

Hamilton Southeastern Schools Foundation (HSSF)

The Case and Need for Support



**HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN
SCHOOLS FOUNDATION**

INSPIRING INNOVATION THROUGH EDUCATION

Mission: HSSF enhances educational opportunities, inspires excellence and engages the community to foster a legacy of achievement.

Hamilton Southeastern Schools = Excellence

Indiana's fastest-growing school district performs at the highest level:

- District in State's top ten for student performance
- Over 90% of students plan to pursue post-secondary education
- High Schools recognized by state and national publications for rigor and excellence
- Four schools received U.S. Department of Excellence Blue Ribbon award

The Hamilton Southeastern Schools Challenge: Doing *More With Less* while Maintaining Excellence

- ✓ Per student dollars rank dropped from 58th highest (from 293 districts in 1992) to 357th (out of 363 districts in 2013).
- ✓ HSE Schools will rely on local, state, and federal tax-based funding to maintain operational excellence.
- ✓ An answer is needed to support innovative and creative programs to enhance educational excellence.

✓ Hamilton Southeastern Schools Foundation is an answer – and with your support we can bridge the gap between needs for innovative and creative ideas and the funds to implement them.

HSSF Bridges the Funding Gap through Grants and Scholarships by...

- ◆ Creating Public/Private partnerships to support 21st century learning
- ◆ Applying funds from corporations, businesses, individuals, and organizations to bridge the gap created by dwindling traditional revenue streams to fund grants and scholarships that enhance academic excellence

HSSF Background and Infrastructure

- ◆ District Board Members and Superintendent recognized the need to provide financial support to a rapidly-growing district
- ◆ HSSF established in 2001: 501(c)3 non-profit organization benefits HSE by providing educator grants and student scholarships
- ◆ Board of trustees and part-time executive director supported by district Board and Alumni

HSSF Grants

- ◆ Grant requests received from district educators are judged on potential student impact.
- ◆ Over \$300,000 awarded for innovative and creative grants. Examples follow:
 - ❖ iPod touches and apps to advance Language Arts instruction
 - ❖ engineering binders to enhance curriculum using the “Engineering is Elementary!” program
 - ❖ high-tech hardware and software to enhance teacher instruction of math
 - ❖ district –wide grants for *Fitnessgram* and the HSE21 initiative

HSSF Scholarships

- ◆ Over \$700,000 in scholarships have been awarded to date with over \$80,000 to High School graduating seniors in 2013.
- Helps with funding a portion of the rising costs of post secondary education, resulting in....
 - ✓ College graduates prepared to succeed in the work force
 - ✓ Successful citizens that add value to the community

HSSF has been Securing Funds that Make a Difference

- ◆ HSSF has risen to the challenge of maintaining district educational excellence in light of diminished revenue sources.
- ◆ Concerted fundraising underwrites HSSF Grant and Scholarship activities, supplementing tax-based support.
- ◆ Funds have largely been secured through events that raise money, tell the HSSF story, and build relationships:

Dollars for Seniors*

Corporate Donors

Mudsock Week

Thank-an-Educator

Dinner Event

Annual Golf Outing

10-for-10

Geist Half Marathon

*Formerly known as "Dollars for Scholars"

But the Funding for Our District is changing.....

- ❑ School Budgets are adversely affected by
 - Property tax caps
 - A state legislature that distributes school funding at its discretion and has provided less than adequate funds to maintain educational excellence
 - Strained state and local budgets
 - The rise of charter schools that divert money from public schools

- ❑ From the 2012 ISTA Costing–Out Study, “Indiana School spending is less than the estimated amount needed to provide an adequate education.”

HSSF Needs to provide more to Prepare our 21st Century Learners and Leaders

◆ HSE Schools district faces the following challenges to operations...

- ✓ District will continue to face inadequate funding based on the state funding formula.
- ✓ Recruiting the best teachers and maintaining acceptable class sizes is critical to maintaining excellence.
- ✓ The socio-economic make-up of the district will continue to change, creating more demand for grants and scholarships.
- ✓ Keeping up with rapidly changing technology will be a challenge.
- ✓ Continued professional development will be necessary to help teachers focus on 21st century learning skills.

....which compel HSSF to provide more support for innovative and creative needs to enhance educational excellence!

HSSF is asking the Community to help us close the Gap

HSSF must fund the following this year to increase its impact on a greater number of students:

- Grants: Classroom support and District priorities \$75,000
(innovative and creative grants that impact student learning)
 - Scholarships: \$20,000
(10 students receive \$1,000-\$5,000 per scholarship)
 - Community Awareness: \$5,000
(enhanced communications, networking)
- TOTAL: \$100,000**



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- \$100,000 Major Gifts Campaign will soon kickoff.
- Addresses immediate needs and lays the groundwork for an eventual endowment campaign.
- Fully-endowed organization ensures student success for years to come.
- Investment in HSSF is an investment in the future of the Fishers Community.

Support the Drive Towards Enhancing Excellence