The goal was $2,000 but the pennies kept coming in and when all was said and done, $3,300 was raised.

This year, the HHS Student Council decided to participate in Penny Harvest. All students, kindergarten through the senior class participated in eight weeks of collecting pennies and other monies. Throughout the collection time, students competed against other classes. Prizes were awarded to the winning classes each week.

The goal for the entire school district was to raise $2,000 over the eight-week period. The first week of competition was phenomenal and students surpassed their goal by collecting $2,176. Students continued to raise money for another seven weeks, coming to a grand total of $3,300.

Students then chose to give the money to the Homesteaders Park playground project. For years, students have talked about wanting to help with the project and they were finally able to help with their efforts to raise money to build a handicap accessible playground area.

Students were very excited to be able to present the Phillips County commissioners with a $3,300 check to be used for the project and they look forward to a new playground.

The Penny Harvest student leaders were quick to show appreciation to the Homesteaders Park playground project coordinators and the county commissioners for letting them be a part of the project. They also recognize the students, parents and community for making Penny Harvest such a success this year.

Since 1991, children between the ages of 4-14 have been converting their natural compassion for others into action by collecting pennies and turning those pennies into grants for community organizations.

The Penny Harvest shows young people they have the ability to change the world by introducing them to the power of philanthropy and service during their formative years. As

children help others, they develop their generosity and moral character, and they learn through practice the skills and responsibilities of democratic participation.

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