

2007-2008

Barriers to Learning Fund

Student Emergency Fund

Issued to support the extraordinary or emergency needs of students.

Guiding Principles:

- Does this request support a student's basic personal needs or contribute to helping this student come to or stay in school?
- Does this request support a student wanting to participate in a school activity where lack of funds would mean a student could not participate?

Enrichment Funds

Arts & Music

- Musical instruments, sheet music
- Drama and art equipment

Technology

- Hand tools
- Skills Competition

Environment

- Conservation Management initiatives
- Eco gardens/outdoor classrooms

Healthy Active Living

- Fitness room equipment
- Activity kits including balls
- Quality Daily Fitness program resources

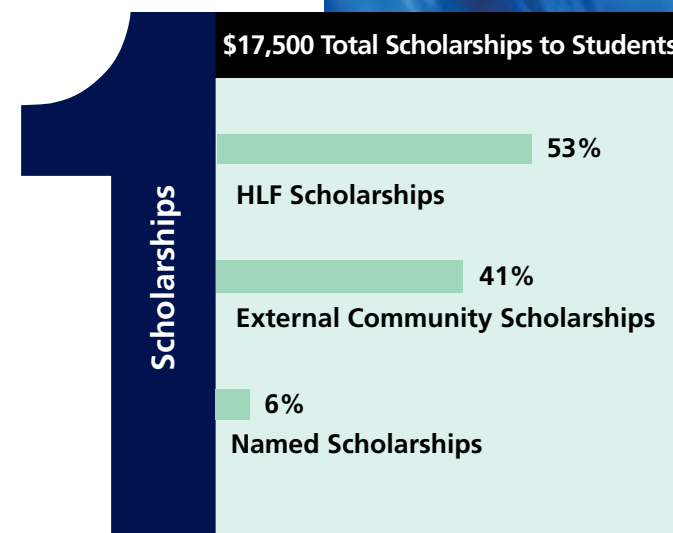
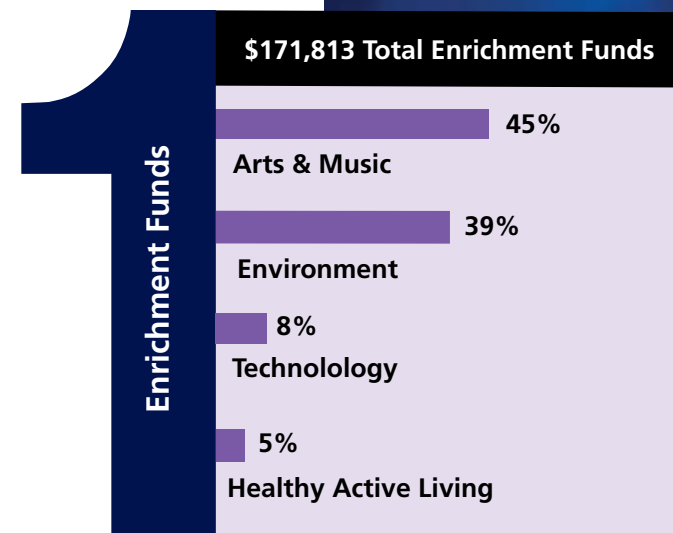
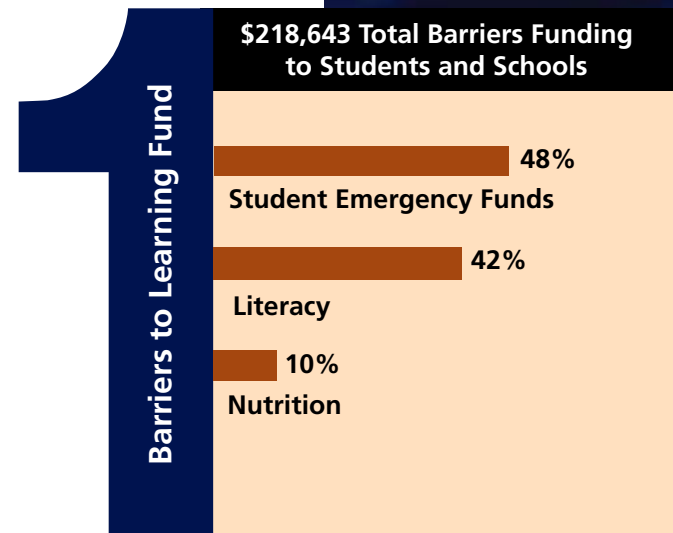
Scholarships

Currently scholarships in all categories are for students graduating from high school. They may be pursuing post secondary, college, the trades or workplace opportunities.



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Annual Report 07 08



NON
MILLION



I am very pleased to report the Foundation reached a milestone this year; more than ONE MILLION dollars in grants and scholarships have been awarded to students and schools over the past five years.

This incredible achievement speaks both to the needs of young people requiring support as they move along their educational journey and to the response of a caring community who are becoming more familiar with the mandate of the Halton Learning Foundation. Our volunteer Board of Directors continue to share their passion and energies to find ways to highlight student need, identify community donors and bring the two together in a context that can immediately make a significant difference for youth in Halton.

On behalf of the Board of the Halton Learning Foundation, I would like to thank all of those who have made our growth possible: from donors, and volunteers, students, staff and parents, the Administration and Trustees of the Halton District School Board, and the staff at the Foundation.

As we take pride in this milestone, we continue to move forward with compassion and commitment.

Sincerely,
Susan Busby

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Mission

Halton Learning Foundation exists to acquire and allocate resources to enrich educational opportunities and eliminate economic barriers to learning for Halton District School Board students.

AREAS OF SUPPORT

Eliminating Barriers

- Emergency funding for students in need
- Nutrition programs
- Literacy

Enrichment Funds

- Arts & Music
- Environment
- Technology
- Healthy Active Living

Scholarships & Bursaries

- HLF Scholarships to Grade 12 students
- Named Scholarships
- Community held Scholarships

Supporting Students, Strengthening Schools



Halton District School Board Profile

Elementary students	31,498
Secondary students	16,052
# of elementary schools	77
# of secondary schools	16
# of elementary teachers	1,966
# of secondary teachers	1,092

Schools are located in Halton Region: Oakville, Burlington, Milton, Georgetown, Acton

Students Receive Assistance – Eliminating Barriers

The Barriers to Learning Fund provides support to financially disadvantaged students needing assistance in the areas of emergency funding, nutrition and literacy.

A. Emergency Bursaries

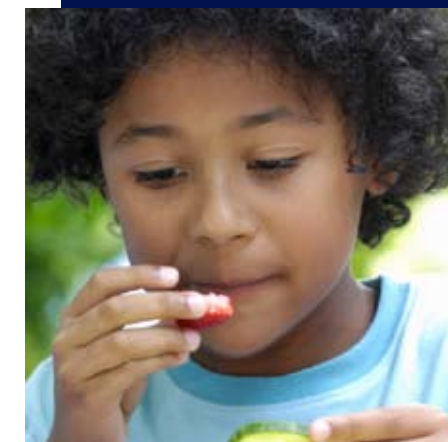
Individual students receive financial assistance with basic amenities such as food, clothing, school supplies and field trip subsidies in addition to family shelter challenges as a result of domestic violence, family breakup or fires. This year the Barriers Fund provided \$104,000 in assistance to more than 1,000 students. **Royal Bank** generously renewed their support with a \$30,000 donation specifically directed to support bursaries for youth in high school. The more we help, the more we realize how truly needy so many of our students are. We have become a significant social safety net for Halton youth. An inspiring corollary to this is that students are learning that they can refer situations to school staff or better still, that those in need can go themselves to adults to ask for help.

"I just wanted to let you guys know that the assistance you gave me has helped me so much. I'm going through a lot right now and my mom is ill and can't afford clothing for all three of my sisters and I. Thank you so much. You've done a lot for us."

Student



"Give a Little, Help a Lot" Toonie Tuesday campaign in February raised over \$18,000. Students, parents and staff were encouraged to donate \$2 to support the Barriers program. With the ever increasing number of requests coming in to the Foundation needs to attract more donors in order to sustain and grow the level of support available.



B. Nutrition Programs

Working in partnership with Halton Food for Thought, identified schools receive funds to offer breakfast and snack programs. Last year six schools received funding for their breakfast or snack programs which operated anywhere from one to three mornings a week depending on the need in their community and funding available. The Foundation was very pleased to be the recipient of over \$40,000 from **The Rotary Club of Burlington Central's** 16th Annual Partnership Golf Tournament.

"Thanks so much. Tammy will certainly benefit from this. Her eyes light up when we bring her juice, yogurt and a freshly baked muffin. This is a wonderful program and it really means a lot to the kids who are approved."

School staff

C. Literacy

Literacy assistance comes in the form of after school small group remedial help and literacy resources that support an environment of differentiated learning styles. A pilot literacy achievement program ran in six schools directed at students who were not meeting the grade expectation in literacy but were identified as having the ability to achieve using special learning strategies. Additional and focused intervention raised the students' achievement levels. School and/or parents may not have resources to give quality intervention instruction outside of regular program time – this program filled this void.

"I feel better at reading aloud and just plain reading. I actually like reading because it's fun. You can drive your imagination wild!"

Elementary student

1 MILLION

