

January 12, 2012

Minnesota Directors of Special Education,

Reference: 2012 Stenswick/Benson Scholarship Award

The Stenswick/Benson Scholarship Award Program began in February of 1991 through MASE (Minnesota Administrators for Special Education). Its purpose is to recognize the legacy of the many leaders within Special Education represented by Ellsworth Stenswick and Loren Benson through a scholarship award to an individual completing exemplary graduate study in the field of special education.

Funds have been raised primarily through an auction now held every other year during the Special Education Directors' Fall Conference. We started with \$4500 in 1991 and this year (2012) our endowment is approximately \$160,000.00. You are all amazing!

We will maintain our current practice of requesting that you identify scholarship candidates during 2012. Please distribute the application to highly qualified individuals you know are pursuing graduate special education studies. MASE, at the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee will offer four (4) \$2,000 awards this spring. We encourage you as Directors of Special Education to recommend a candidate you think deserving of this award.

Candidates must be in a private or public Minnesota graduate program leading to special education licensure. This includes psychology, and any related services as well as teacher licensure. It could also include someone entering the program to obtain Special Education Director licensure. (Note: Students attending non- Minnesota schools will also be eligible if the school the individual is attending is located geographically close to Minnesota). Strong consideration will be given to candidates working to obtain licenses in highest areas of need across Minnesota; regional needs will also be considered when they are different.

Please have the candidate complete their section; **the Special Education Director will be responsible to submit the final document for consideration** to Candy Malm by April 1, 2012. If you have questions, call Candy Malm at (218) 237-6541 or email (cmalm@parkrapids.k12.mn.us).

Thank you for your good work!

Candy Malm
MASE Stenswick/Benson Scholarship Committee