

## Other projects funded by the SJPS Foundation



**Upton Planetarium** (2010) - After almost 40 years of sharing the wonders of the universe with the community, the Upton Middle School Planetarium has rocketed into a new educational era. Thanks to the generosity of the **Frederick S. Upton Foundation and Steve and Elizabeth Upton**, the planetarium now features the latest digital technology, eight full-dome shows for pre-kindergarten to adult audiences, a refurbished star machine, freshly painted dome, 55 new seats, lights and sound equipment.

Hundreds of people from the community came out for the Grand Re-Opening showings on Jan. 30 and Feb. 6, 2011. Since then, with funding from the **Whirlpool Logistics Group** and a grant from the **Rotary Club**, the St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation has been able to provide a full range of shows for all students K-12.

**St. Joseph Students Remember** (2009) - To commemorate this important date in our recent history, Middle School and High School students heard from Jim LaPenna, a First Responder to the 9/11 attacks. Jim and his son spoke about their experiences during and after the Towers were hit, and accepted questions from the students. Jim and his son also joined students and community emergency personnel at the football game that evening.



The Foundation was instrumental in providing the funding to support this fantastic event. It was great to see the students, community and staff, come together to honor those who continue to work toward keeping us all safe.



**Culinary Arts** - The SJPS Foundation provided a grant in 2009 to the Foods & Nutrition Department to provide portable cooktops and chef apparel for the students to compete in cook-offs and perform demonstrations. This has been a fun and valuable experience for the students.

Another grant in 2011, provided new equipment and technology for the culinary classroom, including scales to help in determining the nutritional value of ingredients. This has been very eye-opening for the students.

In 2013 the program received a grant to purchase molecular gastronomy kits. One hundred forty-plus students use these on an annual basis. This contemporary technique gives real world experience to students interested in pursuing a career in the field of Food and Nutrition.

**Community Sign** (2009)- The Foundation coordinated with the City of St. Joseph and the School Board to create this community sign. Special thanks go to the **City of St. Joseph, St. Joseph Improvement Association, Schalou Foundation, Frederick S. Upton Foundation, Erik and Irene Fiskars** and numerous other donors. One anonymous donor gave money for landscaping that was designed by Lori Nye-Bolt, a former SJPS student, who created the maize and blue floral theme.

