

# The Scarsdale Inquirer

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## School foundation celebrates successful year of fundraising

ESF donates \$500K toward capital plan; \$340K for renovation of Jim San Marco gym

By JULIE SCHNEYER

The Edgemont School Foundation, which awards monetary grants that support and enhance the Edgemont School District's curriculum, students and teachers, celebrated and looked back on a banner year at its annual fundraiser Tuesday, July 22, at Sunningdale Country Club. Andrew Falk and Steven Heinemann co-chaired the group this past year, and Falk will continue in 2014-15 with new co-chairman, Ellen Litt.

The event was a success, attended by approximately 90 people, including Edgemont High School principal Devan Ganeshanathan and superintendent Victoria Kniewel. Cocktails, dinner and a jazz trio were all part of the festivities. Eve Brooks, one of the organi-

zation's 14 board members, was in charge of organizing the event.

Dr. Kniewel addressed the group and praised the ESF, saying, "The foundation and the district

work together

well. Our mis-

sion and values

are aligned. The

district values

the enhance-

ment of an excel-

lent Edgemont

education in

a fiscally res-

ponsible way

through collab-

oration with all

stakeholders

and the founda-

tion enhance-

es the value of

an Edgemont

education. Ex-

amples of this

excellent Ed-

gemont educa-

tion include

high-level

competencies

in addition to

strong content

knowledge."

This past year

was a notable

one for ESF,

with accom-

plishments

that includ-

ed a \$500,000

grant toward

the five-year

capital plan.

The plan in-

cludes enhance-

ments to school

security, in-

frastructure repairs, creation of a new multimedia lab and renovation of athletic fields.

The grant is the largest ever awarded by the foundation.

The foundation also raised \$340,000 for the Jim

San Marco Gym-

nasium, current-

ly in the begin-

ning stages of

a large reno-

vation. The

school recently

received state

approval to

start the work,

which includes

commitments

from the school

for a new roof

and windows.

Work begins

this summer

and will in-

clude a new

floor, bleachers

and partitions.

"The founda-

tion increased

its commit-

ment for this

project by an

additional \$75,000

to fund physical

education equip-

ment and teach-

ing aids to

make the project

a state of the

art teaching

facility," said

Falk, ESF co-

chairman. The

organization's

logo went

through a

rebranding

effort this

year, with the

help of graphic

designer and

Edgemont resi-

dent Lisa

Feldman. "The

logo selec-

tion, particu-

larly the star,

represents

accomplish-

ment, success

and a bright

future. The

star was

designed

with kids in

mind, but

also applies

to the founda-

tion, which

had a year

with many

significant

accomplish-

ments —

and with a

healthy and

growing

endowment,

active board

members

and contin-

ued commu-

nity support,

the founda-

tion is

poised to

continue to

do great

things in

the future,"

said Falk.

The Edgemont

School

Foundation

was found-

ed in 1993

and is try-

ing to reach

out to alu-



*The organization's logo also went through a rebranding effort this year.*