



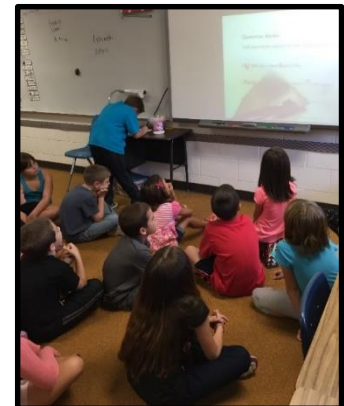
The mission of the Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education is to enhance the quality of educational programs and services available to all Mt. Zion students through the attraction, generation and distribution of financial and other resources to the Mt. Zion Schools. These resources shall be used to provide students with expanded and enriched learning opportunities.

The Foundation Supports Individual Literacy Conferencing for McGaughey Students

The Foundation granted McGaughey a set of touch-pad Chromebooks for teacher and student instructional purposes. Our 1st grade teachers use the Chromebooks to meet with students on a daily basis and complete individual reading conferences in which students identify a reading goal and track their progress towards that goal. Teachers are able to take detailed assessment and instructional data on students regularly. Students are able to access their assessment results and progress towards their goals in a visual manner that they can understand. Mrs. Buckley shared, “I use the Chromebook every day to meet with students one on one and listen to them read. I then type in my observations for the week and set a goal for each student to work on to become stronger readers. It allows me to keep data from previous weeks and monitor their goals.” The students are also using the Chromebooks in the same manner as an iPad with instructional applications in small groups. We want to thank the Foundation for their generous funding and for helping us to advance the skills of our students and teachers via technology.



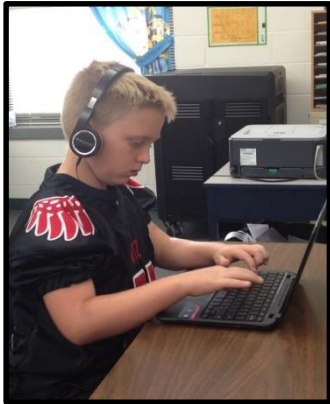
From a Mt. Zion Grade Teacher - Thank you so much for providing a document camera for my second grade classroom. The document camera helps to actively engage students in the learning process. It serves as an additional, more convenient way to show student work, mentor text, and even small objects. Students love to show their work using the document camera! We are able to use the document camera in all subject areas. The document camera has increased student interaction and has given more opportunities for sharing and collaborating. Thank you for helping our classroom!



Mobile Bidding Website:
<http://mtzion.ejoinme.org/foundation>

For more information, email:
mtzfoundation@mtzion.k12.il.us

SAVE THE DATE
Foundation Annual Auction
← 7:00 p.m. February 5, 2016 →
Mt. Zion Convention Center
← For more information, call 217-864-2366 →
Everyone Welcome! \$40 per ticket



The Intermediate faculty and students are excited and deeply appreciative of the outstanding support from the Mt. Zion Foundation. For the 2015-2016 school year, the Foundation supported valuable learning resources. The resources provided include 26 Chromebooks, Speaker systems for the classroom interactive Smart boards, Classroom Document Cameras, and Ukuleles for our music department. Each of these items and the various learning items supported over the last years have enhanced the teaching abilities of the Intermediate Faculty along with enriching the learning environment of all of the

Intermediate students. Thank you to each member and supporter of the Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education!

Thank you to the Mt. Zion Foundation from the 4-6th



grade Chorus

department! We are

excited this year to add

Ukulele's to our curriculum. Ukuleles are culturally relevant, easy to learn, communal and increase eye-hand coordination skills. Many songs can be played with only four chords which equals instant success. These instruments are fairly inexpensive at most music stores and therefore affordable for many persons later in life.

Students will learn how to read and write tablature during this

instruction making this a lifelong instrument that can promote music enjoyment beyond the classroom. Thank you to the Foundation for helping us to take our music department to the next level! We appreciate your generosity.



Mt. Zion Junior High School –“You never want to get on an airplane where the pilot learned to fly with worksheets.” Here at Mt. Zion, we want our students to learn, and we want them to learn as effectively and efficiently as possible. The more interactive and flexible the learning tools, the more likely the student is to find the right route to facilitate the most learning. This is happening more

and more thanks to the Education Foundation's donation of chromebooks and mobys to the Jr. High. Our students are not just typing papers with these computers, but they are collaberating, designing and learning through videos and projects! The chromebooks are used in almost every subject, from English to Geography and History. In our increasingly digital culture, our students need to be not only digitally literate, but actually proficient with the various skills needed by colleges and workplaces.

Our students might be very good at texting and communicating via cell phones, but they still need to learn many of the skills that the chromebooks promote, such as online searching skills, evaluation of information, creation of projects such as powerpoints and prezis, and the use of many online tools, databases and resources. The Chromebooks allow entire classes to quickly access the internet, and with the addition of our schools new Google Apps, the students can be online creating and storing their work within minutes. They don't have to worry about storage limitations, and they can easily collaborate with a partner, and with the automatic saving option—documents and projects don't get lost! As a staff, the Jr. High has excelled at using this technology. The learning curve is small, and the possibilities are monumental. The teachers are using the labs already and continuing to develop more uses for them. Thank you for supporting them in their efforts to continually improve education. Fifteen years from now, if your pilot is a Mt. Zion graduate, you can rest assured they were well taught with very few worksheets!



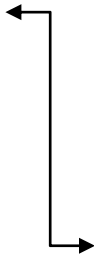
If you would like to help support the Foundation's efforts to enhance the educational opportunities for Mt. Zion students, please return this form with your donation to:

Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education
P.O. Box 31
Mt. Zion, IL 62549

Name: _____
Street: _____
City/Zip: _____

I wish to remain anonymous
 I work for matching company

Matching company name: _____



Save the Date
Foundation Auction
February 5th, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Mt. Zion Convention Center

Foundation Website:
<http://tinyurl.com/mtzfoundation>

Mt. Zion High School



On the behalf of the African American Cultural & Genealogical Society of Illinois, Inc., Museum the High School Social Studies Department wants to thank the Foundation for funding the exhibit that the Mt. Zion High students worked on over the past year entitled, "Escape to Freedom - The Underground Railroad." The exhibit has received an enormous amount of attention in the community as the AACGS recently held its grand re-opening this past June. The exhibit has also been featured in the latest publication of the Decatur Area Convention Bureau. As a board member of AACGS, Mr. Hansen can tell you that the Society is honored by the Foundation's

contributions to the exhibits. It is an outstanding opportunity for students to take part in service learning and networking across the communities as well as expose them to cultural diversity.

*The more donations received,
the more projects will be
funded for the students.*



The faculty at Mt. Zion High School would like to take a minute to thank the Foundation and those who fund it, for the generous support of the new Chromebook labs. Below are a few pictures showing students using the Chromebooks. This technology allows broad access to so many of our students. The labs have opened up more opportunities in conjunction with the new Google Education tools this year then we could even think about just a few years ago.



"Switching to **Generate4Schools** for Decatur Dental Care's credit card processing saves my business money".

Dr. Kelly Clark

Your business can save money and support the Mt. Zion Foundation at the same time! Use Generate For Schools for your business' credit card processing.



For more information, email:

mtzfoundation@mtzion.k12.il.us

FOUNDATION CONTINUES TO PROVIDE EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES

Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education has raised in excess of \$1.3 million for projects

The Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees whose members are parent volunteers, business leaders, and professional people from the community with a commitment to education.

The Foundation operates as an independent entity, established to enrich lifelong programs throughout the Mt. Zion Schools.

During the past twenty-one years, the Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education has provided in excess of \$1.3 million dollars for projects including the purchase of classroom technology such as IPADs, IPods, SMART Boards and student handheld responders, LCD projectors, Mobi and Airliner wireless tablets, document cameras, video equipment, microscopes, Mimios, portable laptop computer labs; musical instruments; vocal and music microphones with instructional software, Kindles and E-books; the creation of a Long Distance Learning Lab; pottery kilns; Science equipment; large projection screen and multi-media cart; Reading software and books; wood drafting tables; television/broadcast system; portable sound systems and many other projects.

Foundation projects approved for the 2015-2016 school year cost about \$80,000 and include, but are not limited to:

- 131 Chromebooks \$40,224
- Social Studies Items \$2,330
- Math Department Funding \$2,000
- Moby Tablets \$3,920
- Go-fit \$6,700
- Document Cameras \$2,965
- Library books \$6,000
- 20 Ipads \$8,375
- 35 Ukuleles \$1,333



Making Stock Donations

Many tax-savvy donors are taking advantage of a provision in the tax code that lets individuals donate appreciated stock to charity. It's a win-win situation: The charitable organization gets a nice contribution (they usually sell shares immediately), while donors can write off the gift and avoid paying capital gains taxes on the stock gains. The Foundation has established an account to process such stock donations. If you would like more information, please contact Steve Grohne, Treasurer at SGrohne@mckcpa.com.

Leaving a MZFQE Legacy

Oftentimes individuals will name a charity as a beneficiary of their estate. Some prefer to establish trusts that are funded during their lifetime and provide an ongoing cash flow to the charity. Does this sound like something you would be interested in? If so, please contact Steve Grohne, Treasurer at SGrohne@mckcpa.com and he can provide you with the information you will likely need to do so.

Thank you for submitting proposals

Many thanks to the following individuals who submitted grant proposals to the Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education for the 2015-2016 school year. The trustees appreciate their hard work and creative ideas when preparing grant requests that could certainly expand opportunities to students in the Mt. Zion School District.

Megan Austin
Susan Bordewick
Lacey Brown
Mattie Canaday
Gail Dunham
Kelly Fox
Kraig Garber
Brooke Grinestaff
Angie Hamrick
Richard Hansen
Lori Hanson
Julia Hawk
High School Mathematics Department
Cyndi Johnson, Vocal Music & Chorus
Elizabeth Kyburz
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Remember the Kids: When planning your will, please consider the Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education. Your gift will benefit students and projects like those mentioned in this newsletter for generations to come. Last year, memorial donations were received by the Foundation in memory of the following individuals:

- Kathy Hendriksen
- Eva Nellie Ida Mueller
- Dr. James D. Price
- Keegan Walter

Honorarium Donation
given in honor of:

Mrs. Diane Warren

The Mt. Zion Foundation for Quality Education would like to thank the following individuals and entities for their generous support during the one-year period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

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