



For Immediate Release

## **Urbandale Education Foundation Partnership Celebration And Ribbon Cutting April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*The Urbandale Education Foundation will hold a ribbon-cutting event with the Urbandale Chamber to celebrate the partnership with the Urbandale Alumni Association and Urbandale Dollars for Scholars*

**URBANDALE, Iowa – March 25, 2014** – In partnership with the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce, the [Urbandale Education Foundation](#) extends an invitation to all community members to attend a special partnership celebration and ribbon-cutting event at [Urbandale High School](#) (UHS) on Thursday, April 3, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Urbandale Education Foundation (UEF) is a growing, non-profit organization committed to enhancing the educational experience of all students in the Urbandale Community School District by funding projects and initiatives not supported within existing school budgets. The UEF is in the unique position to provide support for Urbandale schools, award scholarships to UHS graduates and connect Urbandale alumni through the recent merger and partnership of three organizations: Urbandale Education Foundation, Urbandale Dollars for Scholars and Urbandale Alumni Association.

“By uniting these three organizations under one umbrella entity we desire to have a coordinated effort in connecting with Urbandale Alumni and the Urbandale community to enhance relationships and raise funds for the benefit of Urbandale Schools and students,” said Steve Schuler, Board President, Urbandale Education Foundation.

The renewed energy and focus within the UEF is proving effective as the Foundation is planning the inaugural [2014 Brad Peyton Memorial Golf Tournament](#) at the Hyperion Field Club on June 30, 2014. The Foundation is currently seeking sponsors and has already received an outpouring of support from [Dee Zee Inc.](#), Bob and Gayle Johnson of Urbandale and countless others. Community members interested in registering for the tournament are encouraged to do so; be it playing in the golf tournament and/or attending the dinner and celebration. All funds raised from this special event will go toward investing in enhanced educational programming, innovative technology, scholarships for graduates, state-of-the-art facilities and lifelong learning opportunities throughout the Urbandale district.

“Brad Peyton was a true champion for the Urbandale Community Schools. We recently lost this loyal J-Hawk after a short battle with pancreatic cancer,” said Dan Meyer, Chair of the Brad Peyton Memorial Golf Tournament and former Urbandale Middle School Principal. “He was instrumental in rallying support for the bond issue that is responsible for the construction of Webster Elementary and Urbandale High School. To have his name associated with the inaugural UEF golf outing would make him smile. We look forward to this event becoming a beacon for the UEF to tell their story and to provide substantial funding for the many great things happening in the Urbandale Community Schools.”

Over the past several years, the UEF has supported a variety of projects that serve to enhance the educational experience of students in the district. In 2013, the UEF coordinated a grant for the purchase

and planting of \$20,000 worth of trees. Trees were planted by Urbandale students during a Day of Service at schools throughout the district. The Foundation also gives an annual \$500 gift to the recipient of the Urbandale Chamber's Educator of the Year award to be used toward equipment or materials for his/her classroom or professional development. In 2012, the recipient purchased \$500 worth of Chromebooks for students in his classroom as a way to trial the technology. The trial was so successful that the district approved the roll-out of Chromebooks to all UHS students.

Most recently, the UEF Board announced a new 'mini-grant' program for Urbandale educators. The 'mini-grant' is intended to provide an educator the opportunity to receive funds from the UEF in order to assist and support creative ideas and projects that support the district's vision to bring learning to life for everyone. A total of \$5,000 will be awarded to Urbandale educators this spring following an application and review process.

Community members are invited to join the district in celebrating the partnership of the Urbandale Education Foundation, the Urbandale Alumni Association and the Urbandale Dollars for Scholars; all of which are comprised of volunteers dedicated to helping Urbandale educators and students achieve success. Brief comments will be shared by Steve Schuler and Dan Meyer beginning at 4:00 p.m., followed by a ribbon cutting with the Urbandale Chamber and concluding with refreshments. Urbandale High School is located at 7111 Aurora Avenue in Urbandale. The event will be held outside the main entry; if weather is not ideal, it will move directly inside.

### **About Urbandale Chamber of Commerce**

The Urbandale Chamber of Commerce is a private, not-for-profit business membership association. It is an action organization designed to meet business and community needs. Whether it's through economic development, networking events, business information, or advertising opportunities, member companies capitalize on contacts and resources provided by the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce. More than 640 businesses are part of Urbandale's largest coalition of businesses. While many members are large corporations, more than 75 percent of members have fewer than 20 employees. The Urbandale Chamber of Commerce continues to play a key role in making good things happen in Urbandale by exerting leadership in decisions that affect the area. To learn more, visit:

[www.uniquelyurbandale.com](http://www.uniquelyurbandale.com)

Urbandale Chamber of Commerce  
2900 Justin Drive, Suite L  
Urbandale, IA 50322

### **About Dee Zee, Inc.**

Dee Zee has been a staple brand in the truck accessory market since 1977. Dee Zee is trusted to support the biggest names in the auto industry including Chrysler, Ford, GM, Honda, Nissan, Subaru and Toyota as their Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) on a variety of products. Dee Zee's proven manufacturing techniques have carried over to the consumer market accessories flooding websites, catalogs and local retail stores. To learn more, visit: [www.deeze.com](http://www.deeze.com)

Dee Zee Outlet Store  
2123 E Broadway, Suite C

Des Moines, IA 50313

**About Urbandale Education Foundation**

The Urbandale Education Foundation (UEF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to enhancing the educational experience of all students in the Urbandale Community School District by funding projects and initiatives not supported within existing school budgets. The UEF raises funds through grants and private donations and then invests in enhanced educational programming, innovative technology, scholarships for graduates, state-of-the-art facilities, and lifelong learning opportunities. The UEF is dedicated to making a difference in the future of Urbandale schools, students, and the vitality of the Urbandale community. To learn more, visit:

[www.UrbandaleEducationFoundation.com](http://www.UrbandaleEducationFoundation.com)

Urbandale Education Foundation  
11152 Aurora Avenue  
Urbandale, IA 50322

**About Urbandale Dollars for Scholars**

The Urbandale Dollars for Scholars is focused on expanding both the number and amount of scholarships awarded to Urbandale High School graduates. The Urbandale Dollars for Scholars is the oldest Dollars for Scholars charter in Iowa and recently provided over \$14,000 in scholarships to Urbandale graduates. To learn more, visit: [www.urbandale.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.urbandale.dollarsforscholars.org)

**About Urbandale Alumni Association**

The Urbandale High School Alumni Association was formed in 2013 to support and enhance Urbandale students and the Urbandale Community School District. The mission of the Association is to network with Urbandale alumni and to build an association that can be used as a communication tool for reunions, alumni contact information, and fundraising activities. For more information, email:

[urbandalehighschoolalumni@gmail.com](mailto:urbandalehighschoolalumni@gmail.com)

**About Urbandale Community School District**

The Urbandale Community School District includes portions of Des Moines and Urbandale, Iowa. The district serves over 3,900 students in six elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The Urbandale district supports an increasingly diverse student population where 50 languages are spoken. Building on the existing foundation of excellence in education, Urbandale is transforming education throughout the district. By implementing innovative [Quality/Continual Improvement](#) strategies that create learning environments that more fully engage, challenge and motivate students, Urbandale is taking transformation from theory into practice. Urbandale prepares students for becoming lifelong learners and is a school district that brings learning to life for everyone. To learn more, visit: [www.UrbandaleSchools.com](http://www.UrbandaleSchools.com)

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