**WAMEGO HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

**THROUGH THE WAMEGO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND KANSAS RURAL COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION**

**Bank of the Flint Hills Employee Donor Advised Scholarship** (approx. $500)  
In 2010 the employees of First National Bank of Wamego established the First National Bank Employee Donor Advised fund.  The purpose of the fund is to allow the employees to collectively support the community in ways that they could not do individually.  By combining the gifts from all the employees, they are able to create a significant amount of dollars each year that can be directed toward charitable causes in the communities they serve. The employees decided they wanted to give scholarships to graduating seniors of area high schools.

**Criteria**

* Available to four Wamego High School, one Wabaunsee High School, and one Rock Creek graduating seniors.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have a GPA of 3.0 or above.
* Special consideration will be given to students who are current members of Future Business Leaders of America (at Wamego High School).
* Applicants must answer the question, "If you were given $1 million and were required to give it all away within 30 days, who would you give it to and why?"

**Gaylord Belton Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $1,000)  
In 1962, Francis Gaylord Belton (1917-2007) moved to Wamego from Lost Springs with his wife Florence, daughter Marilyn, and son Rudy. In honor of their father, who believed in the value and benefits of a good education, Marilyn and Rudy established this memorial scholarship in March 2008. According to the siblings, Gaylord often said the best decision he ever made was to move to Wamego, because he loved the community so much. This scholarship is awarded annually to a Wamego High School graduating senior, with special consideration to students who have demonstrated academic excellence.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have demonstrated academic excellence.
* Financial need will be considered.

**Jeff Birney (Fox) Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $250)  
In 2000, the family of Jeff Birney (1975-1999) established this scholarship, which is awarded each year to a Wamego High School senior who participated in the Federated Kids Wrestling Program, Wamego High School Wrestling program, or Cross Country. Jeff was a 1993 graduate of Wamego High School, where he also coached Wamego Roughriders Wrestling. Scholarship applicants submit an essay titled, “How sports contributed to my personal development.”

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Past participation in the Wamego Federation Wrestling program (Roughriders or Jr. Red Raiders) and the WHS wrestling program is required. The student does not have to plan to participate in wrestling in college.
* A one-page essay is required: “How Wrestling Contributed to my Personal Development.” The following information should be attached to your essay:
* The number of years (and dates) you were in Federation wrestling;
* The number of years (and dates) you were in high school wrestling;
* Your Federated wrestling achievements (include leadership roles); and
* Your high school wrestling achievements (include leadership roles).

**Walter Byers Scholarship** (approx. $1,000)

Walters Byers was the owner of the Byers Ranch near Emmett, Kansas from 1965 until his death in 2015. In 1951 Mr. Byers was named the first executive director of the NCAA. It was Mr. Byers’ wish to award an annual, renewable scholarship to a Kansas high school student based upon need and academic achievement. The scholarship may be used to attend any college or university in the United States. The scholarship may be renewed for recipients, upon determination by the Kansas Rural Communities Foundation of continuing eligibility, through college and may even extend to post graduate studies in a field other than law or veterinary medicine.

**Criteria**

* Available to a high school senior from Jackson, Nemaha, Pottawatomie or Wabaunsee counties
* The applicant must be a Kansas resident for at least four years prior to receipt of the scholarship
* Grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (3.0 GPA must be maintained in college for renewal)
* Evidence of financial need required

**Gerad Nicholas Cole Vocal Music Scholarship** ($300)

Gerad Nicholas Cole attended Wamego Schools and graduated in 1996.   Gerad enjoyed music and participated in choir and show choir while in high school.   This scholarship established to honor his memory and benefit a Wamego High School graduating student who wishes to continue their vocal education.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior
* The applicant must have participated in Wamego High School vocal music
* A one page essay entitled, “How Vocal Music has Influenced My Life” must accompany the application.

**Harold Fechter Memorial Scholarship Fund** (approx. $500)

The Harold Fechter Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by Vincent Fechter in 2016 to honor the memory of his brother, Harold, who died in the service of this country during the Italian Campaign in World War II. Over the years, the Fechter Family has been ever mindful of the reverence Americans have held for the American Flag throughout our history, recognized and cherished as an endearing symbol of dedication, service, loyalty and duty to this great country. In solemn respect and dignity over decades of war and strife at home and abroad, the stars and stripes have draped countless coffins of those who have served and given their lives in ultimate sacrifice for their country and their fellow Americans. Pursuant to the direction of the Fechter family, applicants for this scholarship will be required to submit an essay expressing their views of the flag as an endearing symbol of America and what she stands for. These writings will, in accordance with the wishes of the family, be presented annually to the members of the Kansas congressional delegation as a recurring affirmation of our enduring respect for the flag as a revered symbol of America and her unique contribution to world history.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School senior or graduating senior.
* Available for concurrent high school/college credit while a senior in high school, or for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited institution of higher learning.
* While attending high school, must have continually demonstrated to high school faculty, staff and his or her peers, sincere respect and reverence for this country and the American flag.
* Financial need will be considered.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have shown leadership qualities during their high school years, especially recognizing by example the privilege of being an American citizen.

**James E, Ebert Construction & Mechanics Scholarship** (approx. $500) Mr. Ebert established this scholarship for young men interested in fields related to construction and/or mechanics.  Jim started his career in construction in 1958, a few years after graduating from high school at Flush, Kansas.  He began by building farm ponds and terraces with a bulldozer he purchased for $2,250 with a loan co-signed by his uncle.  His brother, Pat, later joined him in the business and they hired their first employee for $3 per hour.  At that time, fuel cost 15 cents per gallon and their bulldozer rate for hire was $15 per hour.  Forty years of hard work later, he passed management of a much larger Ebert Construction Co., Inc. to the next generation and started another business, REED Company, LLC which sells and rents construction machinery and occupational trucks.  For Jim, it has been very rewarding to mentor many young men over the years in the fields of construction and mechanics and he even helped some start their own businesses.  Through this scholarship, he will continue supporting these fields in perpetuity.

**Criteria**

* Available to a male, Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any Kansas accredited school (trade, vocational, or college).
* The recipient will pursue a degree or certification in mechanics, welding, metal fabrication, machinist, heavy equipment operation, truck driving or construction management.
* Applicants shall provide a resume of employment, extracurricular activities and community service with a paragraph describing how the applicant's work or activities in the area of construction or mechanics developed the applicant's work ethic, integrity, ingenuity, creativity or common sense.  At least one letter of recommendation from an employer or vocational trade instructor confirming the applicant has demonstrated one or more of the above qualities must be included with the scholarship application.

**John Lee Eichman Vocational School Scholarship** ($500)

This Technical College Scholarship was established in memory of John Lee Eichman who passed away on November 2, 2013.  John was a third generation resident of Wamego.  He graduated from Wamego High School in 1970.  He worked hard all of his life and he knew the value of skilled labor.  He was equally at home in the field as well as in the office even when he became President of Midwest Concrete Materials.     MCM, formerly known as Wamego Sand Company (WSC) was renamed when the main office was moved to Manhattan to better reflect the expansion of the business.  John was well known throughout the state of Kansas for his integrity and knowledge of the business.  He served on the state board KAPA/KRMCA.  He valued hard work, skilled labor, honesty, and charitable giving.  John also served as a director on numerous other boards including; Wamego City Council, Pottawatomie Economic Development and Manhattan Chamber of Commerce.  He volunteered as a fireman for many years.  This scholarship is to be awarded each year to a Wamego High School graduate pursuing a construction trade  who will be attending one of the following Technical Colleges; Manhattan Area Technical College, North Central Technical College or Salina Area Technical College.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior
* Available for attendance at one of the above-mentioned vocational schools
* Must be entering a construction trade program.
* The applicant will submit a handwritten essay describing his/her self, family, school, work, and extra-curricular activities.
* The applicant will provide four references from school, work, parents, and a non-family acquaintance.

**Sue Eichman Education Fund Scholarship**(approx. $500)  
This pass-through scholarship is presented through the Wamego Community Foundation by Sue Eichman, lifelong resident, and business woman. She was active in the Wamego Chamber of Commerce and other organizations. Sue is now living in Texas but is still interested in seeing Wamego flourish. She is a proud supporter of Wamego and student education. The first scholarship was awarded in 2008, and preference is given to a student who plans to major in business.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Special consideration will be given to a student who plans to major in business.

**Wilfred “Ike” Eichman Memorial Scholarship** ($500)

This scholarship was established in memory of Wilfred “Ike” Eichman. Ike was a lifelong resident of Wamego (1927-2013) and he holds the honor of being the first Eagle Scout of Wamego and of Pottawatomie County. Ike served in the Navy during World War II and upon returning, he joined his father in the family business, Wamego Sand Company. In 1958, the company, which now included his brother Al, expanded to include the concrete ready-mix portion of the business. In addition, Ike was very dedicated to serving his community. Over the year, he spent time as a volunteer fireman and fire chief for the Wamego Fire Department, a member of the Wamego Hospital Board, as well as a long-time member of the Wamego Chamber of Commerce. This scholarship is awarded to a Wamego High School senior who is planning to attend a secondary education institution and major in construction science or a related construction field. The successful recipient of this scholarship will have shown an interest in community service.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior
* Available to a student planning to major in construction science or a related construction field.

**David Hartwich Scholarship (2 at approx. $500 each)**

This scholarship was established in memory of David Hartwich and his passion for Industrial, Vocational, and Agriculture areas. David (1972-2015) graduated from Onaga High School in 1972 and from Emporia State University with a degree in Industrial Education in 1976. He taught from 1976-1979 at Sabetha High School and then at Wamego High School from 1979-2009. Once Dave retired he raised cattle, farmed, and continued to run his dirt work/construction company. His love for Industrial, Vocational, and Agriculture was prevalent throughout his lifetime.

**Criteria**

* Available to a graduate of Wamego High School, Rock Creek High School, or Onaga High School
* The scholarship is to be used for post-secondary education in Industrial Arts, Vocational, or Agriculture
* Special consideration will be given to students who have taken Industrial Arts or Agriculture classes

**Helm Sisters Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $500)  
This scholarship fund was formed in 2004 by Bill Baxter, a lifetime resident of Wamego and former local postmaster, in memory of Dora Henry, Nettie Weeks, Jennie Banks, Minnie Stelzner, and Lula Baxter (aka, the “Helm Sisters”). The scholarship is awarded annually to a Wamego High School senior who has demonstrated steady academic improvement in high school; the ideal recipient for this scholarship is a student who had a bit of a rough start in high school but, by graduation, is a “ball of fire.”

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* While a minimum GPA is not specified, the recipient shall have demonstrated steady academic improvement during high school. The recipient may have had a rough start in high school and by graduation is a “ball of fire.”
* Special consideration will be given to students who have been involved in a school organization.
* Financial need will be considered.

**Gus Hildebrand Memorial Scholarships**(2) (approx. $250)  
August “Gus” Hildebrand (1971-2003) was a 1990 graduate of Wamego High School. He attended Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, and Chicago Hospitality Institute of Culinary Arts, where he earned a degree as a graduate chef. In March 2008, family and friends established a memorial scholarship that awards two high school students, generally one from Wamego and one from Rock Creek, with special consideration going to students who plan to enter a culinary arts program. 

**Criteria**

* When possible, one recipient shall be a graduating senior of Wamego High School (KS) and one recipient shall be a graduating senior of Rock Creek High School (KS).
* Available for attendance at any accredited college, university, technical, or trade school in the fall directly after graduation from high school.
* Special consideration will be given to students entering a culinary arts program at any accredited school.
* Special consideration will be given to students who belong to at least two civic or school organizations or clubs.
* Financial need will be considered.

**Hilliard Family Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $1,000)  
This scholarship was established in memory of Chet “C.B.” Hilliard and his love of golf. C.B. (1905-2005) did not start playing golf until he was more than 50 years old. He quickly became a very proficient golfer and won many tournaments, including the Kansas State Senior Men’s Championship at age 85. The scholarship is awarded to a Wamego High School graduate who participated in the school’s golf program during their senior year.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior who participated in the Wamego High School Golf Program during the recipient's senior year.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school. Click here to donate to this scholarship fund

**Kaw Valley State Bank & Trust Co Employee Donor Advised Scholarship** (3 at approx. $100 each)

The employees of the Kaw Valley State Bank in Wamego, Kansas have established a fund to award scholarships to area high school seniors.  Three $100 scholarships will be awarded to students attending a high school in Pottawatomie or Wabaunsee counties.

**Criteria**

* Available to a high school senior from Pottawatomie or Wabaunsee counties
* The recipient shall be enrolled in any accredited two or four year post-secondary institution.
* Special consideration shall be given to a family member of an employee of Kaw Valley State Bank.
* Special consideration shall be given to any student who shows leadership within their school by being part of a club or civic group.

**KBS Constructors Inc. Scholarship** (approx. $500)  
KBS Constructors Inc., Topeka, Kansas, was the general contractor for the Central Elementary School expansion project and the Wamego High School tech building renovation. They have set up a scholarship for a Wamego High School graduate with an interest in the commercial construction field.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* A GPA in excess of 3.0 is required.
* An essay explaining interest in the construction field will be submitted with the application.

**John Lawless Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $500)  
John Richard Lawless (1929-2003) was a Navy veteran who earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska and his master's degree from Washington State University. He was a crop research scientist with Kansas State University until his retirement in1994 after 34 years of services. Because of his belief in higher education and wish to support a deserving student athlete from Wamego High School, John’s family established this memorial scholarship in February 2004.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Must be male.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have participated in athletics as well as those who have shown leadership qualities during their high school years.
* Financial need will be considered

**Robert M. Massieon Scholarship Fund** (approx. $500)

The Robert M. Massieon Scholarship Fund was established by the John Thomas Massieon family to honor the memory of Robert. The family has specifically directed that his scholarship be awarded to a graduating Wamego High School Senior who is committed to pursuing higher education studies with a major focused on the field of agriculture and may be awarded to a student seeking a vocational education or attending a community college or four year institution of higher learning.

Criteria

* Recipient must be committed to advanced studies in the field of agriculture.
* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available to students attending vocational, 2-year or 4-year accredited institutions.
* Special consideration will be given to students who participated in agricultural based activities during their high school years.
* Financial need will be a consideration

**LeRoy and Roberta Miller Scholarship Funds**(2) (approx. $1,000 each)  
LeRoy and Roberta Miller both graduated from Wamego High School in 1935. Roberta received a music degree from K-State and taught school for many years in Jennings, KS. LeRoy was so determined to obtain a college education that he worked two jobs while also attending K-State; little time remained for studies, so he reluctantly left school and returned to Wamego to work fulltime. They married in 1943 and the following year purchased 80 acres of land along the Kansas River, where they grew produce that was sold as far away as Denver. Over the years, that small truck farming business grew into a large grain and feedlot operation encompassing acreage in three counties. Their value of education led them to establish these scholarship funds in January 2010 to reward two Wamego High School students who have shown leadership qualities. Applicants submit an essay: *"Why I have chosen my particular field of study and what I intend to accomplish with this degree.*

**Criteria**

* Available to two Wamego High School graduating seniors.
* Available to students who have maintained a minimum of 2.5 GPA.
* Available for attendance at any 2-year or 4-year accredited Kansas school.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have shown leadership qualities in high school.
* Special consideration will be given to students intending to major in agriculture, education, or music.
* A one-page essay is required: "Why I have chosen my particular field of study and what I intend to accomplish with this degree."

**Sean Andrew Neel Scholarship**

The scholarship will go to a Wamego High School graduate seeking academic, technical, vocational or apprenticeship training who expresses integrity, passion, compassion and a thoughtful desire to serve people, society or the environment (public good) with their gifts, experience and skills.  The criteria is as follows:

**Criteria**

* Graduate of Wamego High School
* 2.0 grade point average
* Record of service towards the public good
* Evidence of integrity, passion and compassion
* Agreement to use scholarship towards academic, technical, vocational or apprenticeship training to serve people, society or environment (public good)

**Robert and Edna Mae Peddicord Scholarship Fund**(approx. $500)

Robert "Bob" Peddicord was a life-long resident and business owner in Wamego. Here he and Edna raised their two children Lynn and Bobby who both graduated from college with honors. Edna saw the value in education and wanted to find a way to help others to achieve this goal. She established this fund to honor her husband and to assist a deserving Wamego High School graduating senior who plans on continuing their education.

**Criteria**

* Available to one Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available to students who have maintained a minimum of 2.5 GPA.
* Available for attendance at any accredited school.
* Special consideration will be given to students studying music, drama & theater arts, education or the healing arts.
* Scholarship is renewable for up to $500 for each year of continuing education.

**Pickering Award**This fund was established in 2000 by the Pickering family, many of whom lived in the Wamego community for several years. The family wanted to give something back to the community they loved. They established the Fund to reward the accomplishments of the Wamego High School valedictorian and salutatorian on an annual basis.

Award Amount - The Fund's Earnings (2/3 goes to the valedictorian and 1/3 goes to the salutatorian).

**Criteria**

* Available to the Wamego High School valedictorian and salutatorian.
* Selection for the award is based on the school district’s determination of the valedictorian and salutatorian.

**Freda Pitney Scholarship** (approx. $500)

The Freda Pitney Scholarship was established in 2014 by Freda’s children, Jerry Pitney and Patricia Smith, in memory of Freda’s teaching career at Wamego High School.  Freda was a mathematics teacher and was passionate about the field of education.  This scholarship in her name is awarded to a student planning to attend a post-secondary institution to major in education.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior
* Available to a student intending to become a teacher, with special consideration given to those planning to major in the math teacher field.
* A letter stating educational goals is required to be submitted with the scholarship application.

**Riley Construction Company, Inc. Scholarship** (approx. $500)

Based in Wamego, Riley Construction Company is a general contractor. They provide green building, roofing, residential construction and more. A scholarship has been established for students pursuing the carpentry or construction fields.

**Criteria**

* Available to a graduate of Wamego High School, Rock Creek High School, or Wabaunsee High School
* Available for attendance at any trade school located in Kansas
* Special consideration shall be given to students pursuing carpentry or construction fields.
* Financial need will be considered.
* Applications must include a letter of vocational goals and a resume.

**R-Tech Tool & Machine Scholarship** (approx. $1000 each)  
Doug and Rachelle Routh of R-Tech Tool and Machine, Inc., established this endowed scholarship fund in December 2008 to assist graduating students of Wabaunsee High School and Wamego High School. Preference is given to students who plan to study metal fabrication, welding, and machine tool; who are members of FFA; and who need to work in order to fund their education.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School and Wabaunsee High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any accredited school (vocational, college, or university level).
* Special consideration will be given to students who plan to study metal fabrication.
* Special consideration will be given to students who are required to work in order to fund their college education.
* Financial need will be considered.

**Rebecca Sester Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $250)  
Rebecca Jo “Becky” Sester (1983-1999) was born and raised in Wamego, where she would have graduated with the Wamego High School Class of 2002. She enjoyed playing the saxophone, and her family established this scholarship fund to honor her memory and love for music. The scholarship helps a graduating student of Wamego High School who has actively participated in the school’s band programs.  Student applicants submit a one-page essay: *“What music has brought to my life and how I will use it in the future.”*

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Must have participated in more than one aspect of the Wamego High School band program.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have attained honor roll status throughout high school.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have shown leadership qualities during their high school years.
* A one-page essay is required: “What Music has Brought to my Life and how I Will use it in the Future”

**Teresa Ann and Ruth Siebert Memorial Scholarship** (approx. $300)  
Teresa Ann Siebert (1953-2001) was born and raised in Wamego, where she graduated from high school in 1971. Her values and beliefs were cultivated by growing up in Wamego, and her family established this scholarship in her memory to benefit female graduates of Wamego High School who plan to continue their education. Scholarship applicants submit a one-page essay: *“How furthering my education is important to my future.”*

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Must be female.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Financial need will be considered.
* Special consideration will be given to students who have a strong desire to succeed.
* A one-page essay is required: “How Furthering my Education is Important to my Future.”

**Smoke Signal Scholarship**

The Smoke Signal Scholarship was established in 2013. It is awarded to a graduating senior from Wamego High School attending a post-secondary school majoring in journalism or mass communications. Special consideration will be given to those participating in yearbook or the school newspaper. Successful applicants will complete an essay on the “Role of Journalism in the Digital Age.” The essay will be published in the Smoke Signal following the annual Scholarship Banquet.

**Wamego Health Center Scholarships**(3)($500)  
These pass-through scholarships are presented through the Community Foundation by the Wamego Hospital Association to help further the education of students pursuing a career in the health field. Scholarships are available for students at Rock Creek High School (1) and Wamego High School (2).

**Criteria**

* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Must major in health care curriculum.

**Wamego Community Foundation Scholarship** (approx. $300)  
The Wamego Community Foundation established a general scholarship fund to benefit a Wamego High School graduating senior who has demonstrated significant involvement in the Wamego Community. Donations from private donors, local businesses, and memorial contributions have helped this fund grow over time. The first scholarship was awarded in 2009, and applicants submit an essay titled *“How I made a difference in my community.”*

**Criteria**

* Generally one scholarship will be awarded annually.
* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated significant involvement in the Wamego community.
* Available for attendance at any accredited school.
* Applicants must submit a 500-1,000 word essay on “How I made a difference in my community.”
* The Wamego Community Foundation scholarship committee will choose the recipient.

**Wamego High School Alumni Scholarship** (2) (approx. $500 each)

The Wamego High School Alumni Association has established a scholarship fund with the Wamego Community Foundation.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any accredited school.
* A GPA of 3.0 or higher is required.
* Financial need will be considered.
* Must demonstrate school leadership and participation and/or community involvement.
* Submits a one-page essay on the importance of this scholarship and how it will help with “life” in general.

**Wamego High School Class of 1968 Scholarship**(approx. $250)  
The WHS graduating class of 1968 originally established a scholarship fund on their own in 1993; each year a committee from the class would choose one recipient for a scholarship and write a check directly to that student. In April 2008, they moved the fund to the WCF, which allowed all donations to the fund to be fully tax deductible as a charitable contribution. The fund is now endowed in perpetuity, ensuring at least one scholarship will be awarded every year ­— forever. The first scholarship was awarded in 2009.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any accredited school.
* Financial need will be considered.
* A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required.

**Wamego High School Class of 2005 Scholarship** (approx. $100)  
The Wamego High School graduating class of 2005 wanted to leave a lasting legacy by establishing this scholarship fund with the Wamego Community Foundation in July 2005, only two months after they themselves graduated from high school. Scholarship applicants complete an unusual essay topic:   
“*If you could be any household appliance, what would you be and why?*”

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior.
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Demonstrates involvement at Wamego High School and the community.
* Provides a statement of post-high school plans.
* Submits an essay of 250 words or less on “If you could be any household appliance, what would you be and why?

**Sarah Katherine Watt Education Fund** (approx. $500)  
Sarah Watt was born and raised in Wamego and graduated from Wamego High School in May 2000. She was innately curious and had broad interest in the arts, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. She loved all animals, especially horses, and she particularly enjoyed learning about insects. Sarah died at the age of 23 as the result of an automobile accident. At the time of her death she was a student at Kansas State University. This fund was established to honor her memory and is intended for Wamego High School graduates who:

C**riteria**

* will attend Kansas State University
* demonstrate financial need
* score between the 60th and 90th percentiles on a nationally normed student achievement test (currently an ACT composite score of 22-28)
* Must attend Kansas State University and major in life science (or similar or related majors), with emphasis to be given to students who have an interest in or are working toward a minor (or major, if offered) in entomology.
* Preference will be given to students with a financial need who are required to work at least 15 hours per week in order to fund their college education.
* Preference will be given to undergraduate students.

**Norris and Penny Wika Scholarship** (approx. $1,000)

As life-long educators, the Wikas established the Norris and Penny Wika Scholarship in 2014 to encourage Wamego High School graduating seniors to pursue a post-high school education at an accredited college, university or technical school of their choosing. Norris, who was USD 320 superintendent from 1982-1994, received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University, with his masters from the University of Iowa and his doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He taught in both elementary and secondary schools prior to going into school administration. Penny graduated from Kearney State College (now the University of Nebraska-Kearney) and received her masters from Texas Tech. She worked both as a print media journalist and a high school journalism teacher. The scholarship will be awarded annually and is renewable based on satisfactory completion of the recipient's program of study.

**Criteria**

* Available to a Wamego High School graduating senior who has demonstrated an ability and work ethic to succeed at the post-secondary level.
* Available for attendance at any accredited community college, 4-year college, university or technical school.
* Special consideration will be given to a senior who has a parent working for USD 320 (certificated and classified personnel).
* Scholarship is renewable based on satisfactory completion of the recipient's program of study.
* Essay is required: "What elementary and secondary employee (teachers, administrators, or support staff) had the most positive impact on you?  Give examples to support your selected individual(s).

**WTC Scholarships**(5) (approx. $750)  
WTC (formerly Wamego Telephone Company, Inc.) has always considered it important to give back to the educational efforts of youth within each community it serves. These scholarships were established in 1998 to reward those students who have excelled during their high school years and are available to a graduating senior at each high school in WTC’s service area: Wamego, Rock Creek, Wabaunsee, St. Marys Academy, and St. Marys High School.

**Criteria**

* Available to a graduating senior at each high school in WTC's service area (Wamego, Rock Creek, Wabaunsee, and St. Marys (High School and Academy).
* Available for attendance at any 2- or 4-year accredited school.
* Selection is based on the academic performance of students.
* Financial need will be considered.