

BLOOMFIELD

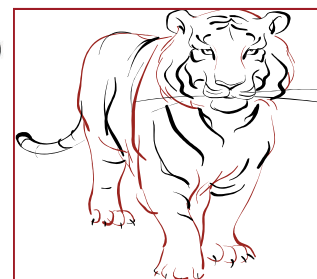
Educational ★ Foundation

A Registered 501 (c) -(3) Organization

A Message from our Chairman:

"Wow!! This '59 BHS grad has never seen times like this. We have all heard about the Great Depression but few of us experienced the hardship of those days. This is the first time in my life that there has been a fear of the uncertainty in the financial market place. The good news is that it appears that the worst of our fears have been alleviated and we are on our way to a cautious recovery. Hopefully you have not been severely impacted by the downturn in the stock market.

While the purpose of this newsletter is to keep you abreast of the Educational Foundation we need to ask for your help in supporting our efforts. To make it easier for you to maximize your donation we have instituted a pledge program whereby you can pledge an amount and remit your payment monthly. Each month you will receive a statement detailing your total pledge, payments to date and the balance. See the enclosed insert for more details and thank you for your continued support!" *Howard Friedman, Chairman*



~ Quarterly Newsletter ~
Fall 2008

Annual Awards Dinner Scheduled For Friday, April 17, 2009 "Living Legends of Coaching"

Paul Williams, F. James White & Pete Wilson To Be Honored

Last year's dinner, honoring the members of the 64 game winning streak teams received such rave reviews that the Bloomfield Educational Foundation has decided to bring back this crowd pleaser. Scheduled for April 17, 2009, at the Forest Hill Field Club, BEF's second dinner will 'honor the past to benefit the future' by recognizing three BHS living legends of coaching – **Paul Williams**, **Pete Wilson** and **Jim White**. A BHS track coach for 35 years, **Paul Williams** is the President of the Essex County Track and Field Coaches Association, formed to promote track and field and cross country competition among the schools of Essex County. Many will remember **Pete Wilson** by his nickname, 'the whip', which applied to his coaching and teaching style! **Jim White** taught Physical Education and coached the boys All-American soccer teams and ran track and played basketball with current BEF Board member, Paul Guiliano.

This year's event will include a new sponsorship component. Your company or organization can select from levels such as Premier, All-American, All-Star, Champion and Sportsmanship and you'll get a terrific package that will promote your company's generosity. For more information, contact Ann Dassing at 973-403-0032 or info@bloomfieldeducationalfoundation.org. Proceeds from this event will benefit: Soaring to Success, a middle school after school academic and team-building program; teacher mini-grants for grades K-12; scholar/athlete scholarships; extraordinary grants which to date have funded the BHS TV studio, and the BHS annual musical production; and a brand new initiative in the eight elementary schools called The Jasieniecki Grant Initiative. Each of these programs is needed and wanted by our children. We hope you will consider attending the dinner, and supporting the Foundation with the purchase of tickets, an advertisement or with a dinner sponsorship. The students of Bloomfield thank you for making a positive difference in their lives!

Bloomfield Educational Foundation Is Leading The Charge In The New "Jasieniecki Grant Initiative" Looks To Start New Programs In Every Elementary School

During the summer months the Bloomfield Educational Foundation (BEF) worked diligently to prepare for the upcoming 2008-2009 school year with the hope that their effort, along with the efforts of the administration and staff, would produce a school year filled with learning, enlightenment and fun.

To that end, the Bloomfield Educational Foundation created a new grant initiative, which they are calling the Jasieniecki Grant Initiative, named after Theodore Jasieniecki, a famed basketball player, whose family donated generously to the Foundation in his memory. The new grant initiative puts the Principal in the driver's seat, with regard to the use of funds that would most benefit their students. Since the grant is one of a matching kind, BEF encouraged each Elementary School to begin a cooperative effort with their Home and School Association. The BEF anticipates matching up to \$2,000, which would give the school a total of \$4,000 for a new program of their choice.

To help "bridge the gap" between the schools, Home & School Associations and the BEF board, liaisons were designated to help facilitate this initiative. This fall, BEF Board members are contacting school Principals and setting up brief meetings to discuss and review the new grant application process.

BEF is hopeful that this program will be a viable alternative to Team Jaz and will suit the needs of each school more adequately. If a school believes that the original Team Jaz is still a viable option for them, they are encouraged to complete the grant application with updated goals and objectives as well as a new curriculum tailored to meet their needs, and submit that to the Foundation.

Many alumni have expressed interest in contributing to a specific project such as this. Here is your chance to help your former elementary school with its fundraising efforts! What better way to show your support for our students by providing them an opportunity for a new and innovative program. If you are interested in making a special program donation, please contact our Executive Director, Ann Dassing at 973-403-0032 or info@bloomfieldeducationalfoundation.org.

Featured Donor of the Quarter HAROLD J. ITKIN



A 1967 graduate of BHS "Itch" received his Bachelors Degree from Rutgers in 1971 and earned his MBA from Georgia State University in 1994. While at BHS this track and football star (MVP '66, Foley Scholarship) was a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, Varsity Club, Chefs' Club and the Student Council. Great memories of high school include math classes and track with Coach Paul Williams.

Harold lives in Marietta, GA with his wife Jenny, and has had a successful career in the transportation and distribution field and is currently the Dir. of Strategy & Planning for Teleflex, Inc. As someone who enjoys participating in the growth of people Harold donates to many local and national causes. The Bloomfield Educational Foundation salutes Harold Itkin for his continuous and generous support of our efforts to generate and distribute financial aid for the benefit of the students of the Bloomfield School District.

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Executive Director

Ann Dassing

Letter to the Editor

I would like to thank the Bloomfield Education Foundation for their generous funding of the middle school Soaring to Success program. During the past two years, it has helped over 200 students reach their true potential. Coordinating this program has been personally rewarding for me as I not only get to see first hand how a program such as this can make a difference in a child's life, but I am also witness to a community that is truly proud to support one of our greatest assets, our children. This year promises to be our best year yet, and I look forward to working closely with the BEF to enhance the our students' educational opportunities.

Suzanne Johnson
Interim Assistant Principal
Bloomfield Middle School

Do you have a story or comment you would like to share?
E-mail us at info@bloomfieldeducationalfoundation.org.

**20th Annual Ted Jasieniecki
Alumni Basketball Game
Scheduled For Friday, January, 16, 2009**

Ted Jasieniecki was one of the best players in Bloomfield High School's storied history and scored over 1,000 points during his career at BHS. An active member of the Bloomfield community, as well as a long time member of the Lion's Club, Jasieniecki died in November 1987, at a young age of 37, after losing a battle with cancer. But thanks to the support of our BHS alumni, more than \$100,000 has been raised for scholarships at the annual basketball game that first began in 1988.

Now in its twentieth year, the Ted Jasieniecki Alumni Basketball Game, has grown to be a great event where former players and alumni gather for an evening filled with family, friends and fun! We are always looking for new talent and familiar faces to fill the rosters and to join us at the party after the game.

While there is no definitive entry fee, former BHS players are encouraged to make a donation to play in the game. Contributions from generous alumni keep Ted's memory alive through the many scholarships and grants we give to deserving students. It's a great way to give back to the Bloomfield Public school system, the schools that have given us all so much. The Bloomfield Educational Foundation is a registered 501 (c)-(3), so your donations are fully deductible.

If you are interested in playing in the game or coming to root on former greats, please contact our Executive Director, Ann Dassing at 973-403-0032 or info@bloomfielddeducationalfoundation.org.



**Looking For A Solid Investment In
These Tough Economic Times?**

Why not donate a portion of your savings to the BEF and see a real return on your money. Since 1999, the Bloomfield Educational Foundation has given grants and scholarships to deserving students who have now blossomed into successful adults. Previous scholarship winners and grant participants have gone on to become doctors, lawyers, nurses, school teachers and thriving businessmen and businesswomen. By investing in today's youth you are assuring prosperity for future generations.

The Bloomfield Educational Foundation is a registered 501 (c) - (3) organization and all donations are tax deductible. We know that in these tough economic times it is frightening to invest your money into such a volatile market. That is why we are providing you with a sound reliable alternative. Please join our cause by helping today's youth become tomorrow's leaders.

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*We promised a quarterly newsletter. Here it is!
See inside for the latest news about Bloomfield
Schools and alums!*

50 - 50 Raffles To Be Sold To Raise Money For Mini Grants

Each year, the Bloomfield Educational Foundation accepts mini-grant applications from faculty members throughout the Bloomfield school district. These innovative mini grants provide learning opportunities well beyond the core curriculum, but unfortunately beyond the normal school budget too. These programs can focus on a wide variety of areas such as technology, fine arts and performing arts, professional development, cultural enrichment as well as continuing education. Last school year the BEF funded a rocket program which included over 100 Bloomfield High School students. The funds that were made available by the BEF allowed the rocket club to purchase supplies and two high tech rocket launches. It is the hope of the BEF that this grant will launch these students' career in aerospace technology. Please read an excerpt from BHS teacher, Michael Doyle's thank you letter to the BEF:

"On behalf of the freshman PCP Physical Science Class, I thank you for your extraordinary support of our 2nd annual BHS Rocket Project. Your grant allowed us to develop a wonderful program which was both educational and fun. Furthermore, and perhaps most important, you came out and supported us in person, I was thrilled to see members of your board come out and join us. I was beaming like a proud papa when my students were able to answer questions about their work. The students basked in the positive attention they received."

If you are interested in buying a raffle ticket to help support great programs like this as well as many others, please contact the Bloomfield Educational Foundation at info@bloomfielddeducationalfoundation.org. Raffles are \$100 each and a total of 100 raffles will be sold. First prize: 35% of the total; second prize: 10% of the total; third prize: 5% of the total. Hurry up. Don't miss your chance to support our cause!