



April 14, 2008

State Association Honors Local Elementary School

The meeting of the Illinois Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (ILASFAA) this week at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield will benefit a local elementary school. The association picks a local “conference charity” in the city where it meets for its annual meeting. This year, Enos Elementary School was selected and will be honored during a noon program Wednesday, April 16.

About 400 ILASFFA members attending the three-day conference have collected school supplies to deliver to Enos, including the baskets of supplies used as table centerpieces. The group also has purchased a popcorn machine and supplies for Enos to be used for rewards and school gatherings. In appreciation, 39 first-grade students from Enos will join the conference members for lunch and sing to them during their program.

ILASFFA is a professional association representing 150 Illinois higher education institutions, more than 50 lending institutions, and state and federal agencies serving the needs of Illinois students and their families. Established in 1969, it is committed to development of effective financial assistance programs and opening avenues of access and affordability to higher education for all students.

“We always want to celebrate the impact we make in the lives of students by making the dream of a college education a reality,” explained Michelle Trame, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. “Offering support to local groups like Enos School is another way for us to help improve the lives of young people and we thank Nancy Calvert from SIU School of Medicine for nominating this elementary school.”

Enos has been the “adopted school” of Southern Illinois University School of Medicine as part of Springfield School District 186’s business partner program since 1985.

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Note to Media: Lunch begins at 12 noon in the Sapphire/Diamond Ballrooms at the Crowne Plaza. The singing program will begin at approximately 12:40 p.m. Contact Trame (217-493-4653 cell) or Calvert for assistance on Wednesday.