

Moorhead Legacy Education Foundation
Dr. Lynne Kovash Spud Impact Grant
for Academics

Lynne (Doxey) Kovash graduated from Moorhead High School in 1970. During high school, she participated in swimming, yearbook and band. Kovash earned her bachelor's degree in language arts and secondary education and her master's degree in special education from Moorhead State University, now Minnesota State University Moorhead. She obtained K-12 principal, special education director and superintendent licenses from Tri-College University, Fargo, N.D. Kovash completed her doctorate in educational leadership through the University of North Dakota in 2009.

Dr. Kovash spent her entire career in education with Moorhead Area Public Schools. From 1994-96, she was a teacher on special assignment. In 1996-97, she became the assistant principal and transition coordinator at Voyager Elementary School. Following the closure of Voyager, Dr. Kovash served as an assistant principal and coordinator of the district's gifted and talented program before becoming supervisor of planning and assessment. Dr. Kovash served as assistant superintendent of teaching and learning from July 1999 until July 15, 2008, and then became the tenth superintendent of Moorhead Area Public Schools. Dr. Kovash retired in November 2017.

Dr. Kovash supported education for all students in Moorhead, spearheading the Food For Thought program with Moorhead Schools Legacy Foundation in 2016, and later merged with Moorhead Area Education Foundation. The Dr. Lynne Kovash Spud Impact Grant is given in her memory by the support of Moorhead's Rotary in 2019. Her husband and MHS graduate, Dennis, passed away in the fall of 2020 and a memorial was set up in his name to benefit the football program and activities that their grandchildren are involved in currently.

Their children, Jeremy, Seth and Jennifer, were all Moorhead High School graduates.

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Irene Olson Spud Impact Grant

Irene (Langseth) Olson graduated from high school in the Fargo-Moorhead area in 1939. She then entered Concordia College graduating with a degree in Home Economics and taught in Osakis, MN, Hitterdal, MN, and Glyndon, MN. In 1959, Irene graduated from the University of Colorado with a Master's in Science degree. In 1961, she married Kenneth C. Olson in Minnesota and they enjoyed 26 years of marriage in Moorhead until his death in 1987. During the 1970s, Irene obtained a degree in Dietary Sciences from NDSU. She then worked as a dietitian and dietetics educator in several hospitals and nursing homes in the area. She left a lasting legacy for Moorhead students to provide scholarships and staff grants.

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Named Spud Impact Grant
from the 2022 Gala

For the past 6 years, MLEF has hosted the SpudTacular Gala to report on the year's mission and goals. Throughout the evening of the gala, donors have opportunities for funding specific areas, including Spud Impact. This year's grant funds were given by Matthew & Tina Christenson. Their gift supported teacher, Lisa Melby's grant request for books at Probstfield Elementary. Thank you!