



OUR MISSION

To provide financial support to enhance the curriculum with unique and creative educational opportunities for students in the Vandalia-Butler City School District.



WHAT DO ANIMAL AMBASSADORS, GRANITE PLANETS AND AN ORIGINAL PLAY HAVE IN COMMON?

They are all innovative projects that opened a world of opportunities for Vandalia-Butler students and they were all funded by the VISIONS Endowment Fund. VISIONS, a fund of the Vandalia-Butler Foundation and managed by The Dayton Foundation, connects Vandalia-Butler students to memorable educational experiences.

Vandalia-Butler City Schools is considered one of the premier districts in the state of Ohio. With a low per pupil cost, an outstanding graduation percentage and a high college entrance rate, the district is focused on preparing students for adulthood the moment they arrive as preschoolers and kindergarteners.

But as school funding dwindles, programs are cut back. We have a real opportunity to step up and step in to fund those projects that the district's budget simply cannot afford.



ABOUT VISIONS

Established in 2002, VISIONS provides financial support for unique learning opportunities for students in grades K through 12. Projects funded by VISIONS expand classroom experiences beyond the narrow boundaries of the district's budget. Since its founding, VISIONS has raised \$200,000 and distributed grants totaling more than \$72,000. With your commitment, the fund will continue to grow and serve students far into the future.

VISIONS is not part of the Vandalia-Butler City Schools. The organization and its donors are ardent supporters of the vision to empower students with knowledge, creativity and skills that will enrich their families, communities and future careers.

VISIONS fundraising initiatives, grants and community awareness are managed by an education committee of The Vandalia-Butler Foundation. The community members are driven by a deep-seeded desire to see that our students have access to the very best educational experiences.



PROVIDING FUNDING OPTIONS DURING A TIME OF NEED

VISIONS donors make magic happen! Their donations transform ideas into instructional programs that engage, inspire and excite students. With donor support, we are able to grant up to \$10,000 per year to programs and projects that have a lasting impact on hundreds of kids.

Annually VISIONS invites the district's teachers and staff to submit grants for projects and programs that will have a meaningful impact on students. Creative and innovative, the requests cover everything from arts programs to real-world technology applications. These are projects that can make a real difference in students' educational experience.



FUNDING PROGRAMS THAT MOTIVATE STUDENTS

A donation to VISIONS helps bring credible, exciting opportunities to the students of Vandalia and Butler Township. All grant requests are thoroughly vetted to ensure your dollars go to educational experiences that will have extraordinary impact on our students, our schools and our community.

Who donates to VISIONS? Parents, teachers, business owners, community members, alumni, retirees, grandparents and more. Join them in bringing quality programs to our children!

VISIONS WANTS TO DO MORE

VISIONS' goal is to increase our annual grant amount to \$20,000 a year by 2020. With these additional funds, VISIONS will expand its ability to stimulate our students' minds to want to learn more. But to accomplish this, we need your help.



PROGRAMS FUNDED BY VISIONS

Dozens of exciting and motivating educational programs and projects for students in grades K through 12 have been funded by VISIONS grants.

VISIONS GRANT FUNDS KINDERGARTEN SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

In February 2013, Helke Elementary first grader Zachary Page was awarded the Civilian Medal of Honor by the City of Vandalia Fire Chief for his quick thinking and calm demeanor during an emergency. Zachary credited Passport to Safety, a week-long program that instructs incoming kindergartners on safety procedures, for teaching him what to do. The Passport to Safety program was at risk due to budget cuts, but with the help of a VISIONS Endowment Fund grant, kindergarteners will continue to benefit from the program's lessons on fire safety, stranger danger, what to do during an emergency and much more.

SECOND GRADERS PEN AN ORIGINAL PLAY WITH A VISIONS-FUNDED ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Change over time is an easy topic to understand, right? Not necessarily for younger students. To support curriculum standards that call for teaching "change over time" in second grade, VISIONS awarded a \$5,000 grant to bring MUSE Machine artist-in-residence Michael Lippert to Murlin Heights Elementary. Under his guidance, the entire second grade class developed, wrote and acted in a play about how inventions have advanced society over time. They played to a packed house and gained insight about not just change, but the transformative power of creativity and the arts.



THE SUN, MOON AND STARS, BROUGHT TO YOU BY VISIONS

Space tourism is a long way off, but thanks to VISIONS, Vandalia-Butler students and residents can explore the solar system close to home. A VISIONS grant helped fund a remarkable outdoor astronomy display at Smith Middle School, home of the district's planetarium. Covering the length of the Smith campus, the installation helps explorers conceptualize the distance between the planets as they trek from the sun, past Mercury and the inner planets, to Neptune and beyond. Each granite planet in the display has a unique design and is inscribed with facts both surprising and astounding.



Additional grant-funded project examples include:

- Hands-on lessons in the creative process from two published authors and Columbus Zoo animal ambassadors at Helke Elementary.
- Two dynamic "Windows to the World" technology stations that put interaction with the world at the fingertips of Demmitt Elementary students.
- Creation of "Flight Crew", a transition and mentoring program for Butler High School freshmen. The program was recognized as an outstanding "New Student Program" by the Ohio School Boards Association Southwest Region.
- Class trips to the Dayton Art Institute to study the arts as presented by the world's great artists.
- Support for high school students to explore the international "Bodies" exhibit at the Cincinnati Museum Center.

HOW TO DONATE

It's easy to make a donation and your contributions are fully tax deductible.

Online: www.visionsendowmentfund.org

Mail:

Visions Fund #3149
c/o The Dayton Foundation
1401 S Main Street, Suite 100
Dayton OH 45409-2600

Checks should be made payable to the Dayton Foundation with a note indicating gift is for the VISIONS Endowment Fund.

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