

# 2010-11 ANNUAL REPORT

# THE HIGHLAND FOUNDATION

*for educational excellence*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### Looking forward to continued growth

As we turn the chapter with 2010 marking the beginning of our second decade, the Highland Foundation continues to make solid progress towards its mission of providing educational enrichment programs and assistance to the students, educators and staff at Highland Local Schools. Through the generosity of our local community – and fueled by a remarkably talented and dedicated Board of Trustees, the Foundation has grown to become a reliable source to further advance the educational environment at Highland.

This was no more apparent than during the 2010 fiscal year where we endured an economic recession, cuts in federal and state aid for public education and a challenging levy vote. Despite these headwinds, though, the good work of the Highland Foundation shined through. Our balance sheet is strong and our ability to fund grants and a diverse set of educational programs for the betterment of students remains at the core of what the Highland Foundation does. Consider just a few of our accomplishments:

- The asset base for the Highland Foundation jumped 11 percent in the past two years.
- This fiscal year, we funded \$16,382 worth of educational programs across Highland's five schools. Since inception,

the Foundation has distributed \$565,717 in grants to fund 162 unique learning programs.

- With an eye toward the future, the Foundation invested in a web-based data management and fundraising system to further enhance the organization's ability to grow its base and reward more grants in the future.

In closing, I'd like to recognize those Trustees whose terms expired during the year. Patti Horvath, Scott Ewers and Rachel Miller worked tirelessly on behalf of the Foundation, each possessing unique and necessary skills to me and the entire Board. Although their counsel will be missed, they leave this organization in a better place thanks to their efforts. I'd also like to welcome new Trustees Carol Baker, Carrie Milkovich, Ryan Phillips and Eric Stasiowski as they help lead the Highland Foundation to new heights.

As I transition my Chairmanship to the capable hands of Craig Bailey, I would like to extend a special thank you to the Highland Community for making the last seven years nothing but an honor and joy to help serve.

*Lori Miller, Board Chair*

## 2010-11 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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# FUNDED PROJECTS

*This year, we funded a total of \$16,382 in projects and programs for Highland students.*



“THE RADIO SHOW” A RESIDENCY WITH MR. JIM GILL — “The Radio Show” is a residency where students engage in conceiving, writing and performing a 30 minute radio program. The final performance is recorded through microphones then burned to a CD and duplicated for sharing. All 4th grade students at Sharon Elementary participated in this five-day residency. The project encompassed inter-disciplinary curriculum pertaining to the 2010-11 school-wide reading theme emphasizing non-fiction. Mr. Gill is an artist-in-residence who develops programs relating to literacy and the arts. This impacted 90 students, but was also available on the web site so that others can listen. **Funding: \$1,250.**

ART: HISTORICAL, CONTEMPORARY AND IN OUR BACKYARD — This project featured several art displays that were available for viewing by the entire High School student body, but primarily for the benefit of students in art, foreign language and social studies classes. The first display features contemporary artwork from around the world. It consisted of five freestanding panels. The other display, or possibly displays as it could be broken into two displays, featured posters and visuals of artwork from the

Akron and Cleveland art museums. These posters became property of the Art Department and will be used for years to come. **Funding: \$730.**

PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS SCHOLARSHIP — At the direction of the Highland instrumental music teachers, funds provided for private lesson fees for some students. These scholarships are funded through the Robert Jagger Musical Enrichment Grants. **Funding: \$750.**

A COLORFUL SWITCH — Specialists worked with 7th and 8th grade students, as well as with high school students throughout the year. The goal was to improve musical training for students who are switching to “colorful instruments” such as tuba, euphonium, oboe, bassoon, tenor and baritone sax, jazz bass, guitar and piano. Funded through the Robert Jagger Musical Enrichment Grants. **Funding: \$2,500.**

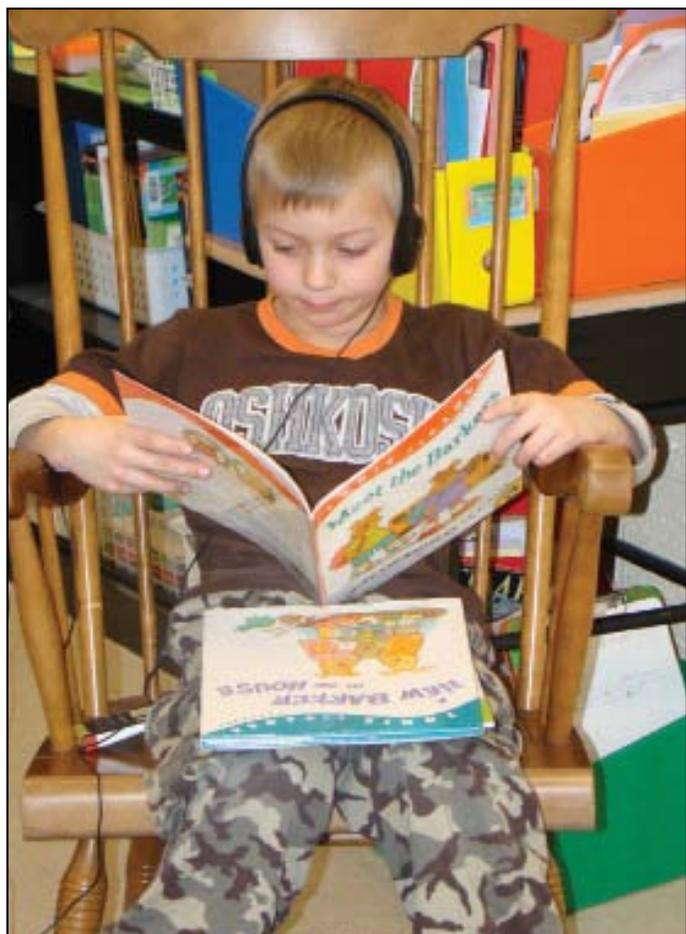
RACHEL’S CHALLENGE — Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Her acts of kindness and compassion, coupled with the contents of her six diaries, have become the foundation for one of the most life-changing school programs in America. Students were spell-bound during an hour-long presentation. A training session of student leaders followed. Student leaders worked through a year-long curriculum as a part of the program. In the evening, a community presentation took place to give parents the necessary tools to reinforce what was learned with their children. This impacted all 5th through 8th grade students (approximately 1,100 total). **Funding: \$6,000.**



AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) TRAINING — Highland's Health and Physical Education Department and Medina County Sheriff Deputy Sharon Centner received funding for two Automated External Defibrillators (AED.) The AED Trainers are simulators that will mimic an actual AED. The Trainers are necessary to teach the students how to use the AED properly. All students are taught first aid and CPR according to the American Red Cross Standards as part of the high school health curriculum. Three content standards were met while providing training in first aid, CPR and AED use. An AED is used to deliver a life-saving shock in the case of a cardiac emergency. AED training benefited the students in grades 9-12, along with staff. This training will also benefit the entire community. **Funding: \$758.**



LEVELS TO LEXILES — The new state assessment system will use Lexile levels as one measure of progress for students. Leveled reading uses various assessment tools to determine how well the child reads and then matches the books to their level. Each student was shown how reading levels are determined for books at all levels for life reading. They were also taught how reading books within the appropriate range will improve reading comprehension and fluency. Students will learn how to set goals and plan their own progress to mastery by planning a custom summer reading list and setting reading goals that will progress throughout life. This project was supported by research for reading pedagogy, student metacognition and student-owned data tracking. The project was instituted as an ongoing process that will be repeated every year and can be expanded to other grade levels. **Funding: \$994.**



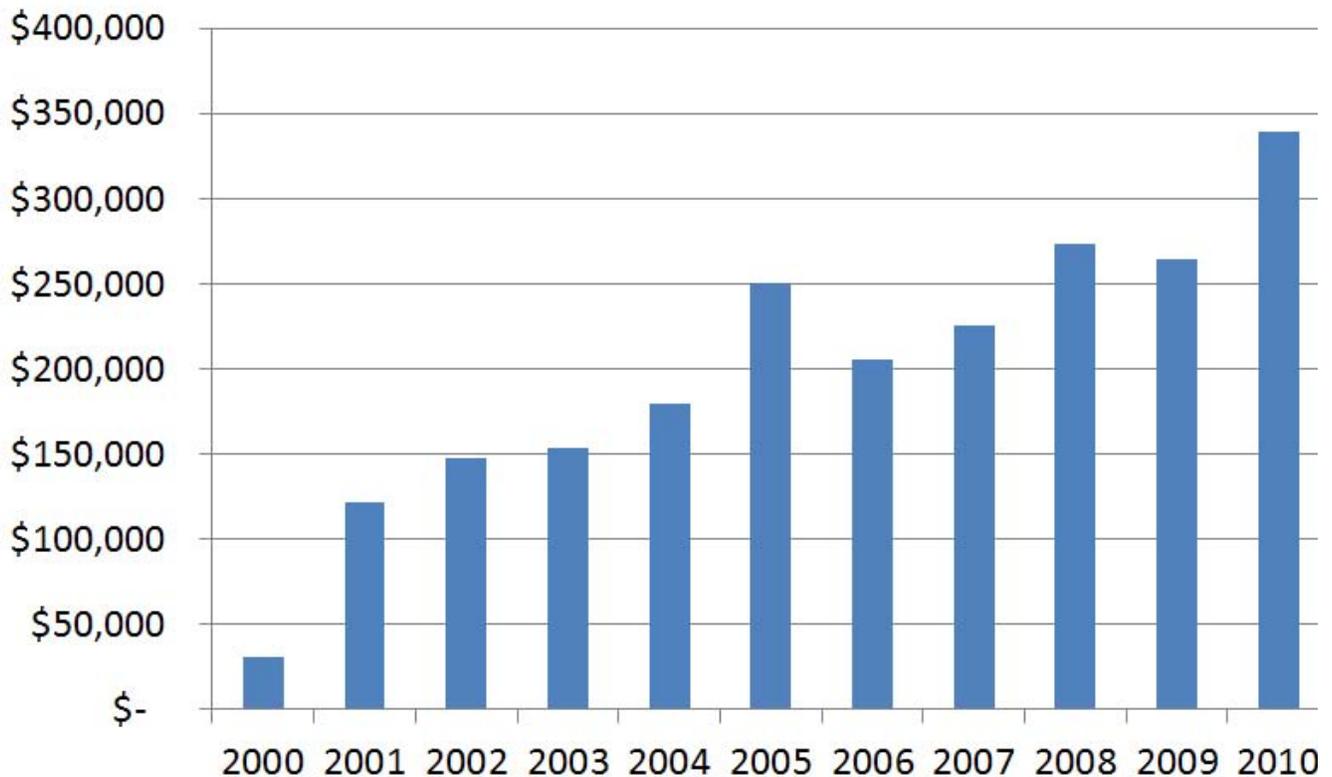
PLAYAWAY SYSTEMS — This project utilized Playaway Systems to improve literacy among all 2nd graders at Sharon Elementary. The systems allowed for greater differentiation in reading instruction for both struggling and advanced readers by utilizing technology to meet the needs of individual students. This project builds on the already successful results obtained this school year through piloting the program with a grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. This impacted 90 students. **Funding: \$1,400.**

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE PIANO ACCOMPANIST — An accompanist worked with all instrumental music students who participate in an adjudicated event. Students received help with every aspect of their performance including scales, posture, playing position and much more. Students often feel more confident and achieve higher marks with this assistance. Funded through the Robert Jagger Musical Enrichment Grants. **Funding: \$2,000.**

# FINANCIALS *2010 Statement of Funds* (July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011)

• Jagger Vocal Fund Reserve:	\$30,000.00
• Jagger Instrumental Fund:	1,839.00
• Long Term Project Monies:	72,613.01
• Endowment Monies:	112,613.01
• Reserve for Special Education Grants:	9,325.81
• Reserve for Scholarships:	25,585.32
• Reserve for W. Wagar Memorial Math & Science Fund:	35,503.77
• General Purpose Funds:	32,850.52
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• <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$339,793.70</b>

## *Asset Growth*



*Our mission is to acquire and distribute resources to Highland Local Schools to enhance, enrich and supplement learning opportunities for its students, staff and the community.*

# DONORS

*With great appreciation, we thank our donors.  
Your continued support is essential to our success.*

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Mr. Pete Ulrich

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