



Hamilton Emerald Foundation

Investing in our children. Investing in our future.

A report of projects supported in 2009

A message from the president

*Andrew Coddington, HCS Parent
Hamilton Emerald Foundation President*

I write to you not only as president of the Hamilton Emerald Foundation (HEF), but also as a Hamilton Central School parent of two future alumni, Zack '16 and Ben '21.

This summer, marked the 50th anniversary of the "new" school, celebrated with a chicken barbeque and the first induction ceremony of the Hamilton Central School (HCS) Hall of Fame. Over four hundred alumni returned. If you attended, I hope you had as good a time seeing what's new at the school as we did welcoming you home!

This homecoming, a true family reunion on a grand scale, filled me with such pride that my children will one day call themselves HCS alumni. Meeting so many alumni, who expressed their interest in the school and this community, renewed my enthusiasm for what the Hamilton Emerald Foundation is becoming: a link back to Hamilton for HCS alumni and friends of this community; people who are interested in Hamilton's children and their transition into productive, contributing members of this community, and perhaps someday, yours. In addition, like their classmates, Zack and Ben, today's students will one day be alumni stewards of their home-town alma mater too.

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The dream is emerging. The HEF has raised over \$250,000 since 2006, and provided HCS and local organizations that support our children \$150,000 in grants, made possible by generous donations from alumni and community members. This Annual Report describes the opportunities made possible by alumni and community support this past year.

For those who support the HEF on a regular basis, I thank you. Without you there is no Foundation. If you met us this summer and saw first-hand at least some of what the Foundation has accomplished for students and the School, please consider making the not-for-profit HEF among your charitable priorities this year. If you are considering a gift and wish to know more about us, please don't hesitate to contact me or any of our alumni members of the board of directors at info@hamiltonemeraldfoundation.org

I count among my blessings, HCS alumni far and wide who remain interested in the futures of Hamilton's children, mine included.

We need your support

The Hamilton Emerald Foundation has achieved a great deal in a short time, but we need your support to continue our investments in Hamilton Central School.

To make an online gift to
the Hamilton Emerald Foundation go to
www.hamiltonemeraldfoundation.org/give
or email us at
info@hamiltonemeraldfoundation.org

Emerald Board

The Hamilton Emerald Foundation's board of directors is a group of Hamilton Central School alumni and parents who are all committed to supporting the future of HCS students. Each member brings a different perspective and expertise to the group, but they share a common passion for education and a love for Hamilton Central School.

Andrew Coddington, President
Sally Campbell, Secretary
Anne Clauss, Treasurer

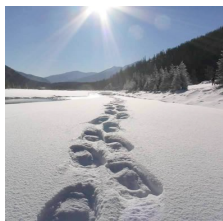
Murray Decock, HCS Parent
Megan Morris Marshall, HCS '80
Mary Catherine (MC) Eaton Martin, HCS '66
Karl Clauss, HCS Parent
Charlie Melichar, HCS Parent
Jay Whipple, HCS '66, Retired HCS Principal
Frank White, HCS '73



Providing support during a time of great need

Gifts from generous donors have made it possible for the Emerald Foundation to provide more than \$150,000 in grants to support the students of Hamilton Central

Fit body, healthy mind



Fitness is important to developing both a healthy body and sharp mind. The “snowshoeing across the curriculum” project uses Hamilton winter weather to the students’ advantage.

This new project received \$3,000 in support from the Emerald Foundation to purchase multiple sets of snowshoes to use with elementary, middle, and high school students during Physical Education classes in the winter.

In addition to PE, they will be used by students for cross-curricular projects, such as field trips for biology.

Taking to the stage



The Emerald Foundation provided \$500 which was used to purchase additional props and costumes for the elementary school musical theatre production of Willy Wonka Junior.

This production was an invaluable experience for a large number of children both on stage and behind the scenes. The play’s director said, “having these extra props and costumes made the children feel like a part of something special. It was obvious from the smiles on the children’s faces after our performance that they felt valued, proud and important!”

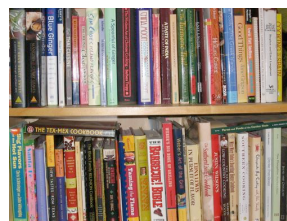
Engaging young readers



Good readers in class begin as good readers at home. Unfortunately, many students don’t have the resources they need to get that important time with books outside of school. The TIME program seeks to create a better connection to the school with at risk families and by giving the parents and caregivers the resources and knowledge to support reading at home.

\$3,500 in Foundation funds have been used to purchase books to share with at risk preschool and elementary families as part of the team’s effort to visit over 25 families within the school district.

Giving the collection a boost



A library collection needs regular updating to ensure students have access to the books they need.

\$3,600 in Emerald Foundation funding was used to purchase 330 books to shore up the school’s collections which had not seen significant upgrades in a few years.

The reports from the school librarian are great. She says, “The kids are so excited to have these new books in the collection!”

Macs for the Think Tank



An Emerald Foundation grant of \$9,940 supported the purchase of ten MacBook Pro laptops to be used for all students at HCS via the innovative and unique Think Tank.

Students have and will continue to use these laptops to research and create projects that showcase critical thinking in collaboration with their peers locally and globally.

Students are excited to use the computers and are coming up with new ways to push themselves and their learning to new heights.