

# Foundation for Fort Mill Schools

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



November 10, 2015

## Letter from the Executive Director

*One exceptional, giving community. That's the summary for 2015 at the Foundation for Fort Mill Schools. I, gratefully and humbly, extend my deepest thanks to all who have worked to partner with us through donations and volunteerism. The programs we offer each year are rooted in strengthening our schools by providing financial resources that would otherwise be unavailable. I am certain that not a single one of our programs would be successful without this exceptional, giving community in which we live.*

*Individuals, businesses, PTOs, local churches, civic organizations and others called, wrote, signed up, donated and made great things happen. **You** nearly doubled the amount of scholarship funds given to support graduating high school seniors. **You** supported the Beta Sigma Phi golf tournament, who gave 100% of their proceeds to our teacher grant program. **You** supported the Classroom Ready initiative and **you** held supply drives throughout the community. Since August, **you** gave \$25,000 (and counting!) in school supplies to help meet our students' needs. **You** supported the TEC Dowling Memorial Golf Tournament to raise funds for our programs and **you** gave to the foundation individually to help all of our programs grow and run efficiently. **You** are enriching the educational lives of students and staff in the Fort Mill Schools. I look forward to working with you to further build and grow these programs in 2016!*

*Gratefully,*

*Lynn Ringley*



## SAVE THE DATE!

### Fort Mill Cookin' 4 the Kids CHILI Showdown

**February 27, 2016**

*Cook, Sponsor, Be a Guest*

[Fortmillcookin4thekids.org](http://Fortmillcookin4thekids.org)

### TEC Dowling Memorial Golf Tournament

**June 10, 2016**

*Play Golf, Sponsor, Volunteer*

[FFMS.org](http://FFMS.org)

## Local businesses tee up for a good cause

The Foundation for Fort Mill Schools held its 1<sup>st</sup> annual TEC Dowling Golf Tournament in May, raising \$18,000 to support the Foundation's grants, scholarships, and programs. Fort Mill School District teachers, staff and administrators joined with players from local businesses to enjoy a beautiful day of golf, a delicious steak dinner, and a lot of fun.

The tournament is held in memory of TEC Dowling, who served as Superintendent of Fort Mill Schools from 1997 to 2005. He was a tireless advocate for "Children First" and was instrumental in the creation of the Foundation for Fort Mill Schools.



## FFMS gets students Classroom Ready

For two days in August, Foundation for Fort Mill Schools staff and volunteers passed out school supplies and book bags for students in need as part of **Classroom Ready**, the foundation's school supply program.

On the first day of distribution, an elementary school boy excitedly approached the table to select a book bag. Without hesitation, he picked out a Spiderman book bag. "This is the best day ever," he said. "I am Spiderman's number one fan!"

His excitement was echoed over and over throughout the two days, as children and their parents picked up school supplies.

By the end of the event more than 350 book bags and 12,000 school supplies had been given to Fort Mill School District students in need. But that was just the beginning. In the following weeks, the Foundation reached out to guidance counselors to help continue identifying any remaining needs, so that all students could begin school with the supplies they need.

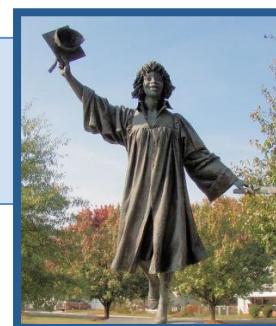
Guidance counselors were also invited to "shop" in **Ms. Moore's Room**, the Foundation's year-round free school supply room designed to continue serving children in need as additional supplies are required.

A 3-year grant from the Springs Close Foundation provided school supplies to stock **Ms. Moore's Room** in memory of beloved Fort Mill educator Susan Moore. Generous contributions from district parents, community members, Shutterfly, and other business partners also helped make **Classroom Ready** a success.



## 2015 Scholarship Winners

*Thanks to our scholarship sponsors, these students were awarded over \$38,000 in scholarships!*



**Carter-Sink Memorial Scholarship**  
**Charlotte Ledford Memorial Scholarship**  
**Donna Helton Memorial Scholarship**  
**FMSD Teacher Forum Teacher Cadet Scholarship**

**Harold and Phoebe McCallum Scholarship**  
**Hugh White Memorial Scholarship**  
**Jasper Health Science Scholarship**  
**Lillian Dickert Gainey Memorial Scholarship**  
**Malison Financial Group Scholarship**  
**Phyllis Faircloth Special Education Scholarship**

**Rebecca Lynn New Art Scholarship**  
**Robert C & Dorothy C Hill Marine JROTC Scholarship**  
**Sheridan Family Scholarship**

**Tega Cay Lions Club: Bob Cullen Jr. Scholarship**  
**Tega Cay Lions Club: Reggie Nefzger Scholarship**  
**Tega Cay Lions Club: Ron Kazel Scholarship**  
**Tim Hawkins Memorial Scholarship**

Corbin Amaya  
Hannah Mackey  
Olivia Thompson  
Stewart Ruddy, Najah Smith,  
Fantajza Johnson, Hailey Barefield, Amy Bailey  
and Ashley Westmoreland  
Kendrick Edwards and Grayson Pender  
Brandon Plyler  
Jessica Marsh  
Jessica Newman  
Kendrick Edwards  
Mia Champion  
Kathleen Mulcahey  
Morgan Meredith, Zach Schmitt and Noah  
Stalnaker  
Luke Irmiter, Haley DePorte, Brittany Marie  
Franklin, Bailey Fatool and Suzanna Goss  
Katelyn Wilk  
Savanna Maynard  
Wesley Master  
Jacob Kohlhoff

## Foundation grant brings fiction to life

Students in Nicole LaFave's English II class gathered in a courtyard at Fort Mill High School in October. Working in small groups, they talked excitedly about the book they had just finished reading, *Between Shades of Gray*. Together, they had created storyboards and planned costumes, all in preparation for filming a movie trailer about the book, using the iMovie application on iPad.

After completing their movie trailers, the class had a unique opportunity to Skype with author Ruta Sepetys. The iMovie application, books for the classroom, and the Skype session with the author were paid for by a Foundation for Fort Mill Schools grant.

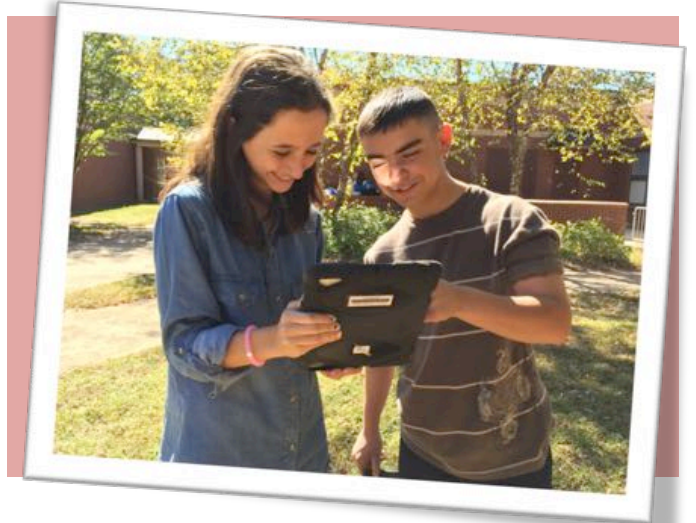
"During the Skype session, students felt a connection with the author. Many told me after that they liked the book even more after chatting with her. She shared personal stories about her writing of the novel and even told us what happened to different characters in various drafts of the novel," LaFave said.

The grant also provided funds for Mrs. LaFave to purchase a yearlong subscription to Flipgrid, an application that allows her to pose questions to the students. They reply with self-recorded videos, which LaFave compiles for classroom discussion.

"Flipgrid is a great place for my shy students to discuss the book. After answering the question in privacy, I play the Flipgrid for the whole class to watch. It then elicits discussion. It's a wonderful tool for getting my quiet students to participate in class discussions," she said.

Mrs. LaFave received one of the Foundation for Fort Mill School's Innovative Classroom Project Grants. She was awarded \$600 to make her education vision a reality. Mrs. LaFave was one of 44 teachers awarded Innovative Classroom Project Grants, allowing them the financial resources to bring exciting ideas to their students.

"My project would not have been possible without the grant," LaFave said.



**2015-2016 Grant Winners**

### Did you know...

1. 44 teachers and administrators were recipients of grants this year.
2. Every school in the district has received funding through the Foundation for Fort Mill Schools Grants Program.
3. Beta Sigma Phi of Fort Mill held a golf fundraiser this spring and donated 100% of the proceeds to our Grant Program.

4. YOU can provide a grant! Do you have a passion you would like to see represented in our schools? Provide a grant and make it happen! We currently offer privately funded grants supporting Technology and The Arts thanks to the Dowling and McCollum families.

## 2015 Board of Directors

### Officers

Martha Kinard, <i>Chair</i>	Allen Tate Realtors
Eddie Dowling, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Celgene
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Caryn Scroggs, <i>Secretary</i>	FMSD Staff Liaison

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Heather Cromwell	The Cromwell Group
Luther Dasher	Pulcra Chemicals
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Sula Pettibon	Family Trust Federal Credit Union
Lynn Redmon	Retired FMSD Teacher, Community Volunteer
Steven Sheridan	EY (Ernst & Young)
Steve Siebert	Domtar Paper Company

### Ex-Officio Members

Marty McGinn	FMSD4 Assistant Superintendent
Diane Dasher	FMSD4 Board of Trustee

*We extend a special thank you to Steve Siebert and Tena Cornwell for their service over the past 3 years. We appreciate all you have done to help move the Foundation forward. You will be missed!*

### The Foundation for Fort Mill Schools

PO Box 476  
Fort Mill, SC 29716

**Want to know more?**

**[www.ffms.org](http://www.ffms.org)**

**[info@ffms.org](mailto:info@ffms.org)**



**2.27.16**

**[fortmillcookin4thekids.org](http://fortmillcookin4thekids.org)**