



# DFEE NEWS

DFEE 2007

## DFEE PLANS \$2.5 MILLION DOLLAR CAMPAIGN

According to the National School Foundation Association, support from public sources is not likely to be sufficient to provide the resources necessary to meet increasing educational needs. School districts across the nation are turning to education foundations for help with this formidable challenge.

For good reason, education foundations are "popping up" all over the country. Shrinking tax revenues, budget cuts, and a shift of state and national funds to the poorest school districts are fueling the need for school foundations. The needs in our own Durango School District 9-R reflect this national trend.

There are currently over 4000 K-12 school foun-

datations nationwide. School districts are documenting higher quality education and are better able to stay ahead of the curve and producing higher test results in academic achievement as a result of foundation support.

DFEE is YOUR education foundation. Since 1984, DFEE has provided support for the students of the Durango School District 9-R. Recently funded programs include Character Development, Foreign Language, Math Achievement, Social Emotional Learning, Technology, Science and Engineering.

The national trend clearly indicates that education foundations are becoming less and less optional and that these foundations can have an overwhelmingly positive influence on a school district's

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## CHARACTER BUILDING AMONG DFEE FUNDED PROGRAMS

### FOR 2007/2008 SCHOOL YEAR

In order for children and young people to do their best in school, they need to be functioning in an environment conducive to learning. They need to feel safe physically and emotionally.

Social emotional development is an important focus in order for our children to excel academically and to become well-rounded human beings with an understanding of respect, responsibility, honesty, trustworthiness, and service.

Partially funded by a grant from the Daniels Fund, DFEE is supporting Character Building and Social Emotional Learning as a focus this year.

Funds will also be provided for Accelerated Math at the elementary school level and for the Mesa Program, supporting students in the areas of science and engineering.



DFEE FUNDS CHARACTER BUILDING DISTRICT WIDE



**Sandra Smith,**  
**Executive Director**  
**of the**  
**Durango Foundation**  
**For Educational**  
**Excellence**  
**Since 2004**

## A Message from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I network with community members and speak about our work at DFEE, I seem to always introduce myself by saying, “I am Sandra Smith and I am proud to be serving as the Executive Director of the Durango Foundation for Educational Excellence.” This is a very true statement and a sentiment that I extend from the heart. There are many reasons why I take so much pride in my work here at DFEE.

I am proud to be working together with a board of trustees who both as a group and as individuals exemplify what an involved and working board of

trustees can accomplish. They support my deep belief that the positive spirit in which we do our work is as important as the work itself.

I am also proud of the grades we have received on what I consider our “organization report card”. Each year, the teachers and staff in the Durango School District 9-R are given the opportunity to contribute to DFEE through the 9-R payroll deduction plan. This year, teachers and staff have pledged nearly \$18,000 in payroll deductions. This amount has more than doubled over the past three years. To me, this is a clear message from the people we serve that the positive impact of our work here at DFEE is being felt within the schools on a daily basis. School life is easier, in part, because of our work here at DFEE.

And I am proud and honored to be enjoying so many wonderful and deeply sincere community partner-

ships for the benefit of our students—our kids—as so many of the teachers and staff in our district so lovingly refer to them.

What a satisfying endeavor it is to share ideas and pull together our financial resources combined with a deep sense of caring in order to support our kids and the quality of life and economic growth in our wonderful Durango community.

Whether we are doing little things or BIG things — providing school supplies and field trip money for children that would otherwise be left out —providing foreign language programs, character building programs, accelerated math, science and engineering—together we are making a difference.

On behalf of the students in the Durango School District 9-R, thank you for supporting this important work.



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Sandra M. Smith

### DID YOU KNOW?

**For the school year 2006/2007,**

**DFEE provided and facilitated**

**\$102,450**

**in**

**projects and programs that would**

**otherwise be unavailable to our local students.**

HOW QUALITY K-12 EDUCATION IMPACTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Continued from page 1

ability to offer excellence in public education.

This is why the Durango Foundation for Educational Excellence will launch a 2.5 million dollar education funds drive early in 2008. The drive is intended to provide long-term sustainability for the organization and facilitate the ability of DFEE to continue to steadily increase funding for important projects and programs for our local students.

For more information on education foundations visit www.schoolfoundations.org

According to emerging research at a national level, the quality of the education provided by our public schools has a direct impact on the economic development of our communities. As stated by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, with more than 86% of students in the US attending public schools, there is a critical relationship between public education and economic growth and this has been well explored through academic research.

The impact has been measured in the areas outlined below. Each specific area shows a direct correlation between K-12 per-pupil expenditures and a community's economic growth. These areas include:

- Attraction of new businesses into the area
Residential real estate values
Worker productivity
Ability of businesses in the region to apply new technology
Higher wages and purchasing power later in a student's life
Resident retention
Student matriculation
Increased employment rates
Drawing a higher educated work force to the region
Increased quality of life

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Yes! I would like to invest in quality K-12 education by supporting a stronger, expanding EDUCATION FOUNDATION in the Durango community. I would like to support the Durango Foundation for Educational Excellence.

- I have enclosed my back to school contribution of \_\_\_\_\_.
I am enclosing an additional contribution of \_\_\_\_\_ toward the DFEE \$2.5 million dollar education fund drive. Total contribution enclosed \_\_\_\_\_.
Please acknowledge my gift in honor of \_\_\_\_\_. Please allow my gift to remain anonymous \_\_\_\_\_.
In memory of \_\_\_\_\_.
In celebration of (birthday, graduation, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_.

Please send my receipt to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_
City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your tax deductible contribution to:
DFEE 201 E 12th Avenue Durango, CO 81301

To share your time, please contact us at 385-1491 to become a valued volunteer for DFEE !
DFEE is a private 501 (c) 3 charitable non-profit organization.

Economic Development Continued from Page 4

Input from both the Durango Chamber of Commerce, local business owners and from Durango real estate professionals substantiate that these national trends have equal application in our local community.

There are now over 4,000 education foundations nationwide. This is because a school district with an education foundation to support it translates into a stronger school system...stronger educational and social support for each and every student...and a stronger community.

INVESTING IN DFEE...YOUR EDUCATION FOUNDATION...PROVIDES GREAT RETURNS FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

Resources

Barro, R. & Lee, J. (2001) *Determinants of Economic Growth*. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press.

De Luna, P. (1998) Local education foundations: Right for Many Schools. Phi Delta 385-389.

Dessus, S. (1999) *Human Capital and Growth: The Recovered Role of Educational Systems*: World Bank Working Paper.

Merz, C. & Frankel, S. (1998) Private funds for public schools: A study of school foundations. WA: University of Puget Sound.

Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation (2002). *Financing Education: Investments and Returns*

**THE DFEE MISSION**

To develop resources and encourage and recognize educational improvement and excellence for all students in Durango School District 9-R.

**Your Education Foundation**

DFEE is an independent, non-profit

501(c)(3) charitable organization committed to building excellence within Durango School District 9-R. The Foundation provides teachers and students a resource for funds for educational projects that fall outside the possibilities for funding by the School District 9-R budget.

201 E 12th Street, Durango, CO 81301

970-385-1491

dfee@durango.k12.co.us

www.dfee.net



*Planning a class reunion?*

Wondering if a reunion is being planned  
for your class this year?

DFEE helps get the word out.

Visit our reunion page at [www.dfee.net](http://www.dfee.net).

Contact our office for class lists

or to enlist our DFEE intern to

help at your event.

385-1491



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**A SPECIAL EVENT HONORING ALL DFEE SUPPORTERS**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008**

**5-7 PM**

**DOUBLETREE HOTEL BALLROOM**

**Please join us and let us show our appreciation.**

**Learn how your investment in DFEE has paid off for our local students!**

**For more information contact Sandra 385-1491**

**[dfee@durango.k12.co.us](mailto:dfee@durango.k12.co.us)**

The Durango Foundation for Educational Excellence receives ongoing support from our local community. Please note here many of the groups and individuals that have given so generously in support of our local students and quality education.

## Businesses/Groups

Aalund, Gail  
 A & L Coors  
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 Bank of Durango  
 Bank of Colorado  
 Bank of the San Juans  
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 Cal-Co Framing  
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 Flanagan Architecture  
 Fletcher, Michael DDS  
 Four Corners Whole Living Directory  
 Fredrick Zink Elliott  
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 GE Johnson  
 GENEX Construction LLC  
 Goff Engineering  
 Jewelry Works  
 Maynes, Bradford,Shipp & Sheftel  
 Maria's Bookshop  
 Morehart Chevrolet & Subaru  
 Mountain Bike Specialists  
 Nature's Oasis  
 Nichols Electric  
 Ore House  
 Pat Murphy Motors  
 Phillips & Hards  
 Pine River Valley Bank  
 Riteway Flooring  
 Shand, Newbold, Chapman  
 Sittner, Margie  
 Ugai, Mark DDS  
 Vectra Bank  
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Individuals  
 Anderson, John and Cissy  
 Ballantine, Richard and Mary Lyn  
 Barnes, Deborah  
 Barr, Roberta  
 Becket, Diane & MacDonald  
 Campana, Katherine & Frank  
 Canatsey Paul  
 Cochenet, Brad & Martha  
 Clouser, Gordon  
 Deaver, David  
 Douglass, RE  
 Edgerton, Craig  
 Emrich, Dawson  
 Emrich Scott & Mary El  
 Eppich, Kathryn  
 Espinosa, Henry  
 Flatten, Ann and Orris  
 Fletcher, Dr. Michael  
 Fontana, Louis

Furry, Nancy & Dean  
 Griffith Family  
 Hards, Joann  
 Hansen, John  
 Hatfield, Jim  
 Hayes, Roger  
 Helling, Moni  
 Hill, Mark  
 Hogan, Michael  
 Holcomb, Larry  
 Jones, Joel  
 King, Janet  
 Kroeger, Fred  
 Langhart, Karen  
 Lieb, Bob  
 Marqua Jay  
 McMannis, Ginny and Milan  
 Mead, James  
 McLachlan, Michael  
 Mickelson Ryan  
 Morehart, Jim & Jane  
 Murphy, Pat and Jan  
 Ogier, Katie and John  
 Pargin, Doyle and Margaret  
 Patterson, Dan  
 Pettigrew, Ron  
 Putnam, Anne  
 Reese, Susan  
 Rebbin, Tom & Dianne  
 Redman, James  
 Rochford, Sherill  
 Sachs, Rob  
 Scholfield, Max  
 Seiter, Mark  
 Simonson, Ann & Doug  
 Sinton, Katherine  
 Sittner, Margie  
 Stengel, Mary  
 Tarpley, Bill  
 Turner, Pete  
 Ugai, Dr. Mark  
 West, David  
 Willard, Ann  
 Williams, Jim & Julie  
 Zink Family  
**9-R EMPLOYEES**  
**Updated July 1, 2006**  
 Albright, Anita  
 Arndt, John  
 Arnold, Timothy  
 Ashburn, Susan  
 Atwood, April  
 Aupperle, Jamie Lee  
 Ausler, Reginald  
 Austin, Kathleen  
 Babcock, Derinda  
 Baken, Dante  
 Barter, Mary  
 Baughman, Judy  
 Black, Evelyn  
 Boyd, Harry  
 Bray, Nancy  
 Breed, Lisa  
 Brennan, Michael  
 Brown Meagen  
 Brown, Michelle  
 Brunso, Beth  
 Calkin, Carol  
 Callister, Katherine  
 Carman, Jane  
 Cash, Ed  
 Caston, Keeton  
 Catton, Laura

Colbert, Barb  
 Corwin, Jennifer  
 Culver, Elizabeth  
 Curmano, Tom  
 Dalton, Linda  
 Denham, Marcie  
 Dickson, James  
 Doney, Diane  
 Duhaime, Sharolyn  
 Duhaime, Walter  
 Duncan, Sharon  
 Dustin, Klaire  
 Ellison, Rodney  
 Emrich, Scott  
 Erickson, Cindy  
 Evans, Krista  
 Evrard-Rhodes, Anne  
 Figueroa, Victor  
 Fisher, Vanessa  
 Floyd, Jennifer  
 Freeburn, Michael  
 Frontella, Barbara  
 Garland, Christy  
 Garland, Dale  
 Giddings, Susan  
 Goodman, Debra  
 Grace, Michel  
 Griffith, Jayne  
 Griggs, Rhonda  
 Grush, Tanya  
 Haller, Tara  
 Hamilton, Jessie  
 Hankins, Bruce  
 Hanson, Kimberly  
 Harlow, Michelle  
 Harris, Deborah  
 Harter, Pete  
 Hawkey, Angel  
 Hibbard, Joanne  
 Hillmer, Wendy  
 Hise, John  
 Hitti, Susan  
 Holman, Lisa  
 Horvath, Suzanne  
 Hunsinger, Stephanie  
 Jackson, Monte  
 Jacobs, Deb  
 Javier, Roberto  
 Johnson, Lori  
 Kellogg, Joan  
 Kendziorski, Amy  
 Keresey, Cindy  
 Keresey, Sheldon  
 Kern, Suzanne  
 Kilpatrick, Kevin  
 Kirby, Donna  
 Krupa, Donna  
 Kuniansky, Laura  
 Larsen, Dot  
 Lau, Kathleen  
 Laue, Butch  
 LeClaire, Mary  
 Long-Webb, Lucinda  
 Lorenz, Debi  
 Lunceford, Karen  
 Maddox, Deawne  
 Masor, Marc  
 Massieon, Nikki  
 McCue, Julie  
 Moffat, Jaccinda  
 Mooney, Susan  
 Morgan, Christy  
 Morris, Alan

Morris, Karen  
 Mulkey, Carla  
 Nielsen, Deborah  
 O'Neil, Mary  
 Olinger, Robin  
 Oliver, Janet  
 Ortman, Cynthia  
 Osborn, Tammy  
 Osby, Kim  
 Parcell, Kathy  
 Pepper, Lynda  
 Piccoli, Connie  
 Poitry, Cori  
 Rabick, Kim  
 Recla, Amanda  
 Rich, Robert  
 Rodri, Kristy  
 Sanchez, Manuel  
 Sargent, Joe  
 Schanfarber, Martha  
 Schank, Martha  
 Schiavone, Dominic  
 Schreiner, Elvira  
 Schwinghammer, Linda  
 Segal-Larson, Janis  
 Seitz, Kim  
 Shand, Priscilla  
 Shawcroft, Glenda  
 Shipp, Becky  
 Simons, Edward  
 Simpson, Kris  
 Sims, Cynthia  
 Skoglund, Jule  
 Smart, Cindy  
 Stafford, Nora  
 Starns, Pat  
 Steinbach, Rebecca  
 Swisher, Anne  
 Tarket, Gloria  
 Thweatt, Jean  
 Trembly, Diane  
 Trono, Oscar  
 True, Laurie  
 Tucson, Cindy  
 Turner, Marilyn  
 Uroda, Deb  
 Von Stroh, Kelly  
 Welch, Susan  
 Wiebel, Kristi  
 Wigton, Rebecca  
 Wilkie, Judy  
 Wilkinson, Yvonne  
 Wilson, Gretchen  
 Winckel, Cynthia  
 Wright, Sarah  
 Wylie, Darlene  
 Yonker, Cathy

## Foundations and Community Organizations

Anschutz Family Fund  
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 Patty Zink  
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 Judy Larsen  
 Gail Aalund

FOCUS ON ALUMNI



Roberta Barr is a 1931 graduate of Durango High School and an Emeritus DFEE Board Member.

She is a retired teacher and principal. Roberta taught for a total of 44 years. Fourteen of those years she taught at Smiley Junior High.

Shown in the photo above is Roberta Barr accepting the 1987 DFEE PIE award. The apple pie she received represents Pride In Education. "I have always loved teaching and I always had fun. Yet I expected the students to learn", said Barr.

DFEE continues the PIE award tradition. The most recent recipients were the staff members of the Durango School District 9-R facilities department.

**Thank you to our DFEE Scholarship and Education Fund Sponsors**

- Alice McClain Memorial**
- Cheri Newbold Educational Fund**
- SACHS Construction, LLC**
- Scott Newbold Memorial Scholarship**
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