



FOREST HILLS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

the **2020**
Gala
FACT SHEET

Date/Time: November 4, 2020 | 7:00-7:45pm

Gala Chairpersons: Steve and Anne Scholler

Event Emcee: Judge Sara Smolenski

Format: Live, virtual event

Link to join the Gala will be distributed prior to Nov. 4

**Goal: \$150,000 to fully fund all the needs identified
by the principals in the Support Our School Initiative**

What is the Support our School Initiative?

Principals across the district identified needs for the upcoming school year. Our goal for the 2020 Gala is to raise a minimum of \$150,000 to fully fund all the needs identified by the principals. When making a gift, you can identify which school(s) you would like your gift to benefit.

How can I participate in the 2020 Gala?

This new, virtual format allows for more families to participate. We are not limited by the space allowed in the ballroom at Frederik Meijer Gardens. There are many ways to participate and support educators across the district. This is our largest fundraiser. Making a gift (of any size) and inviting others to do the same is the best way to help us reach our goal.

- Make a gift to the Support our School Initiative (see giving options below)
- Host a “table” at your home – inviting four or five couples to join you (information below)
- Watch the live, virtual event on November 4
- Encourage others to watch the event
- Encourage others to make a gift to the Support Our School Initiative

What is a Table Sponsor?

Because we cannot all be together at Frederik Meijer Gardens, we would like to have house parties across the district. Instead of sponsoring a table at the Gala, please consider hosting your guests at your home. Groups of 10 are recommended. We envision each house party looking a little different. Each host will create a venue to gather and watch the live, virtual event together. There is no right way to do this. The important thing is being together, united in our efforts to raise money to support educators and students across the district!

If you are not comfortable hosting an in-person group during these times, please consider participating by communicating directly to a group of 10 (or more) leading up to and following the Gala. You can share the link to the virtual event along with information about the giving options and the SOS Initiative. By creating your group, you help us spread the word and accomplish the sense of community needed for a successful event.

Supporting Academic Excellence



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How do I become a Table Sponsor?

Confirm your commitment with the Foundation Office by completing and returning the Gala Commitment Form or contact Jana Siminski at jsiminski@fhps.net or 616-493-8954. We will send specific event information to all Table Sponsors prior to the event. Including: Link to watch the live event and giving options to share with guests.

How much does it cost to become a Table Sponsor?

While there is no cost to become a table sponsor, we ask those that have sponsored a table in the past to consider a gift commensurate with your prior year's giving. This includes sponsorship and Support our School Initiative giving. At Gala's past (in-person), table sponsorships began at \$2,000.

What are the responsibilities of a Table Sponsor?

Host a group at your home or venue of your choice. Share information about the Foundation/Gala with your guests. Communicate to your guests that this event is a fundraiser. Ask your guests to consider a gift to the Gala/SOS Initiative. Watch the live event with your guests.

Do you have to be a table sponsor or guest of a table sponsor to participate in the 2020 Gala?

We will share the information on how to watch the live virtual event with parents across the district. If you cannot host a table at your home or are not comfortable being with a group during these times, we encourage you to watch the message live from your own home.

If we can't watch the virtual event live, can we still participate?

The recorded event will be on our website. We encourage those who can't watch the event live, to watch at a time convenient for them.

Gifts to the Support our Schools Initiative can be made any time, now through November 11.

- Mail a check to the FHPS Foundation at 600 Forest Hill Avenue SE, GR 49546
- Pay via credit card: Go online to www.fhpsf.org, and click the donate tab
- Via Text-to-Give: Info will be shared the day of the Gala (Nov. 4) and during the live, virtual event
- Completing and returning the Gala Commitment Form

For additional information, please contact Jana Siminski at jsiminski@fhps.net or 616-493-8954.

**Thanks in advance for helping make
the 2020 Gala a success!**