OUR³
TALENT. ACHIEVEMENT. POTENTIAL.

AN ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN
FOR THE GRENVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

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Village Green Show Choir, High School
Dear Friends:

For nearly twenty years, the Education Foundation of Greenville has been supporting programs of excellence in our local public schools. Charitable gifts invested in the Education Foundation directly impact our ability to provide area students with the necessary resources to help them achieve their full potential.

Unfortunately, over the last decade, public schools have been asked to do more with fewer state resources. In Greenville, we have cut our school budget by over $9 million in the last three years. Many of these cost-saving measures have not had an immediate impact on student achievement—however, we anticipate future cuts will impact our ability to provide the very best education for our local students.

In response to this challenging environment, the Board of the Education Foundation of Greenville recently initiated the Our 3 Campaign, a $1 million endowment effort to supplement funding for our âne arts and advanced and accelerated programs.

We have recruited an outstanding group of community leaders who support a long-term investment in our public school system to help with this campaign. Additionally, we have partnered with the Greenville Area Community Foundation to create two new school funds—one to support âne arts programs and one to support programs for advanced and accelerated students. The Community Foundation board and staff will ensure that all funds raised through this effort will directly benefit our students.

We are now approaching our community to seek your help in securing the future of our schools. Please join us in supporting the Our 3 Campaign as we seek to invest in the talent, achievement, and potential of our region’s children.

Sincerely,

Campaign Chairs

Jon Alysworth, Co-Chair
Charlotte Lothian, Co-Chair
Jeffrey Cook, Co-Chair
OUR SCHOOLS

The Greenville Public Schools have a long history of strong education and have been serving the Greenville community since 1845. OUR school district operates one high school, one middle school, and four elementary schools. We are very proud that all of our elementary, middle and high school buildings are accredited by the North Central Association.

Over the years OUR community and the Greenville High School alumni have supported the schools through generous philanthropy. This history has enabled our schools to keep our commitment to excellence and ensure a strong future for OUR children.

The Education Foundation of Greenville (EFG) was organized in 1991. It operates independently from the Greenville Public Schools. However, it encourages program suggestions from school personnel, alumni and members of the community.

The EFG is run by a Board of Trustees, selected from a cross section of the community in the school district, and is responsible for the operation of the Foundation.

EFG is supported by voluntary contributions from individuals and businesses. It is the philosophy of the Foundation to immediately invest the monies raised in programs benefiting the schools, not merely to have them accumulate interest.

At a time when state funding for public education has failed to keep pace with the most basic instructional needs, this CampAign will help protect and inspire programs and services for students with academic and performing arts ambition.
Our challenge

In communities all across Michigan, the public school systems face a critical challenge.

State per pupil funding has failed to keep pace even with inflation. And as a result OUR district has to do ‘more’ with fewer financial resources. We anticipate the following needs in the near future:

• An educational endowment fund to provide funding for innovative programs designed to meet the needs of our academically ambitious students that fall outside the general operating budget, as well as maintain existing programs.

• The establishment of a permanent endowment for the performing arts that would sustain programming and staff, ultimately preserving performing arts education for the children of Greenville Public schools.

In order to reduce the gap between declining state education resources and our desire to maintain excellence in OUR schools, we have been challenged to and other sources of funding for educational programming.

We strongly believe that the Our 3 Campaign will dramatically increase OUR community’s investment in the Greenville Public Schools.
Keeping our local schools strong is worthy of our support. The Our 3 Campaign is seeking $1 million in community philanthropy to perpetuate two key program areas in our public schools:

• Performing arts programming
• Advanced, accelerated, and academic enrichment programs to meet the needs of academically ambitious children

You can help us invest in the talent, achievement, and potential of area students by supporting this campaign through:

• A one time cash gift
• A multiple year pledge commitment
• A gift of investment assets (i.e. stocks, bonds, real estate)
• An estate gift

All gifts to the Our 3 Campaign will be deposited with the Greenville Area Community Foundation. The Community Foundation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Accordingly, your gift is tax deductible to the full extent of state and federal law. Additionally, the State of Michigan makes special tax provisions for gifts to endowment funds at Community Foundations. Please contact our staff or see your tax advisor for details.

**The Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit**

When you or your business gives a gift to the Our 3 Campaign, your gift is deposited in an endowed fund with the Greenville Community Foundation. Thanks to the Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit, you can multiply the effects of your charitable gift and receive a generous tax credit on your state taxes.

**How Does It Work?**

Michigan law permits a taxpayer to reduce their Michigan Income Tax by a credit of 50% of the amount contributed to a community foundation endowment fund, subject to a maximum credit of:

• $100 for an individual aligning singly (based on a $200 contribution)
• $200 for a married couple aligning jointly (based on a $400 contribution)
• For businesses, $5,000 or 10% of tax liability before claiming any credits, whichever is less
• For a resident estate or trust (based on a $10,000 contribution) $5,000 or 5% of tax liability before claiming any credits, whichever is less

**PLEASE NOTE:**

This information is intended for explanation purposes only. Actual tax-related savings may vary depending upon your income level and tax bracket. Your personal tax advisor can assist you with tax credit arrangements. Gifts to the Greenville Community Foundation are fully tax deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes and will be promptly acknowledged with a confirmation, which includes indication of tax credit eligibility to be used in the preparation for State of Michigan Income Tax Returns.
Funding from the Our 3 Campaign will provide the flexibility to respond to new opportunities and challenges that will increase student achievement. These funds will help support programs like:

Elementary:
- December programs for each building
- Spring programs for each building

Middle School:
- Sixth, Seventh and Eight Grade Choir
- Harmonizers
- Sixth, Seventh and Eight Grade Band
- Beginning Strings
- Seventh Grade Strings
- Eighth Grade String Orchestra

High School:
- Freshman Girls Choir
- Junior Varsity Singers
- Concert Choir
- Village Green Singers
- Marching Band
- Symphonic Band
- Concert Band
- Junior Varsity Band
- Jazz Band
- Symphony Orchestra

Theater:
- Musical
- MIFA Competition Play
- High School Play
- Middle School Play

Advanced and/or accelerated course offerings:
- Advanced Placement classes
- Honors classes
- Independent studies

Other Activities:
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Battle of the Books
- Spelling Bees
- Science Olympiad

Guidance and counseling:
- Access to current information related to the unique needs of their students

Adequate training for staff allowing preparation, development and time to implement appropriate educational strategies.
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OUR3
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 Caleb, Lincoln Heights