



## **Staab Construction Friend to Marshfield**

On Thursday February 26, I had the privilege to represent the Marshfield Area Community Foundation and the Marshfield School Board at the 73rd annual Wisconsin Association for Career and Technical Education Conference in Appleton as Staab Construction was named 2009 Business Friend of Education by State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster, of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Aaron and Donna Staab were present to receive this award.

Staab Construction has been a friend to education and our community for several years. While serving as President of Associated General Contractors advisory board he observed that Central Wisconsin will need more architects, construction workers, and engineers as baby boomers retire. He decided to do something about it, by working with Marshfield High School and area businesses with similar concerns to spearhead the ACE Academy (Architecture, Construction, and Engineering). You may have noticed a new addition going up behind the high school- this addition is being built by students with money donated by local businesses for the Academy. When finished this spring, the space will allow students to build real projects and learn life skills. More over, they are exploring careers, “trying them on” in a very real way to see if they want to pursue careers related to the Construction industry after high school. The Marshfield Community Foundation has a fund that supports the ACE Academy.

Staab Construction has established a scholarship fund with the Community Foundation. This endowed fund supports students who are pursuing an education in a construction related field forever. In the last three years two scholarships were given to area students. Additional scholarships will be awarded every year to worthy students.

Staab Construction has actively supported our community in other ways through a donor advised fund at the Community Foundation. This fund has supported the Laird Medical Research Facility, Miller Park Youth Baseball, Life in Wood County Asset Survey, MY Ice, Hope Lodge, Children’s Miracle Network, Marshfield Baseball Association, Youth Football, Crystal Apple Awards, Central Wisconsin State Fair, Mom’s Club, Marshfield Area Youth Services Directory, and the ACE Academy. Over \$97,000 has been given back to our community.

Elizabeth Burmaster said, “Now more than ever we need to develop PK-16, business and community partnerships that support and have a shared responsibility for education and workforce development. These awards recognize true champions from the business community for their strong involvement, honored commitment, and clear vision growing Wisconsin and the ideals of the New Wisconsin Promise.” Staab Construction has done all of this and more for the Marshfield community.



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