



THE GREEN

*Fundraising Newsletter for the
Lewisburg Area School District*

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Lewisburg Area High School

Collaborating to Achieve VISION 2020

Dear LASD Supporters,

The Lewisburg Area School District is in the third year of its VISION 2020 Strategic Plan. This plan has established a long-term process to create a 21st Century Learning Community for our students. Eight overarching goals and 35 objectives are at the heart of the plan to transform an already high-performing district into a national model of excellence for public education. A considerable amount of work has already been completed in the areas of technology and student achievement. In the past two years our schools have been nationally recognized for academic excellence and student programming.

Lewisburg Area High School was recognized as a 2009 Silver Medalist by *U.S. News and World Report* in its annual America's Best High Schools rankings. Only 604 high schools across the nation received this recognition, placing our high school in the top three percent in the country. Recently, the Donald H. Eichhorn Middle School was notified that it is the recipient of the 2010 Schools to Watch designation from the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. The award is presented to middle schools that meet rigorous criteria for academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity and organizational support to create a high-performing school. This national recognition has been awarded to only 15 middle schools in Pennsylvania, and approximately 200 middle schools across the nation, over the past four years. This is the second national award received by our middle school within the last 10 years: DHEMS won the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence Award from the U. S. Department of Education in 2002. These awards validate what we already know: that our schools are among the finest in the nation and worthy of community support.



However, the public school mission goes well beyond academics, and our district strives to develop in students characteristics and skills they will need to be successful throughout life. We are known as a district that provides many wonderful arts and athletics opportunities. A wide variety of music, drama, club and athletic activities create great learning experiences for our students outside of the classroom, and Lewisburg students are involved. Among our high school students, we boast an 80 percent participation rate in extracurricular activities. These programs need additional resources since the district budget is only able to fund basic operating costs. We are extremely pleased to be part of this initiative to create a collaborative forum among the many wonderful organizations that support our students, staff and programs.

VISION 2020 is the blueprint we will use to continue to refine our programs, opportunities and facilities to meet the future needs of our students. The continued participation of all school stakeholders is vital if we are to achieve our strategic goals and objectives in the coming years. By working together and collaborating on common goals, including fundraising initiatives, our students will be the beneficiaries of a great school district with exemplary programs.

Mark DiRocco

Mark DiRocco
Superintendent

Kathy Swope

Kathy Swope
Board President

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Yay! Designs

THE GREEN DRAGON FOUNDATION

Unique Community • Unlimited Opportunity

The Green Dragon Foundation is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing and directing funding for the realization of educational, cultural, and athletic programs and capital improvement projects for the enrichment and enhancement of the students of the Lewisburg Area School District.

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The Green Dragon Foundation aspires to afford every child in the Lewisburg School District the opportunity to receive an excellent educational experience. To accomplish this, the foundation has positioned itself to contribute toward many of the goals outlined in Vision 2020, the school district's strategic plan. Many of the programs and infrastructure/facility projects identified in the Vision 2020 plan are large in scope and require hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of dollars to adequately fund.

The Green Dragon Foundation aims to play a leading role in raising significant funds to help address these needs. We will accomplish this by developing long-term relationships with potential donors, running annual giving campaigns and implementing major gift and planned giving programs. We feel the best strategy for raising significant funds is to present a convincing case, be extremely organized, have a recognizable brand and develop a long-term relationship with the donor base. As such, the Green Dragon Foundation is modeled after professional development offices typically found in major universities and private schools.

The foundation also employs a part-time executive director and currently has two board members with professional fundraising/development office experience. By aligning itself with the school district's long range strategic plan, the Green Dragon Foundation aims to positively impact as many students in the Lewisburg Area School District as possible. Our approach is to fund programs and projects that are broad in scope and that benefit a wide range of student groups and interests. The foundation intends to serve as the catalyst for good intentions by establishing and promoting strong partnerships with parents, community members, local businesses, teachers and alumni. In summary, the Green Dragon Foundation is unique in that it strives to raise significant resources through professional fundraising methods to enable programs and projects to benefit the entire Lewisburg Area School District.

THE GREEN DRAGON FOUNDATION

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Green Dragon Foundation Presents Checks to LASD Totalling \$40,000

\$30,000 was given in support of 21st Century Classrooms at Kelly Elementary School.

According to Dr. DiRocco:

- The world has changed. We live in an increasingly global society, and education must change as well. We have an obligation to prepare children for *their* world.
- This generous donation will enable LASD to purchase a laptop cart containing 25 laptop computers for Kelly Elementary School.

\$10,000 was given in support of the On-Line Courses for Advanced Learning program at the high school.

According to Dr. DiRocco:

- High school students will be able to access Advanced Placement and other advanced courses on-line that are not available in the Lewisburg Area High School curricular offerings or are in conflict with other high level classes.
- Courses will be contracted through on-line learning sites to provide students with learning opportunities that would not be available under normal circumstances.
- This will create an extended curriculum for gifted and motivated students who want to excel beyond the constraints of the curriculum offered by the school district.



(Photo: L to R, Kathy Swope, President of the LASD School Board, Brooks Gronlund, President of the Green Dragon Foundation, and Dr. Mark DiRocco, LASD Superintendent.)

THE GREEN DRAGON FOUNDATION

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Gifts may be donated in various ways

Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (PA EITC) Program

The purpose of the EITC program is to provide the opportunity for businesses to pay their obligatory taxes in a creative way! Businesses can qualify for up to a 90 percent tax credit for a two-year commitment.

The foundation is an approved Educational Improvement Organization (EIO) in Pennsylvania. Corporations that pay Pennsylvania state taxes are eligible to apply to the state to participate in the program. If approved, corporations can turn their donation into a much larger contribution to the foundation, while benefiting from a credit to their Pennsylvania state taxes. For more information, please contact the Green Dragon Foundation at (570) 522-8433.

Planning Your Gift

Matching Gifts

Does your company have a matching gift program? Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. If your company has a matching gift program, you could double or possibly triple your gift quickly and easily.

Gifts of Appreciated Securities

A gift of appreciated securities allows the donor to make a significant contribution at a reduced cost. Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of securities on the date of the gift.

Gifts of Life Insurance

Absolute Assignment: This method transfers ownership of a policy that has outlived its original purpose to the individual.

Co-Beneficiary: This method names the Green Dragon Foundation as co-beneficiary of all or part of the proceeds of a new or existing policy.

Bequests

These are provisions in wills to leave a gift to the Green Dragon Foundation. Charitable bequests are fully deductible from the estate and can significantly reduce estate taxes on the balance of the estate. Bequests may be specified as a gift of cash or securities, real estate or other property. Alternatively, they may take the form of percentage of the total estate. A donor may consider a residuary bequest, which is a gift of all or a portion of one's estate after other conditions are met.

For more information about the Green Dragon Foundation, how you can get involved, how to make a donation or about any of its programs, visit:

www.greendragonfoundation.org
email: info@greendragonfoundation.org
Phone: (570) 522-8433
115 Farley Circle, Suite 306
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Join the Green Dragon Foundation on Facebook and LinkedIn!

We can provide you with more detailed information about charitable gifts and discuss with you and your advisor the most advantageous ways to make them.

Kelly Elementary and Linntown Intermediate PSA



Dragon Dash A Success!

The 2nd Dragon Dash FUNdraiser was held on Friday, January 22, 2010, at Kelly and Linntown schools. It was a huge success: the kids raised more than \$23,000, an increase of more than \$6,000 over last year's Dash! This year's winners are:

- **Prize: Royalty for a Day** - William Gronlund and Hannah Drexler tied (Kelly), and Harrison Gronlund (Linntown) raised the most money.
- **Prize: Extra Recess** - Mrs. Lee's 2nd grade class had 100 percent participation.
- **Prize: Celebrity Kickball Game** - Mrs. Lee's 2nd grade class and Mrs. Morath's 4th grade class had the most donations of \$10 or more.

We'd like to thank all the teachers and both principals for helping to prepare the kids, and for being so involved in the event. It really is fun for the kids to run with Mr. Dalton, Ms. Reber and their teachers. Mr. Snyder, the Kelly art teacher, created posters on which kids tracked their participation. DJs Chuck and Faith Klinefelter rocked both gyms with upbeat music that kept the kids and volunteers moving. The Eye Center, thanks to the coordination of Tera Fassero, helped hydrate all the Dashers by donating bottled water and covering the cost of printing the Dash envelopes. New this year were Rob Guissanie and the Bucknell track athletes, who helped kids set a steady pace and offered encouragement throughout the 15 minutes each class ran. They enjoyed themselves as much as the kids! Of course, the event could not have run smoothly without the many parents who volunteered their time. Thank you all! The enthusiastic cheers and support from the many fans (parents, siblings and grandparents) mean so much to the Dashers. Thank you for your encouragement!

Finally, thank-you to all who contributed financially to the Dragon Dash! Your support helped the kids become involved in making their school a great place to learn in a healthy, noncommercial way. The PSA will use the funds raised to support school programs and to fund purchases that benefit Kelly and Linntown students. These programs range from the Related Arts programs and the Student Agenda books for all 3rd, 4th & 5th graders, to the Student Assistance Fund (which continues to grow each year, especially in this economy) to playground equipment and teacher grants that are used for classroom-related purchases.

We're already looking forward to next year's Dragon Dash. So all together now: on your mark, get set...Dragon Dash 2011!



Donald H. Eichhorn Middle School PSA

The Donald H. Eichhorn Middle School has had a busy school year. The PSA separated from the national PTA-PTO organization three years ago and eliminated outside fundraisers by asking for a student/parent donation at the beginning of the year. We ask \$10 for 6th & 7th graders and \$20 for 8th grade students. The higher donation covers student t-shirts and an end-of-year activity for the 8th graders.

This year was our best ever for parent participation.

- Overall, approximately 50 percent of the population made a donation, with \$2,930 collected.
- These funds are used to purchase, among other things, student agendas, and student breakfasts during the PSSAs and Fun Day.



Our Book Fair in October directly benefited the Related Arts program, which sponsors various speakers on a variety of topics.

Each year the PSA sponsors a student dance. This year, it was the "So You Think You Can Dance" theme in January. Community members demonstrated different dance moves, from hip-hop to ballroom. Everyone had fun! Our profit from this dance was \$365, which will be used to fund activities throughout the year.

The DHEMS staff's popular t-shirt program directly supports Dragon Star prizes. T-shirts, in a variety of colors, are available at the front desk for \$10 each. In addition to our donations, the PSA collects Box Tops for Education (a container is located in the foyer) and participates in the Giant A+ Bonus Rewards program. These initiatives provide additional monies to help support our activities. The students & parents at DHEMS are service oriented and community minded. A collection of first aid supplies for local medical groups travelling to Haiti yielded over 150 items. The next service project sponsored by the Student Council is "Pennies for Patients," which benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in our area.

Visit the Web site to learn more about our school and dedicated teachers! <http://middle.lasd.us>

The Donald H. Eichhorn Middle School PSA is a cooperative organization involving parents, teachers and students whose goal is to support and enhance the school community. We believe that involvement and communication are the keys to a successful educational experience. The PSA helps to secure volunteers for various school needs and strives to keep members up to date through our meetings, newsletter, email and our Web site. We hope that you will become an informed, active team member in the education of Donald H. Eichhorn Middle School students. Please feel free to contact us at msdragonpsa@yahoo.com with questions, concerns or comments. Together we can send the message that education is important to all of us.

Lewisburg Area Music Association (LAMA)

The purpose of the Lewisburg Area Music Association is to encourage and assist students in advancing their musical education. LAMA strives to cooperate with the music faculty and the administration to create projects of value, contribute to the objectives, and cultivate and maintain interest in all phases of the music program. Other important activities are to promote and encourage area support of the music program; to fundraise to support activities and projects such as the writing, instruction, and purchase of equipment for the fall field show, providing refreshments at concerts and social events, presenting annual awards, and providing funds for projects or trips and annual music camp scholarships. LAMA strives to keep parents and music students informed of the activities and projects of the music program and to actively support all music program performances. The association assists the directors by providing volunteer chaperones for specified activities, and recognizes and supports policies as set forth by the directors and school administration.

The high school music program is broken down into three equal and collaborative components: the Chorus (Concert and Chamber Choir), the Band (Marching/Concert Band and Jazz-Rock Ensemble), and the Orchestra (Full Orchestra and String Ensemble).

Each year LAMA raises much-needed funds in a variety of ways. Many times the funds raised are split between the music association and the individual student's music account to help support their music activities.

LAMA fundraisers include:

- High school football game concession stands
- High school football game 50/50 raffle
- Bucknell football game concession stands
- Bucknell men's basketball game concession stands
- LAHS Fall Fair

Music student-only fundraisers include:

- Cherrydale frozen food
- Weis grocery cards
- Citrus fruit sale
- Christmas tree & wreath sale

Since June of 2009 LAMA has raised \$2,782.

In the past two years, LAMA has helped purchase:

- gift cards for graduating seniors
- music awards and certificates
- need-based trip scholarships
- new summer band uniforms
- a used truck to transport equipment for the marching band
- instruments and equipment (including a grand piano) and helped with transportation costs for district and regional competitions.

Weis gift cards are an excellent way to raise money to support the music program. Gift cards are purchased for the face amount. Five percent of the proceeds from gift cards goes directly to the student's music account or, if there is no student involved, to LAMA. Please contact Cindy Malriat at 524-1132 or scmalriat@yahoo.com to purchase your gift cards!



This year, the Marching Dragons were invited to participate in the 2010 Independence Day Parade in Washington, D.C., and will travel there in July to participate. The cost per student is approximately \$650. LAMA has been working to come up with ways for students to earn money. Students who are unable to raise enough of their own money need help through school fundraisers. Anyone who wants to help make this educational trip possible for a student who cannot afford to go should consider making a donation to the Lewisburg Area Music Association and send it in the enclosed envelope.



Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters

Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters Board

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Nina Leshner, Vice-President
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Rebecca Weber, Secretary

Lewisburg Green Dragon
Sports Boosters
PO Box 580
Lewisburg, PA 17837
www.eteamz.com/GreenDragons

The **Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters (LGDSB)** is having its most successful year in history, thanks to you! Our fall fundraising campaign was up over 40 percent from a year ago— a fantastic result, given the economy. Our generous donors have come to trust and believe in our approach to supporting and developing athletics. **We have worked very hard to build an organization that supports all 625 student-athletes and 22 teams, giving each one an equal opportunity to be successful.**

This year we developed a new approach to the distribution of the funds we raise. In addition to helping to fund the purchase of equipment, including the basketball shooting machine, the football lineman's chute or new golf bags, we started distributing funds to every team based on the number of students participating. This lets our teams determine how to best use the money to help pay for trophies, team banquets, athletic apparel or even equipment.

We also gave our donors the tax-deductible option of either donating to our general fund to support our scholarship program, All Sports banquet and capital programs or giving to a specific sport team like bowling or swimming. Some individuals split their donations between the general fund and their favorite sport!

Another way the Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters raises funds is through the sale of Lewisburg branded apparel and merchandise. We will have a variety of items for sale at the Pawling Complex concession stand this spring, and will set up a booth at the Arts Festival—right next to the Towne Tavern Pig Roast. **During the year our complete product line is available at On Fire Promotions, 424 Market Street, in Lewisburg.** There's something for everyone and every budget!

We want to thank every individual who supported us with their time and money over this past year. If you are not already doing so, please consider joining us now! Your gift is an investment in our student-athletes and the programs that afford them the opportunity to have defining experiences in school. We need your support! Please also consider volunteering to help us. Concession stands and merchandise sales are a great way to meet fellow alumni and parents. Just indicate your willingness to help on the form included in this newsletter and someone will get in touch with you!



The continued resurgence of Lewisburg football captured the hearts and minds of the school and community in 2009. The boosters helped purchase a new lineman's chute for the team, a critical new piece of training equipment.

The Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters (con't)

Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters Donor Spotlight



*Very few community members can match Brady Fisher's (far left) contributions to Lewisburg athletics. Brady and his wife Kristen have opened up their home and business to Lewisburg student-athletes for countless meals and gatherings. Brady is a constant fixture at games and matches—not just for his own kids, but all sports. He's always a positive influence and takes the time to seek out and congratulate student-athletes for their performances. The annual Arts Festival Pig Roast is underwritten by Brady and the proceeds have benefited a variety of athletic teams and the sports boosters. This year, The Towne Tavern began "Monday Green Dragon Booster Nights," donating 10 percent of the proceeds from food sales to the sports boosters. **The boosters plan to use this fundraiser to support an exciting new project—the purchase of new championship banners for display in the gym to honor all the league, district and state champions in school history!** Come join us and, while you're there, thank Brady for all he does.*



Girls' soccer captured its first district title in Lewisburg history in 2009. Several donors directed funds specifically to this sport.



Lewisburg Area High School Alumni Association and Lewisburg High School Foundation

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College Scholarships Available

The Lewisburg Area High School Alumni Association, through the LAHS Foundation, offers \$1,000 scholarships to LAHS seniors and LAHS post-graduates. A total of \$14,000 will be awarded to current seniors and post-high school students this June and July.

Applications for seniors are available in the guidance office. Post-graduates will find their applications on-line at the Alumni Association's Web site (www.lahsalumni.com). All applications completed in full will be considered. Awards will be made at the Senior Award Assembly in June; winners of post-graduate scholarships will be announced by mail in July.

The first scholarship for \$500 was awarded to Andrew Strassner in 1999. After receiving two bequests in 2006, the scholarship program was opened up to LAHS post-grads. To date, 66 scholarships totaling \$58,500 have been awarded to 58 students.

Our goal is to provide as much financial aid to our students as possible. To keep our endowment growing, we have established a way to honor or memorialize a member of your family, a friend or classmate through a contribution to the LAHS Foundation Scholarship Fund. Upon receiving a named contribution, the designated name will be listed on a special honor page distributed with all the scholarships granted, as well as posted on our Alumni Association Web site.

**Tax-deductible donations can be mailed to
LAHS Foundation,
P.O. Box 228, Lewisburg, Pa. 17837
or you may send it in the enclosed envelope**

Alumni Auditorium

In recognition of the improvements made to the stage area of the high school auditorium, the School Board of the Lewisburg Area School District named it the Alumni Auditorium during a dedication ceremony at the High School Winter Choral Concert. Superintendent Mark DiRocco, School Board President Kathy Swope, and School Board member Mary Brouse made the presentation to Alumni Association Board members in attendance.

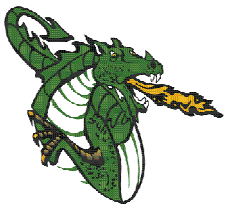
The Alumni Association selected the auditorium as the focus of its fundraising efforts because it's used by both the school district and the community for assemblies, meetings, theatre and musical events. Beginning in 2000, Bob Brouse, Class of 1958, worked with school administrators, maintenance staff and the music department to determine the needs and the scope of the project. Fundraising efforts began in 2003. Improvements included replacing the stage curtains, including the tracks and rigging, painting the back stage walls and the proscenium, replacing the stage floor and steps, installing new carpet, upgrading and/or replacing the stage lights and lighting system, including the related electrical work, and replacing the sound system. Over \$170,000 was raised through donations from alumni and friends, fundraising activities, proceeds from the Election Day Spaghetti Dinners, and grants from the Edna M. Sheary Charitable Trust. Justin Hill and the Music Boosters Association also allocated a portion of the proceeds from the May Pops Concert to the fundraising effort.



About the Alumni Association and High School Foundation

The Lewisburg Area High School Alumni Association was established in 1990 to encourage and cultivate communication, social activity and fellowship among alumni and friends of LAHS, to maintain and promote LAHS loyalty among alumni and friends, and to generally promote the interests of LAHS. The association sponsors a spaghetti dinner each election day at the middle school cafeteria, selects Distinguished Alumni each year from nominations received from the membership, organizes a gathering during Homecoming, sends at least one newsletter annually to its membership via email or printed copy, and maintains a membership database.

The Lewisburg Area High School Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization that accepts and expends funds in support of curricular and extracurricular activities and programs of the Lewisburg Area School District. The ongoing primary function of the foundation is to award scholarships to seniors and LAHS graduates recommended by a Scholarship Committee. Other projects selected by the board are based on the needs of the school district. The auditorium project has been the most recent long-term endeavor. Since its inception, the foundation also has purchased books and equipment for the fitness room, science department, technology center and computer lab. After raising the remaining funds to repay an internal loan, the board will determine their next project.



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I wish to support the good works of the following organization(s) and my check is enclosed and payable to the specific organization(s). Please include this remit slip and a check for each organization you wish to support in the enclosed envelope.

The Green Dragon Foundation

Elementary PSA (Kelly and Linntown)

Donald H. Eichhorn Middle School PSA

Lewisburg Green Dragon Sports Boosters Club

LAMA (Lewisburg Area Music Association)

LAHS Foundation Scholarship Program

My donation is to remain anonymous: _____ NO _____ YES

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please send me information about volunteer opportunities with _____

(Organization Name)

This is an address change