

Kaila Vanicek Memorial Scholarship

Kaila Vanicek's gift was laughter. Her eyes could laugh as they danced with you, daring you and inviting you to join in the fun. Kaila was non verbal, but social. She enjoyed being around people and is remembered as a happy person with an infectious laugh. Kaila began her affiliation with the Grand Island Public Schools as an infant and was part of the Class of 2008. She was served by many educators, especially in special education who gave her their trademark brand of love. It is in this spirit, that Kaila's parents, Mike and Rhonda Vanicek, have established this scholarship fund. The Vaniceks are interested in helping future educators develop their skills so that students can attain the same kind of life quality and happiness that Kaila had for herself and inspired in others.

The Kaila Vanicek Memorial Scholarship is a one-year award and will be given in the amount of \$1,000 or the value determined by the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation Board. The scholarship is intended for students who work hard and need additional support to pursue their education. The scholarship may be renewable if the recipients still meet the criteria and complete the online application in subsequent years.

Eligibility

- Must be a graduate of Grand Island Senior High (current year or preceding 3 years)
- Must major in Education or Special Education. Preference will be given to students seeking a degree in Special Education
- Preference will be given to students who have attended either Dodge Elementary, Newell Elementary or Walnut Middle School.

To Apply

Complete the online application form at www.gips.org/foundation/scholarships

Selection Procedure

Applications will be reviewed by a scholarship selection committee appointed by the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation.

Terms of Payment

The scholarship will be paid through the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation to an accredited 4 year college or university. Payments of up to \$500 per semester (or other amount determined by the Foundation Board) will be made. The student must provide proof of enrollment to the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation each semester.

