



The STARS FOUNDATION

The STARS Foundation is a non-profit organization that is wonderfully unique to our school. The STARS Foundation was formed on June 29, 1998, as a 501c3 organization under the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation was originally devised to give us the opportunity to raise funds that could be distributed back to Edmonds Elementary school with the purpose of providing support for enrichment programs that will enhance the educational experience for our students in the subjects of **arts, reading and science**. Our funding is raised through a yearly auction and is distributed through a grant process.

Our Auction Committee is the integral part of our STARS Foundation. Through this committee we raise an amazing amount of funding each year through our annual STARS Auction that allows us to fund wonderful enrichment opportunities for our students. We encourage ALL families to become involved in donating and attending our Edmonds Elementary STARS Auction. It takes a dedicated group of willing volunteers to put on a successful auction year after year and we need new families to get involved. Our auctions have raised between \$30,000 and \$70,000 each year. The list of sponsors is posted in the ORCA News and on our website. Families are encouraged to look over this list and patronize the shops of the local merchants that support our school. Teachers, staff, parents, and community members are eligible, and encouraged, to write grants for enrichment activities and projects through a grant process. The STARS Foundation Board, a group of about 12 parents and teachers, meet twice a year to approve these grants and furthermore oversee the distribution of funds according to STARS guidelines. The grant must fall within the teaching of arts, reading and science and benefit the students of Edmonds Elementary. We try to allocate as much of the funds as possible in the following calendar year after the STARS Auction to benefit the contributing families. Due to current economic conditions our funds are more relied upon than ever and our board is very conscientious upon allocating these funds accordingly.

All teachers, staff, parents and community members are considered to be a part of The STARS Foundation as it is an all inclusive organization and meant to benefit the entire student body. Members of our community who wish to serve on our Board of Directors can apply in writing. Our Board consists of a President, Secretary, Treasurer, Intermediate Staff Representative, Primary Staff Representative, and Reading, Science, Community, Arts and PTA Representatives.

The results of the STARS Foundation's efforts are evident throughout our school. From our art filled courtyard, vibrant all school musicals, lively musical theatre assemblies, fabulous science assemblies, science night, enhanced science curriculums, superior art supplies, after school clubs and classes, enriched reading programs, innovative writing toolkits, new books for the library to new innovative writing toolkits. STARS funds also partially fund 5th and 6th grade Outdoor School Camp, and (upon availability) \$500 for each classroom for field trips.

How you can support STARS...by offering skills of your own or someone you know, to teach our students in the subjects of arts, reading, or science- apply for a grant and make it happen! Get involved by donating goods, services, or your time for our STARS auction. Many hands are needed to make the evening a success! We look forward to working with you to create another enriching year for our students at Edmonds Elementary.