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5000 W. Cypress Avenue Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 730-7518 www.visaliaedfoundation.org December 4, 2015

Dear VEF Supporter,

Visalia Education Foundation provides valuable funding to support the Visalia Unified School District through student scholarships, mini-grants to teachers, major grants to school sites, and pass-through opportunities that support site improvements, advancement of the arts, and other philanthropic contributions that support our local youth. Last year alone we assisted with over \$75,000 in scholarships to high school seniors and site improvements. We also organize the annual Band Showcase in October that highlights all the local talent of our high school band, cheer and dance squads. All groups that participate are financially rewarded for participating.

With that said, we rely on funding from individuals such as you to make all this happen. It has been over five years since we have reached out to ask for your support in order to continue our efforts. With that said, we have a lot to achieve. Within our school district, we have challenges with both new and old facilities. With new facilities, such as the up-and-coming middle school in the northwest side of town, and the three additional elementary schools in the last few years, to older properties and theater sites, keeping up with technology and our increased utilization leads to additional costs that are not covered under local school site budgets.

We encourage our students to pursue band, orchestra, drama and vocal learning opportunities, and these experiences will always enrich their lives. We know that we live in a community that adamantly supports the arts, in all shapes and forms. We are also a community that encourages our youth to excel, and involvement in science-related group activities such as Odyssey of the Mind or Science Olympiad support that advancement. Those opportunities are not entirely funded by VUSD.

Your donation is invaluable to make our mission happen. With this in mind, we reach out to ask for your support. It might be through a cash donation, donation of band or orchestra instruments, assignment of assets, annuities, estate planning, or establishing a new scholarship for our local high school graduates, we need your help. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, all donations are tax-deductible.

Please help us advance the opportunities to our youth in Visalia. These very deserving children need your assistance. A PayPal account, and additional information about our organization can be located at www.visaliaedfoundation.org or you can mail your donation directly to Visalia Education Foundation at the address noted.

Sincerely.

Marilynn Mitchell

President

<u>Mission</u>: To identify and secure resources to promote educational excellence for students of the Visalia Unified School District