



Plano ISD  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION

## In This Issue

[Thrill of the Grill](#)

[ATMOS Donates](#)

[Special Thanks](#)

## Special Thanks

The Plano ISD Education Foundation is pleased to welcome Huawei as a new donor and supporter of Plano schools with its recent contribution of \$25,000 for Plano ISD's Grant to Educators program.

Huawei, a telecom solutions provider, celebrated the official expansion of its North American Headquarters in Plano, TX, last October. Since establishing its North American headquarters in Plano in 2001, Huawei has expanded to thirteen offices and eight R&D centers throughout North America.



"We are fortunate to have corporate partners like Huawei who believe in giving back to the local communities in which they operate. Our Grants to Educators program will benefit tremendously from Huawei generous gift," said Monica Shortino, executive director for

## Plano ISD Education Foundation President Sets Goals for New School Year

Lisa Raskin, who served as president elect of the Plano ISD Education Foundation during the 2010-11 school year and whose development efforts helped the Foundation raise more than \$1,020,000 for programs benefiting Plano ISD students and staff, became president of the Foundation on July 1.

As a nonprofit organization, the Foundation works to generate private support for priority projects identified by Plano ISD for which tax dollars are not available. The mission of the organization is helping all students in Plano public schools achieve their full potential by providing financial support to educators and academic programs. All contributions to the Foundation remain within the district.

An active community and district volunteer, Ms. Raskin said, "The



Lisa Raskin is pictured with past president Michael Urso, who passed the president's gavel to Ms. Raskin at a recent meeting of the Education Foundation.

Plano ISD Education Foundation's support of Plano ISD is more important than ever during these difficult economic times. Plano public schools are the cornerstone of our community. Despite the current legislators' severe budget cuts to public education funding, so far many partners are meeting the challenge to give. We feel confident that they will continue to support our school system and that the Foundation will continue with plans for aggressive growth and development."

Ms. Raskin also outlined new Foundation endeavors. "This will be a crucial year for the Foundation as we embark on unprecedented budget cuts to public education. The Foundation is working to grow our almost million dollar annual gift to Plano ISD to assist the school district in delivering excellent education. The Foundation will continue working through its second year of a five year strategic plan. The strategic plan is preparing the organization to grow and to raise additional dollars to help offset the growing financial challenges of the school district."

She continued, "This year, we will be focused on continuing to expand our depth of giving in the community. The Foundation will continue its efforts to increase corporate support while focusing on growing individual support through initiatives such as the community honor roll and building the alumni network."

"In addition, as part of the strategic plan, the Foundation will focus on increasing awareness of our brand in the community. This spring, the Foundation unveiled a new logo. As part of that initiative, we will begin increasing our communication strategies with the community through a new website, social media and continued outreach efforts." [Read More](#)

### Thrill of the Grill 5K: A Thrilling Success

At the Plano ISD Education Foundation executive committee meeting on June 14, Michelle Owens of Central Market of Plano presented the Education Foundation with a check for \$7,060. The donation represents the proceeds from the 3rd Annual Thrill of the Grill 5K held on April 30. The donation will further the Education Foundation's mission of helping all students in Plano public schools achieve their full potential by providing financial support to educators and academic programs.

This marks Central Market's third year participating as the presenting sponsor and host. The 2011 race saw 1,650 runners and was supported by more than 100 volunteers. The race has increased in popularity over the years growing from 300 runners its first year. Next

year's event will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2012.

Education Foundation President Lisa Raskin said "The partnership with Central Market of Plano over the past three years with the Thrill of the Grill 5K has been a huge success for our organization. The race creates awareness about our organization and an opportunity for us to

the Plano ISD Education Foundation. "Huawei is especially interested in supporting STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) initiatives, which they'll be able to accomplish through Grants to Educators."

### Plano ISD mobile classroom beneficiary of \$16,550 gift from Ericsson

The Plano ISD Education Foundation is pleased to welcome Ericsson's investment in Plano ISD's mobile learning lab. Unveiled in April 2010, the specialty vehicle offers parent courses in computer literacy, finance, career exploration, English and more. It also helps parents connect to community resources and provides an opportunity for parents to utilize the district's Parent Portal and other online tools. Services that are currently available to families through central office, the Bird Special Programs Center and at school campuses are being taken into neighborhoods through the mobile learning lab to allow families even greater access to these much needed resources.



Last month, Plano ISD unveiled Ericsson's logo on the mobile learning lab at Meadows Elementary School and offered the mobile lab services to families participating in the district's



to read to families and present the \$7,500 award.

"Atmos Energy is excited to invest in Plano Family Literacy's summer program," said Ms. Hooker. "Atmos Energy believes in improving the quality of life in the communities we serve, and this program allows us to support Collin County families in a significant way."

Plano Family Literacy's summer program provides continuity in learning for at-risk families that are unable to afford any type of organized program during the summer. The goal for this six-week summer program is to provide continued educational programming in a relaxed, fun and motivating environment.



"Because we believe the parent is the first teacher in a child's life, we are committed to teaching parents how to learn with their children," said Mark Allen, executive director of student and family services for Plano ISD. "Our summer program will be designed around that concept. Families will have fun while learning life skills and participating in group activities."

Funds made available through Atmos Energy are used to staff the summer program, provide classroom supplies for teachers to develop education centers, provide materials for participants to use during classroom time and fund two field trips.

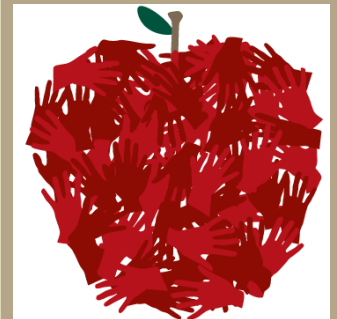
Plano ISD Education Foundation President Lisa Raskin said, "This program will support thirty families this summer and we are privileged to partner with Atmos Energy partnering to fund this vital program."

[Read More](#)



Mayor Phil Dyer, Greg Cavanagh and David McCall

The Plano ISD Education Foundation was the beneficiary of Capital Grille in Plano's preview week in August. The restaurant hosted an evening of appreciation for supporters of the Education Foundation.



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