## **DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS SPOTLIGHT**

## It's a tradition.... Floodwood graduates succeed

Ryan Tollgaard, son of Lynnelle and Jim Fick and Jerry and Rose Tollgaard, graduated with the class of 1996. He earned his Juris Doctor (JD) from New York University School of Law, his Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Business from Augsburg College and his Associate of Applied Sciences (AAS) in Networking Technologies from Dunwoody College of Technology.

Undecided on a future plan when Ryan graduated from Floodwood School, he soon realized a love for learning in various areas of interest. His continued education in technology, business, and finally law, gave Ryan the confidence to set the bar high for his career goals. Ryan is currently an attorney for the law firm Ropes & Gray LLP in Boston, MA. Ryan's family is proud of his position with Ropes & Gray, which was founded in Boston in 1865 and currently has approximately 1,000 attorneys in ten offices across the U.S., Europe and Asia. Ryan's legal practice is focused in Ropes & Gray's Securities and Public Companies group. He represents companies and banks in various types of securities offerings (i.e. selling stocks or bonds into the market or in private placements), and also represents companies engaged in mergers, acquisitions and other types of corporate transactions.

Prior to attending law school at NYU, Ryan was the Technology Manager for Columbia Heights Public Schools. He left the technology field for what he hoped would be a more challenging and fulfilling career as a corporate attorney.

Ryan makes his home in Cambridge, MA with his wife, Mariah and their 6-month old Golden Retriever named Gus, who keeps them busy.

His message to the community of Floodwood: "The generous support of the Dollars for Scholars program was incredibly helpful as I paid my way through college. As a fourth generation Floodwoodian, I have great appreciation for the value of small town communities. I am grateful for the support and encouragement I have received over the years from both my family and the entire Floodwood community.

The people of Floodwood can be proud of their support to young men and women such as Ryan.

