

We Couldn't Do It Without Our Community

Summer is a time to reflect on the past school year and set goals for a new year. As I look at the list of accomplishments of the 2018-19 school year, I am drawn to those of our students and the district. Our students set goals in academics, fine arts, athletics, and their personal lives. They work diligently with teachers, directors, coaches, and fellow students to achieve. We are blessed to be witnesses of their success.

Dover Schools is no different. Each year we assess district needs and develop a plan to meet those needs. Using resources efficiently is the guiding force behind what we are able to accomplish. With \$85,358,284 in buildings and property, 3,981 technology devices, and a transportation fleet of 17 buses and 5 vans, managing capital expenditures is a challenge. As in a personal budget, there is never enough money to do all that needs to be accomplished.

As permanent improvement funds are limited, Dover Schools is blessed to have many local foundations that provide funds for improvements that we could not afford otherwise. The installation of a new track at Crater Stadium, funded by a grant of \$185,000 from the Reeves Foundation, is a recent example. The Harold C. and Marjorie Q. Rosenberry Foundation also funded much-needed HVAC work in the locker room area. Our community can also look forward to the installation of a new video scoreboard at Crater Stadium, due to continuous support and full funding from the Tornado Club Athletic Boosters and private donations. Our students and community members will benefit from these upgrades.

Dover's Project Lead the Way classes receive ongoing support from the Tuscarawas County Community Foundation, Dewey H. and Irene G. Moomaw Foundation, Haman Family Foundation, Marsh Foundation, Culpepper Foundation, Chevron Corporation, and Kimble Companies. This pre-engineering coursework provides instruction in grades K-12. Many of our graduates enter engineering programs with credits they received at DHS.

For students with unique and specialized needs, the Rainbow Connection is always generous. Their funds purchase items for specific students to assist them in their learning. The Reeves Foundation has also awarded funds to upgrade the heating and cooling in our classrooms for students with disabilities.

The Dover Education Foundation granted almost \$25,000 for student scholarships and teacher grants this year. Teacher grants provide teachers training opportunities specific to their classrooms. Students benefit from their teachers being up-to-date with today's strategies in their fields of study. The Bernard Wentz Scholarship, awarded annually, provided \$80,000 in scholarships to approximately 70 Dover High School alumni.

For special projects, Dover teachers and administrators continue to think outside the box to generate funds within our community. When a community foundation's purpose and the district's goals align, it is a win for both our students and taxpayers.