Scottsbluff Schools Foundation

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Volume 4, Issue 1 | February 2023



PHILANTHROPY IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Beth Rohrer, SBPS Foundation Director



What is the role of philanthropy in public education? You might be surprised to learn that education is consistently one of the largest giving categories in the United States, surpassed only by charitable giving to religious organizations. These dollars are extremely important because they often fill the gap between budgets and innovative excellence. Although the Scottsbluff Public School District is the leader in western Nebraska when it comes to meeting the social, emotional, physical, and academic needs of students, there are still opportunities for your dollars to enhance the educational experience for students attending Scottsbluff Public Schools.

When you invest in the well-being of students, you give our communities and our children hope and freedom to dream. And it is from these dreams that our community will strengthen and grow. It has been a pleasure to meet and work with alumni, community members, and local businesses who understand the importance of supporting an organization that strives to ensure students have the experiences they need to reach their full potential. Learn more about how your dollars have impacted students by visiting our website at sbpsfoundation.com/programs.

If you've never thought about giving to public education, would you consider a gift to the SBPS Foundation today? The feeling of contributing to a child's education while honoring your past educators and school experiences can't be matched!

Scottsbluff High School through the years ...







1956 1963 2023

FROM THE BOARD

John Marshall



Born and raised in the Scottsbluff area. Lam not only a second-generation Scottsbluff High School graduate, but also a second-generation Scottsbluff Public Schools Foundation Board Member...thanks for serving, Mom (Julie Marshall)! Returning to Scottsbluff, let alone serving on the Foundation Board, was never on my career or volunteer radar. But that all changed in 2010 when family friends and highly respectable community individuals (John Massey, Bill Trumbull, and Jim Kozal) spoke to me about the amazing quality of life in western Nebraska. Each of them shared their perspective and the great opportunities Scottsbluff offered. Not only through a career, but also in giving back; and none could have been more correct. Fast forward 13 years, and here I am -- collaborating on the

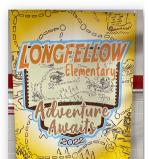
Foundation Board alongside individuals I looked up to when I was in school and admire to this day, watching Bearcat sporting events with my wife and kids, and interacting with former educators who taught me and my sister (and my aunts and uncles!) just a few short years ago! If the opportunity ever crosses your mind as to where you want to make a difference in a teacher or child's life, consider a gift to the Scottsbluff Schools Foundation. Organized as a non-profit 501(c)(3), your alma mater's foundation supports and improves educational programs provided by Scottsbluff Public Schools. Through classroom grants and advanced education scholarships, the Scottsbluff Schools Foundation is making an impactful transformation in the community you call, or once called, home. How does that chant go again? Ah, yes... Ninety-nine! Ninety-nine! Ninety, ninety, ninety-nine!



John and family

OUR SCHOOLS







Home of the Razorbacks

Principal Lukas Benzel - "Our school theme this year is 'Longfellow Elementary: Adventure Awaits' and that statement has proven to be true. We began this school year with a newly remodeled building that boasts a fresh color scheme, brand new furniture, cutting edge technology, and is even more accessible and functional than when it was originally constructed in 1939. In addition, a new playground was installed thanks to the Scottsbluff Public Schools Foundation in December of 2022 and in the Summer of 2023 the building updates will be complete with the renovation of the restroom facilities."



Home of the Eagles

Principal Frances Burkhalter - "During the rich history of serving the residents of the area, Roosevelt Elementary has developed a reputation of providing excellent education for all students. The teaching staff has traditionally taught at Roosevelt for many years. Although there are a few new faces, the average years of teaching experience within the teaching staff is 13.28 years. Roosevelt has a diverse population with a current enrollment of 341 students and average of 18.7 students in each classroom. The school's community is proud of their committed and talented staff. Thank you for your support and contribution to make our new playground happen. Your generosity has left a lifelong imprint on our school family."





Alumni Spotlight

Ivan Reddington Class of 1954



Ivan Reddington SHS Class of 1954

One of my favorite memories is Mr. Veal, who was a shop teacher. The first project that he gave us was to learn how to make orthogonal drawings. We had blocks of wood cut in various shapes and we had to make drawings of plan views, end views, and elevating views. I was able to draw all of the blocks in a much shorter time than most of the students. Because of this, Mr. Veal asked me what I was doing in shop class. I told him my brother had taken the class and liked it so my mother suggested it. Mr. Veal told me that I could remain for the rest of the semester but that next semester I should go to Mr. Edwards mechanical drawing class. I did as I was told, and Mr. Edwards showed me the drawings that the class had started first semester. I quickly finished all of the first years drawings. Impressed, he showed me a picture from a magazine of a three point perspective of a house and asked if I could draw it. For help he gave me a college text book to demonstrate how to set up the drawing and I was able to do it. Afterwards the teachers found that I could do all of the house drawings. I went on to make drawings for the teachers that were building homes. I ended up

staying in the mechanical drawing classes for the rest of my time in high school. I received straight A's. Another teacher, Mr. Payne, who taught Physics taught us how to use slide rules. It was a big help when I started Aeronautical Engineering classes and could do the engineering problems faster than most of the other students. Mr. Payne made Physics an interesting subject.

While in school I formed a western dance band. I remember playing music for the Sadie Hawkins dance at SHS. My music helped me make money for college, purchase a car, buy clothes and get going in life. I still play regularly in two Hawaiian Music Clubs.

After graduation I attended Parks College of Engineering, Aviation, and Technology at St. Louis University in Missouri. I graduated in December of 1957 and began working for McDonnell Aircraft Corp. A few months later I was called to active duty in the United States Air Force for pilot training. July 1959, I became a pilot in the USAF, where I flew until May 1966. Upon release, I began my career as a pilot for American Airlines, retiring in 1985 at age 60.



Our Board Members

The Scottsbluff Schools Foundation
Board was founded in 1988. It was
established for the purpose of raising
funds for the support and
improvement of educational programs
provided by Scottsbluff Public Schools.
The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit
organization. The board of directors of
the foundation is composed of
volunteers from the community who
believe in the importance of providing
a high-quality education to the
students of Scottsbluff Public Schools.

John L. Selzer	Dan Charron	Becky Jones
Hunter Kosman	Justin Shaddick	Allison Hertzler
Nate Merrigan	John Marshall	Jamie Batterman
Andrew Dick	Jack Baker	Jeanne McKerrigan
Ruth Kozal	Kyle Long	Tory Schwartz

Partnership Packages for Annual Fund

As alumni of Scottsbluff Public Schools, you are our largest group of supporters.

We invite you to join us as a partner in education with a financial commitment to help our students soar. Your commitment to the Scottsbluff Schools Foundation means that students will have educational opportunities that will prepare them for the future.

Summa Cum Laude	(\$5,000)	Dean's List (\$25	U)
Magna Cum Laude	(\$1,000)	Honor List (\$10	0)
Cum Laude Other	(\$500)	Academic Letter (\$2	:5)
Donor Information	on:		
Name:	Street:		
City:	State:	Zip:	
Email:			
SHS Graduation	Year:		

Send Completed Partnership form and check to:

The Scottsbluff Schools Foundation, 313 E. 27th Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361 brohrer@sbps.net 308-981-2917 Donate online at sbpsfoundation.com/support-us

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and your contributions are tax-deductible. Please contact Foundation Director, Beth Rohrer, for more information. Thank you for supporting the Scottsbluff Public Schools Foundation.