

Rewarding Kindness Scholarship



Background Information on the Rewarding Kindness Scholarship

This scholarship was established by a former Dickinson High School student who wanted to “give back” to a Dickinson High School graduating senior. He said that life has been good to him and he has fond memories of his time at Dickinson High School. The Rewarding Kindness Scholarship was created to reward a student that is a “good” kid.

“Although I did not ask the Dickinson Public Schools Foundation for anonymity, my identity is not important because this is not a memorial scholarship...at least not yet! I did not grow up in Dickinson but did attend DHS for grades 10, 11 and 12. I moved away from Dickinson 40 years ago and no one in the area or at the school has any reason to remember me. The life I’ve been given has been good to me. This scholarship reflects my gratitude to DHS for the Midget friendships and many fond Midget memories I still maintain.

I graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1985 and recently retired after a 32-year career with the United States Treasury Department. My work enabled me to see all parts of our great nation and gain friendships with people from all backgrounds, abilities and walks of life. I live with my wife in Minneapolis, Minnesota area with our adult son not far away in St. Paul. We’re blessed to own a small cabin in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin.

I’m much different as an adult than I was as a student. I was never mean to anyone and knew how to spell “kindness,” but actually being kind or encouraging to others was not really on my radar as a DHS student. As an adult, I’ve been blessed as a volunteer teaching and mentoring teens and adults at both a Twin Cities-area substance abuse rehabilitation center and a medium-security prison. Perspectives gained from good people paying a heavy price for poor choices – often made as teenagers – have been invaluable. I also learned much about how best to treat people from many years coaching ice hockey for kids and adults with special needs. They taught me a lot.

I currently coach track & field and cross country for middle and high school students at a tiny, economically-disadvantaged school near my Wisconsin lake cabin. I sponsor a similar scholarship at that school.”

Coach Dale



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The Rewarding Kindness Scholarship was created to reward a student that is a “good” kid. Sometimes the “good” kids aren’t the “best” kid; they may not be the most athletic, the most musically talented or have the best grades. They may not have the strongest scholarship application writing skills. This student shows respect to school staff and kindness to fellow students, especially to those whose path to acceptance or success is difficult; to those who can offer nothing in return beyond maybe a smile; and when there is no opportunity for elevated social status or popularity.

This scholarship fund provides an opportunity to assist a graduating Dickinson High School student with their education at the next level. We invite you to complete the attached scholarship application. The Rewarding Kindness Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship which will be awarded annually. One \$500 scholarship will be awarded each spring.

The Foundation manages the scholarship fund program. It benefits graduating students as they further their education. Because scholarship recipients are local students who have attended Dickinson High School, we have a vested interest in their success. We will see the results as the scholarship recipient’s graduate from college and enter the workplace.

Past recipients include: Hailey Rathgeber, Kiah Jahner, Mattilyn Biel, Luke Mavity, Grant Bittner, Jaycob Dube and Mouchfa Batcha.

An application is attached. Applications are also available from the Dickinson High School counselor’s office.

Eligible applicants are male or female Dickinson High School seniors that will be enrolled in a college, university, tech or trade school, certificate or licensure program, apprenticeship, etc. in the fall. Applicants must complete the attached application form and submit it prior to the deadline.

The application deadline is April 1, 2024. Applications should be turned in to the DHS counselor’s office.

If you have any questions, please contact the DHS counselors, at 456-0030, or Karen Heidt at 590-0495.

Sincerely,
Karen Heidt, Dickinson Public Schools Foundation Director of Development



Rewarding Kindness Scholarship

Application: Part I

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Names of Parents/guardian(s): _____

Name of intended college, tech or trade school, certification or licensure program, apprenticeship, etc.: _____

Application: Part II

No matter the circumstances, there are two things we always control: our attitude and our effort. Even high school students have life experiences that can benefit others and being kind and encouraging are always options:

Please respond to the following essay questions limiting your answers to one attached page per question. Read each question carefully because they are different.

1. Describe a time when someone was kind or encouraging toward you and how this affected you. Include specifics as to how this influenced you to share kindness and encouragement with others.
2. Describe a time when you were kind or encouraging toward another person and how this affected that person and you. Include specifics as to how this influenced you to be a lifelong source of kindness and encouragement.

Application deadline is April 1. Please submit to DHS Counselor's office.



