
Auburn Education Foundation

Making Dreams Come True

2009 Edition

November 2009



What does the Auburn Education Foundation Do?

The Auburn Education Foundation (AEF) is a non-profit, community based organization whose main purpose is to secure and distribute contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations for the benefit and enrichment of students in the Auburn Union School District (AUSD).

The School District provides the educational programs and tries to provide the materials that are necessary to meet the State's educational requirements. This is difficult at times since the State has cut millions of dollars from the schools. Providing some financing for basic programs and for the staff to teach beyond those requirements, in innovative and creative ways, is our primary goal. By providing financing for these special projects, the AEF helps the children at all of Auburn's public elementary schools to have a more comprehensive experience.

The AUSD staff members apply for grants up to \$1,000 to assist them in the development of educational programs and projects. An evaluation process takes place to ensure that the grants meet the written standards and requirements. If the grant is approved, the grantor purchases the approved materials and the AEF provides the funds.

The AEF, also provides grants to each school for an overall school project. Much of these monies have been used to provide funding for a School Librarian and for the Computer Lab. Please help the students of the District!!

AEF Donors are Appreciated

Donations are received in many different ways. Some have donated money, items for dinners and some donate their time. These are a few of the businesses and individuals that have given support to the Auburn Education Foundation. All donors are greatly appreciated.

Auburn Kiwanis Foundation
Auburn Gold Country Rotary,
Companion Veterinary Clinic,
Round Table Pizza,
Raleys,
Placer County Visitors Bureau,
Fun Time Ice Cream Co.,
Harris Industrial Gases,
Four Seasons Play Care,
Hometown Realtors,
Int. Organization of Odd Fellows
Auburn Lodge #7,
Pentair Acutrol,
Newcastle Area Business
Association,
J.R. Associates,
G&S Electric,
Robert E. Gilpin, CPA,
County of Placer,
Auburn Running Co,
Wells Fargo Foundation,
AT&T United Way,
Ken & Marilyn Tokutomi,

Auburn Education Foundation President's Message

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year and all that it brings. My name is Susan Fox and I am the parent of a 4th grade student at Rock Creek Elementary. This last summer, I made a commitment to become more involved in the Foundation and agreed to fill the position of President. I'm very excited to be taking a more active role in such a necessary organization. At the start of the year, I attended Back-to-School-Nights throughout the District to raise awareness of the Foundation. At every school, I was approached by teachers and administrators who expressed heartfelt gratitude for the support provided by AEF. They shared stories of how their grants have helped them to directly improve the education of their students. There is no better testimony to assure me that the work done by this organization to raise money and distribute donations directly to the schools in our district via the grant process is a good thing.

You are receiving this newsletter because you have somehow in the past helped AEF, and as such the children of our district, by donating your time, money or goods or are a teacher or parent of a student. I realize that it is a very difficult time for many economically. All I ask is that you do keep us in mind and support wherever and however you can. I look forward to meeting you all at the meetings, events and fundraisers. I would like hear your ideas and thoughts on how we can do even more for our schools.

Best regards,
Susan Fox

From the Superintendent – Michele Schuetz

New programs have been started in the Auburn Union School District. AUSD has started their first Early On Pre-K class. This developmental kindergarten targets students meeting kindergarten age criteria but who are young, immature, and who are developmentally delayed. The Pre-K program is housed at Skyndge Elementary School. The AUSD has also moved their special education preschool program to Alta Vista School, which

-continued-

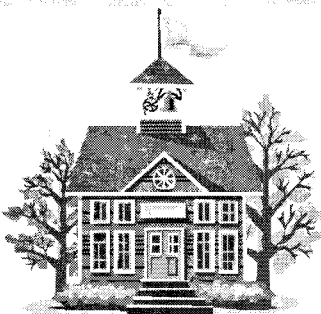
AEF Donors are Appreciated

J.M. Holmes,
Ayad Alqazzaz,
Janet & Chris Benson,
Daniel & Karen Tajbl,
Gary Harrison,
William Phillips,
John Tucker,
Mark McDonald,
Jeff Carter,
Norma Harris,
Jan & Fritz Albrecht,
Joe & Janis Vargas,
Michael & Gail Pittner,
Gilligan Family,
Dr. Traynor and his Rotary crew,
Richard & Terry Fowler,
Cliff & Norma Hyatt,
Robert & Heather Heaney,
J.K. Neft,
Ken & Nancy Nittler,
Chris Benson,
Richard & Terry Fowler,
Steve & Michele Young,
Larry & Alice Snow,
Maureen Rodarte,
Marian Ridolfi.

“Memorial” or “In Honor of” Donations

Donations were given to the Auburn Education Foundation Grant Program in the name of the following people:

John Edgerton,
Maureen Gilligan,
Judy Harrison,
Gilbert Machado,
Leo Ryan



Continued - From the Superintendent

includes our preschool Special Day Class and our Language Intensive Service Program. Hopefully this is the first stage of our preschool partnership within the community. AUSD has started a K-5 home school program and a Cain Independent Study program. The Cain Independent Study Program for our middle school students allows home school students in grade 6-8 to participate in EV Cain's intramural and sports program, after school enrichment clubs, and activities. Lastly we have started a new Language Intensive Program (LI) for students in kindergarten through third grade. This new program provides extra support for students with language difficulties or delays. The LI class is housed at Auburn Elementary. The new programs being developed will better serve our students, offer our parents a choice in programs, and will bring additional revenue to the Auburn Union School District.

Auburn Union School District announces their API (Academic Performance Index) scores for the 2009 school year. The District's API score is 814, which is a 25 point increase from last year. EV Cain scored an 819 API, which is a 35 point increase from 2008. Rock Creek also had an increase of 25 points with a score of 766. Skyridge scored 828 and Auburn Elementary scored 822. We appreciate the hard work of our students and staff on improving student achievement.

We face many challenges this year with the impact of the State budget crisis on our District budget. We are fortunate to have support of the Auburn Education Foundation and the PTCs to help keep our libraries open at the elementary schools and to support our programs.

Auburn Union School District Budget Update – Douglas Crancer

The statutory cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will be 4.25% vs. 5.02% as estimated in February. However, based on the Governor's May revision, the District's general purpose funds will be deficit by approximately 18%, which has increased from 13% in February.

As a result of the state budget and the Governor's May Revision, the District's 2009-10 General Fund projects a deficit of \$717,676. The deficit would be significantly higher without the transfer of \$312,000 from the Special Reserve for Post-Employment Benefits Fund. Therefore, the 2009-10 ending General Fund balance is projected to be \$2,651,773 with a revolving cash reserve of \$2,500, a restricted balance of \$1,136,566, a reserve for economic uncertainties of \$160,834, and \$1,351,873 primarily consisting of amounts reserved for future deficit spending. This leaves an ending unappropriated General Fund balance of zero. All other funds are anticipated to have positive ending fund balances at June 30, 2010.

Factors impacting the 2009-2010 District's budget include the following:

- The District's average daily attendance (ADA) for the District (excluding COE programs that amount to 64 ADA) is estimated to be 1,982. However, the District will receive funding based on 2008-09 regular ADA, which is estimated to be funded at 2,032 ADA.
- The class size reduction program revenue for ongoing operations reflects the District's intention to implement a K-3 class size reduction program of 24:1 or less. Please note that the District will only get funded for the first 20 pupils, and the funding amount will vary between \$856 and \$1,071 (depending on class size)
- Lottery revenue is estimated to be \$ 109.50 per ADA for unrestricted funds and \$ 11 .50 per ADA for restricted funds

-continued-

Continued - Budget Update

- Employer taxes are projected to remain consistent with 2008/09 amounts.
- As a result of the work performed by the Budget Advisory Committee, the following expenditure cuts have been proposed and adopted by the Board of Trustees
 - Release certificated staff as a result of operating class size reduction at 24:1 - \$330,000
 - Discontinue grades six through eight at Skyridge School - \$153,000
 - Eliminate one period of Spanish - \$17,000
 - Eliminate / Reduce Clerk time through-out the District - \$65,000
 - Reduce Noon Duty Supervisor and Custodial Time - \$47,000
 - Net Categorical Fund Transfers into the unrestricted portion of the general fund - \$179,000
- Programs that are expected to receive assistance from the unrestricted portion of the general fund in 2009/10 are estimated to be \$2.4 million, which primarily consists of:
 - Restricted Maintenance Account
 - Special Education
 - SD/OI Transportation
- During 2009/10 the District plans to issue approximately \$1,800,000 of tax revenue anticipation notes to help ensure the District is able to maintain a positive cash balance.

Auburn Education Foundation Student Newsletter

Written by student reporters: Amanda Geil, Cheyenne Shubin & Gladys Silva-Vaca

The Auburn Education Foundation has benefited our schools for many years and three students from E.V. Cain Middle School went to investigate how the Auburn Education Foundation helps our schools. We asked administrators several questions about the Foundation.

Our first question was how the AEF benefits each school. Mr. Ittner, at E.V. Cain, told us that AEF has given E.V. Cain three thousand dollars a year which has been used for the computer labs, life lab, updating rooms for teachers and much, much more. Some of his favorite projects are the computer labs and the life lab.

Mr. Pickett, at Rock Creek, responded by saying AEF has allowed him to re-open the library, purchase books for Accelerated Reader, purchase DVD players for classrooms, and buy new walkie-talkies. He is thankful for the new librarian, so kids can now take home books. Grant money has helped Mr. Pickett with the school garden. He is also very happy to have a gardener for the life lab. In addition, they have re-seeded a new part of the grass, and added gates around the perimeter of the life lab.

Mr. Schug, at Auburn Elementary, told us that AEF has allowed them to purchase walkie-talkies to help with safety on campus. He was also able to purchase a color printer for the computer lab, and supplement the music appreciation program with posters. Mr. Schug was especially grateful to have a librarian. He said, "Auburn Education Foundation is the driving force continuing to support our schools with out-of-the-box thinking. It is an integral part of our education system. AEF provides services our schools can't do on their own."

Each administrator interviewed told us that AEF was not only important to the schools, but also to the community. We were told that having money for supplies, materials, and improving their programs helps to make better schools. Students who get a better education in lower grades end up doing better in high school and are aided in going to college. Mr. Ittner even said, "The future of Auburn depends on kids getting a better education."

Everyone expressed their thanks and gratitude for all that the Auburn Education Foundation has done. Each school has put their grant money to the best use for their school. Some schools have used their grant money for activities, supplies and even new lights and curtains for play performances. Mr. Pickett said, "The Auburn Education Foundation is invaluable, and it has allowed them to do many great and fun things."

In addition to all these wonderful things AEF has done for our school district, it gives teachers the opportunity to apply for individual grants to enhance classroom projects. Teachers from all the districts schools have received these grants without which many wonderful programs would not be possible.

All in all, the Auburn Education Foundation has made a huge difference for all the staff, students and families of the Auburn Union School District. We just can't thank them enough!

AEF Supports ALS Association

Once again, Gary Harrison and his "Hoofin' it for Harrison" family will match your donation to the ALS Association and send a like amount to the Auburn Education Foundation. By sending a check to the ALS Association, you will also become a 2009- 2010 member of the Auburn Education Foundation. The Harrison Family does this in memory of Judy Harrison, one of the outstanding teachers who died of Lou Gehrig disease.

Stephen & Rose Brown Award

Steve and Rose Brown came to the District in the 1940's. Steve was the long time principal at Alta Vista, and Rose was the District Nurse. As their legacy, Steve and Rose left a sizable contribution to the Foundation. Each year the Rose and Steve Brown Award has been presented to a member of the AEF who, through their hard work and dedication, have made an outstanding contribution to the Foundation. This year's winner was Kathy and Jeff Koester. The Koester's have been strong supporters of AEF for many years. Kathy has held the position of AEF Secretary and the Koesters repeatedly help with the silent auctions and raffles at the AEF fundraising dinners.

Auburn Education Foundation Events

Western Round-Up Dinner

The first AEF fundraiser of the year was held on Oct.8th at the E.V.Cain Dragila Gym. It was attended by 300 supporters. The food was prepared by Dr. Traynor and the Rotary Club of Auburn. The Down Home Band and E.V. Cain Band provided the entertainment. Prizes were donated by Roper's Jewelers, Total Fitness, Lari-Art/Dondra Cuff, King Chiropractic, the Ridge, String's Italian Café, Cruiser's Car Wash, Mountain Mama, Wildflower, Flower Garden Bakery, Togo's Eatery, Starbucks Coffee, Fox Family, Nittler Family, Gilligan Family, Gary Gilligan's Pampered Chef, Connie Gill, Shirley Paris, The Mueller Family, Fran Haynes.

Calendar of Events

Nov. 20-22 – Booth at Mandarin Festival

Feb. 1 -- Grant Award Reception and Recognition of Donors-Skyridge School

March 17 -- St. Patrick's Day Dinner – Auburn Elementary

Nov. 22 -- Bob Milne Jazz Piano Recital

Feb. 20 – Auburn Symphony KinderKonzert

May 3 - AEF Membership Meeting - District Office

Ragtime Piano Concert

The Auburn Education Foundation will again present an outstanding Ragtime Piano Concert by Bob Milne on Sunday, November 22nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Sierra Foothills Unitarian Universalist Church -- 190 Finley Street, Auburn. Admission is \$25 and dessert will be served. Tickets can be obtained at (530) 878-0228, (530) 885-7408, or (530) 885-9891. You will not only hear wonderful music but learn about the history of Ragtime.

The Symphony Goes to School

Violins and violas! Flutes and oboes! Drums! Trumpets and horns! The Auburn Education Foundation is bringing the Auburn Symphony's "Symphony Goes to School" mini-orchestra to perform in each Auburn Union elementary school. While children are exposed to popular music, they rarely have the opportunity to experience a live performance of classical composed music played artfully and beautifully by professional musicians. Since 2004, the Foundation has made this experience possible for Auburn's children. To further support the school's music program, the Symphony provides a CD of the music performed and a guide to activities to infuse music in the curriculum. The mini-concerts precede the Auburn Symphony's annual KinderKonzert, a special concert for children and the young at heart. This year's performance of Peter and the Wolf will be presented on Saturday, February 20, 2010, 11:00 a.m., at Placer High Auditorium. For more information, call: 823-NOTE (6683).

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Great Food, Silent Auction, Live Entertainment! It will be a great day for the Irish on Wednesday, March 17th, when the Auburn Education Foundation puts on their St. Patrick's Day Dinner Bash. The dinner will be held at Auburn Elementary School and the Foundation promises a great time. The Irish Pub will serve dinner from 5:30-7:30p.m. Dinner will consist of corned beef, cabbage and potatoes or a pasta dinner. Salad and dessert will be served with either dinner.

AEF Membership Meeting

The AEF Membership Meeting will be held Monday, May 3, 2010 at the District Office at 7:00 pm. Please call Susan Fox at (530)-823-0268 if you have any questions.

Grants Awarded to Auburn Union

**The AEF awarded grants totaling approximate \$27,000 during the spring of 2009.
Some of the grants filled for the spring were:**

Rock Creek:

- Rebecca Lopez King received the Rosetta Stone Network to give teachers a chance to learn Spanish.
- Tom Rae received a digital video camera and Apple's I Movie software.
- Scott Pickett/Lori Brooks received a walkie talkie system as an alternative means of communications in an emergency.
- Nancy Tellefson received supplies for the Life Lab.

Skyridge:

- Lynn Beckler received leveled readers from Houghton Mifflin.
- Heather Watkin-Koolhof acquired book sets for reading groups.

Auburn Elementary:

- Theresa Tucker purchased a printer for the school lab.
- Janet Dufour & Sue Larkins purchased walkie-talkies to communicate in case of emergencies.
- Cathy Gower received books for literature circles.
- Carol Riggs Wright purchased a music poster for each classroom to be used with the music listening program.

E.V. Cain:

- Matthew Metrock & Kelly Bennett received funds for the Life Lab.
- Tom Serradet received materials for the applied art program which includes fine arts and rocketry.
- Karen Enghusen & Pam Maginetti received material so that all students had access to a digital media library.
- Patricia Leftridge received materials for Rosetta Stone so that teachers can learn and practice conversational Spanish.
- The school used funds to install a second wireless computer lab on campus.

District Office:

- Susan Wallace purchased kits that students can take home to practice fine motor skills.

**The AEF awarded grants totaling approximate \$11,500 during the fall of 2009.
Some of the grants approved for the fall were:**

Rock Creek:

- Amanda Jaqua received approval for the purchase of computer software programs that meet the state requirements for English Language Arts.
- Marcia Coffeen, Pam McClain & Mary Grady received approval for materials to help organize and store equipment for usage by individual classrooms and at recess time to make functional P.E. equipment available to students.
- Claudia Wilson received approval to purchase a multi-media projector and cart to use daily and show English learners concepts, images, and give background information for developing foundational knowledge.

Skyridge:

- Michelle Justus received partial funding to purchase equipment and utilize the Read Naturally Program so that students may work at differentiated levels in the SDC classroom.
- Kim Morris received approval for "Isokinetics Exercise Disc Cushions".
- Debra Espenson received approval to purchase an Exergen Temporal Thermometer which will allow her to get an accurate reading of a child's temperature.
- Teresa Guevel received approval to add a unit in Science on alternative and renewable sources of energy.

Auburn Elementary

- Leslye Vodden & Carol Thomas received approval to purchase vestibular sitting disks and Leveled Read Naturally materials for intensive intervention groups in the Learning Center.
- Janet Dufour & Sue Larkins received approval to purchase a binding machine that replaces a worn out predecessor.

Grants Awarded to Auburn Union (continued)

- Teachers Ford, Holmes & Wright received approval to purchase an interactive program that aligns with the Social Studies Curriculum related to early California history.
- Teachers Gower, Bauman & Borden received approval to purchase a hands-on and interactive way for students to learn about early U.S. history of the American Revolution

E.V.Cain:

- Karen Enghusen received approval to purchase a current and complete set of World Atlases so students may create high-quality mapping projects.
- Marsha Dolkas received approval to purchase a document camera for use in teaching students to write and to analyze literature and teach the concepts of good writing.
- Sylvia Haverburg received approval to purchase a document camera to project color maps, historical documents, and student work.
- Jeanette Albrecht received approval to install a multi-media projector and screen in Rm. 3.

District Office:

- Audrey Mueller received approval for the Auburn Symphony program which provides a professional chamber orchestra experience for children at each K-5 school site in the AUSD.
- Susan Wallace received approval for sensory motor equipment and supplies that serve students who have poor motor skills

Grant Committee

The AEF wants to thank the Grant Committee that worked so hard to review each of the applications and make recommendations to the AEF Board. The committee members were Heather Watkins, Chairman, Joan Anderson, Erin Emerson, Ed Gilligan, Jan Hyatt, Charlene Messner, Audrey Mueller, and Claudia Wilson

AEF Officers

President-----Susan Fox
Treasurer-----Stan Wilson
Vice President-----Ed Gilligan
Recording Secretary-----Dave Fenolio
Corresponding Secretary-----Carol Lundberg

Auburn Education Foundation Membership Form

Yes, I wish to join the Auburn Education Foundation and support the students in the Auburn Public Schools. Please register my name in the following membership category:

_____ Contributor (\$10) _____ Bronze Star(\$30) _____ Silver Star(50) _____ Gold Star(\$100)

_____ Grant Supporter with your name attached to the grant.(\$250 of more)

_____ I would like to help the AEF by volunteering to work in various ways.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Make your check payable to Auburn Education Foundation and mail to
P.O. Box 6313, Auburn, CA 95604.