

**A Brief History  
of the  
LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE  
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

*(Updated August 2014)*

**July 1994 - June 1995**

The Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees authorized the formation of the Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation on November 15, 1994. In January 1995, Mr. Richard Hook presented to the Board of Trustees a \$1,000 gift to be used as seed money to start the Educational Foundation.

The need and purpose of the Educational Foundation was conceived as a part of the district's first strategic plan completed in May 1994. The strategic plan envisioned the Educational Foundation as a 501©(3) organization governed by community members appointed by the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees. With leadership from these community members, the Educational Foundation was expected to serve as a source of funds to support district initiatives, programs, and special activities that normally would not be funded with district funds.

**July 1995 - June 1996**

The first meeting of the newly formed Educational Foundation was held on September 17, 1995. James A. Compton, Michael S. Wingard, Michael V. Shealy, Dr. Lon Hamby, and Richard Hook were appointed as the founding members of the Board of Directors. Michael Shealy served as the first Educational Foundation board chairman. This Educational Foundation Board of Directors was constituted according to the first constitution and bylaws of the Educational Foundation which required that the Board of Directors be composed of at least three members who were actively serving on the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees and the remaining at-large members appointed from the community. Dr. J. Chester Floyd, Lexington County School District One superintendent, and Dr. Karl E. Fulmer, Lexington County School District One assistant superintendent for Fiscal Services served as the district's agents and contacts to meet and work with the Educational Foundation. The Educational Foundation Board of Directors met quarterly throughout the school year and scheduled special meetings as deemed necessary.

**July 1996 - June 1997**

Other projects the Foundation participated in included: the marketing of three educational videos: 1) *New Horizons: Your First Year As Parents* (1996); 2) *New Horizons: Your Second Year As Parents* (1998); and 3) *New Horizons: Your Third Year As Parents* (1999), which were produced by the Lexington County School District One Office of Instruction.

**July 1997- June 1998**

In April 1997, the Lexington County School District One Board of Trustees approved the transfer of the district's share of proceeds from the Julia Hendrix estate to the Educational Foundation. These funds, granted to the district as unrestricted, have been used by the Foundation to provide teacher grants each year and to serve as a corpus for the Foundation's investment portfolio. The Lexington High School Picasso Project was developed to create an innovative instructional approach that would encourage students to understand and apply the interrelatedness and interdependence of all knowledge to learning and life.

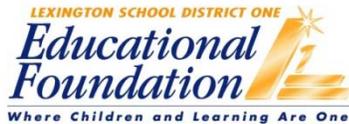
**July 2001 - June 2002**

Following September 11, 2001, the Foundation served as the agent for the fundraising efforts of White Knoll Middle School raising over \$500,000 for a fire truck for New York City.

An alumni directory of Lexington One graduates was created through a contract with Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company. This was available in a book form or on CD Rom.

### **July 2003 - June 2004**

Membership on the Educational Foundation Board of Directors changed as some Lexington School District One Board of Trustees members' terms expired, and as service terms of at-large members of the Educational Foundation Board of Directors expired. The Foundation bylaws were amended and the Board of Directors was expanded to 10 members in February 2003. Connie McFarland was appointed to serve as the Foundation's first executive director in March 2003.



In July 2003, a distinctive logo was designed and is now prominently displayed on all Foundation publications.

In October 2003, the bylaws were amended again and the Educational Foundation Board of Directors was expanded to 21 members.

Toyota Motor Manufacturing North America, Inc., and Michelin NA, Inc, joined to donate \$20,000 to the Foundation, providing funds for the establishment of the Lexington One Virtual School in June 2004.

In 2004, and each year thereafter, the Foundation and the Lexington Chamber of Commerce has co-sponsored the Celebration of Excellence in Education banquet to recognize the top 10% of the senior classes at each of the four district high schools. The 2004 Celebration was held at Lexington High School and raised \$11,000.00.

### **July 2004 – June 2005**

In August 2004, the bylaws were revised to allow the current Teacher of the Year to sit as a member of the Board of Directors. Also, in August 2004, a Strategic Plan was approved which identified strategies, goals, and action plans, and will serve as the Foundation's "Blue Print" for the next five years. Committees were established and continued to meet providing direction to the Foundation. A budget was established for the first time in May 2005. May 2005 marked a major change for the Foundation.

The 2005 Celebration of Excellence in Education was held at the Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church Atrium and Auditorium and raised \$19,125.00. During this Celebration, the Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was established and announced to recognize Mr. Bedenbaugh for his lifelong contributions to District One. The award began to be presented annually in 2006.

The Educational Foundation agreed to sponsor the writing and publication of a history of the Lexington Schools and contracted with Donning Company Publishers to publish the book. The book is a history of how the schools impacted the growth of Lexington County and the town of Lexington. The book contains history back to 1600s and historical photographs from Lexington County back to 1910, as well as photographs of old school buildings and students dating back to the 1900s.

In partnership with Michelin NA, Lexington Site, the Foundation sponsored the Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants program. The objective of this program is to provide Lexington County School District One teachers an opportunity to enhance the educational experience for students by supplying financial aid for activities that would otherwise be unavailable.

The intent is not to supplement normal school supplies, but to allow for more creative learning opportunities not normally supported by the school supply budget. Activities should be those that



have the most impact on students and will enhance the educational experience, i.e. Field trips; Science kits; supplementary books to enhance textbooks; class instructional materials; rewards to students for special recognition; but does not provide supplies. Michelin donates \$2,500 per semester for a total of \$5,000 per year. The grants are awarded twice a year, in the spring and fall, and individual teachers may receive up to \$250.00.



An Employee Campaign, Lexington Employee Assistance Plan (LEAP), was formed in the spring of 2004. The program was designed by employees through an advisory group and was made up of representatives from each school site, the five District Office Departments, and Transportation and Maintenance. LEAP had its' own distinctive logo designed by that employee group.

The LEAP committee established three smaller committees to assist in Lexington One. They were: 1. Employee Crisis Fund - which offers financial and/or in kind services to employees during a catastrophic illness or catastrophe; 2. We Care Fund - which enhances the learning experience of students in need of medical, dental, or optometric needs that prevent the student from learning; 3. Facility Based Fund - which provides school and other district facilities with funds to enhance the working environment or to address the health, safety, and welfare of students and staff. During this the first year of the LEAP program, donations totaling \$65,439.63 were made and the program served 44 families.

A private donation by a board member and family, Richard and Kristin Hook, along with a donation by business partner, BB&T Wealth Management, provided the means to create a professionally designed promotional brochure to help market the Foundation. An electronic newsletter now provides an update of ongoing Foundation activities for all Lexington One employees, the Board of Trustees, and the Foundation Board of Directors, and can be accessed on the Educational Foundation's Web site:

<http://www.lexington1.net/EducationalFoundation/default.aspx?page=news.aspx>

### **July 2005 – June 2006**

In May of 2006 the board honored Michael Wingard's service as a founding member of the Foundation Board by naming him a Board Member Emeritus. He left the Board with one year remaining on his term so that he could serve as a missionary for his church. The Board was expanded from 21 to 23 members in May 2006.

In February, the Foundation continued to co-sponsor A Celebration of Excellence in Education banquet with the Lexington Chamber of Commerce. The 2006 Celebration, held once again at the Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church Atrium and Auditorium, saw the institution of a new award presented to each of the high school seniors being honored. The award, designed to provide a tangible means of recognizing a student's top 10% academic standing, was membership into the Old English Society, which included a distinctive lapel pin with their high school's logo and Old English Society displayed. The Foundation raised \$21,000 for this year's event.

The Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was presented for the first time in 2006 with the initial recipient being Dr. Karl E. Fulmer, assistant superintendent of Fiscal Services at Lexington County School District One. His name was the first to be inscribed on a composite plaque to be displayed at the District Office.

The LEAP program completed its' second year with a campaign that raised \$68,591.94 in donations, and provided much needed assistance to 90 deserving employees and students in the district schools.

During this year, the new promotional brochure to market the Foundation's purpose, goals, and memberships became a reality. Special emphasis continued to be placed on membership recruitment. A number of special events intended to increase membership and to raise funds were explored and were in various stages of planning.

A concentrated effort to contact alumni of the districts' high schools progressed as we began to identify class agents for every graduating class as far back as possible. This information should provide fertile ground for potential memberships.

### **July 2006 – June 2007**

The 2006-2007 Board year began with an increase in the number of directors from 23 to 24. The Foundation's office was relocated across the street from the District Office as all of the district's operations continued to grow. The Board of Directors found a new home for its quarterly meetings and began meeting in the conference room of the beautifully renovated Lexington Technology Center.

The LEAP program completed its third year with a campaign that raised \$74,397.54. It has continued to grow and serve more and more employees, and students with critical needs. The program assisted 94 families in the school district

A major fund-raiser, Heroes and Legends, was held on February 5, 2007. The event had several purposes, one of which was to memorialize the late Congressman Floyd Spence through the dedication of the new AFJROTC Wing at Lexington High School and another was to officially name it the Floyd Davidson Spence AFJROTC Wing. The policy of the Lexington One Board dictates that, in order to acquire naming rights, a contribution of \$100,000 must be received. Foundation Board member, Leonard Price, generously donated \$50,000 to kick off this fund-raiser. A total of \$221,517.80 was raised for this event. In addition to recognizing Congressman Spence, the Heroes and Legends event honored all of the fallen soldiers of Lexington One from all wars in which the United States military participated, especially the three who had recently given the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq. A Wall of Honor was established at each of the district's high schools, listing the names of men and women who were graduates of that school and who gave their lives fighting for their country. The keynote speakers were two members of the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II fame. The former Marines provided an inspiring talk to an audience of about 600 and also visited three of the high schools to speak to students.

The 2007 Celebration of Excellence in Education banquet, co-sponsored with the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, was held on February 27, 2007. Held for the first time at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia, SC, the event seemed to reach new heights and an elevated level of excitement. The top 10% of the senior classes from each high school were recognized and presented with Old English Society pins. This year's program raised \$17,375.

The 2007 Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was presented for the second time. The recipient was Marie Watson, principal of Red Bank Elementary School. Her name was inscribed on the composite plaque in the District Office as the second recipient of the award.

Numerous Foundation board members met with representatives from the Council on Accreditation and School Improvement of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS CASI) as part of the evaluation process for the district's accreditation.

The Foundation, from its' inception, has been effectively managed by a conscientious Board of Directors. Growth has been carefully nurtured so that the work of the Foundation complements the district's mission statement at that time, which stated..."in partnership with the community" we can "Create Our Future Together."

## July 2007 – June 2008

The Foundation experienced yet another year of exciting growth as Lexington One found its way through the 2007-2008 school year. Successful programs continued to thrive and new ideas continued to emerge. Kay Coker completed her term as board chair on a positive note, as did four board members: Donn Estes, Jimmy Spence, Samuel Tenenbaum, and Lexington One Teacher of the Year 2007-2008, Leslie Dellinger, all of whom have made significant contributions to the Foundation and its' mission. Kay was replaced as chair by Mike Shealy, and four new Board members bringing their ideas and initiatives to the Foundation were Hal Girard, Charles Jenkins, Brent Yarborough, and Lexington One Teacher of the Year 2008-2009, Pamela Light.

The LEAP program completed its' fourth year with a campaign that resulted in a record \$95,481.38 in contributions. This was an increase of \$21,000 over year three. LEAP served 123 families in the school district during this fiscal year.

On January 17, 2008 the Foundation held the first annual Heart of Lexington One event to recognize a person who has made significant and lasting contributions to the community and schools of Lexington County School District One. The first recipient selected for this honor was Mr. Raymond Caughman and the response was outstanding! Following the lead of the major sponsors, BB&T and Richard Kristin Hook, more than 750 friends and supporters of Raymond and the Foundation attended. Many others sponsored at various levels and made it possible to honor a special request by Raymond. He asked that proceeds from the event be used to update collections in the media centers of Lexington One schools. Thus, the committee adopted the Raymond Caughman Books for Children project for future Heart of Lexington One events. More than \$80,000 was raised through this event. Each school in Lexington One received monies to update the collections in their media centers based on the age of the collections and the greatest need using the most recent data. Bookplates were designed by a Lexington Technology Center student and those bookplates were placed in front of each book purchased by the monies raised at the event. The permanent Heart of Lexington One award was designed by a White Knoll High School student and will be given to all future recipients.

Each media specialist from each school site was recognized and awarded their checks at the May 2008 school board meeting. This created a sense of confidence among those who were anticipating positive results from the Raymond Caughman Books for Children project.

The 2008 Celebration of Excellence in Education banquet, co-sponsored with the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, was held on February 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Radisson Hotel. The top 10% of the senior classes from each high school were recognized and presented with Old English Society pins. Over \$27,000 was donated to off-set the costs of the evening.

The number of scholarships available and their value continues to grow. The Foundation served as administrator of 30 scholarships totaling \$22,200.

Following months of extensive study and discussion, several new policies were approved and adopted by the Board. These policies will serve as necessary and effective guidelines as the Foundation continues to grow. These policies relate to and provide positive direction to the following: Scholarship Guidelines; Gift Acceptance Policies and Guidelines; Endowment Fund Agreements; Administrative Fee Schedules; and Fiscal Sponsorship.

The 2008 Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was presented to Margaret Mitchum, principal of Pleasant Hill Elementary School. Her name is inscribed on a composite plaque in the District Office as the third recipient of the award.

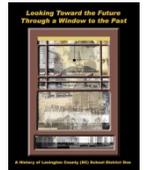
## July 2008 – June 2009

The Foundation, like the district it serves, began the 2008-2009 school year with a renewed sense of energy, purpose, and direction. The ideas and successes of 2007-2008 propelled the combined imaginations and efforts of both new and experienced Board members to even greater accomplishments. This year was marked by the addition of three new board members: Dr. Gregory J. Konduros, William H. Floyd, and Betsy P. Goodman, the 2009-2010 Lexington One Teacher of the Year.

As has been the case each year, we saw an increase in the number and value of scholarships available to district graduates. The Foundation served as administrator to 34 scholarships totaling \$26,200. One new scholarship, the Horace Mann Lexington One Educator Fellowship, was created with a \$1,000 donation by the Fran Halloran Agency, a Horace Mann Exclusive Agency in Lexington. This scholarship was designated for an adult recipient who is an active certified employee of Lexington One and who is a teacher, assistant administrator, administrator, assistant principal, or principal, and is working towards an advanced degree, i.e. Masters, Ed D, or a Ph D.

Following a great deal of discussion, the board decided in August 2008 to hire the professional consultants group Corporate DevelopMint of Charleston, SC, to accomplish an in-depth study of the Foundation, its' history, its' mission, its' goals, and the means by which we should expect to be successful. The original target date for completion of the study was November 2008. The November Bond Referendum consumed the Senior Leadership Team's time and made it impossible to schedule meetings. The target date was moved to February 2009 and then to May as other commitments involving unexpected budget considerations and various other challenges continued to appear. The Foundation staff spent a great deal of time gathering and providing information to be utilized by the consultants in their study and assessment with an eye on a future Capital Campaign.

The book, *Looking toward the Future through a Window to the Past, A History of Lexington County (SC) School District One*, was completed and the manuscripts were sent to the printer for publication. A tremendous amount of work has gone into this project and we expect to have great success with its promotion.



The LEAP program completed yet another record year with the fifth annual campaign raising \$121,216.08 in contributions, an increase of approximately \$26,000 over year four, serving 130 families.

The 2009 Celebration of Excellence in Education banquet, co-sponsored with the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, was held on February 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Radisson Hotel. The event recognized the top 10% of the senior classes from the district's four high schools. Each of the seniors was presented with an Old English Society pin distinguishing them as a member of an outstanding group of honor graduates. Community support for the Celebration of Excellence is demonstrated in the fact that businesses and sponsors donated approximately \$27,000 to offset the evening's

expenses.

The Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Awards were presented again in 2008-2009 thanks to the generosity of Michelin N.A., Lexington Site. Funded by a \$5,000 donation from Michelin, these grants provide awards to teachers who submit ideas for projects for which funds may not be otherwise available. In the fall of 2008, 10 grants were awarded to 21 recipients and in the spring of 2009 there were 10 grants awarded serving 15 teachers.

The Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award for 2009 was presented to Kenneth W. Lake, Director of the Lexington Technology Center. His name has been inscribed on a composite plaque in the District Office as the fourth recipient of the award.

## July 2009 – June 2010

The 2009-2010 Board year was one of change and challenge. Change came in a number of ways, one being the addition of Gregg Tarlton, Dr. Elise Howell, Simran Singh and Beth Moore, the 2010 Teacher of the Year to the board.

A significant part of the year was spent preparing information to assist the professional consultants group, Corporate DevelopMint of Charleston, SC, which the board had hired in August, 2008. The work of this group had begun in late 2008, with a goal of completion by November of that same year, but the results of the study were not presented until December 2009. The time period between the original target date and actual presentation was filled with changes, challenges, and reprioritizing of commitments for district administration, trustees, and the Foundation board.

Forty business and community people identified as potential leaders and donor prospects were scheduled for interviews with Corporate DevelopMint in October 2009. The Strategic Plan, which includes the Schools of the Future, LexLearns, LexLives, LexLeads Initiatives was presented to the interviewees for discussion.

LexLearns, which focuses on 21st century learning and features centers of study; emphasizes world languages; and encompasses our science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) initiative has been designated as a funding priority for the Foundation. Learning in the STEM areas is critical to our students being able to compete in the marketplace of tomorrow.

In view of anticipated recommendations from the consultants regarding new direction, restructuring of committees, and software and database changes, a bold decision was made by the Foundation's Executive Committee and Board of Directors. It was decided that the Foundation not plan or schedule a fundraising event for 2009-2010 in order to concentrate on the Case for Support with Corporate DevelopMint. It is the goal of the board to capture energy through a new strategic plan and work toward the design of Annual, Major, and Capital Campaigns with long term rewards, as well as other fundraising events.

The LEAP program completed its' sixth annual campaign as \$133,384.32 was raised, an increase of approximately \$12,000 over the previous year. LEAP assisted over 140 families this year.

The 11th Annual Dam Swim saw 164 participants make the swim from the Irmo side of the dam to the Lexington side in memory of Drew Smith. The purpose of the event, sponsored by the LHS Swim Team, is to promote boating safety and to raise funds to finance an indoor swimming facility in the Lexington area. The September 2009 swim raised \$9,825.00. The Foundation serves as the agent for this event.

The Foundation and the Greater Lexington Chamber & Visitors Center, for the 7th consecutive year, co-sponsored the 2010 Celebration of Excellence in Education banquet on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center. Local businesses and dedicated supporters of Lexington County School District One donated \$28,600 to help recognize 138 seniors, the top 10 percent of graduating seniors from the district's four high schools. Each honor graduate was presented a traditional "Old English Society" pin for their accomplishments from the Educational Foundation.

The 2009-2010 Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was presented to Joseph H. Bedenbaugh, Assistant Superintendent for Administration. His name has been inscribed on a composite plaque in the District Office as the fifth recipient of the award.

Michelin NA, Lexington Site, continued their generous gift of sponsoring the Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Awards. Their \$5,000 donation provides grants to teachers to fund projects which

may not otherwise be possible. In the fall of 2009, ten grants were awarded to 12 recipients, while 16 teachers received ten grants in the spring of 2010.

The Foundation, which serves as administrator for a number of scholarships, saw the number grow to 36, with the addition of two new awards, April Lynn Quinton and Reed Ricard/Teddy Braveheart. The total value of scholarships presented was \$27,500.

Another area of focus was grants, and in particular, the Pepsi Refresh Grant. Memos were sent daily by E-mail to employees of Lexington One to vote online for the STEM Initiative project. The winner of this grant was decided by the amount of votes received in a one month period. Out of 1,084 applications, our submission placed 13<sup>th</sup>. We will submit our grant application once again for competition in September 2010. In searching for available Federal Grants the district's grant writer assisted in discussions with Senator Lindsey Graham's office.

New software, GiftWorks<sup>TM</sup>, was purchased with the expectation of assisting in the effective management of the growing needs and projects of the Foundation.

With work underway for the development of an exciting new Web site, the Foundation office, along with the District's Webmaster, is determined to create a site which will be informative, helpful, and a positive representation of all that we envision for the students, faculty, and administrators in Lexington One. This will result in yet another "face" of the Foundation as we continue to expand.

The much anticipated book, titled *Looking Toward the Future Through Windows of the Past, A History of Lexington County (SC) School District One*, is scheduled to be available for sale in November 2010. Many memories will be evoked as supporters of Lexington One read the stories and see the photographs of the district's past and present.

Administrative changes for the Foundation included scheduling more frequent meetings, i.e. every other month instead of quarterly, with called meetings when deemed necessary. In March 2010 the Foundation's board meetings were moved to the board room in the District Office; in May 2010 the Foundation added a part-time assistant to its' staff; and June 2010 saw the Foundation's office move back to the District Office building after nearly four years in the Annex.

The 2009-2010 Foundation year in many ways mirrored the social and economic climate of our state and nation. There are challenges and demands for change at every turn. Not only school districts, but all government agencies and services are studying and seeking alternative means of securing funds to support their missions. But, despite the challenges of a difficult economic environment, there is a sense of anticipation for the future. It is expected that the in-depth studies by Corporate DevelopMint will provide some exciting new ideas and recommendations for the future. The results of their study, combined with the enthusiasm of the Foundation's Board, should serve as a catalyst for many new avenues of development within the Foundation.

The very essence of the Foundation's purpose is that the work never ends because the purpose will always be there.

### **July 2010 – June – 2011**

The Foundation started the new year in a new home. The move back to the main District Office building made us more visible and accessible to employees and visitors alike. New Board Members joining us this year are Simeon Bryant, Ed Harmon, Edna Langley, Dr. Ginger Macaulay, and Lisa Rose, the 2011 Teacher of the Year.

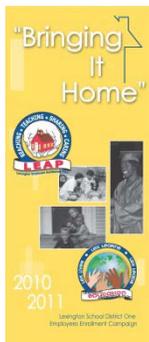
On November 30, 2010 we hosted a very successful fundraiser at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia. The event, "Champions for Education" honored University of South Carolina Head

Baseball Coach Ray Tanner whose team won the 2010 Baseball National Championship. More than 500 people attended the reception, dinner, and a silent and live auction offering over 100 donated items for sale. It was a fast moving and exciting evening that generated \$49,033.94 net income for the Foundation.

The Foundation administrated 53 scholarships totaling \$27,790.00. Nineteen new scholarships were awarded in 2010: Josh Abbott Recurring Scholarship, Joe and Marge Ross Honorary Scholarship for Arts (3), Zebra Cleaners Back to Nature Scholarship, and the Donald Schwartz Alive at 25 Scholarships (14).

We were finally able to celebrate the long awaited and much anticipated arrival of our district's history book, "*Looking toward the Future through the Windows of the Past, A History of Lexington County (SC) School District One.*" Upon its arrival in November 2010, we immediately began marketing the book through several local venues: Friends Corner Gift Shop in the Main Branch of the Lexington County Public Library; Miller's, Ltd. Gift Shop; the Willow's Gift Shop; and the Lexington County Museum. A book signing was held at the Artists at Work Studios in historic downtown Lexington during their inaugural art show and reception. Vicki Gadecki, author of the book, also attended several local and school events for other book signings. The book has been reviewed and highlighted in the *Lexington Chronicle* and *Sandlapper Magazine*.

The annual Celebration of Excellence in Celebration event, held on February 22, 2011 at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia, saw more than 700 students and parents in attendance, the largest crowd ever! Gilbert High School was the Host School. Stewart Moore from WIS Television served as the Master of Ceremonies and special guest Mr. Leonard Price, a 1939 graduate of Gilbert High School, was recognized. Co-sponsored by the Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitor's Center, the Celebration honored 148 graduating seniors from the district's four high schools. This event, made possible through sponsorships, received \$32,450.00 from sponsoring individuals and businesses.



Once again the LEAP campaign was a tremendous success. A new category was added to the campaign, the LEAP Education Assistance Plan. Funds donated to this category will go toward LexLives, LexLearns and LexLeads with an emphasis on STEM and 21<sup>st</sup> Century literacy, including the redesign of 21<sup>st</sup> Century media centers with learning commons and leadership training. The Education Assistance Plan raised \$11,728.00, while the LEAP Employee Assistance Plan raised \$111,276.00, for a combined total of \$123,395.45. The Board of Directors voted to have the Educational Foundation receive 15% of the total funds raised, \$16,667.45, for administrative fees.



The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Dam Swim for Drew saw 192 participants swim from the Irmo side of the dam to the Lexington side in memory of Drew Smith. Sponsored by the LHS Swim Team, the event promotes boating safety and raises funds to finance an indoor swimming facility in the Lexington area. The 2010 swim raised \$12,748.89. The Foundation serves as the agent for this event.

The Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Awards were presented through the generosity of Michelin, N.A., Lexington Site. Funded by a \$5,000.00 donation from Michelin, these grants provide awards to teachers who submit ideas for projects for which funds may not otherwise be available. In the fall of 2010, ten grants were awarded to 11 teachers and in the spring of 2011, ten grants were awarded to 18 teachers.

The Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award for 2010 was presented to Creig Tyler, Principal of Lexington High School. His name has been inscribed on a composite plaque in the District Office as the sixth recipient of the award.

In October 2011, the Foundation was asked to work with District Office Instructional Services on the Chick-fil-A Leadercast simulcast program that was held on May 6, 2011. The Foundation was actively involved in the pre-event activities, as well as the activities held on the day of the event. We handled attendee registration before and during the event; handled phone inquiries about the event; created materials; mailed tickets and participant packets; handled sponsor registration and mailed sponsor packets; managed the web page for the event for attendees and sponsors; welcomed and seated guests; attended numerous meetings; made contacts for in-kind services; assigned sponsor seating; assisted with setting-up and breaking down of the meeting room; assisted with meal distribution; provided hardware and signage for meeting room tables; etc. The Leadercast event was held at the Lexington High School Technology Center and simulcast live from Atlanta, Georgia. There were over 300 attendees at the event making it one of the largest simulcast sites across the United States. The event raised \$20,430.00.

Three initiatives were designated as a priority to advance the district into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The adoption of LexLeads, LexLearns, and LexLives prepares graduates to compete in the marketplace of tomorrow, both locally and globally. With the emphasis of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), the district looks forward to enabling students to be thinking, productive and responsible citizens.

To incorporate these initiatives in the classroom, STEM Labs are being placed at each middle school in the district. Being a focus of the Foundation's fundraising efforts, a STEM Lab was purchased for Carolina Springs Middle School at \$60,000.00. This lab will facilitate the preparation of our students as leaders and learners who communicate, innovate and think critically.

In May 2011, the Foundation's staff was restructured. Dr. John Hudgens was employed to serve as the consultant for the Major Gifts Campaign. He will work on a contractual basis outside of the office.

The Foundation joined those who participate in the social networks on Twitter and Facebook.

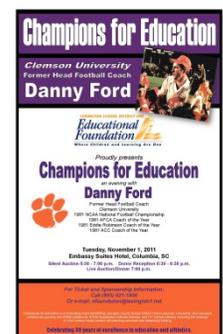
We are a part of Today and our students are our Tomorrow!

### July 2011 – June – 2012

Five new Board Members joined us for the 2011-2012 foundation year; Hayley Bowers, Joyce Carter, Dr. Will Harman, Peter Sutton, and John Paul Sellers, the 2012 Teacher of the Year. The board honored Richard J. Hook for his service as a founding member of the Foundation by awarding him the status of Board Member Emeritus. A New Board Member Orientation, led by Dr. Evelyn Berry, was held in September 2011.

The 2011 Champions for Education fundraiser was held on November 1, 2011. More than 500 people attended the event as we honored former Clemson University Head Football Coach Danny Ford and his 1981 National Championship football team. The evening featured a reception, dinner, and silent and live auctions offering over 100 donated items for sale. It was a fast moving and exciting evening that generated \$38,583.51 net income for the Foundation.

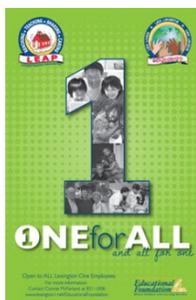
Other fundraising efforts included our inclusion in the Ruby Tuesday's GiveBack Program; Wingard's Nursery Facebook "Like" program, online auctions held throughout the year; and continued sales of our district's history book, *"Looking toward the Future through the Windows of the Past, A History of Lexington County (SC) School District One."*



The Foundation administrated fifty-six scholarships totaling \$29,190.00 including one new scholarship, "The Promise of Tomorrow Scholarship."

In September, The Foundation launched the inaugural Ambassador Program with John Farley, Mike Flack, Chief Terrence Green, Mayor Randy Halfacre, and Edna Langley serving as Lexington School District One Educational Foundation Ambassadors. In January, a new class of Ambassadors, Tod Augsburger, Valerie Baldwin, Dee Bedenbaugh, Francis Halloran, Mark Mancuso, Kathy Fields Maness, Ted McGee, Sonya Motes, Peter Sutton, and Chuck Whipple, were named as the second class of the Ambassador Program.

The annual Celebration of Excellence in Celebration event, hosted by Lexington High School, was held on February 28, 2012 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Columbia, with more than 700 students and parents in attendance, the largest crowd ever. Hannah Horne from WIS television served as the Mistress of Ceremonies as special guest Ted Pitts, a 1990 graduate of Lexington High School, was the evening's speaker. Co-sponsored by the Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitor's Center, the Celebration honored 152 graduating seniors from the district's four high schools. This event, made possible through sponsorships, received \$31,510.00 from sponsoring individuals and businesses.



The 2011 LEAP campaign continued a tradition of success as the Education Assistance Plan raised \$18,998.50, while the LEAP Employee Assistance Plan raised \$119,443.90, for a combined total of \$138,442.40, the highest amount raised to date. The Board of Directors voted to have the Educational Foundation receive 15% of the total funds raised, \$20,766.36, for administrative fees.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Dam Swim for Drew sponsored by the LHS Swim Team in memory of Drew Smith, saw 159 participants swim from the Irmo side of the Lake Murray Dam to the Lexington side. The event promotes boating safety and raises funds to finance an indoor swimming facility in the Lexington area. The 2011 swim raised \$9,727.00. The Foundation serves as the agent for this annual event.

The Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Awards, funded by a \$5,000.00 donation from Michelin, North America's Lexington Site, generously provides awards to teachers who submit ideas for projects for which funds may not otherwise be available. In the fall of 2011, ten grants were awarded to 11 teachers and in the spring of 2012, ten grants were awarded to 11 teachers.

The Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award for 2011 was presented to Dr. W. Darrell Barringer, Principal of Carolina Springs Elementary School. His name has been inscribed on a composite plaque in the District Office as the seventh recipient of the award.

For the second consecutive year, the Foundation worked with the District Office Instructional Services on the Chick-fil-A Leadercast simulcast program. On May 4, 2012 the Leadercast event was held at the Lexington Technology Center and simulcast live from Atlanta, Georgia. There were 375 attendees, making it one of the largest simulcast sites across the United States, and raising \$22,535.00. We handled attendee registration for the event, phone inquiries about the event, sponsor registrations, a web page for attendees and sponsors, welcomed and seated guests, attended meetings as well as invoicing sponsors.

At the request of the Educational Foundation, the Lexington Town Council proclaimed May 21-25, 2012 to be "Teacher Appreciation Week." During the week, the Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation sponsored a special teacher recognition opportunity for the parents, students, employees and community members of our school district. Persons were invited to make a donation to the Foundation in honor of the teacher of their choice. Those teachers each received a card acknowledging the generosity and gratitude of the donor and each was listed on our website.

(The amount of the gift was not mentioned.) All donations were tax deductible and will be used to fund ongoing projects which benefit students in the district. Seventeen teachers were recognized during this inaugural program.

Our first Ribbon Cutting was held On May 17, 2012 at Carolina Springs Middle School to recognize the donation of a STEM Lab by the Educational Foundation.

The Foundation continues to participate in the social networking world through Twitter and Facebook.

In keeping with the district's vision of the Schools of the Future – Now!, the Foundation has designated three initiatives as our priority with initial emphasis on STEM and 21<sup>st</sup> Century literacy, including the redesign of Media Centers to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Commons, Interventions for FOCUS, and a blended model for Professional Learning.

We are ready to take our students to the next level. We look forward to seeing our vision realized through our mission to enable our students to be thinking, productive and responsible citizens in the global, competitive 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### July 2012 – June 2013

Orientation was held for new Board Members on September 11, 2012 led by Dr. Evelyn Berry.

The Foundation received \$892.81 by participating in the Ruby Tuesday “Community GiveBack Program.”

Sales of the history book, “Looking toward the Future through the Windows of the Past, A History of Lexington County (SC) School District One” continue throughout the year.

Thirty-nine scholarships totaling \$23,236.40 were administered by the Foundation including one new one sponsored by the Greater Columbia Marine Foundation.

In September, Meadow Glen Elementary School hosted the Third Class of the Ambassador Program with a new class of Ambassadors: Scott Adams, Jerry Bellune, Monte Caughman, Angela Douda, Suzanne English, J.R. Fennell, Dr. Will Harman, John Holladay, Asst. Chief of Police Jay Koon, Hazel Livingston, Dr. Dan Pannella, Katrina Shealy and Debbie Summers. On March 6 the Fourth Class of the Ambassador Program was held as Meadow Glen Middle School. This class included Peter Balsamo, Jack Claypoole, Jennifer Holbrook, Ed Lundeen, Lara Matthews, Sheriff Jimmy Metts, Jonathan Oh, Marvin Robinson Thad Westbrook, and Rosemary Wilson.



The 2013 Celebration of Excellence in Education was held on February 26 at the Brookland Banquet and Conference Center in West Columbia. Hosted by White Knoll High School, the event was attended by more than 700 students and parents. Tyler Ryan of WACH Fox TV served as Master of Ceremonies and 2008 WKHS graduate Adam Matthews was the evening's speaker. Co-sponsored by the Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitor's Center, 146 graduating seniors from the district's four high schools were recognized. Local businesses and individuals provided \$32,450.00 in sponsorships for the evening.



The 2012 LEAP campaign continued to demonstrate an outstanding attitude of caring and unity with the Employee Assistance Plan raising \$123,545.98 and the Education Assistance Plan raising \$21,500.50 for a combined total of \$145,171.48. By direction of the Board of

Directors, the Foundation allocated 15%, \$18,531.90 of the total funds raised for administrative fees.

The Foundation, once again served as the agent for the 2012 Annual Dam Swim for Drew. Created to promote boating safety and to raise funds to finance an indoor swimming facility in the Lexington area, the swim was sponsored by the LHS Swim Team in memory of Drew Smith. The 2012 swim saw 250 participants and raised \$9,833.00.

The inaugural Circle of Friends Donor Reception was held on September 13 to honor individuals and local businesses for their time, talent, or sponsorships to the Foundation from 2004-2012. More than 400 were in attendance at the Saluda River Club.



The Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Awards are funded by a \$5,000 donation from Michelin North America, Lexington Site. Awards are granted to teachers who submit proposals for projects which may not be funded otherwise. Michelin's Cleve Johnson awarded ten grants to eleven teachers in the fall of 2012, and ten others were awarded to eleven teachers in the spring of 2013.

A Ribbon Cutting held on September 20 at Meadow Glen Middle School celebrated the donation of a STEM Lab to the school. The Lab was made possible through a \$60,000 donation from Michelin, NA with the assistance of the Educational Foundation.

The Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was presented to Rocky Creek Elementary School Principal Lynn C. Boyleston. Her name, as the eighth recipient of the award, has been inscribed on a plaque in the District Office.

The Foundation worked with District Office Instructional Services for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year on the Chick-fil-A Leadercast simulcast program. The May 6, 2013 event, held at Lexington Technology Center, included 298 attendees and raised \$18,547.84. The Foundation handled payments and receipts, phone inquiries, attended meetings, assisted in registrations (onsite, sponsor and individual,) updated application forms, and invoiced sponsors.



The first Dancing with the Stars Lexington was held on April 22, 2013 at The Koger Center for the Arts in Columbia. Based on the hit television show, DWTS, our show featured 12 local celebrities including: Lisa Herndon, Herndon Chevrolet; Jennifer Trinkner, two time Miss Hawaiian Tropic; Beth Dinndorf, President of Columbia College; Donna Schevcick, Lexington Life Magazine; Mary King, WIS-TV co-anchor; Randy Halfacre, Mayor of Lexington; Cleve Johnson, Michelin; Otis

Rawl, SC Chamber of Commerce; Rutu Bhonslé, Zebra Cleaners; Kim Williams, Director of Lexington One HR; Beth Moore, Lexington One teacher; and Dr. Amy Epps, Lexington Medical Center.

These contestants practiced regularly for three months prior to the event at Columbia's Ballroom Company who was a major sponsor through their generous service. Lisa Herndon won the "People's Choice Award" with a large traveling mirrored ball trophy. Individual mirrored ball trophies were awarded to each winner. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Place trophy was awarded to Kim Williams and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place to Dr. Amy Epps. The Judges Awards went to Kim Williams, 1<sup>st</sup> Place; Beth Moore, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and Jennifer Trinkner 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The evening also included a reception, and silent and live auctions. Dawn Smith Jordan served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Dr. Charles Gatch and the Swing Set Band and three entertainment acts made for a fun-filled evening that generated a net profit of \$58,048.66.

Three new logos were designed for the Ambassador Program, Circle of Friends, and Dancing with the Stars Lexington by Anna Reeside, a Lexington One teacher.

During "Teacher Appreciation Week," May 20-24, 2013 the Educational Foundation sponsored several means for parents, students, employees and community members to recognize teachers in the district. A donation to the Foundation in honor of a teacher assured an acknowledgement card informing that teacher of the gift recognizing them. All recognized teachers were listed on the Foundation website. Gift amounts were not published and the project raised \$385.00. Thirty-two teachers were recognized through these tax-deductible donations. Funds are used for projects, which benefit students.

The district's vision of the "Schools of the Future-Now!" was a focus of Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation. Initial emphasis was on STEM and 21<sup>st</sup> Century literacy, including the redesign of Media Centers to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Commons which were funded by One to One Matching Grants. In this effort, \$40,000 was awarded to fourteen schools. FOCUS received \$5,000 toward interventions; \$15,000 purchased the software program for a Blended Model of Professional Development for Rocky Creek Elementary and Gilbert Middle Schools; and a 4 Choice Sequential Scanner was purchased for Special Services.

Six new Board Members for the 2013-2014 year are: Sandra Kay Backman, Rutu P. Bhonslé, Lisa H. Herndon, Jennifer H. Holbrook, Laura S. McMahan, and the District Teacher of the Year, Kimberly S. Freeman. The board honored James A. Compton for his service as a founding member of the Foundation by awarding him the status of Board Member Emeritus.

The Foundation is continuing to participate in social media through Twitter and Facebook.

The annual Business Meeting was permanently changed from May to June.

We are ready to take our students to the next level. We look forward to seeing our vision realized through our mission to enable our students to be thinking, productive and responsible citizens in the global, competitive 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### **July 2013 - June 2014**

Orientation for new Board Members was held on September 23, 2013 led by Dr. Evelyn Berry.

The Foundation continued to participate in the Ruby Tuesday "Community Give Back Program" receiving \$696.25 as a contribution for our members' patronage.

Sales of the history book, "Looking toward the Future through the Windows of the Past, A History of Lexington County (SC) School District One" continued throughout the year.

Two new scholarships were awarded this year, the Iris Garden Club Scholarship and the Troy Casada Scholarship. The Foundation administered thirty-two Scholarships totaling \$24,750.00.

Two new classes of the Ambassador Program were welcomed this year. Gilbert Middle School hosted the Fifth Class on September 19, 2013. The class of Ambassadors included: Joe Auckerman, Kay Coker, Susan Clifton, Julie Hill, Deborah Keisler, Glenn Martin, Maxcy O'Cain, Britt Poole, Francis Price, Randy Price, Mayor Rosalyn Reeder of Summit, Nancy Rikard, and Rev. Frank Townsend. New Ambassadors welcomed to the Sixth Class of the Ambassador Program were welcomed by host White Knoll High School in the Center for Public Health and Advanced Medical Studies on March 18, 2014. Ambassadors in this class are Regina Brown, Mike Greeley, Nancy

Harmon, Harriet Horton, Tim James, Mayor Steve MacDougall of Lexington, Jana Medlin, Joe Mergo, Jeannette Rivera, Shelley Rose, Allison Sanford, Diane Sass, Peggy Torrey, and Dr. Jim Whitehead.

Brookland Banquet and Conference Center in West Columbia was the site of the 2014 Celebration of Excellence in Education Banquet which on February 25. More than 700 students, parents, and sponsors attended the event hosted by Pelion High School. John Farley of WIS TV, served as the Master of Ceremonies, and Dalton Freeman, 2008 graduate of Pelion High School, highlighted the program as featured speaker. An addition to the pre-ceremony was the inclusion of students representing the district's five high schools by displaying their Senior Experience Projects.

Co-sponsored by the Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitor's Center, this year's event recognized 153 graduating seniors from the district's five high schools including River Bluff High School for the first time. Sponsorships totaling \$32,450.00 were provided by local businesses and individuals.

The 2013 LEAP campaign once again demonstrated a genuine concern, caring, and unity as participants contributed \$124,438.50 to the Employee Assistance Plan and \$22,852.50 to the Education Assistance Plan for a combined total of \$147,291.00. A percentage of the total, 15%, or \$22,085.25, was directed by the Board of Directors to be purposed as administrative fees. During the 2013-2014 LEAP Campaign, we celebrated LEAP's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with total donations of \$1,112,809.63!



As an adjunct to our LEAP program, we sponsored a number of activities designed to help those who need assistance. School supplies, collected through a School Supply Drive held through the District Office, were given to the district's Social Workers and were dispensed when a child in need was identified. In December, a Coat Drive was held. Receptacles were placed at a local dry cleaner to receive the gently used coats. They were cleaned at no cost and were disbursed at the district's Social Workers' discretion. Food donations were received in barrels placed at the Celebration of Excellence of Education. Collected food items were placed with the town's local food bank, LICS.

The 2013 Annual Dam Swim for Drew, created to promote boating safety and to raise funds to finance an indoor swimming facility in the Lexington area, was sponsored by the Lexington High School Swim Team in memory of Drew Smith. For the second year, as a way to offer athletes more options, a Decathlon, (a 4.4 mile run,) was held in conjunction with the swim. Three options were offered to participate; swim the 2 miles, run the 4.4. miles or the combination of both courses. The Foundation served again as agent for the event, which saw 275 participants and raised \$9,692.00 in its 15<sup>th</sup> year.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Circle of Friends Donor Reception was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to honor individuals and local businesses for their time, talent, and/or sponsorships to the Foundation for the 2013-2014 year. More than 200 were in attendance at the newly renovated Palmetto Collegiate Institute, the first school in Lexington, which was erected in 1887 and closed in 1911.

The Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grant Awards are given by Michelin North America, Lexington Site to teachers who submit proposals for projects, which may not be funded otherwise. A \$5,000 donation from Michelin funds the projects. Michelin's Cleve Johnson awarded ten grants to twelve teachers in the fall of 2013, and ten others were awarded to fifteen teachers in the spring of 2014.

The ninth recipient of the Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award was presented to Oak Grove Elementary School Principal, Sherry P. Cariens. Her name is inscribed on a plaque in the District Office.

Dancing with the Stars Lexington, based on the hit DWTS television show, was presented on May 1 at the Koger Center for the Performing Arts in Columbia. Our Second Annual DWTSL featured 12 local celebrities including: Chris Balish, Garibaldi's and Cola's Restaurants; Bert Dooley, Dooley Law Firm; Dr. Kim Hicks, physician at Lexington Family Practice Lake Murray; Jennifer Holbrook, parent; Len Kiese, WIS TV co-anchor; Cheryl Layton, Administrative Assistant to Lexington One Superintendent; Maria Mungo, Mungo Homes; Allison Sanford, Palmetto Health Hospital; Katrina Shealy, SC State Senator; Wally Steinhauser, Wingard's Nursery & Garden Center; Chris Wooten, Bodyshop Athletics & Topspin Racquet and Swim Club; and Lorri Yarborough, Team IA & Palmetto Microfilm Systems.

The twelve participating contestants practiced regularly for three months prior to the event at Columbia's Ballroom Company. The "People's Choice Award", represented by a large traveling mirrored ball trophy, was won by Lorri Yarborough. Individual mirrored ball trophies were awarded to each winner with 2<sup>nd</sup> Place to Cheryl Layton and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place to Maria Mungo. The "Judges Awards" were awarded to Len Kiese, 1<sup>st</sup> Place; Allison Sanford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place; and Chris Wooten, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Mary King of WIS TV served as Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening which included a reception and auctions, live and silent. Dr. Charles Gatch and the Swing Set Band provided music for the evening while three entertainment acts were a bonus. Approximately \$90,434.39 was generated.

The Foundation is continuing to participate in social media through Twitter and Facebook.

Two new logos were designed for Teacher Appreciation Month and the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Educational Foundation by Anna Reeside, a Lexington One teacher.



The month of May was designated as Teacher Appreciation Month by the Foundation. Teachers were honored with donations by parents and students. Every teacher honored received a special note letting them know how they had touched a student's life.

In partnership with Walter P. Rawl & Sons, the Foundation sponsored, for the first time, the Walter P. Rawl & Sons School Garden Mini-Grants program. The objective of this program is to provide the district's elementary schools an opportunity to enhance students' knowledge of diet and nutrition by providing financial assistance toward planting and sustaining a school garden. Walter P. Rawl will donate \$2,500 per semester for a total of \$5,000 per year. The grants will be awarded twice a year, in the spring and fall semesters. Awards will not exceed \$500 for Startup gardens or \$250 to sustain gardens.

The district's vision of the "Schools of the Future-Now!" was a focus of Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation. Initial emphasis was on STEM and 21<sup>st</sup> Century literacy, including the redesign of Media Centers to 21<sup>st</sup> Learning Commons, which were funded by One to One Matching Grants. In this effort, \$25,000 was awarded to seven schools. Red Bank Elementary School received \$25,000 for the "Leader in Me" program, which will develop knowledge, skills and attitudes of capable leaders; \$15,000 purchased the software program for a Blended Model of Professional Development for Rocky Creek Elementary and Gilbert Middle Schools; \$5,000 was available for the further development design for the Center for World Languages and International Business for Lexington High School, \$35,000 was available for the Pilot on 21<sup>st</sup> Century System of Learning for New Carolina, Transform SC; and \$1,000 was awarded to a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade class at Red Bank Elementary to purchase online graphic design learning tools.

Four new Board Members for the 2014-2015 year are: Bryan Dunlap, Roger Kuperman, Thomas F. Trinkner, and the District Teacher of the Year, Albert H. Robertson. The board honored Michael V. Shealy for his service as a founding member of the Foundation by awarding him the status of Board Member Emeritus.

As the Foundation enters into its 20<sup>th</sup> year, we reflect on its accomplishments with great pride and look forward to the next 20 years with boundless anticipation. As we focus on excellence in innovation and caring, we are committed to our Schools of the Future Now! initiative while working together to provide opportunities for our students to be 21<sup>st</sup> Century graduates who are prepared for future success. We will see our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a springboard to accomplishment.

