



Lydia Patterson Institute Receives Matching Grant from the Hunt Family Foundation

Lydia Patterson Institute (LPI) is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a matching grant made by the Hunt Family Foundation in the amount of \$750,000 to the Centennial Capital Campaign.

For the past 100 years Lydia Patterson Institute has responded to the need for providing a quality education for Hispanic students in the El Paso-Juarez region. A true example of the binational composition of the region, seventy percent (70%) of the Lydia Patterson Student body live in Ciudad Juarez, Fifty percent (50%) are US citizens, and Ninety Nine percent (99%) meet the federal poverty guidelines for free and reduced lunch. LPI provides a unique bilingual cross-cultural academic education for underprivileged students who might otherwise not attend high school and have the opportunity to pursue higher education. Lydia Patterson Institute is long recognized as a pioneer in educating students whose first language is not English. This academic year, Lydia Patterson launched ELPILearn™, a 21st century educational program that combines the latest in classroom technology, content based and STEM courses and specialized techniques of English as a Second Language in order to prepare 7th & 8th grade students to move seamlessly into high school and the increasingly technological world of higher education and the workforce. Beginning the 2014-15 school year eighty (80) 7th & 8th grade students initiated classes in modern classrooms that are freed from the tethers of blackboards and out of date textbooks. Using the LearnPad tablets, teachers and students can work in a more comprehensive and individualized manner to access current educational resources over the internet within seconds. Interactive online textbooks and teacher supplemented material allows students to receive a quality education and solidify their skills in English.

The EPLILearn™, digital English Learning Proficiency program, is the first of its type in the region.

In conjunction with celebrating its success and preparing for future challenges, Lydia Patterson Institute is embarking on the largest capital campaign in its history to ensure its future as one of the nation's most unique multi-cultural educational institutions. The campaign money raised will be for construction and renovation of 23 classrooms which will allow an increase in students, a new discovery and information center, a computer lab, a science classroom and laboratory, a larger chapel to accommodate the entire student body, an athletic center and field, and much needed advancements in technology with a newly designed curriculum that will utilize digital e-textbooks, smart-boards, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) courses, and an interactive English Learning Proficiency program.

Since its inception in 1987, The Hunt Family Foundation has supported charities and initiatives that focus on El Paso and the Borderplex region. Charitable giving by the Foundation is targeted towards healthcare, arts, local heritage, quality of life projects, economic development, and education.

Woody Hunt, Executive Chairman of Hunt Companies, is the founder of the Hunt Family Foundation along with his wife Gayle. In making the challenge grant, Mr. Hunt pointed out that access to quality education in the Borderplex region is a critical component to successful regional economic development. *"It is imperative that our community begins a process that will allow all grade-school and high-school students to receive an education that prepares them to compete in a global workforce."* Hunt explained, *"Across Texas, we are falling behind in preparing students to pursue and obtain a college degree, and statistics bear this out. We must start at every level of education to get these young students on a path to "think" college and subsequently to earn a secondary degree. This is the only way that our region can increase the knowledge and skills of its workforce to meet globally-competitive standards, today and in the future."*

President of the Hunt Family Foundation, Josh Hunt, said, *“We are pleased to make this \$750,000 Challenge Grant to the Lydia Patterson Institute and its new ELPILearn™ program. This new program represents the type of innovation in education that we believe can help prepare the region’s students to have a real impact in a 21st-century economy. For us, one of the key words here is ‘regional’. Since a majority of the students at LPI are from Juarez, the program becomes even more important in terms of inclusiveness and reach within our Borderplex.”* He added, *“We applaud the Lydia Patterson Institute for implementing this comprehensive educational program and we are pleased to support it with this charitable gift. We hope other businesses and individuals will recognize its value and lend support to it as well.”*

Dr. Socorro Brito de Anda, President of Lydia Patterson Institute, stated, *“Our unique binational, bilingual, cross-cultural school plays a very important role in educating and developing leaders in this region. We are looking forward to our next 100 years and the opportunity we will have to educate the future leaders of our nation and beyond.”*

About the Hunt Family Foundation

The Hunt Family Foundation, a private family foundation founded in 1987 by Woody Hunt and his wife Gayle, supports not-for-profit organizations and initiatives that focus on the Paso del Norte region which includes El Paso County, Texas; Doña Ana County, New Mexico; Otero County, New Mexico; and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, México. The Foundation also supports organizations whose programs impact the state of Texas, and the nation as a whole. Charitable giving is focused on healthcare, education, arts, local heritage, quality-of-life initiatives, and regional economic development.

For more information, please call LPI at (915) 533-8286 or visit www.lpi-elp.org.