

# Cumberland Educational Foundation

Inspiring Excellence, One Grant at a Time

## 2021 Report

Greetings from the Cumberland Educational Foundation. I hope this letter finds you and yours enjoying winter and all it has to offer.

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Cumberland Educational Foundation “Light A Legacy” was one like no other. As we navigated the pandemic, we were able to host our first ever virtual event. Despite things being out of the ordinary, we were extremely thankful for the participation and donations from our community that extends near and far. It is truly the giving nature of our community that allows for groups such as ours to unite and overcome challenges, all for the good of our youth.

It has been a great pleasure to be a part of the Cumberland Educational Foundation. In June, we held our annual meeting and elected trustees and officers for 2021-2022. We welcome back Treasurer, Shay Horton; Secretary, DeAnn Walters; and trustees Travis Erickson, Dr. Barry Rose and Kellsey Ruppel. We welcome the newest members to our board, Jake Lundquist, Jessica Richards, and Kelli Torrison. Please join me in extending a heartfelt thank you to Casey Morrison and Erica Donatelle for their years of dedicated service, enthusiasm, and expertise to the foundation. One of the many reasons for the success of the Cumberland Educational Foundation is the spirit of service exemplified by the leadership of the Board of Directors. We have a loyal group of volunteers who continue to give their time and talents to the foundation. The creativity of the staff who continue to bring forth brilliant ideas for enriching the education of Cumberland’s students is also noteworthy and incredible.

The Board of Trustees is excited to announce the 2022 grant recipient, Bailey Picknell, and her proposal for the Outdoor Learning Space. The grant is aimed to develop and install an outdoor learning space on the grounds of the elementary school. This project is designed to provide students another area in which they can grow as learners and enjoy the beauty of all four seasons. Teachers and students will be able to use this space to provide opportunities to increase student engagement and complete portions of their day in the wonderful outdoor setting.

To date, alumni and friends have raised over \$525,000 for the foundation with \$257,000 being awarded in grants. This could only be made possible by your generous and unwavering support. You all play a vital role in the success of the Cumberland School District.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our 2022 Light A Legacy event, on April 23, 2022 at the Das Lach Haus. As we navigate resuming an in person event, we wanted to also continue with the online component. This hybrid style will allow you to choose how you would like to participate. Please look for more details to come. If you have questions, please contact Melissa Weaver in the district office at 715-822-5124.

In closing, it is a true honor to be a part of the Cumberland Educational Foundation, and furthermore, a member of this community. I believe we have given our children outstanding educational opportunities and have inspired them to become exceptional people!

Respectfully submitted,  
Ashley Knutson, President

