A-REF
Enriching Education

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MEMBERSHIP
Annual—$25
Lifetime—$500
Sustaining memberships are available to Apollo-Ridge employees for as little as $2 per month. Call x6010 for details!

Checks payable & mail to:
Apollo-Ridge
Education Foundation
PO Box 219
Spring Church PA 15686
Tel 724-478-6010
Fax 724-478-1149

amazon smile

DONATE ONLINE via JustGive.org

Growing Right Here 100 Years 1912 2012 Indiana County Chamber of Commerce

Apollo Area Business Association Opening Doors

ET CETERA

- Isaac Thompson emcee'd a Speakers Series event in November that featured Dennis Marsili's book about the mob in New Kensington.
- In December, coordinated the installation of 5 pieces of fitness equipment on the trail and developed signs for 13 additional activities to add interest for trail users.
- Joined the Indiana County Chamber of Commerce in February and began meeting with business leaders to increase engagement with that side of the school district.
- Twenty-six students and seven adults turned out on a blustery Saturday in March to make the BIG Spring Clean Up the most successful clean-up day to date!
- Added CIZE Live! and Slow Flow Yoga to Iron Yoga and Zumba. There are now five options to engage the community in healthy activities, including the Fitness Trail.
- The 38th Annual Learning Festival was a success in spite of the monsoonal weather. The Froggy95 Live Action Broadcast increased visibility for the event and provided financial support through the sponsorship package.
- The High School and Middle School LEO Club members went to the Flight 93 Memorial in May with a $93 donation.
- Met with Mr. Bob Teeter of Teeter & Associates to obtain some insight into our operations. Mr. Teeter was referred to us by Mrs. Jamie Biller, who is acquainted with him on a personal level.
- June 24, 2016 – The Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation, one of the oldest and most successful in the A-K Valley, celebrated 20 Years of Enriching Education!

SAVE THE DATE!

Contact a trustee to see how you can support this exciting event and qualify for reduced price or free tickets!

DENIM & Diamonds
3rd ANNUAL GALA/SILENT AUCTION FOR STEAM

Saturday
November 5, 2016
5:30 PM
Brennan's Pub
The Links at Spring Church

Our gala event will once again be the Talk of the Township !

◆ Cocktails ◆ Appetizers ◆ Candy Bar ◆ Silent Auction ◆
FROGGY95 Live Action Broadcast!

Tickets $50 / $75 per couple 724-478-6010

Proceeds benefit Educational Enrichment for Apollo-Ridge Students
Apollo-RidgeEducationFoundation.Org

Apollo-RidgeEducationFoundation.Org

Celebrating 20 Years of Enriching Education

I was honored to attend the 9/11 memorial program as the guest of Mahlon Fuller.

A Record-Breaking Year

The 2015-2016 school year was one of the most successful in the Education Foundation's 20 year history. The Foundation seemed to have acquired the Midas touch and every pursuit by this small band of volunteers was more successful than the last.

- Our goal for the Gala was to raise $20,000. Before expenses gross receipts were in excess of $21,000.
- Expecting a dozen or so volunteers for the BIG Spring Clean up, we were overwhelmed when three times that many arrived, ready to work.
- Hoping for five sponsors for the Learning Festival's Froggy95 Live Action Broadcast sponsor package, we were stunned when ten area businesses responded within 48 hours.
- Lacking grant writing experience, the Foundation was thrilled to receive two major grants of $15,000.

As you review the details of these accomplishments in this report, it is my hope that you will want to share in this string of successes and become a "Friend of the Foundation". There are a number of ways you can accomplish this: membership, volunteerism, and donations of time and talent are just the beginning. I am honored to serve as the president of the Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation and look forward to continuing the momentum established in 2015-2016.

Sincerely,

Cristine Kostiuk, President

Strategic Highlights

The Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation increased our circle of "Friends" in 2015-2016 by holding several events that included the Roaring 20's Gala/Silent Auction, wellness initiatives, and the BIG Spring Clean-Up.

- The 38th Annual Learning Festival featured a FROGGY95 Live Action Broadcast which promoted the event in Armstrong, Indiana, and Westmoreland counties and engaged 10 area businesses who sponsored the Learning Festival and received 5 free advertising spots.
- The AREF joined the Indiana County Chamber of Commerce and strengthened its partnership with the Alle-Kiski Strong Chamber by attending events sponsored by both.
- The AREF created a public art display featuring brightly painted bicycles in the Apollo Plaza in honor of the Bicentennial to increase community engagement.

Financial Highlights

The Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation donated over $58,000 to the Apollo-Ridge School District to further the educational opportunities for Apollo-Ridge students in Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math. Funding sources included the Gala/Silent Auction, Educational Improvement Tax Credit donations, and two major grants.

Operating Highlights

The Apollo-Ridge Education Foundation adopted a business plan and invited a consultant to provide insight for furthering the Mission and Vision of the Foundation.

Looking Ahead

Goals include:

- Increasing staff awareness and involvement
- Acquiring additional sponsors for the Gala/Silent Auction
- Soliciting more EITC donations from qualifying businesses
- Continuing to seek grant-writing opportunities
- Creating an alumni directory
- Engaging retirees

Annual Report for the 2015-2016 School Year

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

MONEY IN

GALA/SILENT AUCTION

The 2nd Annual Gala/Silent Auction event generated $16,000 in proceeds to support STEAM curriculum. Thirty sponsors contributed $10,350 and 146 in-kind donations totaling over $15,000 were received. The AREF qualified for a $1,500 ACTION grant since four Alcoa employees volunteered their time at the event. The proceeds were used to purchase K'nex and robotics kits for the 7th grade pre-AP science class.

EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT PROGRAM (EITC)

First Commonwealth Bank, Nextier Bank, and Nutrition Inc. contributed $12,250 through this state funded program. The proceeds were used to purchase computers and furnishings for the STEAM Center.

GRANT WRITING

The HDR Foundation grant, sponsored by Mr. Jim Carnahan, is providing funding for VEX robotics kids and supplies to support the Project Lead the Way Foundations course for 8th graders.

Ms. Jamie Laws assisted the Foundation by sponsoring an Alcoa grant to purchase Project Lead the Way Launch curriculum for students in grades 1 through 5.

These individuals received "Friend of the Foundation" awards for contributing to the Foundation's success in reaching its fund raising goals.

Jamie Laws and Jim Carnahan received "Friend of the Foundation" Awards for assisting the Education Foundation with reaching its fund raising goals.

MONEY OUT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT HISTORY Detailed reports are available under Financials at Apollo-RidgeEducationFoundation.org.

Description	2015 +/-	2014 +/-	2013 +/-	2012 +/-	NET ASSETS JAN 1	NET ASSETS DEC 31
Contributions	$31,424	$27,744	$7,576	$18,257	2015: $13,717	2015: $40,009
Miscellaneous	$550	$82	$2,088	$500	2014: $11,250	2014: $26,292
Memberships	$1,275	$775	$375	$425	2013: $16,310	2013: $11,250
Program Services	($18,293)	($12,599)	($14,867)	($21,533)	2012: $19,752	2012: $16,310
Administrative	($1,239)	($960)	($232)	($1,091)		

The Better Business Bureau limits non-profits to no more than 35% for Administrative costs; PA's EITC program's limit is 20%. AREF was 4% for 2015.

INNOVATIVE PROJECTS GRANTS

These projects are funded by membership dues.

Become a member and ***make kids smile***!

P.R.I.D.E. PHASE 3: Pride in our Past, Faith in our Future - Mr. Clint Weimer and the PRIDE Team
The P.R.I.D.E. program will continue to include mentoring of elementary students by high school students. This year the focus will be Pride In Our Past, Faith in our Future -- 200 and Going Strong - the theme for the Apollo Bicentennial. The Fathead project will include historical figures, events or landmarks from Apollo's 200 year history, in addition to recognizing students who exhibit the P.R.I.D.E. character traits.

PASSPORT TO YOUR NATIONAL PARKS - Mr. Chad Danka
Apollo-Ridge Elementary Student Council Members will receive a guidebook, an annual series of commemorative stamps, a companion app, and collectible cancellations. The students will collect the famous ink cancellations for the National Parks they visit on their annual trips to Washington DC. This will enrich their visits to America's cultural, historical, and natural treasures.

READING FAIR: Ms. Danielle King, Ms. Lori Murphy, Ms. Afton Deceder, Ms. Beth Weinel, Ms. Karen Lewis
Students in grades 4 and 5 will share their favorite fictional book through a storyboard display once they have read their story and completed a written account of the book. Students will also engage in public speaking when they present their projects to their peers and members of the community at a special event.

CREATING A HEALTHY/ACTIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL - Mr. Travis Barta
In order to ensure that all middle school students are able to take part in physical education classes, proper clothing and shoes will be purchased for those who may not be able to provide their own or who may have forgotten to bring clothes or shoes to school with them. The grant has a secondary benefit as the students in the Life Skills classes will launder the clothing after being worn by the students.

CREATING REAL LIFE EXPERIENCES - Ms. Kristen Simpson
An apartment will be created within the classroom walls enabling Life Skills students to learn basic tasks such as bed making, cleaning, vacuuming, laundering and folding clothes, reading recipes and cooking, reading newspapers to find employment, writing checks and paying bills, completing job applications, and more. This grant writer furnished the space through donations she solicited from staff and the community.

RELEASING TROUT RAISED IN THE CLASSROOM - Mr. Michael Saxion
This grant provides transportation for students in grades 1 and 2 to release trout in a local stream after completing a project in cooperation with Trout Unlimited Arrowhead Chapter that is providing the means for the students to raise the trout. The students will raise the trout from fertile eggs to lengths of 3-5 inches while learning about life cycles, water quality, PH levels, and survival skills.

WRITING AND ROBOTS - Mr. Dan Barrett
This incredible opportunity to combine writing and technology involves taking student work, such as a short story, poem or play, and transferring it into a 3-D exhibit ... a performance of the students' writing projects! There will be sound, light, and movement by robotic creations. The entire sixth grade class will get to experience this opportunity on a 9-week rotational basis.

BIKING INTO THE PAST - Ms. Cris Kostiuk
Several High School students will paint bicycles that are too damaged to be repaired for the Bicycle Project and create a public art display in Apollo Borough's flower beds that line First Street. This project will be completed for the Borough's