

ALBURNETT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION

Enriching the quality of life for the greater community by bringing people together and dreams to life.

Anonymous matching gift challenge goal exceeded!

We did it! Thanks to the generosity of the Alburnett community and alumni as well as several matching gifts from area employers, we have exceeded our \$75,000 fundraising goal for the anonymous gift challenge! As of 12/15/11 the total amount contributed, included the full \$25,000 match from our anonymous donor, is **\$105,000** and contributions continue to trickle in!

If you intended to make a contribution prior to December 31st, please do so even though our campaign goal has been achieved. Additional funds raised will allow for more development of the football and track facilities at the complex. We plan to create a temporary track surface that student athletes can train on in the spring. The football field turf continues to fill in and should be ready for play by next fall. Additional funds received today will enable us to work on lighting, home sidelines retaining wall, crowd's nest, reel irrigation unit, scoreboard, etc. needed for football games. Let's make football at the complex a reality in the very near future!

The total dollar amount raised from this campaign will be included in the next Foundation newsletter. Please give generously and make a difference for our school and community for generations to come!

Martin Complex development update (As of 12/15/11)

The concession-restroom building and the softball diamond crowd's nest shells are now completed. Subfloor plumbing/drains, concrete floor, heating ductwork, metal-clad ceiling, attic insulation, doors and windows are also completed for the concession building. The 800-amp electrical service is currently being installed from the transformer to the building.

Once the furnace and electrical service are installed, the Foundation will be seeking the assistance of community members to complete the interior of the building including wall framing, drywall, cabinets, counters, shelves, etc. If you have an interest in contributing your time and talents to this project, please

contact a Foundation board member so that you may be contacted when we are ready to complete this phase.

Final grading and compaction of the track sub base has been completed. Required compaction testing will be done at a later date. Currently working on the gravel base for the track as time allows in preparation for a temporary running surface and to prevent erosion of the infield grass area along the track. Also, the ground west of the track has been built up to direct runoff water away from the track and for the future elevated home sidelines.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Alburnett Community School District Foundation Board will be held at **6:00 pm on Wednesday, January 25, 2011 in Pirate Hall**. The 2011 Annual Report will be presented as well as our plans for 2012 fundraising events, scholarships and development at the Martin Complex. Dessert and refreshments will be served after the meeting. Community members are encouraged to attend.

Board Meeting Date Changes

The Foundation board did not meet in December due to the Holidays. Our next regular board meeting will be held on January 11th in the ICN Room.

Gala – Save the date

The 5th Annual ACSDF Gala is less than 3 short months away, so mark Saturday March 10th on your calendar for a fun evening you won't forget. Feature events include a fabulous live and silent auction, exciting raffles, and a fantastic meal at the Cedar Rapids Marriott. More details to follow next month. Please call Sherry Cook for reservations or to donate auction items @ 319-378-1460. See you there!

Troy Gallagher Memorial Bench

We are pleased to have a wonderful bench donated to the Martin Complex by the Gallagher Family in honor of their son Troy and the Alburnett Class of 1990. The bench and two nearby ornamental fruit trees are located along the south portion of the walking trail. We hope it's enjoyed by many and a very special thank you goes out to all of Troy's family.

The Alburnett Foundation's Horizon Awards Program

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for outstanding service to our school and/or community? All too often, our citizens, school staff, and students make significant contributions that go unnoticed or unrecognized. The Alburnett Community School District Foundation will present **Horizon Awards** to three of our school district's brightest stars. Recipients will be special guests of honor at the Foundation's Annual Gala held in March, where they will receive their award.

For more information about the program and how you can nominate an individual for this award, please see the "[Horizon Award Nomination Form](#)" - available in the high school office or download it on our website at:

<http://www.alburnettfoundation.com/Datafolder/HorizonsAwardNominationForm.pdf>

Nominations must be mailed and postmarked by **February 13, 2012** to be considered. Take a few minutes, nominate your favorite school and/or community volunteer, and give credit where credit is due!

Please contact the committee chairperson, Mike Olinger, at (319) 350-2512 with questions.

Second Annual Men's Alumni Basketball Tournament

Male graduates from Alburnett High School are invited to participate in the second annual Alburnett Men's Alumni Basketball Tournament to be held Saturday, April 21, 2012. Cost to participate is \$100 per team/class with no age limit. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Alburnett Community School District Foundation.

For information on how to register, sponsorship opportunities and other ways to get involved contact Katie Johnson at katejoe11@gmail.com or 319.361.7244.

Pillars Scholarship Applications Available After Holiday Break

Applications for the Alburnett Community School District Foundation **Pillars Scholarship** will be available in January after the holiday break through Mrs. Barschow. Students must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 and be a senior at Alburnett High School. Additional requirements are outlined in the application packet.

The Pillars Scholarship program seeks to award well-rounded and involved graduating seniors who excel in the areas of academics, fine arts, and/or athletics and are active volunteers in our school district. The Foundation truly believes that the best student is a well-rounded student, and seeks to encourage future alumni to have a connection to the school and community and to have an opportunity to give back to it in the future.

Three scholarships in the amount of **\$1,000.00 each** will be awarded at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 academic year. Results will be announced and scholarships awarded on Senior Awards Night.

Applicants need not submit financial aid qualification paperwork, but should be able to demonstrate need by stating how they intend to pay for their future education.

Upon receipt of the scholarship application, essay, copy of official transcripts, and two letters of personal recommendation, qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule a personal interview with the scholarship selection committee. Interview Night will take place at the high school in late April and individual interviews will last approximately 15 minutes.

Applications may only be submitted by mail to the scholarship selection committee and must be postmarked by **March 31st, 2012** to be considered. Late applications or applications left in the high school office will not be accepted.

All decisions made by the scholarship selection committee are final and circumstantial variations in awards are at the discretion of the committee and the Foundation Board.

Please contact the scholarship committee chairperson, Mike Olinger, at 350-2512 with questions.

Student /Team Achievements

Congratulations to **Jason McVay** who recently placed 14th at the state cross country meet in a time of 16:59. Last year at state he finished 24th and broke the long standing school record for the 5K in a time of 17:23. In addition, Jason placed 2nd in the district meet this season in a time of 16:48 and lowered his own 5K school record at the North Linn Invitational meet with a time of 16:35. Congratulations to Jason and also to Cross Country Coach Kristin Koppes for her dedication to the Alburnett Cross Country program these past two seasons!

The Alburnett Community School District Foundation is committed to our students' success and would like to recognize student/team achievements at the highest levels in academics, arts and athletics in our monthly newsletters. Coaches, faculty sponsors, parents & students -- please submit brief news items for publication to Al Sorensen @ asorensen@unitedfiregroup.com.