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## Media Release

For Immediate Release Date: Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012

## \$2-Million 2-Gether Foundation Celebration

HEF (Hopkins Education Foundation) has passed an important milestone – it has granted \$2 million to Hopkins Public Schools. These grants promote excitement, enrichment and excellence in education.

To celebrate, HEF is inviting the entire Hopkins Public Schools community to Tuttles (107 Shady Oak Road) on **Sunday, Sept. 30 from 4:30-7:30 p.m.** for discounted bowling, refreshments, door prizes and live music.

"We hope our turnout will include a mix of supporters and people who are not yet familiar with the Foundation," said Jelan Heidelberg, president of HEF. "This is a time for us to celebrate the important work of investing in our children and our future."

It took 11 years to reach the \$1 million mark in 2006. Now, thanks to wonderful community support, the second \$1 million milestone was reached in just six years.

The Foundation has awarded over 300 grants to support learning, teaching and programming. These grants have provided seed money to test new initiatives, fund new methods to help students learn, and assist students during key transition times. More information about the grants is available here: <a href="http://bit.ly/PrtqkV">http://bit.ly/PrtqkV</a>

Hopkins teachers will apply to the volunteer board for the upcoming grant cycle in the next few weeks. Fall grants will be announced in early November.

## More information about the Hopkins Education Foundation:

In 1995, six innovative community members formed one of the first public school education foundations in the state. They wanted to partner with the school district in excellence. Their goal was to provide support for educational innovations and enhancements that would not be constrained by uncertain public funding. To learn more about HEF, visit HopkinsEducationFoundation.org or call <u>952-988-4097</u>.

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## **About Hopkins Public Schools**

Hopkins Public Schools is an award-winning school district with a K-12 population of about 7,200 students, serving the city of Hopkins, most of Minnetonka, about half of Golden Valley, and portions of Eden Prairie, Edina, Plymouth, and St. Louis Park. It has six elementary schools, one academy Chinese immersion program, two junior highs and one high school.