellence 2009	Terrence Williams	Dick Mullenax
Lance Kautz	Pepsi Bottling Group	Courtney Williams	Lakeland Christina Rotary Club
Jared Kennedy	Polk County Builders Association Found.	Olivia Williams	Polk County School Board Children's
Tyler Konkol-Bennett	A-Team Academic Excellence 2009	Brandi' Williams	Take Stock in Children
Lacy Lambeth	Maxcy Foundation, Inc. Pat Wilson Memorial	George Williford	Polk Education Foundation Academic Merit
Cassidy Lancaster	Clem Churchwell	Andrew Wilson	Take Stock in Children
Thuy Le	State Representative John Wood	Rebbekah Wise	Saddle Creek Corporation
Loni Lebanoff	Insurance Professionals of Polk County	William Wysong	Steven Keers Memorial
Daniel Lee	McDonald's	Vien Yeung	Jamey Schwartz Memorial
Reagan Lee	Polk Education Foundation Academic Merit	Asheen Zariat	A-Team Academic Excellence 2009
Allison Leedy	Robert Van Zahner	Michael Zellars	Pepsi Bottling Group

Congratulations to the 2009 scholarship recipients!



Susan Copeland, Executive Director of the PEF shown with Ollie Jackson Scholarship recipients from Lakeland High School, Allison Cahalan, Brandon Barger and Andrew Joyner



Gavin Waid, the Maxcy Foundation, Inc. 4-Year Scholarship recipient, with donor representative Cindy Henry

Polk County Schools' Hall of Fame Banquet a night to remember

Congratulations to all of Polk County Public High Schools' Valedictorians and Salutatorians honored at the 2009 Hall of Fame Banquet held at the Lake Ashton Country Club in June. The program was sponsored by Progress Energy with additional support from Publix Super Markets Charities and the Polk Education Foundation. These exemplary students were able to hear life lessons, interesting stories and words of wisdom from the 2009 Polk County Schools Hall of Fame inductees Charles E. Canady, a former Lakeland High School graduate; Ronald Fussell, a former Auburndale High School graduate; Ronald Garl, a former Lakeland High School graduate; and Paul Schulz, son of H.E. "Bert" Schulz, a former graduate of Winter Haven High School. Congratulations again to all Valedictorians and Salutatorians, those inducted into the Hall of Fame, to the sponsors for providing an inspiring night, and to the Community Relations Department of the PCSB for a great event!



Jerry Miller, sponsor from Progress Energy, is presenting award to Ronald Fussell, 2009 Hall of Fame Inductee



Dr. Gail McKinzie, Superintendent of Schools, and Greg Chambless, of Publix Super Markets Charities, presenting to Paul Schultz, son of 2009 Hall of Fame Inductee H.E. "Bert" Schultz

Recognizing Outstanding Student Effort

The Polk Education Foundation was proud to be a part of the About Face Program designed to recognize one student selected by their school for their accomplishments in doing an “about face” – really turning their life around for a positive change. The PEF presented each honoree with a set of movie tickets to recognize their accomplishments. Superintendent Gail McKinzie and program sponsor representative Cindy Price of TECO, presented each student with their award.



Thanks to the Florida Legislature for Matching Funds

Thanks to the Florida Legislature’s continued funding of the School District Matching Grants program, the PEF was able to offer grants to schools so that they could leverage financial support from their own local donors. Matches from \$1000, up to \$3000 were secured by our schools. Congratulations to the following schools for their grant award and to their donors who made the match possible! Almost \$200,000 has been awarded in this program over the last two years.

Bartow High School
Chain of Lakes Elementary
Frostproof M/S High School
Hillcrest Elementary
Kathleen Elementary
Mulberry High School
Polk City Elementary
Stambaugh Middle School

Berkeley Charter School
Cleveland Court Elementary
George Jenkins High School
Inwood Elementary
Lake Alfred Elementary
Phillip O’Brien Elementary
Our Children’s Academy
Stephens Elementary
Wendell Watson Elementary

Boone Middle School
Eastside Elementary
Highlands Grove Elementary
Janie Howard Wilson Elementary
Lena Vista Elementary
Pinewood Elementary
Roosevelt Academy
Union Academy



Ledger Online Marketing to Promote Foundation

The Polk Education Foundation would like to thank the Ledger for the free online marketing package they recently received as a door prize at a program sponsored by the Ledger. The package worth \$1,500 will provide the PEF with ad space on the Ledger online and link them to various internet search engines providing enhanced online exposure for the Foundation.

Membership Scholarship Awarded to Director

Susan Copeland, Executive Director of the PEF, was recently awarded a membership scholarship by the local Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). The Polk County Chapter of AFP is a new organization to Polk County and provides professional development opportunities for fundraising professionals.

Facility Needed for Free Teacher Store

The PEF is looking for donated space to host a Free Teacher Store. Give away items will be collected from the community, then sorted and used to “stock” the store. Teachers would be allowed to visit and “shop” at no cost to them. Items included in the store inventory would include not only brand new supplies purchased through the use of donations, but unwanted items from the public that could still be used or repurposed. The space needs to be air-conditioned and large enough to provide room for sorting, storage and display of goods. A letter recognizing the donation of the space could be provided for tax purposes.



Tampa Bay Rays games a great success with the Polk County School District



In partnership with the Tampa Bay Rays, the Polk Education Foundation sold tickets to the Rays vs. Red Sox game in May. Schools were invited to sell tickets to make a profit for themselves or a school club. \$2,100 was raised for the PEF during this sale! Over the summer, we partnered with the Rays again for a game against the Texas Rangers on August 22. This game had an added bonus of a Big & Rich concert at the stadium immediately following the game. Thanks to everyone who ordered tickets for this event. Your ticket purchases helped to raise over \$500 for the Foundation.

PROGRAMS OF THE POLK EDUCATION FOUNDATION:

TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN (TSIC):

A huge thanks to the Citrus Center Kiwanis Club and MM Parrish Construction Company for hosting this year's two Scholarship Scrambles. The golf tournaments raised \$40,000 in proceeds.

Pictured are participants from both tournaments.



One of two MM Parrish Teams (hosts at Lake Wales)



Team McKinzie playing at Eaglebrooke.

May 15th was the date for our 2008-09 Scholar Dollar Auction. Our gracious host school for the Auction was Bartow Academy. All students who attended were able to buy something from the vast array of items. Once again our auctioneer was Barron Oglesby. Bidding was fast and fun, thanks to Barron.



Thank you from our students to all who contributed items and money to the auction.

Thank you to all those who served as TSIC mentors for the 2008-09 school year. Your time was appreciated not only by the PEF staff, but by the students with whom you were matched!

TSIC would like to recognize **Brad Farthing**, a TSIC mentor, not only for his service as a long-time mentor but on winning State Farms Volunteer of the Year award. Brad received \$500 which he donated to the PEF.

Thanks also to **Carolyn Stockton**, State Farm employee, who received an employee grant which she donated to the PEF for Take Stock in Children.

Thank you to the Polk County Workforce Development Board, Inc., for their donation of over \$123,000 to purchase Florida Prepaid Scholarships. **The pool of applicants for these scholarships will be the children of those who have participated in Polk Work's programs. Scholarship applications are available to qualified students in 8th, 9th, and 10th grade. Contact 519-8076 for more information.**

TEACHER TO TEACHER / SCHOOL TO SCHOOL CONNECTION (TTC/SSC):



2009 Developer Grant Dinner Honors Innovative Educators from Polk, Hardee & Highlands County
Connie Harris, Bartow Middle Teacher and **Susan Copeland**, Executive Director of PEF

K-8 teachers mark you calendars for the 2009 Idea Expo to be held on Tuesday, November 17th from 3:30 pm—6:30 pm at Nora Mayo Hall in Winter Haven.

Tri-county K-8th grade teachers were honored at the 2009 Developer Grant Meeting held by the Teacher to Teacher/School to School Connection Program.

This year 27 teachers were awarded Developer Grants totaling up to \$1000 for a classroom or school-wide program he/she developed and implemented at his/her respective schools. These educators will be receiving a monetary gift as well as money to purchase classroom materials to better enhance their teaching methods and opportunities for students. These teachers exemplify the good works being produced in Polk, Hardee and Highlands County school districts. To date, the Teacher to Teacher Connection has awarded over 700 grants worth more than \$250,000 and the School to School Connection has awarded 16 grants worth over \$16,000, benefitting numerous teachers and countless students.

The following teachers were honored:

Allison Carter	Highlands Grove Elem.	Neena Williams &	North Lakeland Elem.
Stefanie Brokas	Doris Sanders	Katherine Noller	
Stacie Whaley	North Wauchula Elem.	Doreen Dierfendorf	Lake Country Elem.
Jennifer Shackelford	North Wauchula Elem.	Jennifer Blanton	Eagle Lake Elem.
Sharon Francis	Snively Elem.	Gloria Neel	North Wauchula Elem.
Sharon Ussery	Zolfo Springs Elem.	Amy Till	Bartow Elem. Acad.
Brittanie Moore	Inwood Elem.	Karen Reece	Bartow Elem. Acad.
Joy Eastman	Sebring Middle	Jill O'Leary	Berkley Elem.
Connie Harris	Bartow Middle	Kay Teehan	Bartow Middle
Rebecca Charlet &	Kathleen Elem.	Rebecca Propst	Lake Country Elem.
Shannon Lima-Jones		Joy Conley	Dixieland Elem.
Hilary Hendrix	Inwood Elem.	Jennifer Clark-Chrow	Lake Marion Creek Elem.
Shannon Combee	Inwood Elem.		

AMERICORPS POLK READS:



2008-09 was a busy time for the AmeriCorps Polk Reads program! Over 600 Polk County Schools kindergarten through 3rd grade students received one-on-one tutoring from AmeriCorps members. Teachers and administrators have been pleased with the reading progress of the students served by our program.

Members were also active as a Polk County volunteer community. Many projects have formed new partnerships such as the Center for Independent Living, “Six Days Six Ramps”, Southeastern College, “Global Youth Services” project and the Board of County Commissioners “2009 Hurricane Expo”.

Over 50,000 AmeriCorps Polk Reads member service hours were logged in 2009!



6 Days 6 Ramps Service Project

The AmeriCorps Polk Read Program is looking forward to another successful and fulfilling year!

OFFERS FOR PCSB EMPLOYEES:

For all current offers available to all PCSB employees, please visit the STAFF page of the PCSB website www.polk-fl.net or check the Weekly Staff Email each Friday.

- Aska Lodge Bed & Breakfast—Georgia discounted stays ,through 12/31/09
- Gaylord Palms Teacher Appreciation rates—available to all PCSB employees through 12/31/09
- Wet ‘n Wild discounted tickets— \$29.95 + tax for 1-day admission \$2.00 per ticket goes to the PEF
- Superlube discount—available in Auburndale, Bartow, Lake Wales and Winter Haven stores. Teachers and staff in these areas can find a discount card at their school site.
- American Lube—10% discount for all teachers at the Havendale Blvd. store in Auburndale

For information on other offers for teachers please visit www.fldoe.org/justforteachers for Teacher Appreciation 2009

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