



STAR/CSF-Ft. Worth Times

Making a difference...one student at a time!



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Vision Statement

The Board of Trustees of the STAR Sponsorship Program, Inc./CSF FW is dedicated to increasing educational options for children in Tarrant County whose parents do not have the financial means to provide an education best suited to their children's unique needs.

We believe the well-being of the entire community is enhanced when children are given a quality education that allows them to achieve to their utmost ability. Therefore, we intend wherever possible, to encourage partnerships with schools, parents, community organizations and concerned citizens in supporting its children to achieve the American Dream!

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A Family Gives Thanks

William Butler Yeats once said, "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." Here at STAR Sponsorship, we've seen how powerful education can be not only for students, but also their families. One recent story from an alumni family illustrates just how transformative this can be.

Jennifer McFarland Wilson had dreamed of giving her four children an education that would help them maximize life opportunities and ground them in their faith and belief in God. But the opportunities for a quality education were just out of reach financially. However, with aid of the STAR/CSF Fort Worth Program, her dream became reality and her children entered the program and began their journey into private elementary education. Challenges were abundant and as a single mother, Jennifer struggled with many obstacles, but her children's well-being remained her steadfast focus.

Jennifer recalled: "The STAR program made it possible for my children to enroll in private schools in Texas. I would have never been able to pay for the education on my own. It would have been impossible to think about a private education without the financial help of the program." With enrollment in quality private schools, the Wilson students were enriched in the values of character, compassion, academic success, and servant leadership.

Needless to say, the impact on Jennifer's children was tremendous. Jennifer shared: "I wanted my children to see all the avenues available to them when it came to education, and private schools offered this. They received instruction in smaller classrooms, individualized care, and a love that was overflowing from the teachers. The core education they received was a foundation that continued into their high school years."

Thinking back over those days, Jennifer also recalled her kids motivating each other to do their best with the sponsorship they had been given. Sterling, Reva, Jenae, and Jenna pushed each other to complete their homework, strive to do their best, and please their mother. As they actively encouraged each other to attain success, Jennifer continued to cheer them on and watched them excel in their education.

When asked why education is important, Jennifer responded: "Education opens a door that cannot be closed. When children are given morals to live up to along with a quality education, they learn and want to grow up to become great citizens and leaders. There is nothing that can stop a child who has an education."

In turn, their experiences in their elementary school years were instrumental in shaping their high school experience. Jennifer shared the following: "My children transitioned into public high school with the same morals and respect they learned at home and while in private elementary school. It was such a blessing to see them have confidence and respect for themselves, their friends, and their teachers due to a good beginning foundation."

"EDUCATION OPENS A DOOR THAT CANNOT BE CLOSED... THERE IS NOTHING THAT CAN STOP A CHILD WHO HAS AN EDUCATION."

Sterling graduated from high school in 2012 and is now attending Tarrant County College with dreams to pursue a Communications degree at Texas Wesleyan University in the spring. Reva graduated from Sam Houston High School in June 2014 in the top seven percent of her class and with Magna Cum Laude honors in the International Baccalaureate program. A member of the National Honor Society, she was voted Homecoming Queen, was the Cheerleading captain, was a member of Junior League of Arlington, won Mentor of the Year, and was a member of JKLivin.

Jennifer's twin daughters, Jenae and Jenna, followed in their sister's footsteps. Jenae is involved in the National Honor Society, and is the Senior Class President for Sam Houston High School. She is also a member of the Student Council, is in the top ten percent of her class, and is a District Wrestler with the Lady Texans. Jenna is also a District Wrestler with the Lady Texans, was the Junior Class Princess, is a Cheerleader, and is a member of JKLivin.

Reva, Jenae, and Jenna were not the only ones inspired through private school to excel in their education. Jennifer was also heavily impacted by the journey. "Watching my children motivated me to want more and do more also. I am graduating from...continued on back.



STAR Sponsorship Program, Inc.



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Children's Scholarship Fund
giving parents a choice • giving children a chance

A Family Gives Thanks... *continued*

...Texas Tech University this December and I never would have been motivated to do this if not for enrolling my kids in the program and seeing them become the wonderful young adults they are," Jennifer explained.

When asked what she would share with someone

considering a donation to the program, Jennifer reinforced the power it could have on children.

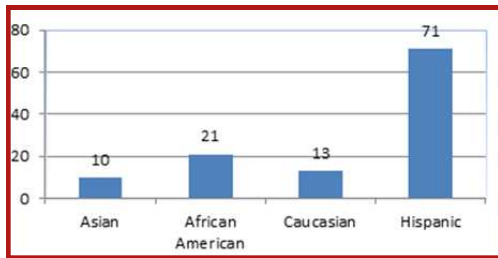
"Please, please do it! It is so important for children to learn morals at home that are also emphasized

at school. This, combined with a high-quality education, is necessary." This family is a direct example of how education can change lives. Not only are the girls continuing to excel in their studies, but their mother was inspired to pursue her own education and achieve her dreams and goals. By providing the opportunity for an excellent private education for children, the program is changing lives and making a difference... one student at a time!

"THE STAR PROGRAM MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR MY CHILDREN TO ENROLL IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS... IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK ABOUT A PRIVATE EDUCATION WITHOUT THE FINANCIAL HELP OF THE PROGRAM."

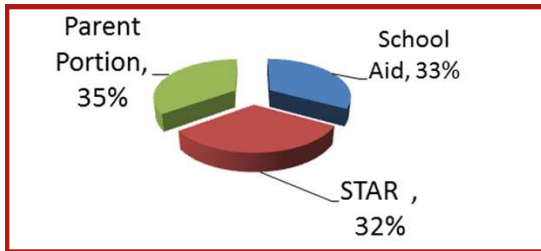
Demographics and Statistics

STAR Sponsorship Program, Inc. partners with parents, private schools, sponsors, and students to ensure that each of our students are receiving an excellent educational foundation. You may ask, "How does the STAR program work?" Below you will find some data from our 2014-15 school year that gives a glimpse into family demographics and program statistics.



The figure to the left represents the demographics for students in STAR Sponsorship for the current school year.

The STAR Program is a financial partnership between the school, the parent, and the donor or STAR sponsor. This pie chart shows a tuition breakdown for the 2013-14 school year.



STAR's Financial Averages 2014-15

Average Scholarship Amount.....	\$1,795
Average Tuition Amount.....	\$6,144
Average Family of 4 Income.....	\$32,633

STAR's Demographics 2014-15

Scholarship Recipients.....	115
Private Schools in Tarrant County.....	15

The Wilson Sisters: Living Their Dreams

The Wilson children were awarded scholarships and entered the program during their elementary years. Their mother, Jennifer McFarland Wilson who was previously featured, desired a better education for her children where they would academically soar, and thus she sought financial help to provide a better education for her children. Her three girls excelled throughout their time in the program. Reva graduated from eighth grade in 2010 and Jenae and Jenna, twin sisters, graduated from the program in 2011. Since then,



the girls made a smooth transition through public high school with the same respectful and responsible attitudes their mother instilled in them throughout their elementary educational years. The oldest daughter, Reva, graduated from Sam Houston High School this past June in the top 10 percent of her class. She graduated with many honors: Magna Cum Laude, International Baccalaureate, and National Honor Society. Throughout high school, she received accolades and many awards. She was voted Homecoming Queen, was the Cheerleading captain, and was a member of Junior League of Arlington. She won Mentor of the Year as a member of JKLivin, a foundation dedicated to encouraging high school students to lead healthy, active lives. Reva is in her Freshman year at Texas A&M University in the college of Science and Biology. Her dreams are to become a neurologist.



The younger sisters, Jenae and Jenna, are currently attending Sam Houston High School and are in their senior year, where they are in the AP program. Jenae is in the National Honor Society, is the Senior Class President, is a member of the Student Council, is in



the top ten percent of her class, and is a member of the Junior League of Arlington.



Her twin sister, Jenna, was the Junior Class Princess and a cheerleader. Both girls were District Wrestlers with the Lady Texans and members of JKLivin. Jenna and Jenae will graduate from Sam Houston High School in June of 2015. They plan to go on to college and they have multiple colleges lined up as possibilities for their near futures. In college, Jenae would like to major in Chemistry and Jenna is interested in Journalism and Meteorology.

These sisters have excelled throughout their education and will continue to succeed in all they do. We are proud of these graduates and their wonderful family. We are so excited to follow their journey as they continue on!



The Wilson sisters met Matthew McConaughey through JKLivin.

Please introduce us to a friend who may be interested in providing hope and opportunity for a family who values education. Give a student a chance for a better future. All donations are tax-deductible and make a wonderful year-end gift.

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