



The Founders Fund Inc.

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For Immediate Release

The Founders Fund holds 2016 High School Counselors Breakfast

(Naples, FL – January 26, 2016) The Founders Fund held its annual *High School Counselors Breakfast* at the Club Pelican Bay on January 22 for Collier County counselors, along with several Founders Fund board members. There were 11 Collier County high schools represented at the annual informational breakfast along with several Founders Fund board members.

They meet each year to discuss current student needs, economic trends and the number of graduating students at each school. The breakfast meeting better prepares the counselors so they in turn can best prepare students for the upcoming scholarship application process.

Karen Pulte, Founders Fund Scholarship Committee Chair, discussed the scholarship requirements with the counselors and talked about the ever-increasing needs of financial assistance to local students. They also reviewed special circumstances, academic merit along with financial need.

With education costs on the rise and over 2,000 Collier County students graduating in just a few months, the need for scholarships appears to be a growing concern for students, families and their high school counselors alike.

The Founders Fund, Inc., founded in 1991, is a non-profit/tax-exempt charitable organization. Since its inception, over 600 students have been awarded more than \$3 million in scholarships. Last spring, 27 Collier County students were awarded \$8,000 scholarships for college and post high school education. The renewable scholarships are given in the amount of \$2,000 each year to students maintaining a B average or better in their college studies.

Collier County high schools participating in the Founders Fund scholarship program are: Barron Collier, Community School, Everglades, Golden Gate, Gulf Coast, Immokalee, Lely, Lorenzo Walker Institute, Naples High, Palmetto Ridge, and St. John Neumann.

The counselors participating in this program include: Terry Kalten of Barron Collier high school; Diana Martin of Community School Naples; Deborah Devlin of Everglades High school; Maureen Marvin of Gulf Coast high school; Aisa Gonzalez of Immokalee high school; Amanda Holderfield of Naples high school; Denise Szedelyi of St. John Neumann; Laura Roszkowski of St. John Neumann; Peg Reale of Palmetto Ridge high school; Connie Pollina of Golden Gate high school; Laura Cox of Lely high school; Abby Lambley of Lorenzo Walker.

For more information about scholarships or sponsorships, contact Adrian Pratt at 239-593-0124 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org.