

Your Donation Will Help Us Reach The Final Four!

June 4, 2010



Dear Community Member,

What do you think of when you hear “final four”? Basketball? At the Public Education Foundation, when we hear final four, we think about **reading**. More specifically, we think about an amazing program that allows students to gain fundamental reading skills – the kind of skills that support early academic success and improve their chances of continuing that success in middle school, high school and beyond. You might call this program a game-changer.

The statistics are impressive. The program began in 2003 at Hay Primary Center and has expanded to Harrison, Lincoln, Madison and Wilson Primary Centers. Many of the graduates of the program are now in high school. They are in the game.

Here’s the game plan: Teachers are trained in the Wilson Language methods and students who fall into the lowest 30th percentile in reading and spelling are brought off the bench for special coaching sessions. The goal is to provide the program to all Title I primary schools. Why? Data from the Department of Education show that high poverty schools need the most help.

It’s time for a full court press. Don’t you think every primary student should have a shot at achieving their greatest potential in reading? Do you remember the way it felt when you read your first word, your first sentence or your first chapter book? Kind of like sinking a nothing-but-net shot. If you do that, just once, it gives you the desire to keep building your skills and the confidence that you can succeed.

That’s the goal of our final four. We have four Primary Centers and anxious, dedicated teachers sitting on the bench waiting for a chance to get in the game. Coquillard and Muessel Primary Centers are in the first bracket. Marquette and Perley Primary Centers are in the second. By raising \$312,000, we can complete the “final four” and give **1200** more students the chance to develop a skill that will last a lifetime—**reading**.

You can be a part of this game-changing program. You can make it possible for the children of our community to read at grade level and move on through their years of school with the skills they need to succeed. Please make your donation today, confident that it will help children stay in the game and reach their goals for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Muffet McGraw
Honorary Chair
Head Coach, Notre Dame
Women’s Basketball

Skylar Diggins
Honorary Chair
Sophomore Guard, Notre Dame
Washington Graduate

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