

**Mississippi School for  
Mathematics and Science Foundation**

**2011 Annual Report**

**January 1, 2011 through  
December 31, 2011**





## MSMS Foundation Mission

The Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science Foundation (Foundation), a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, was established in 1989.

The Foundation is a non-profit corporation duly chartered in the state of Mississippi to operate exclusively to benefit the mission of the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (MSMS). The goal of the foundation is to supplement the funding received by MSMS from the Mississippi Department of Education with other private and public support.

The mission of MSMS is to "enhance the future of Mississippi by providing innovative learning experiences in a residential environment to meet individual needs of gifted and talented students and by providing quality educational leadership and aggressive outreach programs."

## Annual Report Goal

The goal of this report is to inform donors and potential donors on how donated funds have been used in support of MSMS.



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## MSMS Foundation Board Members of 2011

- Cindy Henderson, President (Class of 1995)
- Chad F. Edmonson, Vice President (Class of 1999)
- John Davis, Treasurer
- H. J. Davidson, Secretary
- Michael Goggans, Immediate Past President (Class of 1991)
- Mike Bartlett
- Meg Bartlett
- Deborah Gambrell-Chambers
- Mickey Gousset (Class of 1990)
- Lydia Quarles
- Dr. John Robinson
- Noelle Tune (Class of 1990)
- \*Charles Brown, Executive Director of MSMS
- \*Rick Smith, Director of School Advancement
- \*Melissa Grantham, Chairman of the MSMS Advisory Board
- \*Kelly Brown, President of PLUS
- \*Orlando Hill, President of MSMSAA
- \*\*Mike Crowder

\*Ex-officio positions in organization

\*\*Board Members who resigned during 2011



Note: All board members donate their time to the MSMS Foundation and are not paid or reimbursed. If you are interested in being a member of the MSMS Foundation, please contact the Foundation at [msmsfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:msmsfoundation@gmail.com).

## What Happened at MSMS in 2011?

- The Class of 2011 graduated in May with a total of 136. To date, this is one of the largest classes to ever graduate from MSMS.
- For the fall semester of 2011-2012 the school had an incoming junior class (Class of 2013) of 132 students. As of December 2011, the student body had 138 seniors and 128 juniors for a total of 266 students; previous year had a total of 238 students.



### *Accomplishments of Class of 2011*

- *5 STAR Students*
- *6 National Merit Scholars*
- *3 National Achievement Scholars*
- *1 US Presidential Scholar*
- *2 Horatio Alger Scholar*
- *1 Questbridge Scholar*
- *2x MAO Convention Winners*
- *3 Gates Millennium Scholar*
- *1 Coca-Cola Scholar Semi-Finalist*
- *5 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair Finalists*
- *2 Wendy's Heisman District Finalists*
- *1 Newman Scholar*
- *3 Service Academy Acceptances*
- *1 National Science Bowl Qualifying Team*
- *136 Mississippi Scholar*
- *\$12,351,715 amount of scholarship money earned (an average \$90,821 per student)*
- *5 students to Ivy League, 46 students to out-of-state schools, 83 students to in-state schools*

- The school's operating budget for the 2010-2011 school year was flat from the previous year at \$4.3 million. Prior to budget cuts, the school budget was \$4.95 million.
- The school hired two new directors. Ms. Tanya Walker, Director of Student Affairs, is a full-time employee who assists with dorm staff, extra-curricular activities, and the primary role of making sure the students have a safe living environment. Dr. Germain McConnell, Director of Academic Affairs, is a full-time employee who oversees the academic buildings, faculty, and student academic progress.
- With Mississippi promoting and facilitating good health and exercise habits, MSMS is also looking out for the students. A wellness program went into effect the start of the 2011-2012 school year. The wellness program is to help students learn about nutrition, healthy exercise habits, and a good way to manage a healthy lifestyle while in a busy environment.



- MSMS currently has 44 active clubs. Each club must represent an ideal of the school (scholarship, community, creativity, and/or service.)
- Dennis Reed was inducted in the MUW Master Teacher Hall of Fame.
- Rajiv Heda and Kaleel Wainwright presented work at the SE Regional IDEa Meeting in New Orleans. The conference is for students at the collegiate level, so to be included was an honor.

# Impact to our Community

## Donations to the school:

- The school purchased new computers for the math and science classrooms. All teachers and some staff got new computers in their classrooms and offices.
- A second laptop cart was purchased for use on the second floor of Hooper, the main academic building.
- Two cameras and a SMART symposium were purchased for Hooper Auditorium. The cameras facilitate using Skype in the auditorium.
- With the money raised in 2010 in the Annual Fund drive, MSMS purchased new textbooks for classrooms. While these textbooks are still hard book copies, the school is analyzing the impact of digital books and transitioning to e-books.
- The robotics classes received new equipment.
- The Foundation once again helped with trophies and awards for Honors Convocations, Blue Letter Awards (athletics), and other.
- Travel for students to various competitions.
- Supported MSMS Science Carnival with donations from the school's partner in progress, Microtek.



## Student Assistance and Individual Help:

- The Foundation dispersed \$28,595 for assistance with Room and Board fees. Assistance included: full scholarships (18 students); partial scholarships (9 students); and activity fees (15 students).
- Kate Thompson won the Abernethy Award for Creative Writing.
- Assisted 3 students with individual college scholarships via the Michael J. Shaheen, Jr. Fund and the Jack and Harweda Johnson Scholarship.



## Foundation Accomplishments:

- The Foundation held its first annual silent auction fundraiser.
- The Foundation sponsored Alumni Day on October 15, 2011.
- The Foundation started MSMS Alumni on the Road in Austin, Texas in October 2011.
  - Developed a new website with more features and transparency. The most notable change is the posting of the Foundation's Audit Review, Meeting Minutes, and Annual Reports. Please go to [www.msmsfoundation.com](http://www.msmsfoundation.com) to see the new website.
- Provided \$20,000 in new textbooks for MSMS and \$2,658 for new robotics equipment.
- Helped with funding for Science Carnival.

## Foundation Management and Staff

During 2011, the Foundation employed one full-time staff member in the development office for a few months. Following that time, the Foundation provided funding for a position with MSMS to assist the Foundation in the goal of increasing public and private contributions as well as raising awareness of the school and the Foundation.

# Areas of Giving within the MSMS Foundation

*The Foundation receives donations with both general and specific designations regarding the use of the funds.*

**General Fund:** Fund where undesignated contributions are used. These funds are used for small program costs as well as operations. Examples of those costs may include medals, awards, travel funds for students and faculty, student activities, etc. These funds are used as match funds for large grants. General operations costs for the Foundation are also paid for by this fund.

**Room and Board Fee Assistance Fund:** In 2008, the Mississippi Legislature passed HB513 which initiated a room and board fee of \$500 per semester for each student. The bill allowed for students who met the state requirements of poverty to be exempt from the bill. Unfortunately a gap exists between the definition of poverty and reality of individual family finances and the fees would be a burden for some families. The alumni and past parents started a fund to help offset the cost of the fee. This year the fund received contributions from donors such as the Rock River Foundation, The Taylor Foundation, alumni, and parents of students.

**MSMS Annual Fund:** The Foundation collects annual donations which exclusively help support the operating budget of MSMS. Funds collected in one year will be used to augment the school's annual operating budget in the following year.

**Jack and Harweda Johnson Scholarship:** Started by 1999 alumnus Chad F. Edmonson in honor of his grandparents, the Jack and Harweda Johnson scholarship allows MSMS graduates to attend a top tier university of their choice. The scholarship provides \$500.00 per semester for each year of college.

## Other Scholarships:

- The Mary Beth Casto Bennett Scholarship Fund – Started by 1998 alumnus William Coker to honor his dear friend and classmate Mary Beth Casto Bennett. The scholarship honors a graduate who is pursuing a degree in social work or psychology.
- The Abernethy Award – Funded by Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Emma Richardson the award honors a student for their literary talents in creative writing. Mrs. Emma Richardson is an English faculty member at MSMS. She has been with the school since the opening year.
- The Michael J. Shaheen, Jr. Fund – Funded by an anonymous donor with the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi. The fund helps a student attend a four year college whose family would struggle to help with the cost of education.

# Support for the Foundation

## **\$500,000 Challenge Grant**

In August of 2009, the Phil Hardin Foundation awarded the Foundation with a \$500,000 dollar challenge grant. For every dollar up to \$100,000 the Foundation raises in contributions, the Phil Hardin Foundation will donate \$100,000 annually for the next five years (2010-2015). The grant can be used to cover the most pressing needs of the school. The second contribution of \$100,000 was received in January 2011 and was matched by donations received in 2010.

## **Appalachian Regional Commission Grant (ARC)**

A second grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) in Washington, D.C. was received. At a total of \$126,789 the grant was used to replace existing computers in classroom and teacher offices with new computers. The grant also allowed the school to purchase a new SMART symposium and cameras for Hooper Auditorium and a second laptop cart for school use. ARC provided seventy percent (70%) of the grant cost totaling \$89,872 and the Foundation was required to raise thirty percent (30%) of the cost totaling \$38,517.

## *The Room and Board Fee Assistance Fund*

Since the start of the Room and Board Fee, many individuals have helped students with assistance over the past four years. While we are thankful from our alumni and parents, we are also thankful to the following organizations:

The Rock River Foundation of Charleston, Mississippi, awarded the Foundation a \$22,000 grant to support the Room and Board Fee Assistance Fund. First priority of the grant is to students from Tallahatchie and Coahoma counties, then all areas of the Delta, and finally dispersed as needed. This year the Foundation also used the money to help students from the Delta with school activity fees who otherwise could not afford them.

The Taylor Foundation donated \$1,000 for Neshoba and Winston counties to help a student from their area with fee assistance.

## **Other Support:**

- Delta Land and Pine, a division of The Monsanto Corporation in Scott, Mississippi, contributed \$2,658 to the Foundation for robotics equipment..
- Microtek and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) provided funds for Math and Science Day.
- Field Co-operative Association, Inc. provided funds for essay contests and the music department.
- Special thanks to Classes of 1991 and 1999 for highest donations from a class.

## *Financial Overview*

**Table 1: Program Services by the MSMS Foundation to Support MSMS**

	<b>Year Ended 12/31/2011</b>	<b>Year Ended 12/31/2010</b>
Scholarships & Awards	\$2,691	\$3,100
Room & Board Fee Assistance	\$28,596	\$37,102
Student Activities	\$76,520	\$36,292
Student Supplies	\$23,492	\$14,641
Student Travel		\$2,689
Speakers and Teachers		\$2,600
Equipment	\$126,789	\$104,648
Camps		\$4,401
Alumni Outreach	\$3,198	
Program Insurance	\$1,169	\$1,169
Other		\$547
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$262,455</b>	<b>\$207,189</b>

Categories included in this annual report generally mirror the 2010 report; Alumni Outreach was added and Student Activities and Supplies are now listed as separate rows. Alumni Outreach funds were used for conducting reunions and alumni outreach functions. As shown on Table 1, spending increased in 2011 compared to 2010 due largely to the investment in technology for the school.

**Table 2: Program Support and Expenses**

	<b>For the Year Ended 12/31/2011</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>For the Year Ended 12/31/2010</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
<b>Program Services <sup>a</sup></b>	\$262,455	82.5%	\$207,189	69.8%
<b>Support Services <sup>b</sup></b>	\$55,534	17.5%	\$89,846	30.2%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$317,989		\$297,035	

<sup>a</sup> Amount includes funds disbursed to the school as stated in Table 1.

<sup>b</sup> Amount includes all foundation expenses such as payroll, contract services, office expenses, accountant reviews, investment fees, advertising, etc.

As shown on Table 1 and 2, between 2010 and 2011, program expenses in direct support of MSMS increased. The increase in expenditures is due to investment in:

- equipment to provide additional SMART boards and computers to faculty and staff;
- assisting MSMS student activities; and
- ongoing Room and Board Fee Assistance.

Due to restrained or cut education budgets in the last several years, MSMS had been unable to update the computer systems and corresponding infrastructure on campus. The ARC grants in 2010 and 2011, combined with Foundation support, provided a step forward for those critical updates.

In 2011, the management and general expenses decreased substantially from 2010. The decrease is due to the Foundation eliminating the full-time position employed by the Foundation and opting to help fund a position at MSMS to handle those duties. Program service spending increased again by 27% from 2010 to 2011. The ratio of program services spending to management and general expenses spending decreased substantially from 30.2% in 2010 to 17.5% in 2011. The goal of the Foundation is for management and general expenses not to exceed 15% of the amount expended by the Foundation in any one year on support services. In 2011, the Foundation almost achieved that goal while providing the highest level to date of services for the school and funding a position at the school which was simultaneously raising MSMS and the Foundation's profile.

The Foundation disbursed \$207,189 in CY 2010 and \$262,455 in CY 2011 in direct support to MSMS.

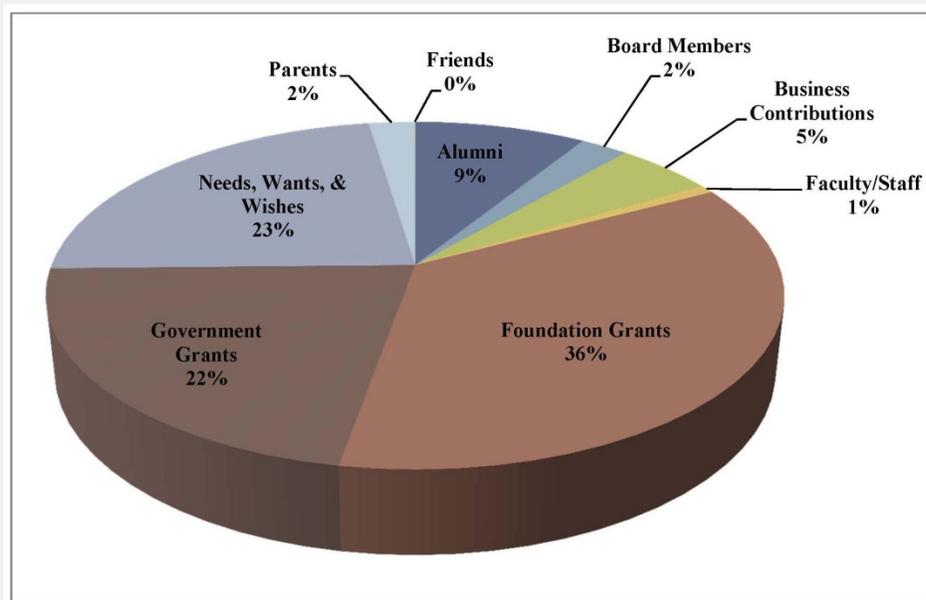
**Table 3: Summary of Changes in MSMS Foundation Assets**

	<b>For the Year Ended December 31, 2011</b>	<b>For the Year Ended December 31, 2010</b>
<b>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</b>	\$312,192	\$276,043
<b>Contributions<sup>a</sup></b>	\$353,115	\$309,626
<b>Dividends &amp; Interest</b>	\$10,219	\$9,241
<b>Expenses</b>	\$317,989	\$297,035
<b>Investment Gain/Loss</b>	\$5,882	\$14,317
<b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>	\$363,419	\$312,192
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	\$51,227	\$36,149

<sup>a</sup> Includes contributions of cash, equipment, furniture, and supplies from individuals, businesses, and grants.

As shown on Table 3, the MSMS Foundation investments have continued to increase in value as financial markets rebounded. Contributions increased 14% from 2010 to 2011 due to continued donor response to the enactment of the Room and Board Fee as well as successful fundraising efforts by the Foundation staff.

**Figure 1: Who Donated to the MSMS Foundation in 2011?**



As Figure 1 shows (in dollars donated), the Foundation staff was successful in further diversifying the income of the Foundation by obtaining foundation and government grants as well as locating businesses interested in supporting the mission of the school. In addition, many individual donors have stepped forward to support the school through directed contributions such as the Room and Board Fee Assistance Fund and the MSMS Annual Fund, as well as non-directed general Foundation contributions.

**Figure 2: How did the MSMS Foundation Support MSMS in 2011?**

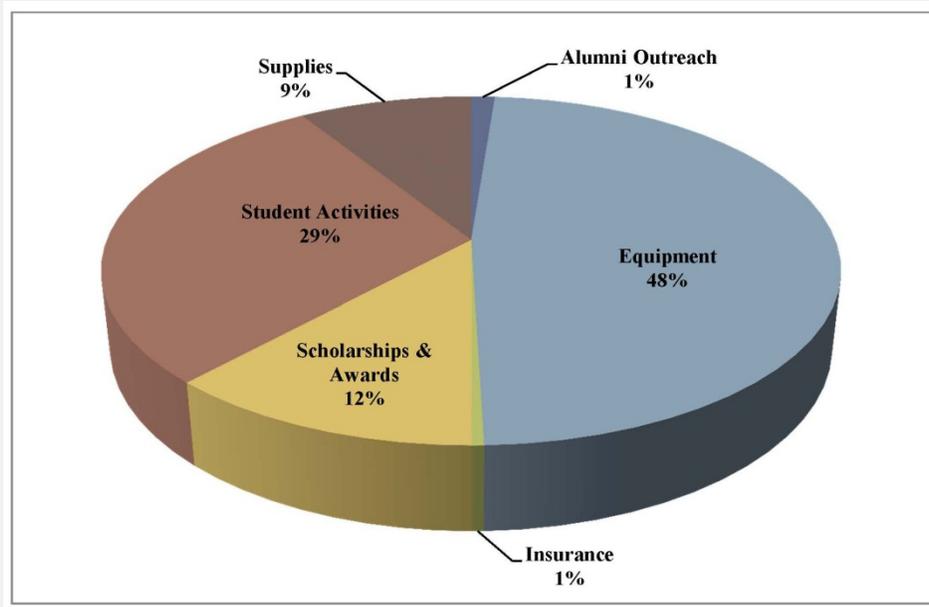


Figure 2 shows the areas and amounts of disbursements to MSMS from the Foundation in 2011. Investment in the technology initiative represented the single largest disbursement, which is accounted for in the Equipment category, while Student Activities, and the Room and Board Fee Assistance rounded out the top three categories.

**Figure 3: What were the Foundations Expenses in 2011?**

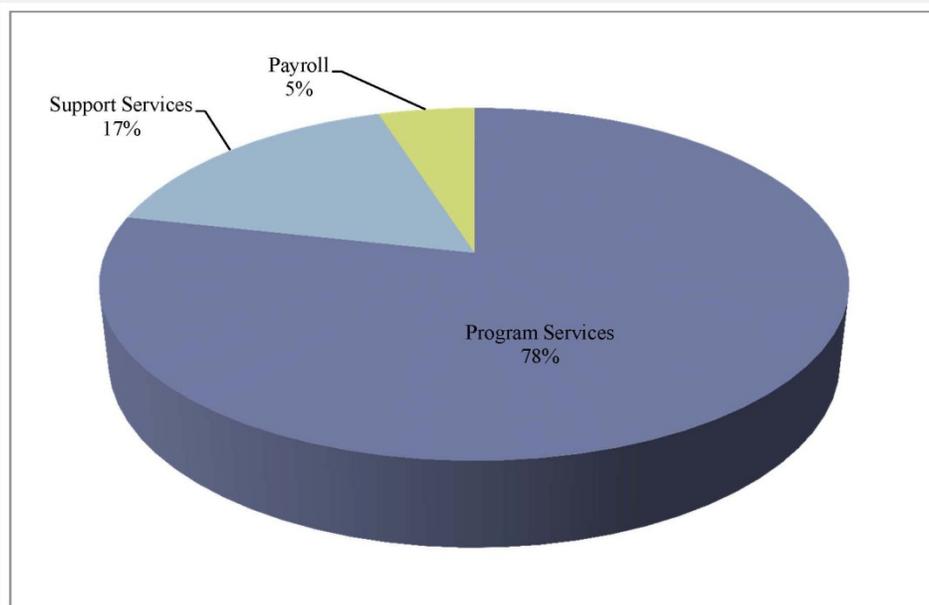


Figure 3 shows the expenses of the Foundation including disbursements to the school (Program Services) as well as payroll, and support services.

**Figure 4 : MSMS Foundation Trends**

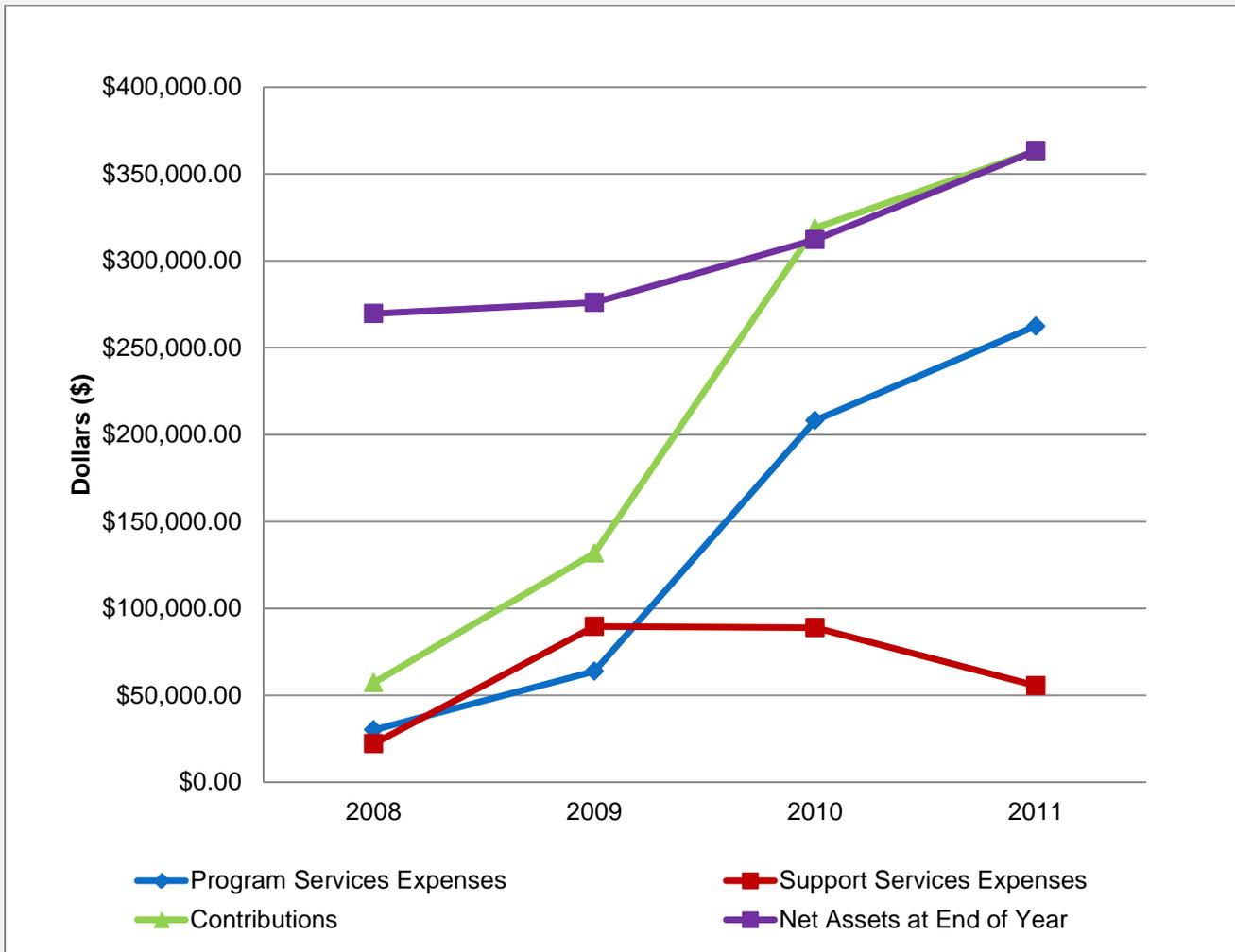


Figure 1 shows trends from 2008 to 2011 for the Foundation. Generally, the trends for contributions, programmatic expenses (support for the school), and support services have been moving in a positive direction. The net assets of the Foundation, which includes primarily investments and minor cash reserves, have increased slowly due to the troubles in the national financial markets and stagnated for lack of contributions by the Foundation. Due to the match requirements for the ARC and the perceived need for the technology upgrades on campus, the programmatic expenditures were deemed to be more of a priority in 2010 and 2011.

Despite the challenges, what kept MSMS on the path during the year was our commitment to our mission, vision, and values. Now, with demands greater than ever, they are helping to shape instruction and services so we can focus on the areas that matter most to our students.



## *Thank you for being a N.E.R.D!*

### **Presidential Society (\$100,000+)**

Phil Hardin Foundation  
Appalachian Regional Commission

### **Newton (\$5,000 - \$24,999)**

Rock River Foundation  
Southern Ionics  
The Chisholm Foundation  
W.P. Carey

Chad Edmonson ('99)

### **Einstein (\$1,000 - \$4,999)**

Community Foundation of NW Mississippi  
Field Co-operative Association  
Taylor Foundation  
The Taff Foundation  
Canadian National Railway Company  
Delta Pines/ Monsanto  
Microtek  
Richard C. Adkerson  
Jesse Allbritton ('91)  
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Buehler ('93)  
Max Casto ('91)  
Tanya Fitts ('91)  
Leslie ('94) and Mark ('91) Henderson  
Lyle and Anna Barbato ('95)  
Lara Ivey Kauchak ('92)

Amber Kerby ('91)  
Mary McKay Lasker ('91)  
William McMullan ('97)  
Grady Morgan ('99)  
Kathryn Scott ('91)  
Philip Taff ('03)  
K. Noelle Tune ('90)  
Erik Wheeler ('91)  
Mike and Meg Bartlett  
Charles Brown  
Jack and Claudia Carter  
Thomas and Jayne Phillips  
Kurt and Susan Weiger

### **Riemann (\$500 - \$999)**

Scitor Corporation  
Grand Trunk Western Railroad  
NCH Wealth Advisors  
T. C. Group  
Jason Chiang ('02)  
Cindy Henderson ('95)  
Shawn Lin ('01)  
Sepideh Miller ('96)  
Lisa Robinson ('90)  
Scott and Kathy Shows ('91)  
William Smith

Anthony Thaxton ('90)  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Richardson  
Terry Liner

## Descartes' (\$150 - \$499)

Benton Farm Supply  
Time Warner  
Target  
Writ A. Yerger, Jr. Foundation  
Mac Alford ('93)  
Brian Black ('92)  
Frances Carter ('95)  
Angela L. Chandler ('90)  
William Coker ('98)  
Dr. and Mrs. Ako D. Bradford ('92)  
Cass and Cindy Everitt ('90)  
Laura C. Lindeman ('06)  
Alfred Liu ('90)  
Microsoft  
Richard Duncan ('95)  
Ann Elizabeth Montgomery ('94)  
Christine Rutter ('96)  
Bethel Sharma ('93)  
Blake Weathersby ('90)

Edmund Wong  
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Boggess  
Kelly Brown  
Reginald Carr  
R. Lee and Hope Edmonson  
James and Kate Failing  
James and Pamela Leak  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lewis  
William and Judith Page  
Michael and Sandra Reddix  
Louis and Kathleen Rosa  
Larry and Sandra Sams  
Selemani Maulidi and Jeanne Nizigiye  
Mr. and Mrs. Murray Shugars  
Ashraf Tabatabaai  
Peggy Williams  
Anonymous

## Blue Wave (\$10 - \$149)

Qualcomm Foundation  
Amelia Whittington ('01)  
Nichole Anderson ('01)  
Eric Atchison ('01)  
Jamie Ausborn ('04)  
Sahar Baghahi ('00)  
Edea Baldwin ('97)  
Wesley Bond ('01)  
Robert Bullwinkel ('92)  
Johnny Busby ('93)  
Andy Canion ('00)  
Katie Carter ('95)  
Julia Cheng ('06)  
Ian Colmer ('01)  
Kyle Cook ('01)  
Andrea Cooper ('99)  
Jeremy Crawford ('04)  
Crickett Nicovich ('01)  
Philip Elcan ('92)  
Holly Fettinger ('99)  
Courtney Foley ('01)  
Russ Gibson ('93)  
Kulvinder Gill ('94)

Morris Hamilton ('00)  
Adrienne Harris ('01)  
Spencer and Leah Harris ('99)  
Todd Harrison ('94)  
Thomas S. Hayden ('97)  
Suzanne Hellums ('91)  
Alyson Herbert ('01)  
Orlando Hill ('99)  
Allan Hillman ('97)  
Andy Holt ('01)  
Beverly (Dale) Howard ('91)  
Ben Howell ('01)  
Evan Howlett ('08)  
Wesley Huang ('01)  
Jessica Ivy ('01)  
Sara Jones ('01)  
Sarah Jones ('03)  
Darcy Keel ('02)  
Michael Langford ('01)  
Megan Leach ('01)  
Alan Leung ('06)  
Emily Liner ('04)  
Nadia Lucas ('01)

Owen Magee ('93)  
Linda Mak ('91)  
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Marcucci ('91)  
Max Mauldin ('07)  
Michael McLendon ('90)  
Djoni McLeod ('01)  
Amanda Merritt ('99)  
Larkin Mitchell ('01)  
Katy Montgomery ('92)  
Amanda Morrison ('94)  
James Morrison ('01)  
Marcus and Lorraine Moseley ('90)  
Anonymous ('91)  
Daniel Murrietta ('95)  
Christopher B. Mykolyk ('98)  
Lisa Nicholas ('90)  
Shannon Palmer ('95)  
Yogita Patel ('99)  
Johnny Peebles ('05)  
Donovan Phelan ('00)  
Stephen Phillips ('01)  
Alan Powell ('00)



Rick Prokupek ('01)  
Jennifer Riley ('91)  
James and Trace Roberson III ('01)  
Collin Roberts ('01)  
Lindsay Rosenblatt ('01)  
Kristie Ruddick ('01)  
Jessica Ruthven ('01)  
Virginia Smith ('96)  
Kevin Stephens ('11)  
Derrick Sterling ('01)  
Heath Stevens ('01)  
Ginger Tedder ('92)  
Chris Thompson  
Anthony Turner ('01)  
Susanna Utz ('95)  
Gurunadh Vemulakonda ('94)  
Jenny Vernon ('90)  
Julianna Vick ('06)  
Kevin Vitayaudom ('01)  
Desmond Walker ('96)  
Sean Weathersby ('06)  
Nathan Whitfield ('01)  
Kewanza Williams ('01)  
Tambernessia Willis ('99)

Charity Wilson ('98)  
Dawn Barham  
John Davis  
Thomas Easterling  
Julie Heintz  
Scott Curtis  
Lindsay Miller  
Lisa Landrum  
Holly Bear  
Keith and Beverly Briscoe  
Paula Banka  
Terry and Patricia Brotherton  
John and Leesa Burgess  
Jamie and Cindy Burns  
Travis and Lauren Caskey  
Sarah Cowie  
April Crowley  
Lauren Curry  
Bill and Lynn Gillespie  
Georgia Goff  
Andrea Green  
Mark and Laurie Hammer  
Sammie and Juanita Head  
Jim and Joyce Herbert

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Krikwood  
Josie Lee  
Kevin and Loris Lee  
Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Long  
Peggy Mayberry  
Mike McCain  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sharp, Jr.  
Clarence and Katherine Owens  
Raman Patel  
Tressie Phelps  
Janice Rhodes  
Allen and Beth Richard  
Gary Richardson  
Russell Randall  
Clifford and Delaura Saunders  
James and Elizabeth Stephens  
David and Cindy Vanderberry  
Lemial and Shelby Varner  
Ken and Malida Vitayaudom  
Ed Wamble  
Nelson Wong

## **Thank You for Your Support!**

Through generous contributions, the Foundation is able to provide various programs, activities, scholarships, and equipment for the use of students and faculty of MSMS. Donors to the Foundation include foundations, trusts, corporations, businesses, alumni, parents, and other private donors.

In a time of increasing budget cuts, the support of donors is critical to the Foundation's goal of helping MSMS achieve its mission to give outstanding educational opportunities to the gifted and talented students of Mississippi.