

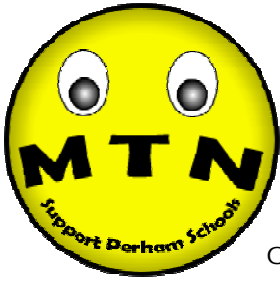


Winter 2009 Newsletter

549 Family Foundation
200 5th St. SE
Perham, MN 56573

549 Family 2008-2009 Grants Approved To Date

<u>HOTL</u> 2 nd grade – trip to Tamarac Wildlife Refuge - meets two Life Science Standards – will learn plants and animals have life cycles; how different organisms live in different environments.	\$350.00
<u>HOTL</u> 2 nd grade – trip to Itasca State Park / Mississippi Headwaters – meets Environmental Science Standards – will learn about the historical significance of the area and the affect of time on the environment; protection and responsibility of natural resources.	\$790.00
<u>PHS</u> - Assisting funding to build a greenhouse to support agriculture, science and business curriculum. Providing a living classroom for plant physiology and reproduction, water conservation, ecology and a conglomeration of other applications for students to learn through active participation.	\$5000.00
<u>HOTL</u> 4 th grade – Everyone Reads Program – innovative use of technology - 10 iPod units to download book titles for struggling readers to follow along – improving listening and reading skills.	\$700.00
<u>PWMS</u> 5 th grade – visit by author William Durbin for each class. Writing process and appreciation, Improving and enhancing literacy. Raise excitement for reading and a career in writing.	\$1100.00
<u>HOTL</u> 1 st grade – stability balls as chairs supporting research in young student learning, enhancing student academic performance, builds core muscle strength and aids in concentration.	\$950.00
<u>HOTL</u> K-4 Bully-Free Schools Curriculum - Character Education given by the school counselor instructing tolerance, dealing with emotion and conflict.	\$500.00
<u>HOTL</u> 2 nd grade – trip to MSUM Theater and Planetarium - Science and Arts Appreciation. Meets MN State Standard requirements in Arts for K-3.and Earth and Space Science standard.	\$235.00
<u>HOTL</u> 4 th grade – trip to Camp Confidence – lifelong learning in outdoor winter survival, develop Teamwork, cooperation, wildlife study.	\$895.00
<u>PWMS</u> 8 th grade – trip to Laurentian – lifelong learning skills, teamwork and outdoor survival. Develops leadership and respecting the team – Encourages the Six Pillars of Character.	\$2000.00
<u>PHS</u> Hugh O'Brian Leadership Youth Conference – Registration to attend, expand leadership. Ethics and provide networking with other youth leaders from the state.	\$150.00
<u>PHS</u> Sew-Fast Quilting class supplies, students appreciation of historical tradition of the art and skill of creating quilts – lifelong skills, excitement of completing this challenging project.	\$1000.00
<u>PWMS</u> Media Center – to replace many popular lost, damaged and destroyed books for the continuation of the Accelerated Reading and general reading excitement.	\$500.00
<u>Enrichment</u> 4 th – 6 th grade presenting projects at Senator Kent Conrad's Marketplace for Kids. Developing business and leadership skills; will participate in seminars on business, Economics, science, invention and entrepreneurial enterprises – Earmarked funds	
<u>PHS</u> Media Center laptop for student checkout; providing access to word processing and programs necessary to complete assignments with needed materials. – Earmarked funds	



www.549morethanothing.com

MORE THAN NOTHING! The referendum vote was clear... 3 to 1, no school levy! The problem with such a vote is there are only two choices...all...or nothing! In an effort to get some guidance from the community, the Perham school board recently surveyed the public. Most of the responses were very supportive, even from those who say they voted 'no' on the referendum. Maybe many were not willing to approve the proposed levy amount on the ballot, but that doesn't mean most people do not support the school!

Where does that leave the school for 2009-2010? The budget is about \$200K short, even after the January cuts of nearly \$300K, which means more cuts are to come. Perhaps the community doesn't want to see that happen. Is it fair that with no levy, the school gets nothing? The school doesn't get the levy, but perhaps it needs **more than nothing!**

History tells us cuts are rarely recovered on the short term, so once something is cut, it could be years before we get it back. The question is, can the people of this district pull together to keep the cuts off the floor? **More than nothing** is a budget relief fund for 2009-2010. The campaign is to encourage groups, clubs and individuals to fundraise or donate anything **more than nothing!** Four sixth graders raised \$600.00 by running a bake sale! Did you notice your property taxes for the school district actually DROPPED this year? Many are writing a tax-deductible check for the difference so they are giving the school exactly what they gave last year! Look on the website above for a list of several other easy ideas!

The **More Than Nothing** goal is \$200,000.00 to prevent the next set of cuts and keep the Perham district as it is now! Young families are attracted to a community by employment, affordable housing and a strong school for their children. The whole community benefits when the school is strong and provides a wide variety of educational experiences.

What do our children deserve? Kids deserve every advantage adults can give them through the gifts of our time and a strong education so they have the tools they need to live successful, happy and productive lives. They are the future of THIS community!

With the tool of confidence, they can be strong thinkers. With the tool of leadership, they can lead to serve people. With the tool of knowledge, they can make wise decisions and with the tool of compassion, they can help others. With the tool of faith, they can find guidance and strength. The programs, classes and staff of the Perham school district are there to provide these tools for **EACH STUDENT** by providing a wide spectrum of experiences. Every time cuts are made, their experience becomes narrower. Can the people of this district AFFORD to let that happen? Please give **MORE THAN NOTHING!**

Give online at www.549morethanothing.com. Comment the fund is for MTN.

Send checks to: 549 Family Foundation
200 5th St. SE
Perham, MN 56573

Please memo check as MTN.



549 Family Advisory Board Prepares to Face the Year

New year, new U.S. president, new economics, new challenges. Who knows what the future has to hold for this country? 549 Family is trying to prepare for the many changes sure to materialize over the next few years for our schools, for our children and for the foundation.



Brian Mort, past president of 549 Family has completed his service on the Advisory board after serving six years, the maximum of (2) 3-year terms in a row. Throughout his service, Brian served the foundation faithfully with his belief in 549 Family's mission, the benefit for district 549 students and his willingness to work hard to encourage more community involvement with the foundation. Brian has also run the foundation's annual golf tournament for the past several years. His enthusiasm and leadership will be deeply missed by the board; however, Brian continues to support the foundation and hopes to see 549 Family realize its full potential in the years to come. The board wishes to sincerely thank Brian for all the effort and support he has given 549 Family, the school district and the kids over the years.

The early resignation of Sandra Waldon in October left another board seat open this year. Candace Wuebben and Sue Huebsch were both unanimously approved to serve a 3-year term. Tom Tomporowski and Jo Strege are beginning their 2nd 3-year term. Officers for 2009 include: Dean Bahls, president; Tom Tomporowski, secretary; Candace Wuebben, treasurer. Delegates include Sue Huebsch, Tom Spencer and Bob Wilkowski. Jo Strege continues to serve as coordinator beginning her sixth year in that position.

Candace was born and raised in Moorhead Minnesota and graduated in 1981. After graduation I became a cosmetologist and worked and managed a salon in the Fargo-Moorhead area. I married Paul Wuebben in 1988. We have three children Lucas, Rachel and Leah. My family and I moved to Perham in August of 1998 when Paul's employer CC&I Engineering relocated its office from Fargo to Perham. I left the workforce when my second child, Rachel was born so I could devote my time to raising my children.

I became involved in the Perham community as a Girl Scout Leader for four years. I was employed by Calvary Lutheran Church, as the Christian Education Director for Children's Ministry and Adult Education in the fall of 2001. In 2006 I started working at United Community Bank where I am currently employed.

Why am I involved in 549 Family? It is the extra programs that the school cannot always afford to fund that help promote individual enrichment, growth, learning and leadership. I have seen my children's lives positively impacted through some of the programs and experiences funded by the 549 Family Foundation. I hope my involvement will help positively impact the next generation.



Sue Huebsch graduated from Hastings High School in southeastern Minnesota. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from The College of St. Catherine and was honored to be selected as a Truman Scholar from Minnesota. Sue and her husband Doug are delighted to be raising their three children Abby, Becca and Mark in the Perham-Dent Public School system. When she's not busy with one of her kids' activities, Sue can be found at The Wild Goose. Sue owns and operates this specialty gift shop and coffeehouse on the south end of Perham. Sue is also a past-president of the Perham Area Chamber of Commerce and of FOCUS, an area service club.

Huebsch states, "I am excited to be joining the 549 Family Foundation as a board member. Our family has always believed in and supported the foundation. I believe the best way to strengthen our future, is to invest in our children's education."

The First Lady of Concessions

Who is that behind the concession counter at every game and event this winter and spring? There's "hot stuff" back there and it ain't just the food! Connie Mort, a staunch supporter for 549 Family, has volunteered to manage and run the concession stand to benefit the 549 Family Foundation! Connie and her husband, Brian, have devoted hours and hours...and hours to further the cause of 549 Family, which is the students and schools of Perham-Dent.

About three months ago, the school made an offer for an outside group to take over the management of the concessions due to the overhead expense it took to do it internally. Connie saw an opportunity for 549 Family and couldn't let it pass us by. Great PR, great fundraiser...and a great amount of work! She not only organizes the menu, purchases the food and sets up school groups to help; she also gets there an hour before anyone, makes all the food, cleans the place AND keeps the books!

Obviously, 549 Family are indebted to Connie for the incredibly gracious gift of her time and energy! We all see you back there and thank you sincerely! You're doing a FANTASTIC job!!

March 28th - 5th Annual Gala - An Investment in Youth

We invest in our retirements, our homes & businesses, maybe some stocks and our kids' college educations. Unfortunately, today our investment for education has to begin a long time before college. Communities across Minnesota have or are in process of developing foundations to support their K-12 schools. 549 Family has been in place supporting our school for eight years. Each year, we gather at Mulligan's to celebrate our school, our youth and our community for their investment of time and education it provides.

Social, hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and entertainment begin at 5:30.

Dinner is at 6:30, Program at 7:00pm.

Tickets can be reserved by calling 347-0549 or they can be purchased at any of the Perham schools beginning March 10. 549 Family members' tickets are \$25.00, non-members' tickets are \$35.00.



Auction Items Needed

This is another great way you may like to support the school! Do you have a unique craft or special talent someone would be interested in buying or renting? Maybe you give lessons for something fun. Maybe you know someone that makes wonderful things with wood or clay or yarn. Maybe you live on a lake or have a cabin available to auction for a weekend. Maybe you're an expert in something and are willing to show how you do it. Maybe you provide a service. Whatever **IT** is, consider donating it to our silent auction where the proceeds go to help the Perham-Dent school district! And remember it's tax deductible!!

www.549family.com

218-347-0549

Board Members:

Dean Bahls, President
Tom Tomporowski, Secretary
Candace Wuebben, Treasurer
Jo Strege, Coordinator

Sue Huebsch, Delegate
Tom Spencer, Delegate
Bob Wilkowski, Delegate
Tamara Uselman, Superintendent

