

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education accepts contributions to the **Steve Morgan Ferman Memorial Fund**.

A contribution can be made at any time by sending a check to the Steve Morgan Ferman Memorial Fund in care of the Department. Contribution envelopes may be obtained by calling (573)751-7754. If your contribution is to remember a special occasion or as a memorial tribute, you may indicate this and an acknowledgement will be forwarded to the individual you are honoring.

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*Missouri Public
Schools:
the Best Choice...
the Best Results!*



*Chris L. Nicastro,
Commissioner of
Education*

*Steve Morgan
Ferman*

*Memorial
Fund*

*For Education of
the Gifted*

The **STEVE MORGAN FERMAN MEMORIAL FUND** for Education of the Gifted was established in 1982 by Milton and Frieda Morgan Ferman.

The objectives of the memorial are:

- To promote awareness among parents, educators, and the public of the characteristics, needs and educational requirements of gifted children and youth;
- To provide training and advancement of educational opportunities for teachers of the gifted;
- To support the development and funding of programs for the gifted.

Contributions to the Steve Morgan Ferman Memorial Fund now generate \$10,000 in interest each year that the Department can use to provide opportunities for teachers and parents to further their knowledge and understanding of the gifted child.

Money from the **Steve Morgan Ferman Memorial Fund** are used to help sponsor the New Teachers Workshop.

The New Teachers Workshop is designed to provide in-service training for teachers in districts that are establishing first-time state-assisted programs for gifted students and for educators beginning their first year as teachers of gifted students. The evaluations for these workshops indicate the need for and the value of such an in-service opportunity.

Comments by teachers on the evaluation of the workshop:

"I thought you were all wonderful and supportive. I enjoyed all of your suggestions and comments. You have settled many fears; I can hardly wait to begin."

"I felt very frustrated prior to my attending this workshop. Then by Friday morning I felt a little more at ease. When Friday afternoon session ended, I felt prepared to teach."

"In just a few days I was led from a moonless dark night into a bright, sunny day. Now if only I can adjust my eyes."

Monies from the Steve Morgan Ferman Memorial Fund have also been used to help bring nationally

recognized consultants to regional sites in Missouri. This has helped to provide equal access to in-service opportunities for teachers, students and parents. Workshops have involved such speakers as:

- Dr. Nancy Johnson of Creative Learning Consultants, Ohio, presenting *"A Garden of Gifts: Parenting High Achievers."*
- Dr. Linda Silverman of the Gifted Child Development Center, Colorado, presenting *"Under-achievement and the Gifted Child."*
- Dr. Carol Tomlinson of the University of Virginia, presenting *"Gifted Students in the Middle School."*

Funds have also been used to develop a video for the Missouri Scholars Academy and to provide assistance for innovative pilot projects which examine alternative identification and selection procedures for low socio-economic status students. Also supported was the cost of an advisory committee to examine and suggest possible changes in rules and regulations of state-assisted gifted programs.