

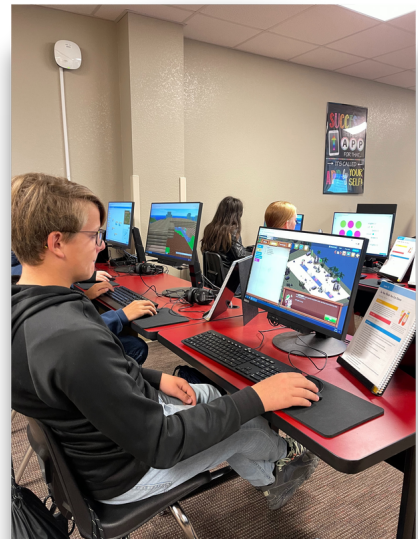
ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Volume 3, Issue 4 | October 2022



SCOTTSBLUFF SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

THANK YOU! Because of your support, SBPS students are exercising on some new cardio equipment, learning to code, improving their reading by using an interactive app, and have formed a mariachi band! These opportunities have all been made possible by you through our classroom grants program. Our mission is to continue to support and enhance educational opportunities for students of SBPS. You make this possible!



FROM THE BOARD

Allison Hertzler

While this will be our family's fourth school year here, Brad and I still consider ourselves new to the area. We are both Omaha born-and-raised kids. This side of the state has been a fun discovery, and we are falling more in love with the landscape, and the people every day.

Nebraska has an obvious attraction with warm, hard-working people, shared values, and excellent schools. We discovered Scottsbluff because of Brad's employment at Regional West, but we ultimately came because of the high school. We weren't comfortable moving somewhere simply because of an amazing job. If the schools weren't going to be a good fit for our three daughters, then the move would not be worth it. My husband attended Westside High School in Omaha, and I attended Lincoln Southeast High School. While we do feel that we received an excellent education, we knew the career academies could offer our girls something they couldn't get anywhere else. The diversity of subjects, the hands-on experiences, as well the depth of study at a high school level is so unique. I hope you all see that, and treasure it as much as we do.

The impression Scottsbluff schools left on us was a huge part of why we decided to move here. This initial point of view is what still drives me to serve, and I really do feel lucky to be on the SBPS Foundation Board. I am continually impressed with the administration and staff at SBPS. They are dedicated, patient, giving, and passionate. They are giving our daughters tools that will equip them to better serve their future communities.

Our core values as the Hertzler family are: faith, relationships, growth, and stewardship. To us, stewardship means being intentional about how we spend the resources that are entrusted to us to make a difference. I want you to know that I am intentional about the time I spend on the board. I want to support the staff so that they feel valued, to help provide unique opportunities for the students, and to grow our community.

As our oldest daughter is preparing to leave for college next fall, we are proud to say that she attended Scottsbluff Public Schools. She has received an in-depth and well-rounded education, felt supported by her teachers, counselors, and coaches. Her next school will be lucky to have a Bearcat!



CLASSROOM GRANTS



SCOTTSBLUFF SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

Our Mission

It is the purpose of the Scottsbluff Public Schools Foundation to support and enrich programs and educational opportunities for the students of Scottsbluff Public Schools. We rely on financial support from our community, parents, and alumni to expand our efforts and continue to enhance education at SBPS.

Classroom Grants Program

The Scottsbluff Public Schools Foundation awards Classroom Grants in two rounds on an annual basis. These grants are designed to fund innovative educational opportunities for students that are outside of the district's general budget. Last year \$10,000 was spent on literacy programming, STEM education, physical fitness, technology and more with gifts from donors like you. We would like to increase that amount to \$11,500 this year. That will allow one more classroom to be impacted.

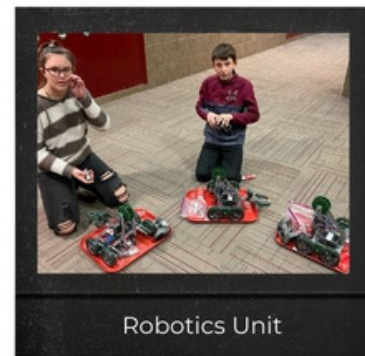
Classroom Grants make a BIG impact across the district.



BMS Mariachi Band



"Novel Effect"
Literacy program



Robotics Unit

- Bring wonder and excitement to the classroom
- Improve classroom quality
- Empower and support teachers
- Improved test scores in reading and science

Ways to give

- Check
- Cash
- Online

Will you consider supporting students by donating to the Classroom Grant Program today? This will allow students an educational experience that would not be possible without donors like you! For more information about this program and others visit our website: sbpsfoundation.com or email brohrer@sbps.net 308-981-2917

Donate online: <https://www.sbpsfoundation.com/support-us>

Mail: 313 E 27th Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Alumni Spotlight

1999 Scottsbluff High School Valedictorian, Dr. Natasha Jenkins, considers it a privilege to serve over 3,000 eye patients every year as co-owner of Scottsbluff Vision Clinic and Eastern Wyoming Eye Clinic. She professionally attests to the concept that *"the eyes are the windows to the soul"* in that our eyes not only allow us to see the world around us, but they also give clear insight into one's inner health. The human eye, after all, is literally the second most complex organ after the brain, composed of more than two million working parts. "It has been fascinating to analyze and treat eye conditions to help improve the lifetime vision of my patients the last 15 years," she attests.

As a sixth-generation Nebraskan, Dr. Jenkins accredits growing up on the family ranch and attending Scottsbluff Public Schools as having well-prepared her for success in her chosen profession of optometry. As current vice president and shareholder of the eyecare corporation, Dr. Jenkins is not only responsible for patient medical care, she also co-manages all aspects of both businesses in Scottsbluff and Torrington including finances, quality control, IT infrastructure and employee supervision. She also shares in decision-making regarding investments of advanced optical equipment, eyewear products and contact lenses.



Dr. Natasha Jenkins & Dex
SHS Class of 1999 & 2031

Dr. Jenkins believes being both a Doctor of Optometry and business co-owner of multiple optometric practices creates the perfect career fit for her as a single mother to her son Dex. "It is the nature of my work that allows me the freedom to schedule patients around Dex's schedule, ultimately maximizing our time together. My #1 priority is Dex and the opportunities we share," she explains. Dex is currently a fourth-grade student in Mrs. Burda's class at Longfellow Elementary where he is in the High Ability Learning Program. Dex is an avid reader whose favorite subject is mathematics.

Dr. Jenkins' path to becoming a Doctor of Optometry included eight years of higher education starting with her undergraduate studies as a Walter Scott Scholar at Hastings College where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in biopsychology graduating Summa Cum Laude with High Distinction in 2003. While at Hastings College, she was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society and the HC Lady Bronco volleyball and basketball teams. She also played violin in the Hastings Symphony Orchestra.

After being granted the Missouri - Nebraska Reciprocity Scholarship, Dr. Jenkins went on to attend the University of Missouri - St. Louis College of Optometry where she graduated as Class Marshal for ranking first in her class of 2007.



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	

Partnership Packages for Annual Fund

As alumni of Scottsbluff High School, 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)
☐ Magna Cum Laude (\$1,000)
☐ Cum Laude (\$500)
☐ Other

☐ Dean's List (\$250)
☐ Honor List (\$100)
☐ Academic Letter (\$25)

Donor Information:

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

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 Scottsbluff Schools Foundation.