



Foundation Focus

Summer 2006

Special Edition

Board of Directors

Kyle Cox,

President

Larry Bigham,

Treasurer

Michael Green,

Administration Director

Donny Stewart,

Community Relations Dir.

Bruce Cresson,

Programs Director

Lottie Donahue,

Executive Director

2006 Teacher of the Year

Dorie Linnstaedter

Campus Teacher of the Year

Gae Connally,

Primary

Dorie Linnstaedter,
Elementary

Damon Vela,
Middle School

Robin Holt,
High School

Congratulations!

Lorena Schools Receive Over \$42,000.00 from Foudation

On May 12th of this year, the foundation Board of Directors and various district staff, surprised grant winners with a visit complete with music, balloons and lots of money. By the end of the day, a total of 42,313.30 was awarded through 12 grants, effecting 42 teachers, all four

campuses and benefiting every single student in Lorena. These grants range from reading books to science labs to high tech video machines and TVs. Thanks to the tremendous support of the community, the Foundation was able to accom-

plish what it was set up to do: provide supplemental funds to the district. "This is so exciting" Said grant winner Christina Pape. "My face hurt from smiling so much." To read more about the grant winners and their grants please see the article on page 2.



Teachers and students alike took part in the foundation's grant winner celebration on may 12th.

Pictured left to right are elementary teachers: Carol Kelley, Dorie Linnstaedter, and Sharon Sykora.

Mother Teresa once said: "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." How true this is for the foundation and all who have served or helped out, even in some small way. We could not have given so much without so many giving what they

could, both financially and physically. It started with a committed school board that saw a need for a strategic plan and grew into a group of volunteers committed to bring this foundation to life. It then spread to the teachers and staff whose generosity and support have been unsurpassed. Last, and certainly

not least, the contributions from the community of Lorena have given this foundation the strength it needs to build an endowment benefiting the students and teachers of Lorena. We thank each and every one of you and look forward to you joining us in our effort to continue a tradition of excellence in our Lorena schools.

2006 Lorena Education Foundation Grant Winners

Dance Dance Revolution

\$3,171.30

Pre K—1st Grade

Amy Reed and Jan Bradford

K's Commitment to Advanced

Technology—New TV's

\$6,000.00

Kindergarten

Joan Sykora, Karen Channon,

Karryll Hansen, Belinda

Maldonado, Liz McKnight and

Kristin Vick

Elementary Science Lab

\$3,000.00

2nd—4th Grades

Sharon Sykora

Brain Pop

\$150.00

2nd Grade

Janet Broach

Leveled Readers for Struggling Readers

\$2,774.05

2nd Grade

Misti Dobbins, Deana Miller,

Janet Broach, Natalie

Schlemmer, Jean McCarver,

and Cara Englebrecht

Geocaching

\$450.00

4th Grade G.T. Students

Carol Kelley

SDE 4th Grade Conference

\$2,400.00

4th Grade Teachers

Elaine Bigham, Claudia

Antis, Shelly Bell, Molly

Hering, Sharon Sykora and

Mariolice Wedemeyer

Science Portable Laptop Lab

\$3,974.00

5th, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade

Christina Pape, D'Ann Cox,

Aaron Sams, Craig

Randolph and Linda Tergerson

JASON Project

\$2,993.95

8th Grade Science

Christina Pape

Grand Central Station

\$1,200.00

All core subjects 5th–8th

Sherring Hennig, Tonya

Ford, Tammy Schulte and

Heather Baker

Digital Projection Display

\$1,200.00

8th Grade History

Larry Havard

Projector Project

\$10,000.00

High School History and

Government Classes

Greg Blanchard, Russell

Urbanke, Rusty Erwin,

Carl Ritter, Kenneth Robin-

son and Donnie Snodgrass



Foundation Board Member and Lorena Administration present grant award to the middle school science teachers. Their money will be used to purchase a portable laptop science lab for the students.

(l-r) Bruce Cresson, Cheri Borchardt, Michael Green, Linda Tergerson, James Baize, Lottie Donahue, D'Ann Cox, Aaron Sams, Christina Pape, Craig Randolph, Larry Bigham, Rusty Grimm, Kyle Cox and Donny Stewart.

High school history and government teachers will use their grant money to purchase video projection equipment.

(l-r) Carl Ritter, Kenneth Robinson, Donnie Snodgrass, Russell Urbanke, Rusty Erwin, Greg Blanchard and Randy Blanchard, Principal



A Word from the President

In August of 2004, a group of volunteers met for the first time in the cafeteria of the Lorena Primary School. Many of us did not know each other well, if at all. We hardly had any notion as to what we were in for. However, all of us had a couple of things in common: 1) We all love Lorena and the Lorena schools; and 2) We all have a strong desire to see that the tradition of excellence is perpetuated. As a result, this very dedicated and committed group of volunteers agreed to form The Lorena Education Foundation. This group of wonderful people have worked sacrificially and tirelessly for almost two years to see an important vision come together. There have been many late nights, countless meetings and more roadblocks than we ever anticipated.

On April 12, 2006, these steadfast volunteers were able to see the beginnings of the fruition of their labor. On that date, The Lorena Education Foundation awarded over \$42,000 in grants to the teachers, administrators, staff and students in the Lorena ISD! These grants will positively affect 42 teachers, teaching at every campus and grade level, while enriching the lives and educational experience of every student in the district. The grants will affect the science, reading, history, math, physical education, government and social studies departments. As well, we are excited that new technologies will be introduced and deployed as a result of the grants. Every student in the district will pass through these disciplines at some point in their educational career. Needless to say, it was a very exiting and gratifying day.

We anticipate that this is just the beginning. Clearly, from the reaction of the teachers, administrators, staff and students, the opportunity exists to positively influence many lives. We look forward to making this an annual event in perpetuity.

This is where you, yes you the reader of this newsletter, come in. If we are to continue to make this type of impact, we need your help and the help of those you know. Clearly, we cannot continue to distribute large sums of money without raising large sums of money. We need you to participate in this endeavor with us at any level. We also need you to speak to your friends, employers, employees and businesses you patronize about the possibility of a contribution. We must have your ongoing support in these ways.

Also, we are in need of volunteers willing to help out with special events and fundraisers. We anticipate holding at least 2 events a year in an effort to fund the ongoing needs in our schools which cannot be met via the annual district budget. We need your input, ideas, time, labor and support if these events are to help us accomplish our objectives. Please consider contacting us about this as our planning for a fall event is now underway.

Finally, we want to thank our fantastic associates and students in Lorena ISD. You inspire us and motivate us to do all we can to benefit you and the district. I am convinced that there is no better place to educate our children and raise our families. This is the case because of your efforts.

We look forward to being an integral part of this community for years to come. We anticipate your support and involvement will allow this dream to become a reality.

Warmest regards,

Kyle Cox

Kyle Cox

President of the Board

Lorena Education Foundation, Inc.



**Learn
Know
Grow**

**“This gift will
benefit students
from now until the
end of time.”**

Lorena Education Foundation is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors who are dedicated to education and share a vision for excellence in our schools.

Teachers Give Thanks!

“...With the distribution of grants such as this Lorena ISD is truly demonstrating its quest for excellence. It is a pleasure and an honor to work for such a district.”

Ms. Carol Kelley



The Lorena Education Foundation

P. O. Box 39

Lorena, Texas 76655

(254) 857-9327
