he Friends of USD 329 Fund was established in 2009 by a group of concerned citizens who place high value on rural communities and small school environments. We believe our Mill Creek Valley area is an ideal place to live, work, go to school, and raise a family.

A recent lack of funding has pushed schools across Kansas into financial difficulty. New funding proposals are not expected to be directed toward small districts, which will place us in even greater financial peril. We need your help.

Residents and students of the Mill Creek Valley area enjoy a wonderful quality of life and a rich academic experience; to ensure both continue well into the future, we are encouraging alumni and friends of our schools and communities to consider charitable giving to support us.

Given the current deficit and budgetary limits being set by the State of Kansas, small rural communities may deplete their local resources due to a lack of funding and state support. The national economic climate is tenuous as well ... and could lead to the trimming of federal funds for certain school or area-based programs and projects.

To ensure that our legacy survives for future generations of the Mill Creek Valley School District, we urge you to support our heritage and communities.

About us

The Friends of USD 329 Fund is dedicated to the improvement and sustainability of our schools representing the communities of Alma, Maple Hill, McFarland, and Paxico. You determine how donated funds are distributed through donor designated gifts and membership to the Friends of USD 329.

The Friends of USD 329 was formed to help facilitate the support and generosity of people like you who are receptive to the vital needs of their schools and communities.

We are an affiliated fund of the Kansas Rural Communities Foundation (KRCF), a 501(c3) nonprofit charitable corporation. The KRCF created an efficient mechanism through which individuals, families, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and private foundations have been able to create funds and make gifts to benefit their schools and communities.

How the Foundation can Work for you

Through the Friends of USD 329, you can participate in a significant way and assist with the future of our youth, schools, and educational programs and projects.

All gifts are tax deductible as charitable contributions and will be used to support school programs and projects that benefit all schools in USD 329 Mill Creek Valley. Donors may choose to support specific projects, athletics, academic programs, technology, after-school activities, etc. You may wish to establish a student scholarship fund or teacher financial aide. Or perhaps you'd like to make an unrestricted gift that the district can use in the future as needs change.

Ways you can Give to the USD 329 Fund

- · Gifts of cash, securities, or stock
- Gifts of real estate
- · Gifts of life insurance or retirement plans
- · Gifts by will, trust, or bequests
- Gifts that provide income (charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust)
- Gifts in kind (labor, material, or skills)

Membership Fees

An initial foundation board has been established (see back). By committing your membership to the Friends of USD 329 Fund, you are helping ensure the future sustainability of our schools and the future of our youth.

Annual membership dues are \$25 and lifetime membership dues are \$1,000. To join, simply fill out and return the form on the back of this brochure, along with your membership payment.

For More Information

For more information about the Friends of USD 329 Fund and how you can help, contact any of the board members listed on the back of this brochure.

To establish a scholarship fund, donor-advised fund, or a special purpose fund, or for more information on charitable giving, contact the KRCF at (785) 456-8444.

"Investing in Today's Youth for Tomorrow's Future."