



# 2020-21 Annual Report

## From the President

Dear Friends of GEF,

Our mission is to support the efforts of the Grandview School District for the betterment of our students, staff, and community. As I reflect on the year behind us, I am very grateful for all that the District and the Foundation have been able to accomplish, especially as we enter the second year of COVID-19 and its persistent challenges.

I believe that “pivot” was one of the buzz words that came out of the pandemic, and I would say that we have done just that successfully: pivot. We utilized the technology available to us so that we could continue with both board and committee meetings. Who knew that we could *pivot* and adapt to Zoom and other similar platforms so quickly?

Last fall, the vaccine was not yet available, so we were reluctant to host our annual Trivia Night event in person, so we *pivoted* to a virtual event, which proved to be so much fun! With so much positive feedback, we decided to make the event virtual again this year and look forward to another successful event.

With the effects of the pandemic still felt globally, I am sure that we will be challenged with *pivoting* in other ways. As we do so, I am grateful for your continued support.

Best Regards,

Sandy Kessinger  
President, Grandview Education Foundation

## About GEF

The Grandview Education Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit formed in 1997 with a mission to partner with the Grandview School District and the community to enhance educational opportunities for all students and staff in the district. The education foundation:

- Stimulates excellence in the Grandview C-4 School District with teacher and staff grants, student scholarships and special programs.
- Enhances the learning environment for students.
- Increases the effectiveness of instruction.
- Strengthens the ties between schools and the community.

Student scholarships, programs and staff grants are funded through donor gifts and grants, district staff payroll deduction, the Heroes for Education 5K and Trivia Night events.

## 2020-21 Board of Directors

President, Sandy Kessinger  
*Community Member*

Vice President, Dawn Foy  
*Retired GC-4 Staff*

Treasurer, Bob Stewart  
*Retired GC-4 Teacher and  
former BOE Member*

Secretary, Cindy Bastian  
*Retired GC-4 Teacher and  
former BOE Member*

Maggie Arthur  
*GC-4 Staff*

Jane Bryan  
*Retired GC-4 Teacher and  
former BOE Member*

Yolonda Bush  
*Community Member*

Sheba Clark  
*GC-4 Communications Coord.*

Kathy Cummings  
*Alum, Retired GC-4 Teacher*

Kim Curtis  
*Grandview Chamber President*

Jim Dougan  
*Alum, Community Member*

Cathy Ferguson  
*Retired GC-4 Staff*

Karla Harris  
*GC-4 Staff*

Danielle Jenkerson  
*Pier Magic*

Joana King  
*GC-4 Asst. Superintendent*

John Maloney  
*Alum, Community Member*

Kathy Meyers  
*Alum, GC-4 Staff*

Elonia Norwood  
*GC-4 Staff*

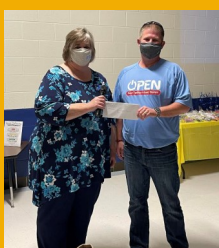
Pam Pinkerton  
*Alum, Retired GC-4 Teacher*

Kenny Rodriquez  
*GC-4 Superintendent*

Mary Sylvestri  
*Community Member*

Canon Teague  
*Newmark Zimmer*

Laura Verhulst  
*GC-4 HG Process Coordinator*



## 2020-21 GEF Highlights

### Cover to Cover Summer Reading Program

This program is designed to help prevent a summer decline in Grandview students' reading skills and promote a lifelong love of reading. In May 2021 more than 1,875 students at Grandview's five elementary schools and early childhood center received their choice of 5, 7 or 10 new books. Over 15,150 books were given to students to take home and keep forever!

### Trivia Night

The 11th Annual GEF Trivia Night was held virtually for the first time ever. The event raised \$4,745.93 for student scholarships and teacher grants in the Grandview C-4 School District and was the first Trivia Night to have multi-state participation. The farthest challengers logged in from Florida.

### Scholarships

The foundation awarded \$19,750 in scholarships to Grandview High School's class of 2021.

## GEF Awards \$4,665 in Staff Grants

The Grandview Education Foundation awarded over \$4,665 in Innovative Teaching Grants to three lucky teachers from the Grandview School District. The purpose of these grants is to help teachers implement innovative teaching ideas that help to supplement regular classroom instruction. The recipients were selected from a pool of applications from across the district and following are the programs they proposed to develop.

### Soccer+ Golf + More

Mr. Kristopher Charles from Meadowmere Elementary was awarded a grant in the amount of \$665.25 for his project titled "Soccer+ Golf + More" which will be used to purchase a 9 hole mini golf course, nets, and balls to enhance students achievement in kicking a stationary ball as well as kicking a moving ball. Students will be actively participating, working safely and independently, and identifying exercises to improve fitness as well as integrating math skills.

### Sustainable Living at GHS

Ms. Kyla Serrano and Ms. Pamela Burham, science teachers from GHS were awarded \$3000 for their proposal titled "Sustainable Living at GHS". Students will be designing, creating, and sustaining a greenhouse. They will learn how to plant, grow and harvest crops in an effort to maintain a healthy lifestyle and maintain a positive relationship with the environment.

### Balloonification

Mr. Don Sutcliffe from GHS was awarded a \$1000 grant for his proposal called "Balloonification." Students will learn marketable skills and obtain a market value asset that will make them employable or able to start their own small business. They will not only learn artistic skills but develop business skills in working with clients. They will be crafting balloon decorations that many of us will also benefit from.