



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Algoma Area Education Foundation

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2022 Algoma Area Education Foundation Officers and Directors

President, Patrick Robinson

Vice-President, Erin Ballone

Treasurer, Jaris Briski

Secretary, Jake Blazkovek

Director, Jesse Brinkmann (Algoma School District Superintendent)

Director, Barb Rodgers (Algoma School Board President)

Director, Rachel Schneider

The Algoma Area Education Foundation was formed in 2002 to support the philanthropic goals and educational mission of the Algoma School District. For most of the foundation's twenty-year existence, the primary focus has been on awarding scholarships to students. Over the years, many students have received financial support related to the fund raising and scholarship award activities of the foundation.

Strategic Highlights

Mission and Goals

In 2022, the foundation began a process to continue and grow its scholarship program while expanding into other philanthropic areas that support additional student support and educational innovation. As part of this process, the foundation updated its mission and established five-year strategic goals.

Mission

The Algoma Area Education Foundation supports and provides opportunities for a diversity of student learning experiences. We engage in innovative education projects that engage community partnerships and leverage a mixture of funding sources. Our goal is to be partners in driving educational innovations through collaborations with our schools, students, and communities.

Five-year Strategic Goals, 2022-2027

1. Continue and expand scholarships, including named scholarships, and consider award programs for students that are not college-bound. Explore the possibilities for a pre-college student internship or travel program.
2. Proactively engage in innovative, impactful education-related projects, including those that build upon and engage the community and/or student-led projects. Develop a strategic innovation plan that is congruent with these ideas.
3. Leverage and complement current foundation funding sources with new sources.
4. Hire staff and expand philanthropy activities, including a potential annual giving campaign.
5. Explore creation of a “student innovation” grant program.

Community Give Back Program

The foundation overtook administration of the Community Give Back Program from the Algoma School District and Live Algoma. The goals of the program are to do the following:

- Encourage community member engagement.
- Provide an opportunity for community members to enhance the Algoma Community’s health and wellbeing through their proposed improvement project.
- Collaborate with others and work together towards a common goal.

The remaining program funding transferred to the foundation was \$26,516.91. The foundation supported two community projects in 2022 through this program. Those projects are listed below:

- Awarded the Algoma Youth Summer Sports program \$5000 to upgrade facilities at Peterson Park through installing two new batting cages, constructing new fencing, and building a new equipment shed. Peterson Park baseball and softball facilities are used

by a wide age range of community members and the project will have diverse benefits for residents.

- Awarded the Algoma Venture Academy \$5000 to work with Yonder Art Studio to create a mural that reflects Algoma's values, diversity, and connectivity. Students will participate in workshops led by Yonder and then work with the community to design and paint a reflective mural in downtown Algoma.
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Mitch Groessl Memorial Scholarship: Emergency Medical Services Training Funding

The foundation received an \$11,000 donation in honor of Mitch Groessl to fund training scholarships for Emergency Medical Technicians. The fund is to be used for the purpose of defraying expenses for Algoma individuals who are seeking to become Emergency Medical Technicians working with the Algoma Rescue Squad. To be eligible, the individual will need to be sponsored by Algoma Rescue as well as pass caregiver background checks.

Student Scholarships

In 2022, the foundation, in partnership with additional scholarship sponsors, awarded \$17,250 in new scholarship awards to 12 students. The detailed summary is as follows:

Algoma Area Education Foundation: Seven awards totaling \$14,000

Muskrat City: One award for \$750

Kewaunee County Tavern League: One award for \$500

Norma Mueller and Marge Curtin: One award for \$1000

Janice (Dettman) Hanamann: One award for \$500

James R. Blahnik: One award for \$500

In addition, the foundation awarded six past student scholarship recipients with continuing scholarships totaling \$6000.

Financial Highlights

The foundation ended the year with an overall financial balance of \$407,553.66. The balances are distributed across the following accounts:

Bank of Luxemburg Checking Account:	\$48,284.49
Bank of Luxemburg Certificate of Deposit:	\$177,842.17
Bank of Luxemburg Raymond James Annuity	\$181,427.00

Operational Improvements

The foundation created an annual checklist of activities to improve operational function and efficiency in the future.