

## ANNUAL REPORT

December 2017

### *From the Foundation Board Chairman & Spring Lake Park Schools Superintendent*

Dear friends, community members and alumni:

Thank you for your continued enthusiastic support of the Panther Foundation. Together with you, we celebrate a major milestone this year – surpassing \$1 million dollars of support to Spring Lake Park Schools! Thank you for helping us achieve this major success. Since 2004, we have supported more than 275 projects for our students, staff and SLP community. This celebration is a true representation of our mission and purpose - to empower and support world class learning in Spring Lake Park Schools and be a significant partner in providing enriching experiences leading to student success.

Now in our 14th year, we continue to improve: exceeding fundraising goals, increasing engagement from our community and expanding our impact throughout SLP Schools.

- As you will see from the highlights in this report, our three major events were again successful – thanks to the many sponsors, donors and volunteers who give so generously. Thank you to the event chairs and their teams for their tireless efforts to ensure success.
- We watched as more innovative and flexible spaces were rolled out throughout the school district – a project we were proud to contribute more than \$120,000 towards.
- In partnership with SLP we continued to support our families in need in a variety of meaningful and impactful programs such as the Panther Pantry, our Angel Fund and the Weekend Food Pack program.
- We invested more than \$125,000 in STEM programming, annual programs and in a number of smaller, program-level grants during the year.
- We celebrated and honored our most generous donors at the Annual Legacy Dinner in April.
- Finally, we welcomed the new Panther Mascot into the Spring Lake Park Schools community.

During our 2017 fiscal year, our net assets rose to \$725,344, we awarded \$52,111 in grants, and we increased the endowment by \$30,000.

We invite you to read this year's report, which includes examples of the impact we had during the year and highlights from our great events. Your support is important to our students and to Spring Lake Park Schools. Thank you for helping us ensure Spring Lake Park Schools is second to none.

Sincerely,



Bill Koschak  
Chairman, Panther Foundation



Jeff Ronneberg, Ed.D  
Superintendent, Spring Lake Park Schools

# Panther Foundation 2016-2017 Financial Picture

## Income Statement

### REVENUE

Gala	189,110
Golf Fundraiser	32,080
Annual Sponsorships and Donations	24,515
Family Carnival & 5K	7,841
Investment Income	20,791
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b><u>\$274,337</u></b>

### EXPENSES

Grants & Special Projects	52,111
Endowment Contribution	30,000
Gala	41,303
Golf Fundraiser	15,660
Family Carnival & 5K	8,346
General Operating, Administrative	30,630
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>178,050</u></b>

<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$96,287</u></b>
-------------------	------------------------

## Balance Sheet

### ASSETS

Operating Cash	154,863
Money Market Savings	21,278
Angel Fund	31,133
Investment Savings	419,139
Endowment	182,263
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$808,676</u></b>

### LIABILITIES

Grants Payable	68,173
Other Current Liabilities	10,159
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>78,332</u></b>

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$725,344</u></b>
-------------------	-------------------------

## FEATURE STORY: Panther Mascot

Spring Lake Park students were greeted at the start of the school year by our new Panther mascot. The Panther was unveiled at the annual all-staff kick-off celebration and was an instant hit with our staff and social media community. Our students enjoyed visits on the first day, appearances at several school special events and at football games this fall. The procurement of the mascot was a direct result of a Panther Foundation grant in 2013. The Panther has been several years in the making, working with professional mascot companies to ensure that the SLP brand is clearly identified in our Panther. Soon we will be asking our students, staff and community to help name the Panther.



# 2016-2017 Grants & Projects

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Our ongoing community programs include the Angel Fund, Panther Pantry and Weekend Food Packs. All were started by the Panther Foundation several years ago and continue to make a difference in many of our student's lives.

**The Angel Fund** supports students and families who are experiencing hard times through tragedy, crisis or financial hardship. Much of the support consists of gift cards that are used for groceries, fuel, bus cards, personal hygiene items and clothing. We have also helped families with emergency housing, car repairs, furniture, utility bills and school fees.

**The Panther Pantry** serves as a place where high school students or families can collect groceries and personal care items such as deodorant, toothbrushes and toiletries when in need. Annual Panther Pantry drives are conducted in the school district and community to keep the shelves stocked and ready for customers.

**Weekend food packs** are a part of the Panther Pantry, with the purpose of helping to nourish students when they are away from school - over weekends, days off school or long breaks. During the 2016-2017 school year almost 3,000 weekend food packs were distributed. The district averaged 85 packs a week for our students in need.



Students are provided their discreet pack on Fridays prior to leaving school. A pack typically contains: two breakfasts, two meals, a fruit option and a few snacks. This program has been hugely successful in helping our students. The packs help children who would otherwise go hungry over the weekend, keep nourished, so when they arrive at school on Monday morning they are focused and ready to learn.

## ANNUAL PROGRAMS

The Panther Foundation has several annual programs that spans across schools and ages within the district.

### Ready, Set, Read - Early Learning Books, \$4,000

- Through a partnership with Early Childhood Family Education and home visiting programs, the Panther Foundation provides families the opportunity to receive books to build their children's libraries in homes of our most at-risk students
- Over 2,300 books were distributed to families and students in our district this past year

### Senior All Night Party, \$3,000

- The Panther Foundation is proud to support the Senior All Night Party that takes place annually in May
- This annual grant helps to reduce any financial barriers that may limit student access and participation, helps with t-shirt printing costs and ensures a successful and safe celebration

### Back to School Backpacks, \$5,000

- This is the 9th year of the Backpacks-for-All program
- Over 750 backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to students in need prior to school starting



### Tower Days Parade Book Giveaway, \$3,000

- In June, over 3,000 books were distributed to children along the Spring Lake Park Tower Days Parade Route
- The Panther Foundation is proud to support this program year after year, and bring awareness to the importance of reading and the power of literacy - especially to our most vulnerable children





## GRANTS

The Panther Foundation was proud to provide funding to allow for enriched learning opportunities and experiences in a variety of areas this past year. These outstanding opportunities touched thousands of students across schools in our district. Some highlights include:



### Heart Rate Monitors for Westwood Middle School, \$10,000

This grant purchased 120 heart rate monitors for Westwood Middle School Physical Education classes. The goal for this project was to encourage students to focus on personal health and fitness during class by providing students with real-time feedback on their activity, intensity and targets.

### STAT Pack Update, \$3,500

With this grant, the High School program, Opportunities in Emergency Care Program (OEC), was able to purchase twelve new emergency medical bags called “STAT Packs.” STAT Packs contain both oxygen equipment and medical supplies. They are used at over 50 district, community and sporting events each year.

### New Staff Welcome Program, \$2,000

New members of the Spring Lake Park staff were welcomed into the district and their new roles in August. Each new staff member received a welcome pack, along with Panther spirit gear to help embrace them as part of the Spring Lake Park district family.

### Opportunities in Emergency Care (OEC) Trip, \$2,000

The Panther Foundation was able to offset costs and provide six students from the OEC program an opportunity to attend the 2017 “Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) International Leadership Conference” in Orlando, Florida, June 21-25, 2017.



### Mosaic Community Bench Project, \$1,000

All members of the Woodcrest community including staff, students and parents were invited to help create a mosaic bench that will ultimately sit in the Woodcrest main entry.

This grant provided a coordinator for the bench project outside of school hours, as well as workshops and supplies.

### Digital Microscopes \$3,070

The Middle School Science teachers requested funding for digital microscopes, an exciting technology to engage kids in science.

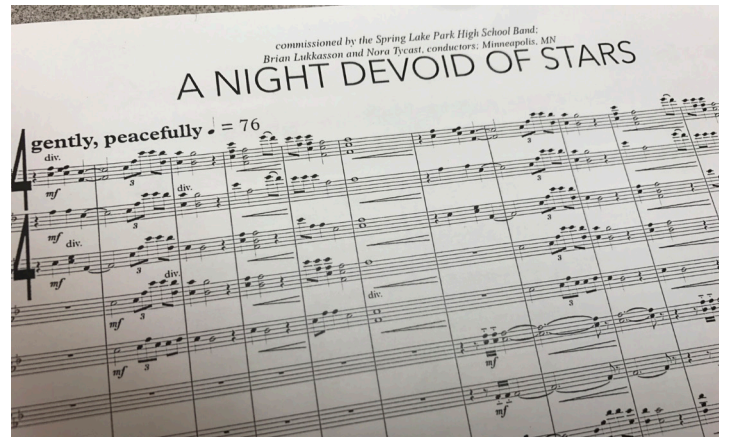
These microscopes encourage students to work more collaboratively and allow the images to be captured on the iPad for analysis and for future use.

The microscopes are utilized in 8th grade Earth Science to analyze rocks, minerals and crystal structure, and in 7th grade to examine plant and animal cells.

### Destination Imagination Global Finals Trip, \$2,000

Destination Imagination is a nationwide program, in which many schools throughout the United States compete. Students on the Spring Lake Park Lighthouse School team earned the opportunity to compete at the national level and attend the Destination Imagination Global Finals in Tennessee.

The Panther Foundation was able to offset some of the team’s travel expenses so that all could participate.



## New Band Commission: Inclusion, Engagement and Representation of All, \$2,500

This grant commissioned composer Jay Coles to write a piece of music for the Spring Lake Park High School Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band. The composition was featured in the spring concert honoring a year-long commitment, by the musicians, to study the role of race, culture and identity in the music industry. The commissioned work, *A Night Devoid of Stars*, reflects the composer's own thoughts on identity, history and race in a moving work inspired by a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This work allows students of color to see themselves in their work as musicians and possible future composers.



## STEM

The 2017 Fund-a-Dream raised funding to support and expand STEM, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math programming in SLP Schools. With the funds raised at the Gala along with a match from the Panther Foundation Board, a total of \$60,000 is kicking-off this work this fall. Teams of teachers and staff are designing STEM integrated units, projects and lessons that create hands-on, interdisciplinary learning opportunities for our students. The Fund-A-Dream funds are beginning to be utilized as resource requests are made and a variety of supplies, equipment and resources are starting to be introduced in our classrooms. Most notable requests so far are Lego Robotics kits, Solar Kits, Ozobots and 3D Printers. The rollout is purposeful and driven as the planning and design work of today will scale to the “dirty” and “clean” labs at the Middle and High Schools starting fall of 2018. We are proud to support a STEM approach to learning that creates powerful learners.



## 2017 Events



Supporter Danitza Campodonico of Arden Dental Associates, excitingly bidding during the live auction.



The 2017 Gala Committee (L-R): Jonelle Meyer, Rachel Folden, Nicole Hirsch, Ali Lucia, Mandy Birdwell, Wendy Koschak, Marla Sciara, Julie Comer, Denise Fowler (SLP Class of '91) and Kieu Stueve.



Dan Budzynski seen here bidding on silent auction items using his mobile device.

### 13th Annual "An Evening Under the Stars" Gala

On February 25th, 2017 over 350 community members, businesses and district staff came together to raise \$185,000 for Spring Lake Park Schools at the 13th Annual Panther Foundation Gala "An Evening Under the Stars". The Gala was held at Leopold's Mississippi Gardens in Minneapolis and emceed by WCCO-TV Reporter, Ali Lucia. Attendees bid on more than 400 silent auction items, hosted parties, raffles and games of chance. They also participated in an energetic live auction where popular items included: tickets to an Ellen broadcast, skating with NHL player Ryan Carter (& surprise guest SLP Alumni David Backes), a Timberwolves courtside experience and a high school STEM project: a hand-made kayak from the students at Spring Lake Park High School.

The theme for the night "An Evening Under the Stars," tied into this year's Fund A Dream which was introduced for the first time to those in attendance that night: STEM. That evening, the foundation committed

its support to accelerating STEM programming throughout Spring Lake Park Schools in the coming year. There was broad support for this Fund A Dream resulting in a spirited contest among our largest supporters and raising over \$27,000 that evening. The Panther Foundation Board of Directors pledged a match dollar for dollar toward the project, rounding the total raised to \$60,000. With this additional funding in our schools, staff are charged with purchasing equipment, supplies, resources and tools that will enhance and accelerate STEM learning in SLP Schools. Funds have already been allocated to 3-D printers and design work is underway to finalize additional items to be purchased over the winter and into the spring.

**Save the Date for the 14th Annual Gala "Fire and Ice" which will be held on February 24, 2018. Tickets will go on sale the first week of January.**







*L: Runners take off from the start line of the 5K at Spring Lake Park High School.  
R: Woodcrest student Baylee Jacobson enjoys a ride down an inflatable slide.*

## 7th Annual Carnival & 5K/2K

The 7th annual Family Carnival & 5K/2K was held on Saturday, September 30th, 2017 at the SLP High School Panther Stadium. Over 600 men, women and children attended the event to play on inflatable bouncers, participate in carnival games and walk or run the 5K or 2K loop around the Spring Lake Park High School community.

The new Panther mascot made his first appearance at the event posing for pictures and participating in carnival games. Kids also had an opportunity to chase the Panther around the ¼ mile track during the Panther run.

Contributions from the presenting sponsor, Allina Health, made it inclusive for all families to participate, regardless of income. We are grateful for the many event sponsors and the Panther Foundation Annual Sponsors.

The purpose of this event is to bring families together to engage with the school district and each other in a positive and exciting way. This event is a partnership with the Panther Foundation and Spring Lake Park Schools Community Education Department.



*L: Wendy Koschak and Pam Wellen celebrate a great shot with a high five.  
R: (From L-R) Paul Meyer, Bill Ortell, Mike Murray and Max White (SLP Class of '88)*

## 5th Annual Golf Fundraiser

The 5th Annual Panther Foundation golf fundraiser was a great success again this year taking place at The Refuge Golf Club in Oak Grove on June 26, 2017. Over 130 golfers tee'd off to raise more than \$16,000 to benefit Spring Lake Park Schools' Athletics and Activities programs. Proceeds from this year were used:

- To purchase video editing software to film and break down games and practices throughout high school sports
- Install new rubberized flooring in the boys and girls hockey locker rooms at Fogerty Arena
- Bringing in motivational speakers throughout the year for Panther Mentors and Mentees at the high school

**Save the date for next year's 6th Annual Panther Foundation Golf Fundraiser on Monday, June 25, 2018 and the 8th Annual Carnival & 5K/2K in fall 2018.**

## 5th Annual Legacy Dinner

In April, our largest supporters and sponsors were wined and dined as a thank you for their continued support of the Panther Foundation over the past year. Supporters learned more in depth details about the Panther Foundation and how their support was utilized over the past year while dining on a gourmet dinner. Superintendent Jeff Ronnenberg also presented updates on the school district, shared news about the new school location, and other exciting plans for the future.

Become a \$1,000 event sponsor or donate \$1,000 or more to the Fund-A-Dream to secure your ticket to our next Legacy Dinner on April 19, 2018.

## Fiscal 2017 Sponsors and Donors



KRAUS-ANDERSON®



Tom Holland Agency  
763-755-8680  
HOLLANDAGENCY.NET



### ANNUAL SPONSORS

*(logos pictured left)*

Marsh & McLennan  
Meyer Contracting  
Chris & Niomi Hasling  
Hoffman Weber Construction  
Imagine Smiles  
Kraus Anderson  
Kris Lindahl - ReMax Results  
The Nate Raich Group  
Tom Holland - State Farm  
Walters Recycling & Refuse

### LEGACY DONORS

*The following donors gave \$1,000 or more in gifts in the 2017 fiscal year.*

Marilynn Forsberg  
Jim & Barb Hasling  
Joel & Jolene LeVahn  
Toni Mortenson  
Kevin & Tonya Rowe

### \$1,000 EVENT SPONSORS

*The following sponsors gave \$1,000 or more to our events in the 2017 fiscal year.*

Allina Health  
Anchor Bank  
Arden Dental  
Bell Mortgage  
Friendly Chevrolet  
Kevin & Tonya Rowe  
North Memorial  
Pitzl & Pitzl  
PrimeLending  
Tom & Kieu Stueve  
The Lach Family  
Today's Window Fashions  
UBS – Anderson Edlund Wealth Management

### \$1,000 FUND-A-DREAM DONORS

*The following donors gave \$1,000 or more towards the Fund-A-Dream at the 2017 Panther Foundation Gala.*

Marilynn Forsberg  
Bill & Wendy Koschak  
Marsh & McLennan  
Ehren & Jennifer McGeehan  
Paul & Jonelle Meyer  
Rick & Shaun Olson  
Kevin & Tonya Rowe  
John & Sue Stroebel  
Tom & Kieu Stueve  
UBS – Anderson Edlund Wealth Management  
Rob White & Nicole Van Lith  
George & Sue Walter

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Koschak, *Chairperson*  
Jonelle Meyer, *Vice-Chairperson*  
Eric Edlund, *Treasurer*  
Tom Gallagher, *Secretary*  
Dr. Jeff Ronneberg, *Superintendent*  
Colleen Pederson, *Executive Director*  
Denise Fowler  
Caitlin Jacobsen  
Erica Julkowski  
Tonya Rowe  
Marla Sciara  
Pam Smith-Owens  
Kieu Stueve  
Andrew Tortora