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## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CLASS OF 1967 DONATES TO KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL'S PROJECT STARFISH

**Kimberly, Wis. – November 29, 2017**– While celebrating their 50-year class reunion, the Kimberly High School (KHS) Class of 1967 decided to collect donations to help current students. These generous alumni collected \$2,430 to help students through Project Starfish.

Project Starfish provides financial help to students who want to participate in extra school activities, such as field trips or clubs, but due to their family's financial hardships may not be able to pursue those opportunities. Through Project Starfish, the students can apply to receive financial assistance and are asked to "pay it forward" through a volunteer project that will make a difference to others at KHS. Students have volunteered for everything from helping

clean up school property to working in the office or an approved project the student comes up with.

The Class of 1967 choose to donate to Project Starfish because its purpose resonated with them. Members from the Class presented the donation to Chris Biolo, a school counselor at KHS. He explained that the school counselors see firsthand the hardships that some students are facing and the positive impact that Project Starfish makes.



Members of the Class of 1967 presented Chris Biolo, a school counselor at KHS, and Bob Mayfield, Superintendent, with a donation from their class for Project Starfish.

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Despite downplaying his storytelling abilities, Biolo told a moving story about how Project Starfish came to be. The story of the starfish has been told many times over but for those of you who are unfamiliar with it, the story goes like this: One day, a young girl is walking along the beach after a big storm. With the storm was a larger than normal tide that washed a million starfish onto the beach. The starfish are slowly dying under the heat of the sun. As the little girl walks along the beach, she picks up a starfish and throws it back out into the sea. An older gentleman watches her for a while then asks, “What are you doing little girl?” She says, “I’m trying to save some of these starfish, they’re not going to live.” He responds, “There are a million of starfish on the beach, you cannot believe that you can make a difference.” She picks one up and throws it into the ocean and says, “I made a difference to that one.”



Chris Biolo, school counselor at Kimberly High School, explains the mission behind Project Starfish.

According to Biolo, “The idea behind Project Starfish is that we can make a small difference in the world and we can pay it forward.” Speaking on behalf of their Class, John Kokke explained, “Project Starfish is exactly what we want this money to go for, it’s really important to us.” There is no doubt that the generosity of these Papermakers will make a difference to the students at their alma mater.

### **About the Kimberly Area School District**

The Kimberly Area School District is a progressive public school district committed to providing the best possible education available to students. Its responsibility is to help lead the way in developing well-rounded students and future citizens. The District wants every student to be given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts and co-curricular activities. It encompasses approximately 17 square miles and serves over 5,100 students in one 4K center, four elementary schools (5K-4), two intermediate schools (5-6), one middle school (7-8) and one high school (9-12). To learn more about the Kimberly Area School District, call (920)788-7900 or visit [www.kimberly.k12.wi.us](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us).