

February 21, 2008

Fourth Annual SAD 3 Elementary School Penny Drive to Kick-Off March 3

Pennies to support FUTURE's upcoming capital campaign to enhance and improve the athletic facilities at the new Mount View School

UNITY - FUTURE MSAD 3 (FUTURE) is sponsoring the fourth annual SAD 3 Penny Drive with the six elementary schools in the district – Monroe Elementary, Unity Elementary, Mt. View Elementary, Walker Elementary in Liberty, Troy Central and Morse Memorial in Brooks.

Funds raised through the Penny Drive will support FUTURE's upcoming capital campaign to enhance and improve the athletic facilities at the new Mount View School complex currently under construction in Thorndike.

The slogan for the 2008 Penny Drive which kicks-off March 3rd and runs through March 28th is – “When we work together, we are ONE Team!”

Participating elementary schools raised \$4,766 for the Mount View Performing Arts Center capital campaign between 2004 and 2006.

According to FUTURE MSAD 3 Campaign Director Alicia J. Nichols, the goal for the athletic capital campaign and a probable launch date will be set after all of the elements for the athletic complex are determined, cost estimates secured, and the campaign plan is in place.

“We know there's already a great deal of excitement and enthusiasm for this next project,” Nichols said.

“We're looking forward to working together as ‘One Team,’” explained Nichols, “especially with the district's youngest students in the six elementary schools, and the principals, faculty and staff who are working on the 2008 Penny Drive. We're grateful for their support,” Nichols added.

The state will fund an eight-lane rubberized track, a high school soccer field, and electric conduit to the fields at the new Mount View. Two athletic fields behind the new middle school are also being constructed. All other athletic improvements must be privately funded through the capital campaign.

“Before the public launch of the capital campaign can take place the goal needs to be determined and at least 50 percent of the goal must be pledged or contributed,” added Nichols.

FUTURE formed an Athletic Enhancement Advisory Committee (AEAC) to seek public input on athletic facility enhancements; conduct research; develop a comprehensive master plan with the architects; secure cost estimates; and present a final list of enhancements to the boards of both FUTURE and MSAD 3.

Vicki Kupferman of Knox and Doug Van Horn of Freedom are co-chairs of the Athletic Enhancement Advisory Committee.

Later this spring the AEAC will invite members of the public to attend community sessions at each of the district's elementary schools to share their ideas on enhancing the new athletic complex at Mount View, and on improving existing facilities.

The Penny Drive is being coordinated by FUTURE MSAD 3 Event Committee Co-Chairs Bev Winship and Barbara Higgins, both of Unity, with volunteer support from Joanne Levesque, Becky Porter, Colleen Connell, Debbie Muther, Donyse Babin, Paula Miron, and Sherry Vashon.