

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

OUR MISSION

Expand and enhance every student's education through a partnership with Gull Lake Community Schools to provide enrichment opportunities for students, educators, and staff.

OUR VISION

We envision a school district where all students achieve their full potential.

OUR VALUES

- Education
- Innovation
- Partnering with the school district, teachers, students, and the community
- Good and thoughtful stewardship of financial resources
- Diversity
- Integrity

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY

The future begins here.





Dear Community Member,

I hope you find our recent news and achievements highlighted in this 2022-23 Annual Report as exciting as we do! **We are grateful to our donors for making it all possible!**

This year, we've been celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Gull Lake Community Schools (GLCS) Foundation. It was 40 years ago that our founding members started the GLCS Foundation with a \$200 check and a mission: To partner with the school district, to provide students, teachers and staff funding for programs to **expand and enhance** education across Gull Lake Community Schools. Programs that are not funded through regular school budgets. Over the years, the GLCS Foundation has provided **over \$3.4 million** to achieve this mission. **Impressive results!**

The GLCS Foundation is a not-for-profit organization comprised of volunteers from across the community. Over the past 40 years, GLCS Foundation volunteers have put in over 500 people-years supporting Gull Lake Community Schools! Why do we do it? Because we believe in our vision: **A school district where all students achieve their full potential.** We are inspired by the students and staff of Gull Lake Schools and the members of this community. And we know—strong schools build a stronger, more successful community. **This is why we do it!**

As we look ahead, our goal is to be a sustainable resource for Gull Lake Community Schools. We are determined to continue supporting impactful and successful programs, such as One District, One Book, Leader in Me, Twisted Devil Robotics, Scholarships and Read and Ride.

We are poised to seize new opportunities as well!

That's where you come in. Your support allows us to continue the important work of funding excellence in education. Your generosity allows us to build on the success of the past 40 years for the benefit of the students of GLCS and our community.

Please partner with us and donate today!

THANK YOU! *The future begins here.*

BY THE NUMBERS 2022-2023

GRANTS

55 AWARDED

TOTALING
\$135,477

Benefitted students, teachers, and staff in every building, including Gateway Academy and Gull Lake Virtual Partnership.

SCHOLARSHIPS

43 AWARDED

TOTALING
\$82,000

DAS SCHOLARS

33 STUDENTS

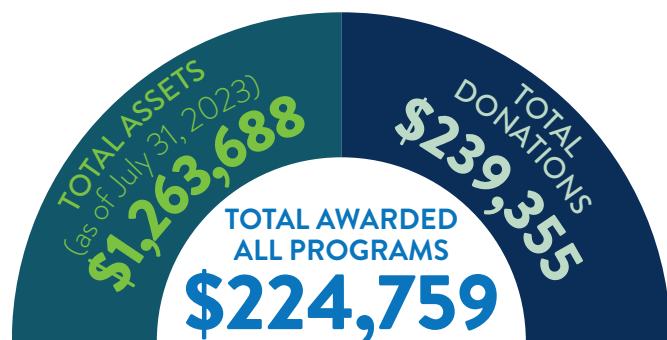
Earned a **3.9 GPA** or higher during their High School Career.

TOTALING
\$5,032

SPARK SERIES

GL Spell Fundraiser

TOTALING
\$26,000



The GLCS Foundation is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit school foundation established solely for the benefit of Gull Lake Community Schools.

SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT – LAURIE MAKIN CARTWRIGHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Glen Hedin
2023 Recipient of
the Laurie Makin
Cartwright Scholarship

Since 2010, the Cartwright family has honored the memory of their daughter, Laurie Makin Cartwright, with a scholarship in her name through the GLCS Foundation. Laurie was a 2009 graduate of Gull Lake High School and was active and passionate about both the Performing Arts and the Marching Band programs throughout her time in high school.

The decision to honor Laurie through an academic scholarship was inspired by her love of children. Laurie had wanted to pursue a career in family law, and a scholarship seemed like a great way to impact young people and their futures.

For the first six years, the family funded the scholarship by holding an annual golf tournament. The scholarship is now funded through a unique philanthropic group of friends that privately funds

different causes through a variety of ways, from silent auctions to 50/50 raffles during the year.

The first scholarship was \$500, and it has increased over the years to a now amazingly generous \$3,000 annually, which is incredibly impactful for the recipient.

The family has requirements for candidates: the applicant must be a graduating Gull Lake High School senior who is planning to enroll in an accredited college, university, or trade school as a full-time student; The applicant must have a minimum 3.5 GPA at the end of the first trimester senior year and must be a four-year; participant in Gull Lake Band and/or PAC.

The family personally selects each recipient, basing their decisions on “trusting their gut

instincts” while reviewing their choices, stating that it's often hard to decide on just one student. They enjoy staying in touch with students they help and followed their first scholarship recipient, Matt Vosters, and his journey all the way through medical school. It's all about helping students in Laurie's memory.

Selfless generosity like this speaks volumes about the Cartwrights and many of the families and organizations behind scholarships given in memory of others. The GLCS Foundation is privileged to facilitate these commemorative scholarships.

Thank you to the Cartwrights and their continued desire to support our Gull Lake graduates.



What's the Buzz? GL SPELL!

What a night! Our first ever Celebrity Spelling Bee, “GL SPELL”, was something to BUZZ about! Proceeds of over \$5,000 will support the “One Community, One Book” literacy program, providing more than 3,000 Gull Lake students and their families the gift of reading together.



Our GLCS Foundation's “Spark Series” will launch the “One Community, One Book” program in partnership with Gull Lake Community Schools in the 2023-2024 school year!

EVERY student in Young 5s through 12th grade at GLCS will receive a book and coordinated activities to improve listening skills, cognitive and language development, expanded vocabulary, attention span, creativity, life lessons, and social emotional development to share with their families!

THANK YOU to our Spell-ebrities and the incredible Gull Lake community for your support of GL SPELL! Congratulations to, Spelling Champ-Paul Dykstra and Fundraising Champ-Stacy Clark.

We BEE-lieve in the potential of our students!

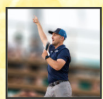
GL Spell "SPELLEbrities"



Jack Buck



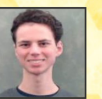
Stacy Clark



Brian Colopy



Paul Dykstra



Dimitri Flotstra



Kim Lewis



State Senator
Sean McCann



Andy Pepper



Raph
Rittenhouse



Keith Thompson

GLCS Foundation donations work hard to enhance education at GL Schools.



Annual presentation of “Big Check” totaling \$224,759 at Gull Lake Field.

Please support the Foundation that supports your Gull Lake schools.
Go to glcsf.org to donate and learn more.

Follow us on:



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33 Distinguished Academic Scholars Celebrated!

On Thursday, May 25, 2023, the GLCS Foundation celebrated the Class of '23's Distinguished Academic Scholars and their selected honored staff members with a reception at the Gull Lake Country Club. Distinguished Academic Scholars are Gull Lake Seniors who have earned a 3.9 grade point average or higher during their high school career.



Front Row: Sydney Padgett, Mackenzie Thornton, Madison Bilbia, Katie Godbey, Regan McCarthy, Faith Goodman, Allison Tucci, William Lin.

Second Row: Abigail Sexton, Emma Kerr, Ella Ezbenko, Raegan Millmier, Avery Hesling, Blakeslee Boudeman, Ella Kamman, Claire Flynn, Ryan Hook, JJ Heikka.

Back Row: Kenneth Garno, Celah Dunn, Ryan Arnold, Robert Arce, Mark Beckett, Clayton Kryscak, Adam Boyle, Alexander Symanzik.

Not Pictured: Kayla Bartell, Raegan Coughenour, Abigail Eilertson, Payton Isom, Colton Ludmer, Catherine Mollison and Benjamin Slager.

Photo credit: Mark Yancey

GLCS FOUNDATION DONORS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

DONOR KEY

IN MEMORY OF:

1. Jill Adamski
2. Sharon Boudeman
3. Frederick Bowman
4. Debra Bradley
5. Robert Britigan
6. Dorothy Carnell
7. Laurie M. Cartwright
8. Melanie Chojnowski
9. Gloria Deal
10. Marion Gesmundo
11. Serafino Gesmundo
12. Blair Holden
13. Randy Johnson
14. Blake Kemp - Love of Reading
15. Bonnie Mellema
16. Ike Mellema
17. Jason Morse
18. Beth Palmatier
19. Collin Rose
20. Tom Ryan
21. Saylor Irene Scott
22. Robert W. Smith
23. David S. Ticknor
24. Christopher Uggen
25. Zachery Wisniewski
26. Bob Woodrow

IN HONOR OF:

27. Will and Libby Beardsley
28. Dabrowski Kids
29. Paul Dykstra
30. GL Class of 2023
31. Isom – Ahern Families
32. Paul Klein
33. Clayton Kryszak
34. Beckett Lockerbie
35. Joyce Melvin
36. Phyllis Pelletier
37. Amy Perry
38. Jon Scott

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American Online Giving Foundation
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Cross Family Endowment
Bob and Margaret Ells Endowment
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VISIONARIES (\$10,000+)

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Cross Family Foundation
ENNA Foundation
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LEADERS (\$2,500-\$9,999)

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Laurie Makin Cartwright Memorial Scholarship 7
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