



# 2014-15 Annual Report



# Message from the President

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December 2015

Dear Friends,

The LPS Education Foundation is proud of its continued success and contributions toward supporting educational needs and programs of the Livonia Public Schools. The Foundation's mission is to enlarge resources available to the school district and expand educational opportunities for its students. In addition, the Foundation helps parents begin planning for their student's post-secondary education.

We are extremely grateful to the many donors and volunteers who so generously contribute to the Education Foundation. Your enthusiastic commitment to the Foundation's mission shows you are proud to be a part of this important work.

The future of the Education Foundation will show continued growth and bring new programs to further enhance the educational needs of our students in the Livonia Public Schools school district. Thank you again for all that you do!

Sincerely,

*Diane Policelli*

Diane Policelli, President  
LPS Education Foundation



# Board of Directors

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## Our Mission

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“The mission of the Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation is to enlarge the resources available to the school district which will foster and expand educational opportunities for programs impacting students and to provide the opportunity for LPS parents to begin planning for their student’s post-secondary education.”

The Foundation offers a powerful and effective vehicle for directing contributions to benefit public education in portions of Livonia and Westland, Michigan.

## Our Core Values

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We will strive to directly impact student learning by:

- ✓ Putting resources into the classrooms
- ✓ Improving student achievement
- ✓ Providing financial resources for items the district cannot fund

We will strive to ensure integrity by:

- ✓ Using ethical fundraising techniques
- ✓ Maintaining sound financial practices

We will strive to provide the means to assist our students in their post-graduate education by:

- ✓ Establishing the opportunity to subsidize a college savings plan
- ✓ Providing educational savings plan information for parents and students



# History of the LPS Education Foundation

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Nearly two decades ago, the financial situation of the Livonia Public Schools was radically different than today. At that time, the district was experiencing increasing enrollments, the state and national economy were robust, and the negative impact of an economic downturn was yet to be felt.

In 1997, the Board of Education commissioned a feasibility study to be conducted regarding the establishment of a school district foundation. Neighboring school district foundations were surveyed, research was gathered and analyzed, and consultants provided advice. After reviewing the results, the Board of Education decided against establishing a foundation at that time.

In late 2002, a follow-up study was conducted, at which time conditions had changed drastically and the need for an independent funding source that might aid the district, was seen as both feasible and necessary. The following year, events were set in motion that resulted in the formalization of the Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation in early 2004.

First, all the documents required to legally establish a foundation needed to be written and submitted, including Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, application for 501(c)3 status with the IRS, and other legal documents.

Next, a Board of Directors was selected and agreed to serve. The officers were elected for positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Board members developed a mission statement, guiding principles, core values, goals and objectives, logo design, an information dissemination process, fund-raising strategies, and a host of other necessary tasks.

We have joined a national movement that is growing every year. According to the National School Foundation Association, \$31.59 million was donated to education in the U.S. in 2003, the second largest recipient category (behind religion) of philanthropic donations in the U.S. It is projected there will be an intergenerational wealth transfer occurring over the next 25-35 years, yielding between 15 and 40 trillion dollars. The Giving USA 2001 reports that many major donors who give to education are switching their financial support and focus from college and universities to elementary and secondary schools, and are finding educational foundations an excellent way to do that.

Commencing in Fiscal Year 2008, the Foundation initiated The Competitive Edge College Savings Program, which encouraged parents of new first graders to establish a college savings (529) plan. Starting in 2010, due to the overwhelming response from parents who are anxious to set up a college savings plan for their children at an early time, the Foundation offered the Competitive Edge program beginning with students who enter kindergarten. The Foundation provided an initial amount in a holding account for each kindergarten student whose parents registered for the program during this fiscal year.

With these facts in mind, and the firm belief that our teachers and administrators are committed to providing a high quality education for our community's children, we believe the growth and development of the Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation will play a vital role in the continued excellent educational experience offered in the Livonia Public Schools.

We have a dedicated and talented Board of Directors, energetic and hard-working volunteers, and great partnerships with the business community. However, we have much to do.

We are grateful to all who have contributed time or money to the Foundation this year. We are optimistic about the future, and ask you to join us in teaming together to ensure learning for all.

# Competitive Edge College Savings Program

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The goal of the Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation is to provide a unique opportunity for LPS parents to begin planning for their children's post-secondary education early on, and help set aside money for their future educational expenses.

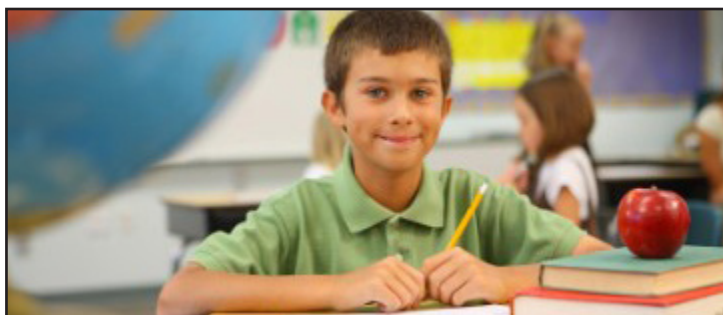
The Competitive Edge is an exciting ongoing college savings program that was initially offered to each student entering first grade.

The Foundation provided an opportunity for the family of each first grade student to set up an IRS section 529 college savings plan.

Due to the positive response of parents who wanted to start saving early, starting in 2010-11, the program was offered to each student entering kindergarten. Currently over 1500 students are enrolled.

Not only does this program provide a great service to LPS students and their families, the Foundation also sees this as an added benefit to attract and retain families in the community. This unique program can help maintain the vibrance of our community and consequently, each family it attracts brings state funding to the school district, meeting the foundation's mission "to enlarge the resources available to the school district which will foster and expand educational opportunities."

It truly can provide a "competitive edge" over our surrounding communities.



# Funding Sources

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Currently, donations have been received from the following sources:

1. Individual Donors
  - a. Retirees
  - b. Employees
  - c. District Residents
  - d. Alumni
2. Corporate Sponsors
3. Back to School events
4. Honorary Donations
5. Annual Luncheon

## Back to School Event

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The LPS Education Foundation partnered with LPS to hold a Bounce Back to School celebration in August 2014. What a hit! Over 2,000 friends and neighbors attended. A great time was had by all celebrating the start of a new school year.

## Annual Luncheon

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John McElroy, the Emmy Award-winning host of the television program “Autoline this Week” was the special guest speaker for the fifth annual fundraising luncheon sponsored by the LPS Education Foundation.

Hosted by WJMR Radio Sports Director

Steve Courtney, more than 225

Foundation supporters gathered to

hear McElroy speak on the topic

“Total Transformation: How and why the automotive industry is about to change forever.” He offered glimpses into the future saying the auto industry is on the cusp of technological advancements that will change the way we live – similar to the way autos changed society over 100 years ago.





## LPS Education Foundation welcomes Honorary Board members

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The LPS Education Foundation is raising its profile by bringing well-known community leaders onto an Honorary Board of Directors. The list spans local political, business, religious and educational sectors of the community, bringing an array of civic and community influence to the Foundation.

The Honorary Board includes: Glenn Anderson, Bob Bennett, Ruth Ann Brown, Jim Cambridge, Martin Carter, Steve Courtney, Chuck Dardas, Jack Engebretson, Jim Fausone, Dr. Conway Jeffress, Mayor Jack Kirksey, Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, Terry Marecki, John McElroy, Kathleen McIntyre, John Rogin, Father George Shalhoub, Mark Shobe, David Spivey, Carol Strom, Marty Talty, Kit Tennyson, John Walsh, Dan West, Mayor William Wild, John Wilkerson, Brian Wolverton, and Dennis Wright.

## LPS Education Foundation awards grants to 17 teachers for the 2014-2015 school year

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Seventeen LPS teachers were awarded grants worth over \$35,700 by the Foundation this year. The winning projects represented innovative teaching strategies designed to benefit students from preschool through high school. The Foundation inaugurated this annual grant program with a goal to do something immediate to enhance teaching and learning in the district.

# Financial Statement

## Fiscal Year - July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

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### Revenue/Gains

Contributions	\$ 66,982
Net Interest & Investment	7,289
Special Events (Net)	36,717

**Total Revenues/Gains      \$ 110,988**

### Expenses

Grants	\$ 35,785
Investment Expenses	2,796
Management & General	9,732
Fundraising	12,571

**Total Expenses                      \$ 60,884**

**Increase in Assets                      \$ 50,105**

**Total Assets (End of the Year)      \$706,793**



# LPS Education Foundation

## 2014-2015 Corporate Donors

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### **Valedictorian's Circle (\$50,000 and Above)**

DFCU Financial \*

Livonia Public Schools Employees \*

St. Mary Mercy Hospital of Livonia \*

### **Salutatorian's Circle (\$10,000 - \$49,999)**

Bill Brown Ford, Inc. \*

Michigan Educational Credit Union \*

### **Honor's Circle (\$5,000 - \$9,999)**

Alpha USA

Livonia PTAs/PTSAs \*

### **Friends' Circle ( \$1,000 - \$4,999)**

Cheryl Bowker Allstate Agency

Bright House Networks

Community Financial Credit Union

Livonia AM Rotary

Livonia Kiwanis Early Risers

Orthodontics Office of Dr. Randall Shaw & Dr. Nicole Jane

Parkside Credit Union

Schoolcraft College \*

TRW Automotive \*

Westland Shopping Center

(\* Indicates Founding Partners)

### *Gifts in Kind*

Special thanks to St. Mary's Cultural and Banquet Center for sponsoring the Foundation's Annual Luncheon; UPS Store, The Livonia Observer for advertising fund-raising events as an in-kind contribution; and Rock Out Entertainment for supporting the Back to School Party.

## Corporate Donors – 2014-2015

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Alpha USA  
Bill Brown Ford, Inc  
Bright House Networks  
Cheryl Bowker Allstate Agency  
Community Financial Credit Union  
DFCU Financial  
Livonia AM Rotary Club  
Livonia Kiwanis Early Risers  
Livonia Observer Newspaper  
Livonia Public Schools Employees  
Livonia Public Schools PTAs and PTSAs  
    Buchanan Elementary PTA  
    Grant Elementary PTA  
    Kennedy PTA  
    Perrinville PTA  
Michigan Educational Credit Union  
Orthodontics Office of Dr. Randall Shaw & Dr. Nicole Jane  
Parkside Credit Union  
Rock Out Entertainment  
St. Mary Mercy Hospital of Livonia  
St. Mary's Cultural and Banquet Center  
Schoolcraft College  
TRW Automotive  
Westland Shopping Center



# *Livonia Public Schools Employee Donors*

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Abbey, Lisa  
Adams, Julie D  
Alles, Sheila A  
Anderson, Andrea R  
Anderson, Karyn L  
Anderson, Ronald J  
Archibald, Steven P  
Ashworth, Carol A  
Baldwin, Kathy A  
Belcher, Sharon M  
Bentley, Matthew C  
Bice, Jan P  
Bickham, Janeane R  
Buffington, Beth A  
Bumpus, Terry A  
Burke, Denise M  
Byrne, Doreen J  
Calkins, Carim R A  
Cannell, Lisa M  
Carlini, Isolina D  
Casey, Kimberly R  
Cerny, Leslie W  
Chapman, Amy M  
Christenson, Laurie A  
Cibor, Anne M  
Clay, Jennifer L  
Coggins, Kathleen M  
Coleman, Jacalyn D  
Considine, James M  
Cooke, Patricia A  
Coon, Sherrie A  
Curtis, Wendy A  
Daraskavich, Michael P  
Dazer, Caryl  
Decarli, Lynn S

Demarco, Anthony C  
Deperro, Karen M  
Deperro, Kay M  
Dery, Carolyn M  
Dickenson, Geoffrey G  
Dillon, Karen S  
Dipaolo, Alphonse G  
Dordeski, Lidia  
Dubel, Patricia  
Dziedzic, Christina H  
Eddy, Kelly J  
Ehlendt, Linda M  
Evans-Ebling, Valerie D  
Ewing, Barbara A  
Fedoronko, Gayle L  
Fedraw, Judy M  
Foley, Julianne K  
Frame, Kathleen A  
Gajor, Christine M  
Garbutt, Annette M  
Gentile, Rene  
Gibbons, James M  
Gord, Christopher D  
Grezak, Lawrence S  
Guerriero, Michelle A  
Hammye, Ronald D  
Hedden, Cathlene M  
Hedges, Debra K  
Hinchman, Timothy R  
Hinze, Dennis A  
Horgan, Sean P  
Janowski, Carol M  
Janowski, Deborah A  
Jary, Sarah J  
Johnson, Debra L

Jones, Barbara J  
Kaiser, Lisa M  
Kaufman, Naneen M  
Keberly, Russell C  
Keimig, Linda M  
Keller, Mary Jo  
Keyshian, Elizabeth J  
Kieft, Jadie L  
Kish, Renee M  
Koelzer, Patrick W  
Lank, Kristina A  
Lectka, Cindy J  
Lee, Kellee N  
Lemieux, Roberta K  
Licata, Susan E  
Liepa, Randy A  
Macek, Theresa J  
Macorkindale, Glenn S  
Mcconnell, Barbara K  
Mcdonald, Keith W  
Miller, James D  
Miller, Marci L  
Miller, Shelly E  
Mitchell, David C  
Natarajan, Uma  
Nathan, Michael C  
Nault, Colleen G  
Neilson, Julie P  
Nersesian, Lori H  
O'brien, Theresa L  
Oppermann, Gretchen G  
Oquist, Andrea L  
Owen, Ann M  
Petitpas, Charles W  
Pinta, Stephanie J  
Posh, Heidi Bloom  
Price, Kathleen E  
Pritula, Michelle M  
Roberts, Carl E

Rogowski, Mary E  
Romeo, Traci G  
Rost, Brandy Quirk  
Santi, Cathleen R  
Santi, John J  
Schmidt, Craig R  
Schommer, Deborah M  
Schroth, Laura M  
Seay, James W  
Shanker, Debra Regina-Er  
Sheckell, Kenneth L  
Sinning, Judith G  
Skelton, Marylee A  
Smith, Sherri L  
Sorge, Donna M  
Spangler-Timm, Tammy  
Sproule, Jason L  
Squirewell, Deborah J  
Stackpoole, Michelle A  
Strickland, Susan L  
Sweeney, Colleen  
Taddia, Kelly A  
Tafelski, Julie J  
Tanner, Lisa S  
Taylor, Stephen C  
Taylor, Terry E  
Tullio, Mary K  
Tyranski, Kathleen A  
Walsh, Molly A  
Weaver, Mary K  
Wells-Biggert, Kristie S  
Wichmann, Corinne  
Willenborg, Daniel R  
Wischmeyer, Patricia J  
Yanka, Dale C  
Yost, Kathleen M  
Ziem, Donna  
Zimmer, Claudia R

# Individual Donors

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Mrs. Joanmary Nenninger	In memory of S. Schnettler
Jill Wozniak	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Kay DePerro	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Livonia Education Association	In memory of Arvids Liepa
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Mr. & Mrs. Consolo	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Centers	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Scheel	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Eileen McDonnell	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Ernie Natalini	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. James Gibbons	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Johnson	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Tinney	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Freeman	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Sciatto	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Alles	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. Randy Roulier	In memory of Arvids Liepa
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Mrs. Dianne Laura	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mrs. Dorothy Chomicz	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mrs. Kathi Price	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mrs. Kathy Donagrandi	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mrs. Tammy Bonifield	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Ms. Cynthia DeMan	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Ms. Julie Tafelski	In memory of Jake Kudla and Jourdan Bobbish
Dr. Randy Liepa	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. S. Schnettler	In memory of Arvids Liepa
Mr. & Mrs. James Policelli	In memory of Arvids Liepa
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*January 2016*  
*[www.lpsfoundation.org](http://www.lpsfoundation.org)*