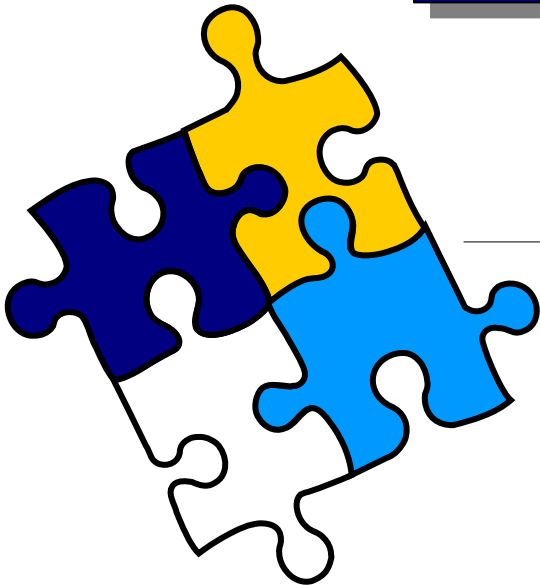




**GREATER EDGEWOOD
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Building Partnerships. Achieving Dreams.

ANNUAL REPORT 2005



OUR CORE VALUES:

- ❖ **We believe** *in a high-quality learning environment where all students are successful*
- ❖ **We believe** *in a community proud of its schools and its accomplishments.*
- ❖ **We believe** *in community and business partnerships that engage in the achievement of our students.*
- ❖ **We believe** *in open and meaningful communication with our donors and sponsors.*

**BUILDING COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERSHIPS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS**

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Parent

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Wayne Perry
Edgewood Middle School

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Wm Paca/OPR Elementary School

Mark Wolkow
Harford County Board of Education

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THIS YEAR was a very exciting and busy year for the foundation. In essence, this is our birth year. I spent the prior year researching and background planning for establishing an organization that would ignite community pride and support for high quality education in the Edgewood schools. With this information in hand, I formed a steering committee by identifying and pulling together key community leaders. These leaders included principals, parents, business and community representatives who, like myself, have passion and pride for the Edgewood schools and the Edgewood community. We began in July 2004 as a steering committee making preliminary plans, developing the mission, goals and core values of the organization. In December 2004, GEEF was incorporated, the board of directors was established, and our nonprofit status soon followed. The foundation had its first strategic planning meeting in January 2005. We further developed programs and strategies that would have a broad impact on the community and a direct impact on our youth.

Building a community of learners has been our priority this year. Programs were implemented to support parents in the education and social needs of their children, teachers were honored for outstanding learning practices in their classroom, and the development stages for a summer program to support at risk youth transitioning to middle school was begun. And we began educating our business leaders and building partnerships in the community.

We've had a successful year but recognize the challenges that are ahead of us. A significant challenge we face is the negative and inaccurate perception the community possesses about the quality of education in our schools. Having children in the Edgewood schools, I am optimistic and proud of the opportunities available to each child that attends our facilities. As an organization, GEEF can be the key catalyst in getting positive, "good news" information about our schools into the community. We are currently working on developing a DVD Virtual Tour of the Edgewood schools. This marketing tool will be significant in conveying accurate information about our schools to current school families, prospective community members, and the business community. We see the DVD Virtual Tour as a major resource to the military community and realtors who often are the first people parents talk to about schools in the community. The DVD will give first hand accounts of best practices, measurable outcomes, outstanding school programs, various after school activities, and our exceptional music and drama productions. Viewers will have first hand opportunities to hear directly from principals in the schools and testimonials from parents whose children learn and grow in the Edgewood schools everyday.

GEEF was formed on the power of partnerships. Now it is time to extend that partnership into the community, engage the dynamic passion and energy of individuals that exists in the community, and build a nexus of support. By building collaborative partnerships, we will empower children to achieve their dreams. If we choose to work together, we can be more effective and have a greater impact on our community and our children.

Deb Merlock
President



GREATER EDGEWOOD
EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Building Partnerships. Achieving Dreams.

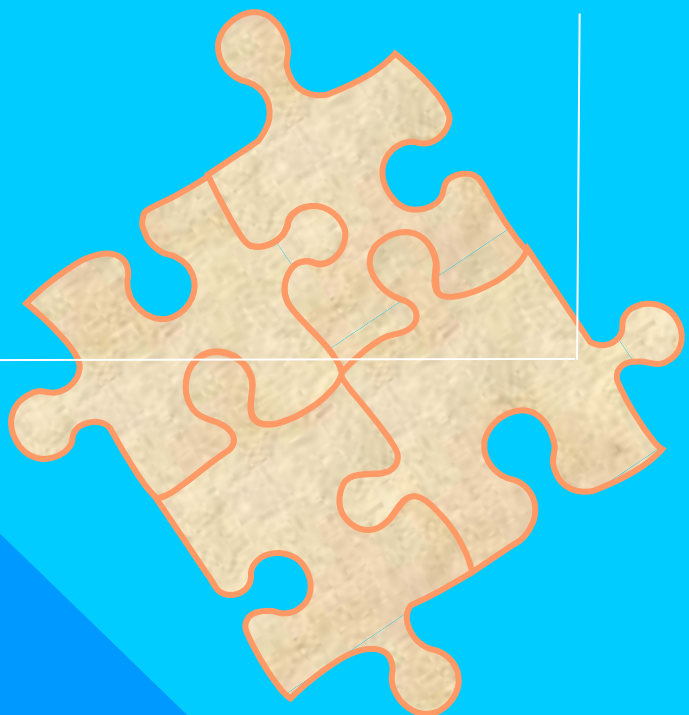
OUR FOCUS

The Greater Edgewood Education Foundation aims to be a key catalyst in promoting positive public relations and supporting sustainable productive partnerships between the Greater Edgewood Area Schools and its community. By building the capacity of collaborative relationships, GEEF strengthens student learning experiences of the 5,679 youth in a high-need economically challenged community. The quality of the current education program coupled with the dedication of our teaching staff provides a strong platform for student success. However, our schools are less likely to have adequate resources to meet the challenges of teaching to a culturally diverse, at risk student population.

GEEF addresses this critical problem by being a nexus for our schools by creating a link between administrators, educators, parents, the community and business leaders. GEEF provides programs and services to build capacity of targeted resources to improve opportunities for our youth in overcoming barriers that prevent them from achieving personal success and contributing to a strong community.

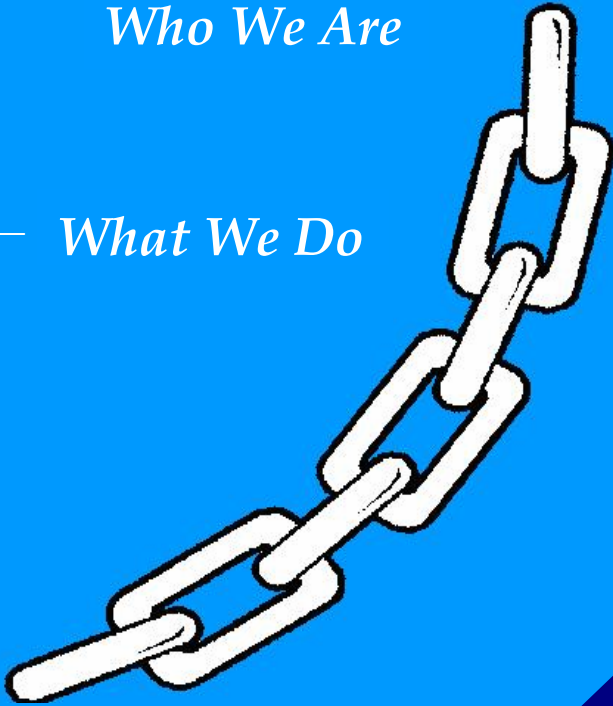
GEEF collaborative partnerships help the students of Abingdon, Edgewood, Deerfield and William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary Schools; Edgewood Middle School; and Edgewood High School to achieve academic excellence and to have a greater impact on their community.

Who We Serve



Who We Are

What We Do



The **Greater Edgewood Education Foundation** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization formed to develop collaborative community and business partnerships to support educational excellence in the Greater Edgewood Area Schools. GEEF links the dynamic energy of business and community leaders to programs that expand student experience and the enjoyment of learning which helps:

- Enhance academic excellence through public resources.
- Build public awareness and confidence about the strengths and innovative programs of our schools.
- Encourage positive and supportive business and community involvement.
- Obtain financial and non financial resources for our programs.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Parent Academy: GEEF brings resources and programs directly into the community where parents and guardians can easily have access to them. GEEF funds speakers, presentations and materials that have been identified as essential to engaging parents and guardians in the educational and social needs of their children.

School Based Mini Grants: GEEF supports innovative instructional programs that have a direct impact on student learning. GEEF provides grants to classroom educators who demonstrate enhanced opportunities for students.

Summer Academy: GEEF provides a summer learning opportunity for at risk students entering 6th grade. GEEF enables students with a strong foundation for middle school success while building the appropriate social and academic skills in a caring and nurturing environment.

Student Mentoring Program: GEEF coordinates after school programs that connect and builds positive relationships between businesses leaders and at risk students at their place of business.

Annual Gala and Silent Auction: GEEF celebrates the success of its programs and the achievements of the Greater Edgewood Area Schools. GEEF presents the School Based Mini Grants for innovative education programs to school leaders and the Everyday Heroes Award to educators who contribute extraordinarily to the success of our students and our community.

Teacher Initiative Program: GEEF supports the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers through programs that nurture and strengthen skills. GEEF offers teacher recognition programs, community welcome packages and grants for professional development as well as scholarships for diversity and urban education training.

Youth Leadership Challenge Scholarships: GEEF promotes leadership training that empowers youth with the skills to make positive choices, gain self-confidence, and learn skills that are necessary to lifelong development. GEEF grants scholarships to students who want to contribute positively to their community.

5K Walk/Run Community Fair: GEEF engages the community in fellowship and celebration through an annual fair type event.

Inter-School Volleyball Game: GEEF connects our schools to celebrate the spirit of the community. GEEF sponsors an annual volleyball game between parents and school staff competing to take "home" the trophy. Admission to the event is one new book to be donated to students in need of at home reading materials.

The STAR Program: GEEF honors special teachers who make a difference in the lives of our youth. Parents give recognition to outstanding educators for their efforts in the classroom and in the community. GEEF dedicates the funds generated from this program to the School Based Mini Grant program for the implementation of innovative and exciting classroom programs that inspires student learning.

Greater Edgewood Education Foundation
Statement of Revenues Collected and Expenses Paid
Period: November 20, 2004 through June 30, 2005

Revenues:	
Start Up Donation	\$ 767
Business Community	600
Board Giving	<u>2,095</u>
 Gross Revenues	 \$ 3,462
Operating Expenses:	
Advertising	\$ 150
Office Expense	60
Startup	767
Gala	<u>500</u>
 Total Operating Expenses	 <u>1,477</u>
 Excess of Revenues over Expenses	 \$ 1,985 =====

INTERSCHOOL VOLLEYBALL GAME

The tradition of the volleyball game between schools began in 1992 with the opening of Abingdon Elementary School. All of the 562 students that were districted to Abingdon Elementary School came from William Paca/Old Post Road Elementary School. Celebrating the spirit of community, the staff and parents of William Paca/Old Post Road played a friendly game of volleyball between the staff and parents of Abingdon Elementary School. The winner took home the trophy to display at their school until the next volleyball game. In 1995, the tradition expanded to include all of the schools in the Edgewood High feeder area.

Edgewood High School hosts this annual event in November. Each school puts together a team of parents and staff to play a friendly competition of volleyball in a round robin format. At the end of the evening the winner takes "home" the trophy to display. Admission to the volleyball game is one new book. A challenge between principals raised \$125. APG Federal Credit Union donated \$100 and 75 new books. The 273 collected books were given to students in our elementary schools and book store gift cards were given to middle and high school students to support reading achievement at home.

This year's winner of the volleyball game was Abingdon Elementary School (pictured at right) and a school spirit trophy was awarded to Edgewood Elementary for their outstanding show of enthusiasm and participation during the event.



STAR AWARDS

The Staff and Teacher Appreciation and Recognition Program (STAR) helps the community celebrate some of the outstanding people in our schools - people who have made a difference in our children's education and our schools.

In 2005, sixteen educators were recognized with STAR awards. Those who were honored received a customized certificate during a ceremony at their schools. In addition, a donation was made in each of their names to the Foundation. All contributions support the School Based Mini Grant Program and will be returned to the classroom in the form of innovative programs targeted to improve student achievement.

STAR Honorees:

Laura Bethke
 James Bowser
 Stacy Bryan
 Deborah Edmonds
 Jennifer Endsley
 Joan Giordano
 Robert Goodenow
 Marc Hamilton
 Tracy Moretti
 Mike Perrone
 Nitrease Quickley
 Laura Riley
 Valerie Schafer
 Jo-Ellen Shannon
 Shannon Simmons-Green
 Devon Vogt

Deerfield Elementary
 Edgewood Middle
 Edgewood Middle
 Edgewood Middle
 Deerfield Elementary
 Deerfield Elementary
 Wm/Paca OPR Elem
 Deerfield Elementary
 Edgewood Elementary
 Edgewood Elementary
 Edgewood Middle
 Edgewood Elementary
 Deerfield Elementary
 Edgewood Elementary
 Wm/Paca OPR Elem
 Edgewood Middle



2005 GENEROUS DONORS & SUPPORTERS

Partner \$1,000 or more

APG Federal Credit Union

Associate \$500 or more

Slavie Federal Savings Bank
Mark Wolkow

Friend \$100 or more

Abingdon Elementary School
Tracy Glennon
Dion Guthrie
Har-Co Federal Credit Union
Philip Logan
Maryland Golf and Country Club
Debora Merlock
Stephen Olah
Lisa Sundquist
Thompson Toyota
Frank Tull

Sponsor \$50 or more

Edgewood Middle School
Wayne Perry
Teresa Plumer
Jay Rudo, DDS
Joseph Schmitz
Arthur Stuenpfle

STAR Donations

Sasha Ayala
Trisha Ayre
Laurie Burke
Linda Constable
Rodney Cotton
Kumarie Dipnarine
Deeana Kozloski
Bill and Bridget Leimbach
Melanie Pender
Linda Ryan
Christiana Sanders
Darlene Sills
Mary Toney
Kathy Wyatt

In Kind Donations

Gessner, Snee, Mahoney &
Lutche, Attorneys
Huntington Learning Center
Master Graphics
Freddie Hornedo
Kari Riedlbauer



I am grateful for the Foundation's accomplishments, and encouraged by its ambitious strategies for the future. Particularly impressive is the emphasis on programs involving parents, teachers, students, and community leaders in the education process. I agree that a collaborative effort is the most promising way to influence young minds.

~ Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor of Maryland

We are excited about the opportunities the programs of the Foundation will provide by embracing the community into sparking outstanding partnerships that will empower the lifelong success of our students. What a true benefit this will provide to the Edgewood community as a whole.

~ Monica Worrell
President
Route 40 Business Assn

I commend your organization for their funding and advocacy of programs including the parent academy, student mentoring program, summer academy and youth leadership challenge scholarships. It is through programs like these and goals set forth by the Greater Edgewood Education Foundation that will enhance the academic awareness and overall quality of life for Edgewood residents.

~ David R. Craig
County Executive
Harford County



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Bel Air, MD 21015
www.geefinc.com

OUR MISSION

The Greater Edgewood Education Foundation, Inc. is a partnership of diverse community members who will build community partnerships that will raise public awareness, pride and support for the quality of education in the Greater Edgewood Area Schools and enhance educational opportunities for its students.