

OXFORD EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

P.O. BOX 142, OXFORD, PA 19363

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

President's Message

As OEF President for the past year, I have again had the pleasure of working with many of the talented and dedicated educators, staff and volunteers in our school district. Each year, the OEF makes an effort to recognize a few of these dedicated individuals who make a difference in the education of our students. You will see this recognition in the next few pages of this Annual Report.

This past year we were recognized as an Educational Improvement Organization by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. By having our Foundation added to this list means PA businesses can make contributions to us and be considered for Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC) from the Commonwealth of PA.

We received our first contribution from Fulton Bank Brandywine Division in the amount of \$2,750. These funds were used to help fund "Project Reel" which is a collaboration between the OAHS Chemistry Department and The Ohio State University. OAHS was chosen to pilot a research module investigating pigmentation and colored complexes. This project was lead by Brian Urig, OAHS Chemistry teacher, who is pictured below with (from L to R) Dr. Raymond Fischer, Superintendent, Brian Urig, Terry Wimer and Carol Beam, Fulton Bank and OEF President Jim McLeod.



THE MENTORING and TUTORING PROGRAM

A major effort of the Oxford Educational Foundation is the Mentoring and Tutoring Program, which operates in all of the District schools. Some mentors work with individual students to help them make good choices and improve their performance in school. Some combine mentoring and tutoring by helping with course work with the direction of a teacher. Others focus on tutoring a specific subject. During the 2009-2010 school year, 40 volunteers worked with 288 students. The estimated value of the mentoring and tutoring provided to the students for the school year is \$9600.

Jennifer Whelan, the Volunteer Coordinator, collaborates with volunteers, school counselors, teachers, and principals to identify the needs of students and match them with the most appropriate mentor or tutor. Many of the mentors and tutors work with the same student for several years. These relationships benefit the students in countless ways and demonstrate the commitment of our volunteers.

Each year we conduct a survey to measure the effectiveness of the mentoring and tutoring program and to learn what we can to improve our work. The forms are distributed to parents, faculty, and mentors and tutors in the spring and analyzed in the summer. The evaluation of the 2009-2010 school year found that 96% of the parents who responded to the survey and 84% of the faculty who responded saw a positive influence on the students in the program. It showed that mentoring and tutoring increases the self confidence of the student, which can result in improved academic performance.

Jennifer welcomes the opportunity to speak with community groups, retirement communities, and other organizations about our program. Please consider sharing your time and talent with the students by becoming a mentor or tutor. You can contact Jennifer Whelan at 610-932-7200, or email her at oxfordedfound@yahoo.com, or go to www.oxfordeducationalfoundation.org for an application or additional information.

The Mentors' Picnic



The mentor picnic took place on May 21st at the Nottingham School. Students from grades 1-12 were invited to attend with their mentors to celebrate the school year.

In addition, district administrators, principals, counselors and school board members are invited to join in the fun. The picnic is a wonderful way to celebrate the volunteer and student relationship and close the year with fun memories.



The participants enjoyed an afternoon of pizza, fun and games.

Pictured above are a few students at the picnic who spent time together with their mentors and teachers celebrating the end of another school year.

O E F AWARDS PROFESSIONAL GRANTS for the 2010-2011 school year

When the OEF was formed in 1994, one of their goals was to provide grants to district staff to enable them to provide students educational tools which are beyond those included in the regular classroom curriculum.

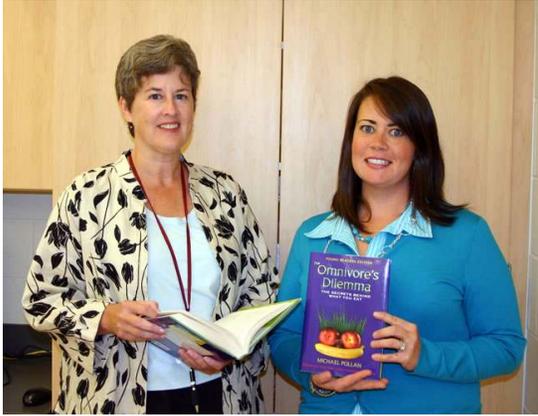
The awarding of Professional Grants began 10 years ago and since that time has awarded \$72,280 to district staff to enhance the learning environment for students in the Oxford Area School District. The OEF was pleased to approve five Professional Grants for the 2010-2011 school year.

\$1,500 was awarded to William Kromer and Sue Bernreuther to expand the FIRST Robotics program in the High School. The OEF has provided funding for past expansion of the Lego League teams and believes the problem solving and team based competitions are a terrific opportunity for Oxford students.

Courtney Greer, Mary Humphreys and Jill Severino (not shown) were awarded \$1,500 to help provide incentives and motivational materials for PSSA testing. Their research showed that a critical factor for improving scores in the



state wide testing was motivation. They formed a Committee that will work on multiple motivation techniques for several months leading up to the high school PSSA tests.



Pictured here are Suzanne Lauer and Angela Wilbanks, from the Penn's Grove Language Arts Department, who were concerned that nonfiction comprehension skills needed improvement. The department requested a grant in the amount of \$417.20. The funding was used to purchase The Omnivore's Dilemma: The secrets behind what you eat, which will be used as a resource for science, language arts, and social studies topics.

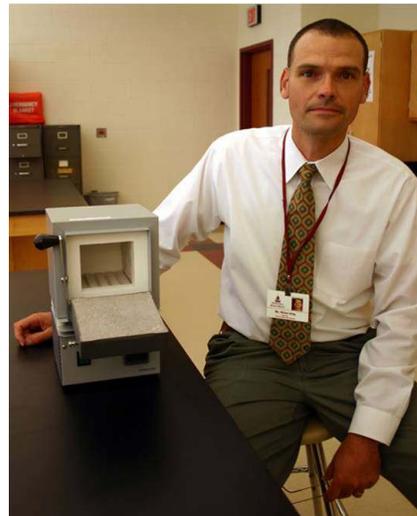


Pictured above is Kristen Chastain and Kristi Hurrelbrinck (Monica Massimo not shown) are Fifth Grade Language Arts teachers who worked together to successfully apply for a \$1,079.94 grant to provide listening centers in the Hopewell Building. With listening centers

in place, students can listen to texts while reading them to improve comprehension and fluency.

A second round of funding was provided in the amount of \$811 to the Jordan Bank staff to provide the materials needed for the "take-home" orientation DVD's. This is a OASD produced DVD that introduces new Kindergartners and tgeir parents to the school, staff and their classrooms.

The OEF thanks and congratulates all of the grantees for their innovative programs.



OAHS Chemistry teacher Brian Urig, pictured here with a UV-Vis spectrophotometer, continues his work with Project Reel, which was

The beneficiary of an EITC donation from the Fulton Bank. A major achievement this year was the purchase of materials needed to utilize the spectrophotometer, which is vital for data analysis. Funding also allowed four students to travel to The Ohio State University and present their work at poster sessions on the OSU campus. Their work was evaluated by OSU faculty.

RSVP AWARD

The Oxford Educational Foundation announced the eleventh recipient of the Randy Sebastian Volunteer Person of the Year (RSVP) award on Tuesday June 16, 2010. The award was presented at the end of the year breakfast sponsored by the OEF and the Oxford Area Education Association. All of the nominees were volunteers who had given many hours of support to the students of the district.



The Oxford Educational Foundation was pleased to present this year's award to a real "home town hero." Dr. Anthony "Doc" Bering.

Dr. Bering is a retired local dentist who is well known for many of his activities around Oxford. Dr. Bering was originally from Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He came to Oxford after a tour of duty with the United States Air Force. From 1959 until his retirement in 2006, he was active in his dental practice and many other civic organizations.

Dr. Bering was a founding member of the Golden Bears organization

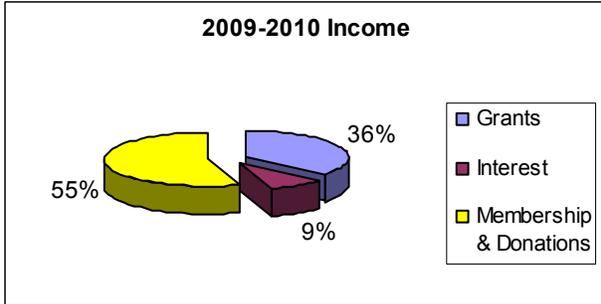
(junior football) and also a long time member of the Sacred Heart choir. His RSVP award was given to honor him for his years as a math tutor in both the Oxford High School and the Penn's Grove Middle School. Dr. Bering always considered himself a "lifetime learner" so he started this tutor role after his retirement. "Doc", as he is often called, has worked with both Geometry and Algebra. The OEF wanted to thank him for his interest in helping Oxford students succeed.

This award is given yearly in memory of Randy Sebastian, an OAHS graduate and one of our founding Board members. His natural leadership and dedication to this district molded the OEF into what it has evolved into these past 15 years.

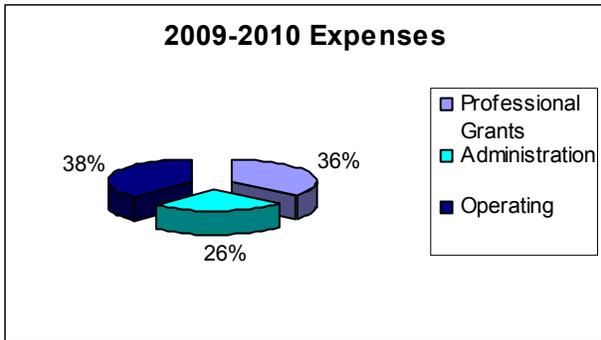
THE MARION JAMES & ANNA RESSLER HESS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The 2010 recipient of the Hess Memorial Scholarship was Sarah Walsh. She is currently a sophomore attending York College majoring in Secondary Education and biology. Sarah is a member of the tennis team and the biology club. She was named to the York College Dean's List both semesters in her freshman year. We wish her well in her pursuit of a career in education.

In 2004, the family of Marion James and Anna Ressler Hess established this scholarship in their names to benefit students pursuing a career in teaching..



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN
for FY 2009-2010**



Revenue

Memberships & Donations are received from alumni & community supporters and Community Foundations.

Interest & Dividends are received from our Endowment Fund.

Grants are applied for and awarded to us by the Chester County Regional Education Service and a local charitable Foundation.

Expenses

Administration Expenses include 25% of Volunteer Coordinator’s Salary, payroll ex-

penses, insurance, telephone, printing and accountants audit.

Operating expenses include 75% of Volunteer Coordinator’s Salary, Mentor Picnic, Board Retreat, RSVP luncheon, supplies, postage and volunteer clearances.

Professional Grants include grants awarded to teachers for Innovative Educational Programs not funded by the district.

**ENDOWMENT FUND
UPDATE**

During the past few years, OEF’s two Endowment Funds suffered a decline in value due to the investment market environment. At the end of last fiscal year (6/30/09), our Fulton Financial Advisors account was \$115,412.10 and the National Penn account was \$88,929.90 totaling \$204,342.00. This balance is 16% less than it was on 6/30/08.

We’re glad to report that as of 6/30/10 our funds have increased by \$29,355 to \$233,697 which is 95% of there value as of 6/30/08.

These Endowment accounts, which were established fourteen years ago, contain specifically designated donations that are invested with the interest and dividends available to help off-set general operating expenses. This year \$2,641.10 of interest was withdrawn for that purpose.

We hope that someday the accounts will grow to the extent that they will support our yearly operating expenses off approximately \$15,000.

Thanks to all of you who continue to support our Endowment Funds.

Please join us at our Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting is October 15, 2009, at 7:30 pm in the Oxford Area District Administration Building, Ground Floor Conference Room, 125

In Conclusion

As we conclude and celebrate the 15th year of the Foundation's existence, the mission and reason for our existence remains the same, *"To enhance the quality of education in the Oxford Area School District"*.

We congratulate the district administration, faculty and staff on their accomplishments and achievements this past year. The Oxford Educational Foundation will again work side by side with the district to provide dedicated and committed mentors, tutors and classroom volunteers to accomplish our mutual goal.

As our country and our local rural area are affected by the changing world in which we live, the one factor that remains constant is the education of tomorrow's leaders, *our youth*.

On behalf of everyone involved with the OEF, I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Jim McLeod
OEF President
OAHS Class of 1969

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

As you can see from the charts on the previous page, our revenue sources are funds awarded to us from successful grant applications, interest and dividends on our endowment, and generous contributions from alumni and friends.

We appreciate whatever help you can give us, whether it be specified toward our Endowment Fund or our operating costs. All contributions, large or small, in excess of the \$5.00 per person membership fee, are tax deductible and can be sent to us at: P.O. Box 142, Oxford, PA 19363.

Many thanks to Art Salatto, OASD Communications Specialist for his photographs, and all who assisted in preparing articles for this issue.

Bell Tower Lane, Oxford. For more specific directions, please call us at 610-932-7200

The official registration statement and financial information of the Oxford Educational Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

The Oxford Educational Foundation is a United Way Agency. The Mentoring and Tutoring program of the OEF is made possible in part by the Chester County Regional Education Services, Inc.



United Way of
Southern Chester County