

# ALBURNETT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION

*Enriching the quality of life for the greater community by bringing people together and dreams to life.*

## 2008 Annual Report

In 2008, the Alburnett Community School District Foundation, now in its seventh year of existence, continued to carry out its purpose of providing greater educational, social and recreational opportunities for the school, students, faculty and members of the communities within the Alburnett School District.

This past year was a busy and productive year for the Foundation Board and its community volunteers.

### A Successful Year in Review

#### **April - Gala**

The Foundation held its first annual Gala at the Cedar Rapids Marriott. The event featured a dinner, silent auction, live auction and games. The event, which was a sellout (135 attendees), proved to be a fun and entertaining night out for parents and community members as they raised approximately \$8,113 to support the Foundation's expanding Pillars Scholarship program and the Back the Track project. The Foundation Board is planning for a 250-person event on April 18, 2009. Please help us make this event a sellout again this year!

#### **July - Alumni Softball Games**

The Foundation held its first annual Alburnett Alumni Softball Games in which Pirate alumni competed against the Alburnett varsity softball team. Pirate softball pride and competitive spirit were plentiful that evening! Participants and attendees raised \$1,079 for the Back the Track project. The Foundation is planning to expand this event in 2009 to allow more alumni to participate in games.

#### **August - Pancake Breakfast & Bingo**

The Foundation held its second annual pancake breakfast at the Alburnett Children's Benefit Day. For children's games this year the Foundation decided to give a bingo a try. It was a successful debut, providing fun, prizes and shade for both young and old on a hot summer day while raising \$527 for the Foundation.

#### **October - Homecoming Tailgate**

The Foundation held its annual Tailgate Meal at the Homecoming football game. The tailgate event is always well attended and is a great fundraiser and awareness event for the Foundation. The Alburnett Sports Booster Club's donation of the evening's concession stand proceeds again this year made it an exceptional fundraiser for the Foundation, raising \$6,693.

#### **November - School Cents and Pizza Hut Fundraiser**

The Foundation held its second annual Lindale Mall Pizza Hut fundraiser weekend in conjunction with the National Honor Society, Student Council, FBLA and School Cents. The event was again held on a School

Cents Triple Points weekend which benefits the school even more in its competition against area schools. Pizza-eating Pirates raised \$179 for the Foundation.

## **Grants Received in 2008**

The Foundation applied for and received the following grants in 2008:

- **Witwer Trust Grant** (\$2833)  
Proceeds will be used towards the development of the second youth ball diamond. This is the fourth grant we have received from the Witwer Trust, which is administered by the Linn County Board of Supervisors, totaling \$11,833.
- **St. Louis Cardinal Community Fund** (\$2,500 )  
Proceeds will be used towards the development of the second youth ball diamond.
- **Linn County Endowment Fund** (\$2,500 )  
Proceeds will be used towards the development of the second youth ball diamond. In 2007, we received a \$5,000 grant which was used toward the purchase of the backstop for the first ball diamond.
- **Alliant Energy Foundation Grant** (\$1,000 )  
Proceeds will be used toward the purchase of bleachers for the second youth ball diamond.

## **Scholarships Awarded to Alburnett Students**

This year the Pillars Scholarship program was expanded from three to six \$500 scholarships. The following Alburnett seniors received scholarships:

- **Academics** - Rob Warner and P.J. Mathias
- **Athletics** - Danielle Miller and Adam Berg
- **Arts** - Kyle Francois and Kristina Lange

If you have an interest in creating an endowed scholarship for a graduating Alburnett senior, please contact a Foundation Board member. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization.

## **Progress Made at the Martin Complex Development**

- **Youth Ball Diamond**
  - Completed infield lime, base/outfield foul pole setting and cement work outside the backstop on the lower youth ball diamond. The new diamond was used extensively by many Alburnett community youth for baseball games, softball games and football practice.
  - Purchased two sets of 4-row bleachers and two circular cement picnic tables for the new ball diamond. The bleachers were donated by the Alburnett Lions Club.
- **Buildings and Grading**
  - Built a storage shed for ball diamond supplies and equipment.
  - Nearly completed rough grading for the track and football field. This work was again delayed in 2008 due to a very wet spring and early summer, as well as an early winter.

If you, your business or your organization has an interest in donating funds, labor, materials and/or services to construct the second youth baseball/softball field or the track and football field at the Martin Complex, please contact a Foundation Board member.

## 2008 Financial Summary

<b>Financial Statement</b>					
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>12/31/2008</b>	<b>12/31/2007</b>	<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>12/31/2008</b>	<b>12/31/2007</b>
<i>Cash Accounts</i>			Farmers Mutual	\$ (21,666.30)	\$ (25,333.04)
Cash Boxes	\$ 58.13	\$ 30.75	Foundation Land Contract	\$ -	\$ (22,687.25)
<b>Total Cash Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 58.13</b>	<b>\$ 30.75</b>	<b>Total Liability Accounts</b>	<b>\$ (21,666.30)</b>	<b>\$ (48,020.29)</b>
<i>Bank Accounts</i>					
Back the Track (1)	\$ 104,595.79	\$ 89,697.11			
Endowed Scholarship	\$ 1,025.43	\$ 1,019.66			
PayPal Online Donation Acct	\$ -	\$ 470.70			
Regular Checking	\$ 12,499.70	\$ 6,814.33			
Savings	\$ 13,170.09	\$ 6,184.40			
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 131,291.01</b>	<b>\$ 104,186.20</b>			
<i>Asset Accounts</i>					
Foundation Land	\$ 207,780.11	\$ 207,780.11			
<b>Total Asset Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 207,780.11</b>	<b>\$ 207,780.11</b>			
			<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ (21,666.30)</b>	<b>\$ (48,020.29)</b>
			<b>CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$ 317,462.95</b>	<b>\$ 263,976.77</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 339,129.25</b>	<b>\$ 311,997.06</b>	<b>TOTAL LIAB. &amp; CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$ 339,129.25</b>	<b>\$ 311,997.06</b>

We continued to improve our financial position in 2008 from fundraising event proceeds, grants received, follow through on financial pledges and new donations/pledges. To see the full 2008 Treasurer's Annual Report visit our website at [www.alburnettfoundation.com](http://www.alburnettfoundation.com). We are making great progress with the current "Back the Track" project; over \$240,000 has been given or pledged to date.

## Thing to Look Forward to in 2009

- **The Pirate Dash** – A 5-K run and 1-mile fun run/walk as part of the Alburnett Children's Benefit Day celebration.
- **Second Youth Ball Diamond** – Development of the upper level ball diamond will begin in the spring. The majority of the funding has been secured through contributions and grants. Additional contributions for bleachers, picnic tables and other accessories would be appreciated.
- **Progress at the Martin Complex**
  - Grading of the remainder of the complex
  - Tiling of the remainder of the complex both inside and around the track perimeter
  - Installation of three-phase electrical service
  - Installation of a well pump, pressure tank and hydrant
  - Raise the height of and improve drainage for portions of the walking trail

Construction of the track and football field could begin as soon as one year after completion of the grading and tiling, once the ground has adequately settled. The leadership gift of \$150,000 from the Morris Neighbor Family and Farmers State Bank will underwrite the cost of the track. What a fantastic gift and opportunity for the Alburnett School District community!

However, additional funding is still needed to for pay for the rough grading, tiling, electrical service, well pump, finish grading, seeding and fencing around the track. Our original project estimate was approximately \$1 million. That was the retail cost of the work at the time. The Foundation, however, has realized substantial savings over original project cost estimations for contracting work and materials thanks to the generosity of community-minded individuals, businesses, utilities and organizations. Once grading

and tiling are completed, the Foundation Board will be reassessing our funding needs and will undertake a "Close the Gap" capital campaign. Construction of the track could conceivably begin in 2010 if the needed funding is raised. We challenge the Alburnett community to help us achieve this goal! There are many ways to contribute.

## Current Officers & Board of Directors

Al Sorensen- President	(319) 378-3914	Susan Koch	(319) 438-1404
Bob Berry - Vice President	(319) 842-2401	Esther Kremer	(319) 842-2806
Kelly Baier - Secretary	(319) 393-5180	Carl Meiners	(319) 393-6385
Eric Heims - Treasurer	(319) 310-4111	Jeanie Neighbor	(319) 842-2626
Ginger DeMarce Burns	(319) 438-6718	Mike Olinger	(319) 849-1701
Wendy Callahan	(319) 842-0503	Sharon Robertson	(319) 842-2468
Sherry Cook	(319) 378-1460	Patty Shaffer	(319) 842-2691
Kayla DeMarce	(319) 390-0901	Gregg Smith	(319) 378-9199

## Special Thank You's

- **Morris Neighbor and Farmers State Bank** for the final \$50,000 installment of the \$150,000 gift for underwriting the cost of construction for the track.
- **The Alburnett Lions Club** for their donation and assembly of the two sets of bleachers for the youth diamond.
- **Marc & Karen Miller** for donation of a lawn tractor to drag the diamonds.
- **Karen Miller** for organizing the Annual Run, Pass & Kick competition with proceeds benefiting the Foundation.
- **The Alburnett Sports Booster Club** for their continuing support of our Tailgate Meal as well as their recent commitment to fund and build a large concession stand/restroom & storage building for the new track and football field.
- Youth parents and others who donated their labor and equipment at work days at the Martin Complex.
- The individuals, businesses and organizations that have sponsored, worked at or attended our awareness/fundraising events.
- The individuals, businesses and organizations that have made charitable contributions to the Foundation for the "Back the Track" project, the youth ball diamond project and our Pillars Scholarship program.

Please visit our website at [www.alburnettfoundation.com](http://www.alburnettfoundation.com) for a pledge/donation sheet, a list of employers with matching gift programs, electronic donation options, volunteer opportunities, news items, meeting minutes, annual reports and much more.

Lastly, I want to thank the Foundation board members who contributed their leadership, expertise, ideas, labor and money this past year. There are so many demands of a person's time these days but the Foundation Board members have chosen to serve on the board because they care greatly about the success of students, the school and the Alburnett community.



Al Sorensen, President  
Alburnett Community School District Foundation