Greater Denfeld Foundation
Contribution Policy

The Greater Denfeld Foundation was established in 1971. By 2001, the Foundation had accumulated $175,000 of its $250,000 goal. That year, Marie Saltwick, longtime Denfeld biology teacher and 1925 graduate, bequeathed $2.7 million to the foundation, funding the first renewable scholarship. In 2008, Armond Hauge, a 1946 grad, bequeathed $3.2 million to establish the second renewable scholarship. A third renewable scholarship was established in 2024 by Mark ('61) and Ina Myles, and two more scholarships were created in 2026 by Dennis Maki ('62) and the estate of James Melander, longtime Denfeld math teacher. Today the Greater Denfeld Foundation manages assets of over $9 million and has awarded more than $9 million in scholarships to Denfeld students since its inception.

The Foundation values and welcomes contributions in the following categories:

1. Greater Denfeld Foundation Scholarship Awards

- The scholarship awards are one-time awards of at least $2,000, given to graduating seniors during Denfeld Honors Night held each spring.
- The intent of these awards is to assist with expenses directly related to post-secondary education, such as tuition, fees, books, technology needs, and room and board.
- Contributions of any amount will be accepted to encourage growth of the endowed Greater Denfeld Scholarship Fund for the purpose of assisting Denfeld students as they pursue their higher education goals.

2. Greater Denfeld Foundation Memorial Fund (Donation Program)

- The Memorial Fund provides valuable resources to teachers and staff to enhance students' educational experiences at Denfeld High School. The total amount of annual donations will depend on the Memorial Fund earnings.
- The Greater Denfeld Foundation Memorial Fund was created with contributions from the Harry Fisher/Class of '55 Legacy Fund and the Steve Anderson Legacy Memorial. Donations provide Denfeld teachers, coaches, advisors and staff with funds for items not covered in their budgets. Previous donations have included items such as history books for AP class, graphing calculators for advanced math classes, microphones for speech class, hats and aprons for the culinary program, paints for art, microscope slides for biology, a computer for the robotics team, and track shoes for cross country and track teams.
- Contributions of any amount will be accepted to encourage growth of the Greater Denfeld Foundation Memorial Fund endowment.

3. Friends of Denfeld Tribute Awards

- The Friends of Denfeld Tribute Awards are made possible through generous contributions from individuals, families, and friends to recognize special Denfeld educators, students, and supporters. The Tribute Awards are named in their memory or honor.
- A Friends of Denfeld Tribute Award may be established with contributions of $20,000 or more. In addition, the donor(s) may determine the name of the award and the criteria a student must meet to be considered for the award.
- Each year these awards are given to students as one-time grants for at least $2,000. The intent of the Friends of Denfeld Tribute Awards is to honor the memories and contributions of their namesakes and to assist Denfeld graduates with expenses directly related to post-secondary education such as tuition, fees, books, technology needs, and room and board.

4. Renewable Endowed Named Scholarships

- Renewable Endowed Named Scholarships are possible with contributions of $500,000 or more. However, the Foundation is willing to consider other gift options and distribution plans on a case-by-case basis. The donor may establish criteria the student must meet to be considered for the scholarship, within the confines of the Foundation's goals for assisting Denfeld students.
- Such a scholarship would likely be renewable for up to four years or a total of eight semesters and is awarded to graduating seniors during Denfeld High School Honors Night held each spring.
- The scholarship amount and number of students receiving the scholarship will depend on fund earnings.