

District 742 Local Education Activities Foundation

The District 742 Local Education & Activities Foundation (LEAF) is a citizens' organization whose purpose is to secure and channel private funds to support and enhance the educational process. The Foundation shall serve to promote the value of a comprehensive educational program and to increase public confidence and involvement in the public school system. It shall build links among the public school system, business and industry, government, civic organizations, and the public.

Annotated History

1992

- A. The Board of Education formed an ad hoc committee to research the possibility of forming a foundation for the purpose of providing support for extra curricular activities in District 742.
- B. Student Activities Advisory Committee subsequently recommended to the Board that such a foundation be formed.

1993

- A. The Board of Education approved the formation of an activities foundation to be called the District 742 Local Education Activities Foundation (LEAF). In June of 1993, the Board approved a transfer of \$100,000 to the Central Minnesota Community Foundation to establish the LEAF Endowment Fund.
- B. The Board also approved a ticket price increase of \$1.00 on each adult admission and \$.50 for each student admission with the subsequent annual revenue from this increase to be deposited in the LEAF Endowment fund.

1994 Articles of Incorporation as a non-profit organization were developed and filed with the Minnesota Secretary of State's office. Application was made to the Internal Revenue Service for tax exempt status.

1995 The first LEAF Board of Directors was formed and began meeting regularly. The organization's by-laws were developed and formally adopted.

1996 Status as a tax exempt, 501(c)(3) non profit organization was received from the IRS.

- A. LEAF began its twice yearly granting program utilizing 5% of its endowment fund for the support of extra curricular activities programming in the District's K-12 schools.

2000 LEAF hired a fundraising consultant and began organized fundraising activities.

2002

- A. LEAF undertook a special fundraising project, netting \$140,000, to assist in preserving Junior High School activities programming.
- B. LEAF Begins Night of the Stars (NOTS) fundraiser

2004

- A. LEAF Hires an Executive Director
- B. First LEAF Appreciation & Awards Banquet to recognize the many contributions of individuals to the success of LEAF
- C. NOTS moves to Paramount Theatre to a "sold out" crowd!

2005 Year-long development of a Strategic Plan and Vision Statement with funding from the Initiative Foundation.

2006 LEAF Board Handbook developed to encourage Board professionalism.

2007

- A. LEAF Endowment stands at \$450,000 as of February, 2007
- B. LEAF Web Page developed: www.leaf742.org

- 2008
- A. 15th Year Campaign. (\$456,800 Pledged, \$284,443 collected as of 12/31/10)
 - B. August: First LEAF Welcome Back Luncheon at Kelly Inn
- 2009
- A. Establishment of the LEAF *Academic Opportunity & Enrichment Fund* by Board vote in July, 2009. LEAF now has two funds for donors to consider:
 - 1. Academic Opportunity & Enrichment Fund
 - 2. Student Activities Fund
 - B. Roll out of new LEAF web page in October: www.leaf742.org.
 - C. Retreat to update LEAF Strategic Plan held in October
- 2010
- A. NOTS Silent Auction moves to on-line only
 - B. March: First LEAF Academic Fund Grants: \$12,500
 - C. October: First Academic Fund Event: “Food for Thought”
- 2011
- A. NOTS sets a new record, returning \$8,049 in ticket revenue to student activities programs.
 - B. LEAF’s new “Adopt A Classroom Program” raises \$11,750 and funds 49 classrooms with \$250 grants for supplies.
 - C. October: The second Academic Fund Event: “A Learning Renaissance”, raises over \$23,000 and nets \$14,734 for the Academic Fund.
 - D. LEAF grants for 2011-12 school year = \$103,055!
- 2012
- A. LEAF Board meets with ClearPath to develop an updated Strategic Plan.
 - B. The Adopt a Classroom Program raises \$15,000 and provides 60 classroom grants
 - C. Tech Football and Tech Athletics designated funds reach the \$25,000 level and begin providing annual returns to those programs.
 - D. LEAF obtains two grants for the PAKRAT Program and provides \$51,914 in support of this P-3 literacy and parent involvement program.
 - E. The second annual Learning Renaissance nets \$13,790 in “Fund-a-Need” direct support of academic programs and \$13,790 for the Academic Fund.
 - F. Total Endowed Funds 12/31/12 = **Activities Fund: \$597,523, Academic Fund: \$130,268**
- 2013
- A. Total LEAF grants = \$115,307 during 2012-13 school year!
 - B. Total Endowed Funds 8/31/13: **Activities Fund: \$678,636 - Academic Fund: \$156,779**

LEAF Total Financial Impact on District 742: (As of August 31, 2013)

• Repayment of initial start-up loan:	\$100,000
• Ticket surcharge annual return to Tech/Apollo:	\$247,127
• Junior High Fundraiser (spring 02)	\$140,000
• Night of the Stars ticket rebate to activities	\$ 46,748 (Since 2005)
• Activities Grants awarded 1996-present:	\$343,702
• Academic Grants awarded 2010-present	\$56,452
• Adopt A Classroom Project	<u>\$26,750</u>
Total	\$960,779 (as of 7/31/13)

Fund Totals (August 31, 2013):

\$156,779	Academic Opportunity & Enhancement Fund
\$678,636	Activities Fund
<u>\$25,482</u>	Liberty Savings Fund
\$860,897	Total LEAF Assets