

2016

ANNUAL REPORT



 **WYLIE BULLDOGS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Promoting Excellence in Education Through Gifts

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**FOUNDATION FACT**

THANKS to generous DONORS, by the end of 2016 the Wylie Bulldogs Education Foundation awarded a Grand Total of \$193,544.99 since our first award of \$2,000 in 2011!

Please visit our website to see the list of Teacher Grants and Student Scholarships funded in 2016.

WylieBulldogsEducationFoundation.com

WYLIE BULLDOGS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

*Supporting a Tradition
of Excellence...
Now and into the Future!*

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**6251 Buffalo Gap Road
Abilene, Texas 79606**



Dear Friends of WBEF,

Welcome to a delightful night where we will enjoy an evening of ranch style hospitality, delicious Joe Allen's cooking and live music from our own 2012 graduate, Hunter Hutchinson! We believe this new venue will give you an opportunity to be a bit more social while we make something generous and FUN happen for the Wylie Bulldogs Education Foundation.

All seven "We Are Wylie" dinners have featured a Wylie alum who treasured something special about Wylie. Their stories ranged from football to fine arts, comedic fun to a tearful account of a near death experience, from an affluent family to a nontraditional family living in poverty, from an outgoing 'natural leader' to a quiet but brilliant 'class nerd'. But they all have a strong common thread. Someone made them feel special, valued and loved at our schools. Teachers worked especially hard to help them prepare for future academic success, gave them quiet positive encouragement and accolades, imparted in them the self-confidence to become a professional doctor, actor, chef, writer, rancher, band director, or public musical performer like this evening's honored alum. Listen closely tonight to Hunter's story about another life blessed by WISD. He will share his journey to overcome and become someone who brings joy to others through musical composition and performance.

This evening was planned with our fabulously generous DONORS in mind. We want you to feel THANKED and APPRECIATED because of the difference YOU have made at Wylie! It is our intention that you leave with a smile on your face, a little less cash in your wallet, and a plan to come back next year! Enjoy the food and fellowship, make some memories and KNOW that we are BLESSED by your gifts and presence tonight!

With genuine thanks and very best wishes from our Board of Directors,

Mission

THE WYLIE BULLDOGS EDUCATION
FOUNDATION HAS A MISSION OF
COLLECTING AND DISTRIBUTING
GIFTS
TO PROMOTE EXCELLENCE
IN EDUCATION.

Becky Rentz
President, Wylie Bulldogs
Education Foundation
6251 Buffalo Gap Road
www.wyliebulldogseducationfoundation.com

HISTORY

This foundation was initiated in April 2010, when registration papers were filed with the State of Texas requesting new nonprofit status. The bylaws were created and approved by the board with unconditional approval for nonprofit status from the IRS .

Our seventh dinner, “Beyond Star Wars” related well to our guest speaker, an exceptionally gifted young NASA scientist, Miss Jerri Stephenson and to the timely release of another classic “Star Wars” movie. Jerri graduated from Wylie High School in 1999, completed her BBA degrees in Business Management and Marketing at ACU in 2003, but her learning expanded through many interesting jobs, training and education after leaving Abilene:

- office manager on the Caribbean island of St. Martin
- employed as a certified crew sailor on a private 112’ sailing yacht on the Northeast coast
- crew member on private mega yachts for 3 years along the coast of Canada and the US
- worked in the Internet marketing and development in Houston
- enlisted as a combat medic in the Texas Army National Guard with extensive training
- studied engineering psychology in graduate program at University of Houston, which helped secure her job at NASA
- earned MA in Applied Cognitive Psychology from University of Houston, Clear Lake, 2015

Jerri now works as a human factors engineer in the Habitability and Human Factors Branch of the Human Systems Engineering and Development Division at NASA Johnson Space Center. Her work at NASA includes evaluating innovative human-computer interaction technologies to assist crews on lengthy missions with a focus on smart habitats, virtual environments and mobile computing.



Creativity abounded in costumes and decorations at the 2016 Dinner! Dr. Jeff Jackson and his table won the Best Costume Award!

While at WISD for the day, she challenged young thinkers to use their imagination, work together, fail often, and have the tenacity to keep going. Through NASA slides and commentary, she emphasized the same points to our dinner attendees. Jerri earned the respect of the audience with her intelligence, ambition, hard work and self-discipline. They were touched by the difficulties she faced growing up due to her parents’ incarceration for drug addiction related issues. She was raised by her grandparents but her grandmother died when she was very young. Her retired grandfather secured a job as a bus driver for WISD to support her and so she could attend Wylie. She stressed the importance of teachers who were encouragers and challenged her to learn more. She added that those types of comments kept her looking forward and gave her hope for the future. It was an honor to have her return to Wylie and hearing her life story earned her a spontaneous standing ovation. 🐾

Our Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors, representing a broad spectrum of community citizens. The Foundation Board operates under strict accounting requirements of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The Board filed Articles of Nonprofit Corporation with the State of Texas, adopted bylaws and governing policies, and received IRS approval. The Board approves distribution of funds through teacher grants, gift cards to new teachers, student scholarships or for a special need of the district to promote excellence in education.

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Member

Melinda Seale
Member

Teresa Williams
Member



PHOTO OF CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS – **Front Row:** (L to R) Amy Boone, Melinda Seale, Becky Rentz, Mimi Schultz and Sevie Schonerstedt **Back Row:** (L to R) Lisa Salmon, Robin McPherson, Judy Lanman, Joel Morris, Joey Light, Samantha Miers, Denise Blake, Teresa Williams and Michael Dickenson

Special Thanks

TO OUR FORMER BOARD MEMBERS:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| GREG ALLEN | TONJA LOWRY | MICHELLE SENTER |
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| RAY INCE | KRISTI PRICE | |
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THANKS to the support of loyal donors, the foundation hopes to grow in its impact, helping the Wylie Schools support a tradition of excellence now and into the future.

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“THE FUTURE OF THE
WORLD IS IN MY
CLASSROOM TODAY.”
— IVAN WELTON FITZWATER

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For your convenience, there is a donor card enclosed in this report.



WYLIE ECC:

Principal Lisa Salmon and Robin Ricker



WYLIE ELEMENTARY:

Ashley Anderson, Brittany Wright, Principal Robin McPherson, Elizabeth Conyer, Caroline Sanford



WYLIE INTERMEDIATE:

Abby Frymire, Katie Lankford, Kelsey Halfmann, Principal Terry Hagler, Juleigh Stickney, Laura Langford, Amy Wallenborn, Allison Walker, Jonnie Taylor



WYLIE MIDDLE:

Julie Stewart, Erin McInroy, Brack Jones, Lillian Jones, Principal Phil Boone, Danlee Rich



WYLIE JR. HIGH:

Stormy Burns, Rusti Blount, Tim Maskill, Kristian Rains, Principal Rob Goodenough, Bethany Gonzalez, Ricky Ramos



WYLIE JR. HIGH:

Macy Ivey, Principal Rob Goodenough, Amy Grimland, Joshua Howeth, Colton Rockett, Hollie Garza, Michael Eames, Jessica Watkins



WYLIE HIGH SCHOOL:

Melanie Morris, Holly Kirby, Courtney Freeman, Cynthia Cumby, Carlie Fehl, Grace Campbell, Principal Tommy Vaughn. Not pictured is Megan Rausch.



WYLIE GRADS:

These are all new teachers who are Wylie Alums! What a great reflection on WISD! They are Forever Wylie Bulldogs!

2016 FOURTH ANNUAL LUNCHEON WELCOMES NEW TEACHERS

New teachers at Wylie were welcomed by the Wylie Bulldogs Education Foundation at a luncheon hosted by ARMC. Foundation committee chairperson and board member, Mimi Schultz greeted each new teacher and awarded each a \$100 gift certificate to help prepare their classrooms for this school year. ARMC hosted the catered luncheon at the Women's Center and gifted each new teacher a ceramic mug. ARMC's Marketing Director, Delores Cox awarded a \$500 donation check for the WBEF to Supt. Joey Light and President Becky Rentz. This was the fourth annual luncheon with a record number of 38 new teachers at WISD.

Allison South was honored as an outstanding teacher with the "Spirit of the Bulldog" award. This award was created by the WBEF Board in honor of Becky Rentz and her dedication to the growth of WBEF. Allison received a ceramic bulldog and a \$100 gift card before she shared about how a teacher grant helped her teach 7th and 8th grade students struggling with reading and writing.



Congratulations to our recipient of the 2016 "Spirit of the Bulldog"

Intermediate School Campus

4th Grade/\$1,962.55

Laura Donaway as a team with Krista Clay, Meyra Davison, Beverly Moore and Staci Tennyson

This grant will be used to purchase replacement sets of novels used in the fourth grade reading classes to expose students to award winning pieces of literature. Some students struggle to read, others just don't enjoy reading and modeling reading to these students can help build fluency, word recognition, vocabulary and comprehension. The goal is to expose students to these great pieces of literature and hopefully create a lifelong love of reading.

Early Childhood Campus

Kindergarten/\$1,100.50

April Brannan

This grant will purchase a complete leveled books classroom library, guided reading sets, a mobile storage cart with bins for color coding books, and book buddy bags so the books can travel safely from school to home and back. This leveled classroom library will enable Ms. Brannan to differentiate her small group reading instruction to meet the diverse needs of her students and to ensure individualized reading progress for all her students.

Middle School Campus

6th Grade/\$600.55

Brandon Little

This grant will purchase new rocket engines which will enable students to continue to use the rockets purchased last year with WBEF grant money. This provides a hands-on, inquiry based opportunity to launch a rocket and greatly enhances the student's understanding of space technology. Students will understand how the rocket's engine gives it the needed thrust and forces to overcome gravity

to launch. Rocketry gives the students a unique way to become active participants in the discovery process of science.

High School Campus

Grades 9-12/\$1980

Andrew Hope as a team with Jay Tindol

This grant will be used to purchase two laptops, six arduino kits, and additional Lego Mindstorms robotics kits for use in the Physics and Robotics classes at Wylie High School. Students will use the laptops and kits to collaborate and develop designs for projects that promote critical thinking and use STEM curriculum. By using the laptops and kits on a daily basis, students will gain skills and experience that will help them succeed in various science and robotics competitions throughout the year. The robotics kits will help diversify the instruction in the classroom leading to enhanced student engagement.

Middle, Junior & High School Campuses

\$947.98

Robin Davis as a team with Brittany Gurganus

This grant will fund the purchase of two iPads and two Edirol recording devices (one each for the High School and one to be shared between the Junior High and Middle School). These will be used to increase the assessment abilities of students. It will allow the ability to record individual singing and assess rhythm, solfege, sight reading and interval learning. It will allow the ability to record the choir as a whole from which students can accurately assess the choral sound.

Elementary Campus

2nd Grade/\$319.39

Rachel Perkins

The funds will be used to purchase math Wrap Ups. They

are a fun way students can engage in the learning process while increasing the automaticity of addition and subtraction facts in order to meet Grade 2 TEKS.

High School Campus

11th & 12th Grade/\$500

Gabriela Bundy

This grant will be used to pay for an Economics Institute allowing Ms. Bundy to attain 3 graduate hours in Economics, necessary to teach dual credit Economics. The training will help her incorporate these lessons into her History and Government classes, both advanced and regular classes. She will also be providing training to her department so their classes can also benefit from the lessons, activities and training. These classes will ensure she is qualified to teach seniors at the college level.

Junior High Campus

7th Grade/\$985

Alison South

The money from this grant will secure a spot in the 2016 Gretchen Bernabei Summer STAAR Writing and Grammar workshop. Gretchen Bernabei is an incredible author and instructor who has taught writing to special ed and ESL students for years and she's now sharing her success. This money will allow Mrs. South to hear a successful educator tell about her success in education and allow her to dig in and create materials she can use in her own classroom.

Intermediate School Campus

4th Grade/\$1,118.74

Diana McMillian as a team with Kim Cheek

This grant will purchase seven standing desks and stools. Research has shown that students provided with standing desks show higher rates of engagement in the classroom than students in traditional seated desks. Studies

have proven that giving students an outlet for their energy is not disruptive to anyone else and reduces negative behaviors. The goal is to reduce disruptive behaviors and increase student attentiveness and learning.

ECC & Elementary School Campuses

Kindergarten & 1st Grade/\$284.87

Susan Coker

The funds from this grant will allow the purchase of literature with accompanying music and will give students an opportunity to experience these cross curricular connections in the music classroom. Many commonalities exist between music and literacy, especially in the pre-K to 2nd grade years – music education is a vital element in a child's literary development.

Elementary School Campus

2nd Grade/\$915.50

Megan Oliver

This grant will purchase quality art materials to cover Art TEKS and other basic art foundations. Poor quality materials do not bring the best end result. In teaching art techniques and applying them to creation, a student is taught how to express emotion, tell a story or recreate something they have seen through art. This helps every child become a better student. It's also been found that you can peak a child's interests in reading and science when doing an art project on a specific theme.

High School Campus

Grades 9-12/\$2104.85

Amber Smith as a team with Curtis Williams

The Wylie High School Investigative Math and Science Program will use the money awarded to purchase Computer Algebra System capable calculators. These calculators

will allow students to explore mathematical concepts in more depth resulting in high achievement in UIL and TMSCA competition, as well as provide a greater mathematical foundation for SAT, ACT and overall college readiness.

Elementary School Campus

2nd Grade/\$297

Megan Bontke

This grant will purchase Wrap Up manipulatives for a 2nd grade classroom which was required to share a set previously. The students will be able to use these tools every day to increase the automaticity of addition and subtraction Math facts to meet Grade 2 TEKS by the end of the year. By having her own class set, she will be able to use them more frequently for the whole class as well as with small groups for extra practice.

Junior High Campus

7th & 8th Grades/\$799.98

Shawn Bowers

This grant will purchase two iPads for a Junior High science classroom. The iPads will be used for lab activities where lab stations require access to the internet to watch videos or other presentations. The iPads will be used for virtual labs and digital lessons from the textbook and will also be used to find the answers to questions which are unable to be answered from memory.

ECC & Elementary School Campuses

Kindergarten & 1st Grade/\$688.25

Susan Coker

This grant will purchase 17 different musical instruments to be used in the music classroom. The Orff instrument approach provides children with a variety of activities to experiment with rhythm and movement, allowing

them to explore the creative process during music. Students will enjoy accompanying their favorite songs with these easy-to-use instruments.

Junior High Campus

7th Grade/\$679.96

Nicholas Hindes

This grant will fund two iPad minis with cases to be used as supplemental technology in the classroom. The iPads will be used by students to take Accelerated Reader quizzes. Beyond the AR Program, students will have access to assessments and study preparation programs such as Kahott!, QR Code Reader, Newsela, Socrative, Kindle and Poetry apps, Quizlet and Google Read/Write.

High School Campus

Grades 10-12/\$918.71

Stacy Sanchez

This grant will purchase personal source materials to be used for drawing, painting or sculpting. At the moment, students borrow their Biology study materials from the Science department. As students are creating, they are also doing their own research to better understand the frame work of the object, aiding in overall creative skills. Some of the items include a Life Size Skeleton, Anatomical Facial Sets, Human Heart Model and Butterfly and Insect Display Mounts.

Elementary Campus

1st & 2nd Grade/\$798

Susan Langford

This grant will purchase two iPad minis to be used in Content Mastery. Integrating the technology available on the iPad provides a constant challenging environment where students can strengthen reading, writing and language skills through individual, personal instruction in phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. The student can then use technology to research and expand the

development of their present curriculum.

High School Campus

Grades 10-12/\$966.76

Alexis Hughes as a team with Stacy Sanchez

This grant will purchase chairs, tables, pots, planter boxes, outdoor paint and flowers and plants to beautify the courtyard area outside of the art room. Students will get fresh air and inspiration while creating art – a highlight of their day since the majority of their day is spent in a classroom without windows. The seating areas will be used while drawing and sketching. The outdoor paint and fun decorations will give it a funky artistic vibe to inspire imaginations. The potted plants will replace the trees lost due to construction.

Elementary Campus

2nd Grade/\$1050

Valerie Anderson

This grant will provide 25 student stability balls, 1 teacher ball and 1 air pump to be used in a 2nd grade classroom. The stability balls were requested to help students who constantly need to move to be more productive in their work. The belief is that the balls will increase student attention, improve handwriting, improve students' posture and reduce the amount of discipline problems.

Elementary Campus

2nd Grade/\$1029.50

Kathy Burnitt

This grant will purchase 10 Hokki stools for a 2nd grade classroom. These were requested for students who have trouble focusing or have been diagnosed with ADHD. Movement is highly beneficial for focus. Being able to move around on a Hokki stool will give students who use them the kinesthetic movement necessary for certain ADHD diagnoses.

Junior High Campus

7th & 8th Grade/\$295.31

Rebecca Roberts

This grant will purchase 25 hoops for the Junior Belles drill team. The hoops will be used during football games and will allow all team members to perform on the field. Hoops are an easy prop that makes a routine look good on the football field and is something every team member can do. Because they are trying out for every routine starting next year, hoops are vital to ensure each team member gets to perform at least one time.

Junior High Campus

7th & 8th Grade/\$995

Luke Hurst

This grant will purchase 3 STEAM Student Sets and 2 Makey Classic sets to be used to start a STEM class at the Junior High. STEM is a new career path at the High School so this class will be used to prepare students for their future. Students will learn to code while programming robots and they will be working on problem solving.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS APPROVED FOR 2016: \$21,248.40

5 @ High School, 5 @ Jr. High, 1 @ Middle School, 2 @ Intermediate, 6 @ Elementary, 1 @ECC, 3 @ Multi-Campus 4 Science, 3 Math, 3 Art, 1 Economics, 3 Reading, 3 Music, 1 Writing, 3 Focus, 1 Belles, 1 Content Mastery

2010 RECIPIENTS

Kacey Williams–Valedictorian
Kirsten Awalt–Salutatorian

2011 RECIPIENTS

Brennan Branch
Karen Duke
Cassidi Esman
Miranda Gillum
Colin Harris
Rebecca McQueen
Courtney Merket
Joe Nasser
Allison Phillips
Allie Preston
Erin Wilhite
Kelsey Wolfe

2012 RECIPIENTS

Kimberly Clements
Austin Lunney
Connor Mauldin
Kimberly McDonough
Molly Minor
Caroline Preston
Amanda Potts
Trent Regan
Emily Renfro
Nicole Tucek

2013 RECIPIENTS

Mary Tenney Ake
Sterling Bristow
Kirsten Burnett
Ashley Conder
Lisa English
Tyler Hicks
Duane Hopper
Emily Rapstine
Emily Turner
Madison Walker

2014 RECIPIENTS

Colby Awalt
Abigayle Young
Brittane Schaake
Alex Richardson
Austin Martinez
Bailey Turner
Brittany Smyser
Tye Calhoun
Cassidy Hanna
Laura Preston

2015 RECIPIENTS

Jacy Andrews
Elizabeth Brown
Kinsey Christian
Russell Dickerson
Cooper Hedge
Mattie Hill
Recie Ingraham
Brandi Little
Kaylee Newbrough
Shree Patel
Peyton Sanders
Nathan Scevers
Henry Touchton
Cole Widder
Kylan Williams

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

WBEF

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the 2016 Student Scholarship Recipients! Each student received a \$1,000 scholarship to the college/university of their choice. The Wylie Bulldogs Education Foundation awarded scholarships to graduating seniors at the end of the school year. The scholarships are funded by money raised from the Foundation’s annual “We are Wylie” dinner and from community donations. In our first six years, the Wylie Foundation awarded \$58,500 in student scholarships. In May 2016, an additional \$17,000 was awarded.

Students were chosen based on a variety of criteria, including financial need, school and community involvement, grades, ACT/SAT scores, leadership skills, an essay and references. To apply, a minimum “B” average, letters of recommendation and essay are required. 🐾

2016 RECIPIENTS



Mattie Ake



Paige Boone



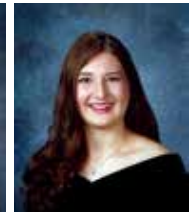
David Brown



Kiersten Cooper



Caleb Elliott



Anna Fanning



Macy Goodenough



Riley Hedge



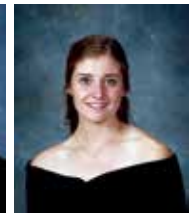
Reagan Levrets



Kayla Oakeley



Megan Scevers



Morgan Schackmuth



Shaili Shah



Claire Shuler



Hunter Stephenson

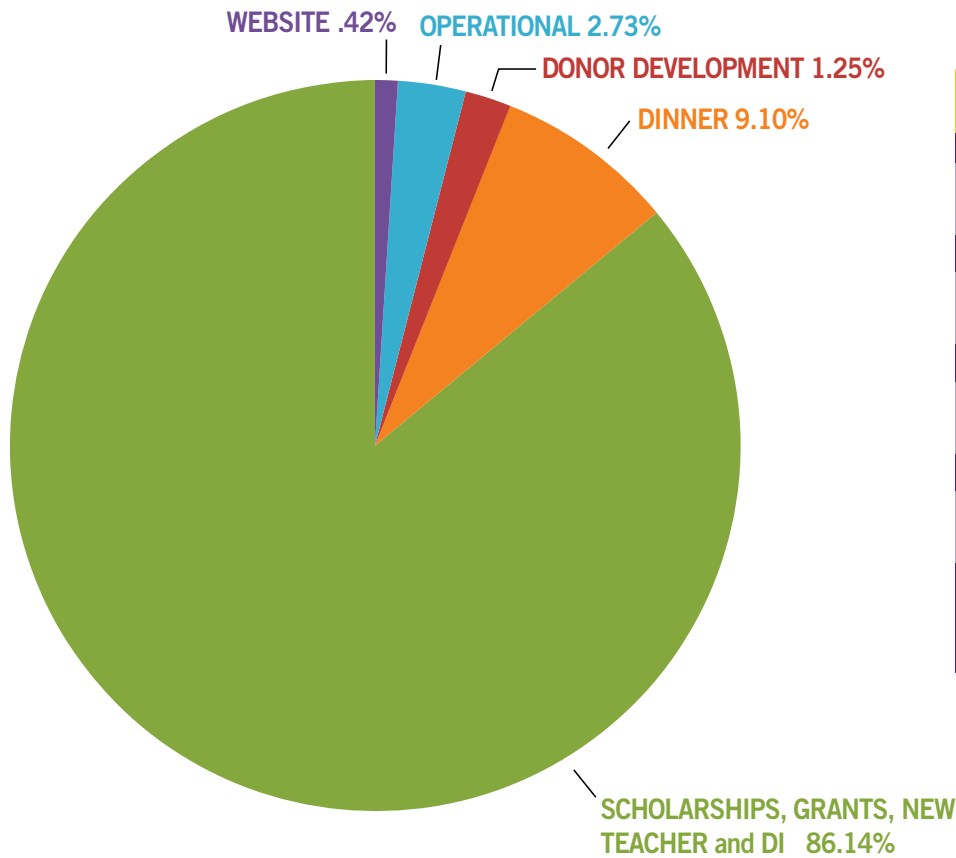


Max Tadwick



Brindi Wilson

**Student Scholarships
Awarded Since 2010: \$58,500**



FINANCIALS

A QUICK LOOK	
Teacher Grants	\$23,044.99
Student Scholarships	\$17,000
New Teacher Gift Cards	\$3,900
D.I. Competition	\$1,000
\$44,944.99	

**Note – The Wylie Bulldogs Education Foundation is managed by a volunteer board. We pay no rent, no salaries, and no utilities. The Foundation Board operates under strict accounting requirements of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The 2016 tax return is available for review upon your request.*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS OF RAFFLE AND AUCTION ITEMS

Because of your generosity and support we have been able to enrich the educational experiences of our students and encourage teaching excellence.

RAFFLE 2016

Buffalo Gap Wine & Food Summit - Saturday Night Tickets

Donated by: *First Financial Trust & Asset Management*

Galactic Family Fun

Donated and collected by: *WBEF Board Members, The CALF Festival Committee and the Grace Museum*

AUCTION DONORS 2016

Female Auodad Hunt & Camo Gear-Filled Cooler

Donated by: *Brad Kendrick, R&R Ranch and Melinda Seale*

Possum Kingdom Lake House - Weekend

Donated by: *Becky & Jack Rentz*



 **WYLIE BULLDOGS**
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Becky Rentz – President

6249 Buffalo Gap Road

Abilene, TX 79606

Office: 325-692-4353

email: becky@WylieBulldogsEducationFoundation.com

www.WylieBulldogsEducationFoundation.com

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