



The Batavia Foundation is a non-profit organization that receives money from our annual golf outing and from private donations. We then are able to use our money to fund grants requested by teachers in all of Batavia's public schools. That much is true, but it's not quite that simple.

The Foundation has been in existence for over 20 years and we are very fortunate that our founders had the foresight to create an endowment in lieu of an organization that spends all of its funds annually, requiring continuous fundraising efforts. The goal of the Foundation is to limit annual grant funds to equal interest and dividend payments on the endowment. When the Foundation was started, interest rates were double digit and the reality today is quite different.

We continue to raise money each year hoping that one day the endowment will pay enough interest and dividends that we won't need to fundraise any more. In the interim, we watch our pennies closely and are invested conservatively. Our directors each serve at least a three year term. During this time we all work together to raise and spend our money.

Our main fundraiser is an annual golf outing right after school gets out in June. This is a huge group effort that takes months to plan. Each year it raises a little more money and gets a little better. Event sponsors, hole sponsors and silent auction donors ensure the success of the outing from a fundraising perspective and the golfers ensure that it is a fun outing for teachers and community members all. This year we plan to add a

traveling trophy to be won by any foursome of teachers and showcased in their school for one year.

We also rely on generous donations from private citizens and from District 101 employees. Many teachers have been very generous over the years and this is just one way they express their passion for educating our children (their students). It's also very important to note that it is our wonderful teachers who take the time to research new ideas and apply for grant funds.

Grants are why we do what we do. Twice each school year teachers can apply for a grant. In the fall we limit funding to grants under \$700 to be used in that school year and in the spring we fund grants greater than \$700 to be used the following school year. We require grants to be innovative and enriching. In the past couple of years we have had so many requests for technology that we added the requirement that it isn't enough for the technology to be innovative, but it must be accompanied by an innovative curriculum or use.

When someone has a great idea, applies for and receives funding for a grant it is only natural that others will want it too. Unfortunately, if the curriculum and goals are the same, the grant is no longer innovative so the Foundation is unable to fund it.

So you see, not all grants get funded and it is very difficult to determine which grants should receive funding each season. A sub-committee of Foundation directors must review each application and then they meet with Dr. Jan Wright, Associate Superintendent

for Teaching & Learning, to ensure that each grant is in line with district goals. This group recommends which grants to fund to the Foundation board and a final vote by the full board is required.

In addition, we periodically hold other events to raise community awareness like the hot dog and ice cream event we had this fall at Bulldog's Red Hots and the Batavia Creamery and the Variety shows we hope to be

able to host again once the construction allows.

So, maybe now you might better understand what the Foundation does. You may even know a board member or a teacher who received a grant. If you have ideas for grants, talk to us or your child's teacher. We invite the community to apply for grants. Requirements and information can be found at [bataviafoundation.org](http://bataviafoundation.org).

Thanks, Batavia, for all you do!



**Spring grant deadline**  
**Friday, March 12**  
**4 pm**

## Foundation Directors

- Lisa Foydel Kramer, *Chair*
- Joanne Spitz, *Vice Chair*
- Joe Purpura, *Director of Finances*
- Dr. Jack Barshinger, *Ex Officio*
- Kathy Bratcher
- Lisa Farley
- Jen Heidenreich
- Mike Katz
- Kerry Massie
- Heidi Molenhouse
- Colleen Nyland
- Dan O'Brien
- Jane Reid
- Carrie Sebold
- Matt Winkle
- Mim Zeddies
- Nancy Schmitz, *Administrator*