

Legacy Endowment Fund Expands: Two Recent Efforts Result in a Major Increase to the Endowment Fund

Construction Dynamics Group Gives \$25,000 to the Legacy Endowment Fund

As the overall Program and Construction Manager for the new Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, Construction Dynamics Group (CDG) recently received a portion of the share of savings that Public Private Alliances, Inc. a Clark Construction Group subsidiary, collected for the efficient management of the construction project.

We are pleased to announce that CDG generously designated these funds as a gift to the Foundation's Legacy Endowment Fund.

(do we have a photo of Warren Walker that Jamie Martin provided?)

\$1 per Day Campaign

The Foundation's Community Appeal held during the last week of October and the first week of November raised \$5,000 (and counting!) for the Legacy Endowment Fund. FCEF representatives, dedicated volunteers, and parents called residents to ask for a contribution of \$1 per school day that students attend Falls Church City Public Schools, or \$180 for the year. Volunteers called from local businesses including **First Horizon Bank, Don Beyer Volvo, and International Motors/Saab**. Through a special promotion, International Motors agreed to match pledges made that evening on a 1:2 basis. \$1/day callers included: FCEF Board members, spouses and staff: **Rosaura Aguerrebere, Michael Ankuma, Marybeth Connelly, Donna Englander, Kathleen Glover, Leslie Hutchison, Edie and Tom Smolinski**, and dedicated school supporters: **Chrisie King, Tori McKinney, and Marie Hightower**.

If you're interested in making a contribution to the \$1/day campaign, please visit the Foundation's website at www.fcedf.org and click on the link, *Beat the Call!*

The FCEF provides a means to contribute a legacy of support to ensure that students in Falls Church will be prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The Foundation's Board of Directors has enlisted the guidance of many experts in financial design and control to develop a strong and sensible plan to safekeep and prudently grow the Foundation's endowment assets. The Foundation's goal is to promote excellence in the City schools for generations to come.

+(photo with **Tori McKinney**, volunteer caller, at **First Horizon Bank**)

**Hold the Date for FCEF Annual Dinner on Friday, April 27, 2007 at
The Westin Arlington Gateway**

After last year's resounding success with keynoter, Jay Mathews, the Foundation's Annual Dinner Host Committee is looking forward to another "sold out" event for the Spring Dinner. Plans for the evening include an exciting silent and live auction, cocktail reception featuring musical entertainment by GMHS students and remarks by a very special guest.

Corporate sponsorship opportunities are available from \$10,000 (Lead Sponsor) to \$150 (Corporate Friend). Please look for more details about the Annual Dinner in our online newsletters, Foundation News & Notes, on our website at www.fcedf.org or call Donna Englander, FCEF Executive Director, at (703) 538-3381.

Special thanks to the 2007 FCEF Host Committee members who have been working hard to plan a very special evening for our supporters:

Edna Frady
Kathleen Glover
Lindy Hockenberry
Jane Johansen
Ralph Perrino
John Ruffino
Kieran Sharpe
Paul Taffe
+Marty Meserve, Mona Johnston, Kathryn Courbe?

Foundation Funds Benefit Students in all Four Schools

Thanks to the generosity of some major donors, students at all four schools in the City of Falls Church are benefiting from new programs including:

- A *Literacy at Home project* promotes literacy skills for 30 special needs preschool students and English as second language students at Mount Daniel Elementary School. The project encourages parents to become active participants in their children's education by providing reading materials and activities for parents to complete at home. It is funded through the Foundation's grantmaking program which awards grants to teachers through a competitive grant review process. The Foundation's Fall grantmaking round was made possible by a major gift from **Bob Malakooti**. Mr. Malakooti, a resident of the City of Falls Church City whose children attended Falls Church schools, has owned and operated the Italian Café on Lee Highway for 28 years.

(photo op of grant review committee)

- The *Wilden After School Program* provides resources and opportunities for at-risk 4th-7th graders to include homework support, academic enrichment activities, language development, and mentoring from high school students. The program is held three afternoons a week at the Senior Center of the **Falls Church Housing Corporation**. Each student earns a laptop computer to take home upon successful completion of the year long program.

Start-up funding for the program has been provided by City of Falls Church resident **Bob Wilden** who says that he “wants to do whatever I can to level the playing field for these students so they will remain a vital part of our community”.

- The *Interactive Classroom of the 21st Century* is funded by **The Verizon Foundation**. Approximately 200 students have been able to experience the benefits of The Interactive Classroom project. By equipping George Mason High School classrooms with mobile, interactive LCD technology, students and teachers collaborate and contribute to lessons seamlessly and simultaneously in a wireless environment. Such an environment strengthens information literacy skills among George Mason High School students and allows teachers the flexibility to provide interactively designed lessons in any discipline anywhere in the building.

Additional funding received this year from the Verizon Foundation for Phase II further expands the project to provide instantaneous opportunities for testing student comprehension. This allows teachers an opportunity adjust their teaching strategies based on real time assessment of student learning.

+photo op (left to right): GMHS Principal **Bob Snee, Doug Brammer**, Area Manager for External Affairs at Verizon, and GMHS Technology Coordinator **Eileen Backofin**, take time out of their day to watch the innovative interactive response technology in action.

+photo op **Joel Block**, GMHS Real World Finance Teacher, using the interactive technology to demonstrate a lesson on housing costs

Text box: On-Line Giving Available for Year-End Gifts at www.fcddf.org

Wilden Project Wish List

The Wilden After School Project is in need laptop computers. For \$500, Falls Church families and businesses can make a contribution to the Falls Church Education Foundation for the purchase of one (1) laptop computer and make a difference in the lives of these students. Each computer will be labeled with the donor’s name in recognition of their generosity. Please contact the Foundation if you help. Other items that are needed include:

- Digital camera and updated photo editing software
- Dreamweaver software for website design
- Educational software: Type to Learn 3 School Edition

+ Donor listing

+ Membership flyer