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The Promise Fund

The Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence has a strong history of community leadership. In 2005 that leadership took the form of The Promise Fund, a unique initiative to fund core operational needs of the schools. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of donors, The Promise Fund raised \$450,000. This money was used to hire five elementary teachers (one 3rd grade teacher at Muraco and 5th grade teachers at the remaining schools), fill a full-time 6th grade position at McCall and fund 1.5 positions at Winchester High School .

As enrollment in our schools continues to grow beyond projections, and operational costs continue to increase, maintaining current programs requires an increase in funds for our schools. Understanding this, the Foundation will continue to encourage the Town's elected and appointed officials to make education funding a top priority.

Maintaining excellence requires flexibility. Consequently, the Foundation has renewed its commitment to The Promise Fund. If asked by the School Committee, the Foundation will raise money for top priority operational needs as clearly defined and prioritized by the Superintendent and School Committee.

The Promise Fund reflects many different facets of our community. Like other towns across Massachusetts , we struggle to meet increased state and federal educational mandates that are not offset by increased funding. Coupled with growing school enrollment and static town revenue, Winchester schools are hard pressed to meet residents' expectations of excellence. But while faced with considerable challenges, Winchester is blessed with citizens who are eager to support our children, fulfilling the most basic promise of a community-- the right to an outstanding public education for everyone.

