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Lake Oswego School District Foundation
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Lake Oswego School District FOUNDATION

INVESTING IN TEACHERS

David & Alexandra Cook Named Honorary Phonathon Chairs

We are very honored to have the Foundation name us as the honorary chairs of the Phon-a-thon for this year. Like many families in our community, we have been supporting the Lake Oswego School District Foundation for some time. For us, it started in 1995. Our two sons were eleven and eight years old at the time, attending Hallinan Elementary School. I was traveling a lot back then, but Alexandra was volunteering every Friday at the school to help kids with reading. She was close to the action with a first hand view of the teachers, the principal and the other parent volunteers doing a really wonderful job educating the children.



level of programming and services that far exceeded what we came to find out could be provided with state equalization funding. We were motivated to help our schools keep their smaller classroom sizes as well as their current level of programming. We were willing to share some of our property tax savings by donating to the Foundation. It was very gratifying to see, year by year, more and more families joining the cause by giving to the Foundation to support extra teachers.

Measure 5 had passed back in 1990 leading to reduced property tax revenue, but our schools had been providing a

level of programming and services that far exceeded what we came to find out could be provided with state equalization funding. We were motivated to help our schools keep their smaller classroom sizes as well as their current level of programming. We were willing to share some of our property tax savings by donating to the Foundation. It was very gratifying to see, year by year, more and more families joining the cause by giving to the Foundation to support extra teachers.

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Create a Lasting Legacy

Did you know that you can support the Lake Oswego School District Foundation years from now? When you are making or revising your will, you can create an opportunity for charitable giving that might not be possible during your lifetime. You can make a bequest to the Foundation through your estate, whether you use a will or living trust. Typically bequests are for a fixed dollar amount or a percentage of the estate. You can even make the bequest contingent – it may first go to a specific individual, however if that person does not survive you, the funds can

go to the Foundation. A correctly executed bequest will not only leave a legacy for the future of our schools for years to come but also may provide some relief from estate taxes.

This is one of the most meaningful, and easily done, ways you can support our schools. The Foundation office can provide you with language you can give your attorney as you update, or complete, your estate plan. We also have resource material which can help you get started with estate planning, if you're thinking about it for the first time.

YES! I/We want to make a tax deductible contribution to the Foundation's annual campaign to help reduce class size.

Name _____
Print your name(s) as you want it to appear in our publically printed newsletter and on the web site.
 Please omit my name from publication.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please check your donation level—*Gifts of any size are appreciated!*

<input type="checkbox"/> Chairman's Circle	\$10,000 +
<input type="checkbox"/> Superintendent's Circle	\$5,000–\$9,999
<input type="checkbox"/> Starkweather Valedictorians	\$2,500–\$4,999
<input type="checkbox"/> Starkweather Members	\$1,250–\$2,499
<input type="checkbox"/> Mentors	\$500–\$1,249
<input type="checkbox"/> Counselors	\$1–\$499

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ for the Annual Fund.

The Lake Oswego School District Foundation is an independent, non-profit corporation established in 1986 to support educational programs for the students of the Lake Oswego School District. Contributions are tax deductible under Internal Revenue Code Section 170. The Lake Oswego School District supports the activities of the Foundation.

- My employer matches contributions:
Employer: _____
- Auto-Deduction (from checking or credit card)
 - Monthly Quarterly Semi-Annually
- Endowment Fund \$ _____
The William & Dorothy Stafford Society
LOSDF is named a benefactor in your will.

PAYMENT METHODS:

- Check is enclosed payable to LOSD Foundation
- Please bill my:
 - MasterCard Visa American Express
- Card # _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____

- Please indicate your affiliation with the district:
- Current parent Student Friend Faculty/Staff
 - Business Supporter Alumni, Class of _____
 - Alumni parent of a student from the class of _____

Please return to: Lake Oswego School District Foundation
P.O. Box 70, Lake Oswego, OR 97034
P: (503) 534-2302 F: (503) 534-2108
www.losdfoundation.org

Lake Oswego School District Foundation

Our Mission—To sustain the tradition of outstanding schools in Lake Oswego.

Our Goal—To reduce the student-teacher ratio by hiring additional teachers. Since its inception in 1993, virtually all donations raised by the Foundation have been dedicated to funding teaching positions and reducing class sizes.

2008–2009

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Sacrifice. This is a word that we're hearing a lot today. Tough economic times require us to make choices and sacrifices. Families in Lake Oswego are going to be making choices that will affect their future and the future of children in our community. In my lifetime, including my twenty-five years living in Lake Oswego, I have never seen such a challenging environment for families, businesses and especially our schools.

If we want to maintain the exceptional quality of education for our kids in the school district, we need to have an incredible Foundation effort that includes the entire community. The school budget will be short by four million dollars. What if every family in Lake Oswego made a donation to the Foundation? Our community would then have the money needed to educate our children, while maintaining our property values and strong sense of community.

What if your kids chipped in? What if alumni chipped in? What if grandparents chipped in? We could do it! We should do it. We need to do it.

Every donation is important, big or small.

Our children only have one chance to go through any class or school year. To slash funding, even for the best of reasons, will permanently affect their education. We don't want to go back to the days of 30 to 40 students in a classroom and limited electives at the junior high and high schools. We have the opportunity, through your generous tax-deductible donation, to soften the blow for ALL children in the Lake Oswego School District.

So far this year, we have raised \$1,100,000 and we are in the middle of our campaign. This tells me that people care! Now here is what you can do. Call the Foundation office today (503/534-2302) and make a pledge. You can write a check, make a monthly donation on your credit card or have a monthly amount taken out of your paycheck. Ask your employer if they can make a matching donation. Many companies match and it never hurts to ask. Let your employer know how important this is to you and your family. You can also donate stock or give to our endowment program. Our website is www.losdfoundation.org. You can go there and donate online. Just donate!

Katy Barman
Foundation President,
2008–09

Phonathon Chairs continued from page 1

helped to mitigate the state funding cuts so our schools were better funded than most. We voted to renew the local option in 2005 and 2008. But to strive to be excellent meant we required more financial help still. That's where the strength of the Foundation has risen up, first to fill the spending gap and then to go beyond, to restore some lost programming while providing more teachers to the district.

Our youngest son, Carson, now 22 years old, graduates this May with honors from the University of San Diego. He has been accepted by Teach For America who just assigned him to the Mississippi Delta for two years, one of their most challenging, economically distressed regions. He joined because he believes that the teachers that he had at Hallinan, Waluga and Lakeridge made all the difference in the education he received leading up to college. Now he wants to try to give back some of what those teachers gave to him.

Both our sons have received great educations in Lake Oswego and attended fine colleges. When they graduated from high school we asked ourselves, are we done giving to the Foundation? Our answer was an emphatic no, because we reasoned that the Foundation needs to continue to grow to keep our schools excellent, and only through a larger donor base will that happen. If you believe in excellence and want it for the community you live in, then you know that the role you play in supporting the Foundation continues to be vital.

We also believe the LOSD Foundation Endowment is a long term solution as a funding source for our school district. The first 40 founding members will become the

Stafford Society. Membership is off the ground as of last year with a growing list of contributors. Their gifts will represent a base upon which investment earnings could easily support a teacher's salary and benefits for a year. Imagine that membership growing to 400 members, then to 800. Now that's a vision for sustaining excellence in education well into the future.

We know this begs the question, why are you leaving a part of your estate to a public school district? Because although it might be called public, to keep the standard of excellence we have come to rely on, Lake Oswego schools need private funding sources. Our family was a part of the school community for 16 years of our lives and honestly, it was the best 16 years! Why wouldn't we want to help endow the future of our beloved schools if we could?

Today we face what some have called a perfect storm causing hard economic times. School funding from the state for the next biennium will be cut short of what we will need. We can be thankful that the Local Option and our established LOSD Foundation fund raising lessens the impact of that storm on our schools. But is that enough? Doesn't this become our moment, the time when it means the most, now more than ever, to support our Foundation like at no other time before? Please answer in a meaningful way when the Phon-a-thon call comes. We are joined together in this community of Lake Oswego and we have benefited greatly from our fine schools. We want those who come after us to benefit too and that means keeping those halls of learning the best that they can be. Great schools are the backbone and the centerpiece of great communities.

Tribute Certificates Now Available!

The Foundation's new tribute certificates are the perfect way to honor a loved one, a favorite teacher or anyone else. They are available in two styles, "In Loving Memory" or "Thank You", and are available either by calling the Foundation office at 503 534-2302, or they can be purchased and downloaded online at www.losdfoundation.org.

