



# FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY



*Enhancing, Enriching and Extending the Quality of Education Provided to Vista School*

## 2021 Gail Neumann Teacher & Staff Excellence Awards Recipients

When The Vista School Foundation was created, it was reinforced that \$1,000.00 of the funds raised would be given to establish a Teacher Excellence Award. From the beginning, two educators have been chosen by their peers as the recipients of this coveted gift. In April of 2020, the founder of The Vista School Foundation, who created this award, passed away. It was at that time, the current Foundation Board unanimously voted to change the award's name to ***The Gail Neumann Teacher Excellence Award***. In addition, another award was added this year, ***The Gail Neumann Support Staff Excellence Award***.

The dedication and sacrifice given by Vista School educators and staff does not go unnoticed. They work tirelessly to make a difference in each child's educational success; they genuinely care, and it shows.

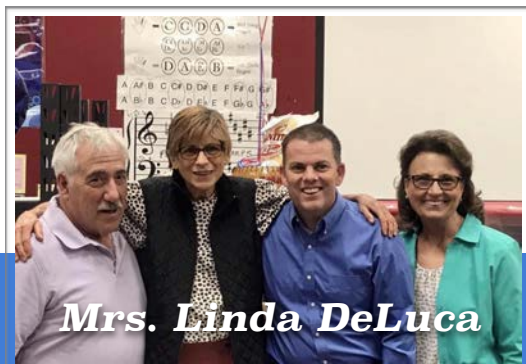
On May 18, 2021, The Gail Neumann Teacher Awards were given to: ***Mrs. Lori McConnell and Mrs. Linda DeLuca***. The Gail Neumann Staff Award was given to: ***Mr. Scott Moody***. ~Dana McConnell



***Mrs. Lori McConnell***



***Mr. Scott Moody***



***Mrs. Linda DeLuca***

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*The Vista School Foundation was created to raise funds to enhance, enrich, and extend the quality of education provided to Vista School students. The Foundation board allocates these funds to student scholarships, teacher excellence awards, professional development, performance facilities, and an endowment.*

## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



### 2021 DeLuca Strings Scholarships

*The winners of the DeLuca strings scholarship awards are:*

**Bella Gillette (Violin)**  
**Clara Taylor (Violin)**  
**Elise Nielsen (Cello)**  
**Kody Campbell (Violin)**  
**Laneah Webb (Violin)**  
**Shandelle Webb (Cello)**

These fantastic 6th-9th grade students have shown grit and hard work. They have put in many extra hours sharpening their skills and also teaching others. They have been involved in summer camps and advanced orchestra, some achieving a spot in the Platinum orchestra at Vista School. We are excited to see what comes as they pursue their talent. It is an honor to present these students the DeLuca Strings Scholarship. The award money is able to be used towards individual lessons, string camps, or towards their instrument and supplies. Congratulations! -Crystal Jaster



### 2021 Vocal Scholarships

The vocalists at Vista School ended 2021 with nothing lacking. Their end of year choir concert was solid and connected, and it was exciting to watch soloist after soloist perform at the MDT (Music/Dance/Theater) end of year showcase. You can see the energy these kids have, pushing through the challenges they faced throughout this school year. Performances were put on hold, quarantines and virtual learning, students wondering what was to come; but boy did they finish strong. It was evident as there were more than 30 applicants for the 4 vocal scholarships awarded to 6th -9th grade students this school year. These students really put themselves out there. Many students who auditioned for the vocal scholarships said they love connecting with the audience. It is admirable how hard these students work to make their dreams a reality as many of those who auditioned were participating in Frozen Jr. at Vista School, and other shows under way in the community. Abe Nickle, choir and MDT teacher at Vista School, directs, encourages and really lifts these kids as they participate and enhance their music knowledge and vocal technique. It is evident when you hear the many Vista choirs perform. -Crystal Jaster



***Congratulations! Vista School Foundation Vocal Scholarships for 2020-21 have been awarded to: Abby Terry, Cate Andes, Madi Terry & Melanie Petersen***

*\*Scholarships are awarded to all departments throughout Vista School. These include: Academic (History, Language Arts, Math, Science), Technology, & Arts (Band, Dance, Strings, Theater, Visual Arts, Vocal)*

## Principal & Teacher Appreciation



In a Covid world, there is no shortage of reasons for a true celebration. There is literally a designated day for everything from ice cream to flowers. Well, Vista School principal and teachers got their turn. On April 30th, Vista School's amazing principal and assistant principals were recognized by the Vista Foundation for their hard work and devotion. Thank you to an outstanding administration!

In the first week of May, Vista PTO planned, organized, and executed a full week designed to honor and thank teachers for their selfless work on behalf of their students. The Vista Foundation generously donated to a Thank You table, set up during the week, so that students could write or draw a thank you note to their teachers. Thank you teachers for the dedication and heart you give to Vista School.

~Dana McConnell



## Presenting the Vista School Foundation Logo



At the beginning of 2021, the Vista School Foundation board decided a logo needed to be created to represent the Foundation. Brainstorming together, it was determined there would be no one better to ask for help in creating this than the students in the Vista School technology department! The Foundation board contacted Mr. Ostrom, teacher in Vista School technology department, asking to invite the students to participate in making a logo. Mr. Ostrom decided that a school project, in the form of a contest, would be a wonderful way to allow the students to create and apply their skills into something very worthwhile. Many students submitted their creative ideas to be considered. Thank you to Vista's Technology department, Mr. Ostrom and students, for your hard work! ~Shelley Bowen



Congratulations to the winner of the Vista School Foundation logo contest: **Madeline Caplin**

Click here to watch the 2021 Spring Dance Concert! <https://vimeo.com/536826592/f6a78711d7>







## Vista School Band Benefits: New Xylophone

The Vista School Band is growing and with that comes the need for instruments. Mr. Clegg, band director at Vista School explains, "A common refrain among band teachers is that you shouldn't make excuses for the instrument if you don't sound good; as the musician, you are the one who makes your instrument sing, regardless of its' quality. In this case, I was on the side of the students, because there was no instrument for them to play!" As Foundation board members met with Mr. Clegg, discussing the ways they could help benefit the students in his department, it was decided that there was a significant need for them to have a xylophone. "I am extremely grateful for the efforts of those on the Vista Foundation to get the needed donations in order for us to get this Xylophone" says Clegg. "Believe me, it will be played constantly, all year long! We can't wait to make use of it in class." Thank you to our donors and sponsors allowing us to make this happen for the music department at Vista! ~Shelley Bowen

## The First 9th Grade Class to Graduate Vista School

Congratulations to the first class of 9th grade students to graduate Vista School. They were honored in a Promotion Ceremony at the end of the school year. We wish them continued success!



## Fundraising

It's easy to contribute to Vista School through the Vista School Foundation. You may donate once or on a monthly basis. No amount is too small! 100% of the donations go directly to benefiting Vista School students! Donations are graciously accepted in these simple ways:

- Give By Cell: Text **VISTA** to **56512** to make a donation
- Donate directly at the school's website by clicking here: [Donate Now](#)

\*\*If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please feel free to contact the Vista School Foundation at [vistaschoolfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:vistaschoolfoundation@gmail.com)



First Day of School:  
August 16

**THANK YOU** to our donors and sponsors! We are grateful for your continued support!



We are looking for new members! If you would like to join the Vista School Foundation board, please contact Dana McConnell at: [vistaschoolfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:vistaschoolfoundation@gmail.com)

Join!