

STAR/CSF-Ft. Worth Times



Christmas 2012

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.

*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year!*



If you are interested in sponsoring a student or would like more information about the S.T.A.R. Program for you or someone you know, please contact us at:

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Helping students achieve a
choice in education!

1993



2012



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STAR Student/Sponsor Soiree

This September, current and prospective STAR sponsors enjoyed an evening with STAR students and their families. Board member Peter Philpott and his wife Anna Melissa graciously hosted the event at their home in Fort Worth. It proved a memorable evening for all as they observed on a more personal level the impact of the gift of education on students and their families.



Sponsor Gary Tonni-ges with student Isaias

Dear Mr. Philpott,
I personally wanted to thank you for opening up the doors of your house to us! I still cannot get over the fact that this event was made possible! When Mrs. Myers asked if I wanted to volunteer, I was very thrilled! I thought it was an amazing idea to invite STAR students so that future sponsors could see how great the students and their families are! I really want to thank you, Mr. Philpott, because it is thanks to people like you and the rest of your sponsors that make it possible for us to attend schools where we can get a quality education!

After that night, I realized even more how STAR has made an impact on my life. If it weren't for STAR and my sponsor, I would not have gone to St. Rita Catholic School, where I've received a quality education. I would not have known about TexPREP (a Math and Science camp at Texas Wesleyan University), where I was able to expand my horizons and explore the medical field. I also would not have had the opportunity to volunteer at Cook Children's Hospital. But most importantly I would not have had the opportunity to grow academically. So you see, Mr. Philpott, I owe all my success to STAR! I just want you to know that is you and our sponsors that motivate us students to reach for the stars!

I also wanted to share with you what a STAR mother said to me the day after our gathering. She said she was touched to see how kind and welcoming the current sponsors and guests were towards her and her children. She had never experienced anything like it. She said that these people are genuine! May God bless them for all their work! Thank you so much for opening the doors to your home and for showing us that you truly care about our future! God bless you and your family!



Guests at the Soiree

Sincerely,
Maria Barragan
STAR Alumna '09
Nolan High Senior '13

Dear Maria,
Thank you for your very nice note. It was a pleasure to host you and our other STAR students and families. We wish we could get together more often. My fellow sponsors and I are always amazed at your accomplishments, and gratified that you continue to give back to the program long after the scholarship ended for you.

When the STAR program began in Tarrant County in 1993, we had a good idea that we could positively affect the lives of children in our community by providing the opportunity for a private school education. Since then over 3,400 children have taken this opportunity, and we estimate that a majority of these go on to college after graduating from high school.

However what we didn't understand so clearly back then was how the program would positively affect the lives of us personally as sponsors, and for this we are grateful to you and your fellow scholars. We also share this joy with our fellow workers and with our own families, where our workmates, spouses and children follow your personal and academic progress. It is through the efforts and accomplishments of remarkable young people like you that we see how lives can be transformed by a quality education. This includes not only academic success, but especially the commitment by you to take advantage of all the school has to offer, and with this the expectations and opportunities that come along by you making that commitment to succeed.

Our only regret is that we have a large waiting list, and my wish is that we can expand the program even more to take care of those other kids who want the chance at a quality education.

May God bless you, and we hope you pass that blessing along yourself.

Very best wishes,
Peter Philpott
Board Member
STAR/CSF FW



STAR student Ashton, mother Jodi, and sponsors Dena and Amanda



Peter Philpott with STAR graduate Alexis this summer



Sponsor Linda Thomas with student Carlos

Our Christmas Wish: We Need Your Help!

STAR (Success Through Academic Readiness)/CSF Fort Worth has empowered students for success through a choice in education K-8th grade!



STAR (Success Through Academic Readiness) began in 1993 with its first scholarships awarded in the fall of 1994. In 1999, we joined forces with the national Children's Scholarship Fund. Over 3,400 scholarships valued at over \$4,000,000.00 have been awarded to at-risk youth in Tarrant County since our inception.

Motivated parents value education and the sponsor's financial support for their children. They partner in the process by paying a portion of the tuition, as well as other fees for their child's education. Students are held accountable for their report card results and seek avenues for successful achievement. Donors see firsthand their return on investment in the lives of these children and their families.



STAR Students at All Saints Catholic School

Snapshot STAR Sponsorship Program, Inc. 2012/2013

100 Scholarship Recipients
\$2,000 STAR Scholarship Amount
\$4,800 Average Tuition
\$23,242 Average Family Income
12 Schools in Tarrant County
32% Financial aid from schools
34% Financial aid from STAR
34% Parental Contribution

Full or partial sponsorships available.
100% of the gift goes toward scholarship.

THE WISH: To increase the educational opportunity in Tarrant County by providing more scholarships for the 2012 school year and beyond. This partnership is in tandem with the donor, the schools, and the parents who are sacrificing to provide an education that better suits their children. Parents agree to adhere to program expectations in motivating their children to excel. Students are expected to be on time, complete homework assignments, behave in an exemplary manner, and strive for the A/B Honor Roll. Donors receive students' report cards and correspondence from the students as they learn the value of the opportunity they are being given. Individuals, foundations and corporations provide the chance for these students to attend a private elementary school where the foundation for success is laid for a lifetime.

Giving Parents a Choice * Giving Children a Chance * Making a Difference One Student at a time



Dear Sponsor,

How are you? I am fine and loving school very much. Do you know that I just finished my first quarter? I am very glad and happy because I got straight A's in all my subjects.

I made it to the Principal's Honor Roll. My mom is very proud of me, and I hope that you are, too. We have a new student in my class; now we have 22 students, 13 girls and 9 boys. [My teacher] is a great and fun teacher to have. God bless you.

— DanVy, 3rd grade



Dear Sponsors,

This is Chelsea, and I'm writing this letter to thank you. You've done so much for me to get a scholarship. It is a big sacrifice to give my family money. I pray for you everyday. You give us hope. My parents know your hearts are full of kindness. You are the people who make God grin from ear to ear. Thank you for being my sponsors. I hope to meet you someday and say thanks. May God bless you and your family.

— Chelsea, 3rd grade



Dear Sponsor,

How are you? I am great, and I would love to tell you everything I have done in this school and how wonderful the teachers are. I've been getting very good grades lately and I like it a lot. I would love for you to see them, because I know you'll be surprised.

Please give credit to the teachers as well because they're the ones that helped me get such good grades. They give out great topics that help my life so much. I would love for you to see everything that is going on right now, but sadly, you can't. I hope this letter describes everything for you. I just want to say thank you for the scholarship you gave me to enter this great school.

Sincerely,
— An, 6th grade



Dear Sponsors,

How are you? I am doing fine. This first quarter has been going excellent. In my report card I got good grades which is exactly what I wanted to get. Each day gets harder and harder as the year progresses, but I'll put

forth my best efforts.

During my free time, I play soccer or other sports that I like. During the weekends I play outdoor soccer with my team. I would like to play other sports, but since I have a lot of homework I won't have any time to do it. Once again, thank you for sponsoring me. God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,
— Orlando, 5th grade



Dear Sponsor,

Hello. How have you been? ...I am very excited to be back at school. I am having fun in all of my classes, and my teachers are very nice. This year I joined volleyball and basketball. My volleyball team won three games. I hope to win all of my basketball games.

I am trying really hard in all my classes. I am very thankful for your support. May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,
— Angela, 7th grade



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