

## Congratulations Grads, Students, & Staff!

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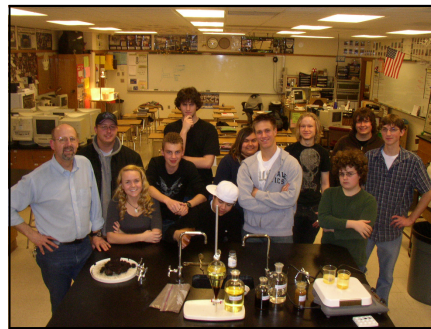
The board and staff of the Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools would like to congratulate the staff and students of Billings Public Schools on a job well done this school year!

We would also like to send our best wishes to the 2011 graduates of Billings Senior, Skyview, and West High Schools.



## Classroom Grant Winners Announced

The Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools is pleased to announce the recipients of the Foundation's 2011 Classroom Grants. This year the Education Foundation received 114 applications totaling \$93,000 in requests, more than in previous years. A selection committee from the community awarded \$67,000 in classroom grants to Billings Public School educators at the Golden Apple Educators Banquet.



Classroom Grants from the Education Foundation are designed to meet the following goals:

- Increase student engagement, motivation, and exposure to new concepts and ideas.
- Create opportunities to allow all students to reach their full potential through enriched learning environments.
- Strengthen teaching tools and strategies in core academic subjects, including the arts.
- Encourage collaboration and professional development among teachers.
- Increase parent and community involvement in our schools.

To read more about this year's grants and see the list of winners visit the Education Foundation's website at [www.efbps.org](http://www.efbps.org).

## Get Ready for Saturday Live 2011! September 24th, Pioneer Park



**Saturday Live** is back for its nineteenth year! Saturday Live will take place at Pioneer Park on September 24th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join us for a terrific event which benefits all Billings Public Schools!

**Activity Booth Sign-up:** If you still need to sign up, it's not too late. Visit [www.efbps.org](http://www.efbps.org) to download your Activity Booth Application form today.

**Mark your Calendars—Activity Booth Meeting:** All groups signed up for Saturday Live must attend the Activity Booth meeting on **Wednesday, August 31st** from 7:00—8:00 p.m. at the Senior High Library.

**Questions?** Contact Julie Whitworth at 245-4133.

## THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

Thank you to the teachers, staff, administrators, and others who took part in this year's payroll deduction drive for the Education Foundation! We are excited to share with you that 285 individuals gave \$13,000 in the form of a one time donation or payroll deduction during the 2011-2012 school year. The Foundation is amazed by the generosity and support we have received from Billings Public Schools employees this year. We are looking forward to increasing the amount of money awarded for the Classroom Grant program in 2012 and continuing to build the other programs of the Foundation. We appreciate your support!



## Volunteer This Summer with READING ROCKS!!

The Education Foundation invites you to join us in the park this summer for Reading Rocks, a summer reading program for students of all ages.

During Reading Rocks, the Education Foundation sets up a reading tent next to the Free Summer Lunch program at the city parks and offers fun reading activities for kids. Participants get to read a book with a volunteer and they take home a book and a prize. The purpose of the program is to encourage summer reading which is critical to school success. The program also helps students build a personal library of books at home. We are currently signing up volunteers to be guest storytellers and/or volunteer readers with individual children or small groups. We'd love to have your help this summer, plus it's a great reason to get outside during the lunch hour!

This year, Reading Rocks will run from June 20 — July 28. The schedule is 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the following parks:  
Mondays and Wednesdays – North Park  
Mondays—Crow/Arrowhead Park  
Tuesdays and Thursdays – Central Park  
Thursdays – South Park



If you'd like to volunteer please contact Julie Whitworth at 245-4133 or whitworthj@billingssschools.org or complete the [Volunteer sign-up form](#).

Please feel free to share this volunteer opportunity with others.

## Scholarship Award Winners Announced

The Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools is pleased to announce the recipients of various scholarships managed by the Foundation. Several different scholarship committees comprised of community members review the scholarship applications. This year committee members were impressed by the outstanding accomplishments of each scholarship recipient.

Brianna Eaton	Billings Senior	Cook Memorial Scholarship	\$2,500
Nathan LaCombe	Billings Senior	Karen Krueger Cox Vocational Award	\$1,000
Mariel Rieland	Billings Skyview	Dewey J. Hansen Scholarship	\$1,000
Dillon Sundheim	Billings Senior	Frank Family Scholarship	\$1,000
Erin Kusek	Billings West	Peter & Zella Yegen Scholarship	\$ 300
Jessica Martin	Billings Skyview	Peter & Zella Yegen Scholarship	\$ 300
Brianna Eaton	Billings Senior	Peter & Zella Yegen Scholarship	\$ 300
Tamara Fall	Billings West	Steve & Lorraine Marsh Music Award	\$1,000
Noah Davis	Billings Senior	Rina B. Moog Scholarship	\$1,000
Daniel Redinger	Billings Senior	Bonnie Slough Scholarship	\$ 500
Nicholas Duncan	Billings Senior	Melissa Hart Weaver Inspirational Award	\$1,000



Questions or Comments about the Newsletter? Please contact the Education Foundation at (406) 245-4133 or hertzka@billingssschools.org.

## Innovative Teacher = Engaged Classroom (IT=EC) Program

The IT=EC program will fund \$50,000 in middle school teaching tools and support. In 2009, the Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools received a gift from the Senator Burns Foundation for Scholastic Excellence. A portion of this gift will be used to fund the IT=EC (Innovative Teachers = Engaged Classrooms) program. The goal of the program is to provide teachers with an opportunity to learn about and apply the use of interactive technology in their classrooms. This program is more than an acquisition of equipment; it is developing a learning model for teachers to implement in their daily teaching.

### **IT=EC Program Educators:**

Castle Rock: Bill Baumann, Jessica Haan, Bobbi Poser, Kelly Smith

Lewis & Clark: Shirley Greene, Kim Harrington, Marni Jacobson, Casey Visser

Riverside: Sean Hale, Barbara Knutson, Lindsey McCloud, Julie Smith

Will James: Becky Hatler, Jane Manley, Heather Marvin, Zach Robbins

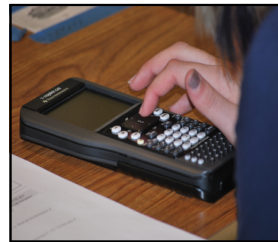
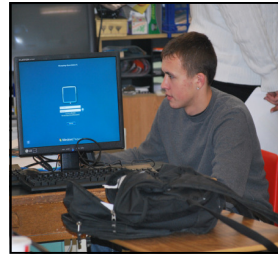
## Dewey J. Hansen and Helen Cothron Hansen Memorial Fund

Billings Senior High alumnus Dewey Hansen, whose career as an educator, Air Force Academy liaison officer, and Boy Scout leader impacted countless students in the Billings community, has given the Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools its largest individual gift ever totaling \$2.7 million. Mr. Hansen, who passed away in June of 2009, left this bequest to endow the "Dewey J. Hansen and Helen Cothron Hansen Memorial Fund" to honor his mother and to provide financial resources for Billings Senior, West, Skyview and Laurel High School. The Foundation is honored to receive the gift of education from the Dewey J. Hansen estate. As shared by Dewey's long-time friend, Jack Bayne, "Dewey truly believed in education and the opportunities a solid education would bring to kids. He knew the importance of kids investing in themselves, in their education, and in their community."

In December 2010, Billings Senior, Skyview, and West High and Laurel High School each received \$12,500.00 in funding. Interactive teaching technology, science equipment, field trips, iPad mobile labs, textiles program equipment, and Laurel Aviation and Technology Week were funded this past spring with funding from the Dewey J. Hansen and Helen Cothron Hansen Memorial Fund.

In July 2011, \$78,000.00 will be divided equally among the 4 high schools for needs in the science and math departments and for new interactive technology.

To learn more about the grants awarded, please visit our website [www.efbps.org](http://www.efbps.org).



## Partners in Education

**Partners in Education** is a community-wide partnership between schools, businesses, and community members dedicated to ensuring the success of all students and schools in Billings Public Schools. The purpose of **Partners in Education** is to build mutually benefiting partnerships between schools and businesses that result in school improvement, teaching excellence, student achievement, and appreciation of common goals. Our goal with each partnership is to meet the needs of a school by matching the resources a business is able to contribute such as classroom volunteers, funding, or supplies.

In the 2010-2011 school year, over 50 businesses and community organizations partnered with schools across the community. The partnerships brought volunteers into the classrooms, provided additional financial and in-kind support for schools, and created mentoring opportunities.



Questions or Comments about the Newsletter? Please contact the Education Foundation at (406) 245-4133 or [hertzka@billingschools.org](mailto:hertzka@billingschools.org).

## Congratulations to the 2010 Educator Scholarship Recipients

**Jim Rickard Staff Development Scholarship** - \$500 - Chad Kinnett,  
Newman Elementary,

**Kathy Hill Leadership Award** - \$500 - Tanya Kirschman, Highland Elementary

**Roger E. Eble Scholarship** - \$350 - Joe Walsh, Bench Elementary

**Roger E. Eble Scholarship** - \$850 - Jan Kvilhaug, Poly Drive Elementary

The Foundation's Educator Scholarships have been established by families and/or individuals in memory or honor of a person who was an advocate for education.



## Education Foundation Ambassadors Make A Difference

The Education Foundation is excited about the opportunity to work with a talented, energetic group of educators through the Foundation's Ambassador program. As an Ambassador, teachers support the Foundation in accomplishing its mission. This will involve sharing information about the Foundation's programs with fellow teachers and staff. Below are the 2010-2011 Foundation's Ambassadors:

\*Julie Wilson, Alkali Creek

\*Vickie Eagle, Arrowhead

\*Celeste Peel, Beartooth

\*David Carlson, Bench

\*Karen Preble, Big Sky

\*Dawn McCrohan, Bitterroot

\*Kristin Hersel, Boulder

\*Rebecca King, Broadwater

\*Sally Ann Bishop, Broadwater

\*Ann Brucker, Burlington

\*Stan Barr, Career Center

\*Debbie Glasoe, Castle Rock

\*Peggy O'Brien, Central Heights

\*Carolyn Newell, Eagle Cliffs

\*Tanya Kirschman, Highland

\*Darlene Rector, Lewis & Clark

\*Carolyn Yegen, McKinley

\*Linda Gibson, Meadowlark

\*Kristina Stiles, Miles Avenue

\*Marsha Evan, Newman

\*Angie Gray, Orchard

\*Lisa Saur, Poly Drive

\*Shayla Bryson, Ponderosa

\*Kristin Truscott, Ponderosa

\*Katy Lefler, Riverside

\*Charine Schlosser, Rose Park

\*Tami Concepcion, Sandstone

\*Nancy Story, Senior High

\*Diane Bertrand, Skyview High

\*Susan Pfeifer, Washington

\*Denece Lord, West High

\*Linda Horst, Will James



## Education Foundation Endowment Gift

Consider making a lasting gift to the Education Foundation. Our Endowment Funds are part of a vision to provide substantial funding for educator classroom grants, teacher and student scholarships, and special projects that benefit Billings Public Schools students and educators. Your gift can create a new endowment fund or be added to an existing one.

Additionally, your endowment gift can provide Montana and federal tax benefits. Montana offers a generous tax credit to individuals and businesses that make qualifying contributions to our endowments. An individual can earn a 40% credit of the present value of a donation through a planned gift and businesses can earn a 20% credit for a direct gift. Most endowment gifts also qualify for a federal income tax deduction. Take advantage of the Montana Tax Credit and give a lasting gift to education.

Another way to benefit public education in Billings would be by leaving the Education Foundation a legacy gift in your will. It's easy and you will be making a permanent difference in the lives of our students. Need more information? We can help, contact the Foundation office.

