CELEBRATING



1985-2020

Lawrence Schools Foundation

We kicked off the year as a celebration.

This marks Lawrence Schools Foundation's 35th anniversary. When the foundation was begun in 1985, only the most optimistic would have known the impact it has had on students and educators through the years.

Then the pandemic changed everything.

Our celebration plans were put on hold, and we shifted efforts to meet the heightened needs of students and families brought on by COVID-19. We worked with our community and corporate partners to serve free community breakfasts and lunches — 34,286 of each in April and May alone, continuing until students could be back in school physically. Your gifts are so important in our work to inspire learning and enhance teaching.

Turns out the pandemic didn't change everything. This is still a year for celebration.

We did what we always do — we rallied support from our community to meet the needs of students and educators. We faced this crisis together. We make a difference every day. And that's something we all can celebrate.







DEAR FRIENDS,



The Lawrence Schools Foundation is 35! While our year might not have been anything we expected, we're always willing to rise to the challenge to ensure students, teachers and staff are supported. We've done a bunch of new things this year — but we

still provided innovative teaching grants, even adding a second application timeframe to provide more flexibility for teachers to apply. We also provided \$60,000 in scholarships to students continuing their education in a very different world than when they started their senior year.

We are so proud of our resilient administrators, teachers and staff for stepping up to the challenge of shifting their teaching methods in an unprecedented way.

We believe our schools are the cornerstone of our special community. We are truly thankful for all the families, business owners, public officials and, of course, district leaders and educators, who provide hope during these tough times. Thank you for continuing to support the Foundation. We look forward to brighter times ahead.

Dena Johnston, Executive Director



To put it mildly, 2020 has been a year for the history books. The Lawrence Schools Foundation turned 35 in the midst of a global pandemic that shuttered schools and businesses, affecting our lives, our health, and our community in ways we couldn't imagine at the start

of this calendar year. And just like our teachers and administrators, students and families, the Lawrence Schools Foundation took on things we've never tackled before.

The Foundation coordinated meals for students and coordinated a PPE drive, on top of all the things we're known for — teaching grants, teacher and staff awards, scholarships, and meeting everyday needs of students and their families. The Foundation is a vital lifeline for our students, parents, and teachers now more than ever. I'm so proud of the work this organization has done this year. Because of the community's continued support, the Foundation will continue to bolster future generations and help ensure the high quality of Lawrence Public Schools.

Lindsey Slater, President, Board of Directors

STAFF

Dena Johnston EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jamie Sinclair COORDINATOR, LSF/LEAP

Erin Koksal BOOKKEEPER (THROUGH JULY 2020)

Michelle Jennings BOOKKEEPER (BEGINNING AUGUST 2020)

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WE CELEBRATE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS



Our mission is to inspire learning and enhance teaching. Students are our future, and our future is bright! During the 2019-2020 school year, we recognized four student champions and administered more than \$60,000 in scholarships. Investing in those who teach is vital, too. More than \$27,000 was granted during the year for innovative projects and other specific needs related to promoting and sustaining student achievement, and \$20,000 more was gifted to teachers and staff in recognition of their excellent work. We salute students, teachers, staff, administrators and families for their resilience always — and this year particularly.



WE CELEBRATE THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM



The Lawrence Public Schools Early Childhood Program started in the district 27 years ago with one classroom at East Heights Elementary, and has expanded through the years. In 2019-2020 the Early Childhood Program served more than 300 children, including children enrolled in PreK and the half-day Special Education/ Peer Model classrooms at Kennedy Elementary.

as well as the PAT (Parents As Teachers) and Tiny-K early intervention models. Lawrence Schools Foundation has always had a huge role in the program's growth.

William Dann, 1937–2020, was a long-time friend to Lawrence Schools Foundation. His lead gift helped establish the Early Childhood Program in 1993, and his regular gifts have been integral to its development. We will ensure that we continue to honor Mr. Dann and his generosity

on behalf of children in our community as we continue to support the William Dann Playtown inclusive playground at Kennedy Elementary.

4



Scholarships

62 scholarships totaling more than \$60,000 were awarded to graduating seniors

Student Champions

Kaitlyn Hamilton and David Stuart, Free State High School Trevor Arellano and Samantha Turner, Lawrence High School

Innovative Teaching Grants (\$15,878 total)

Middle School and High School
Drama Programs: Nomad Lighting
Software & Equipment

Lawrence High School: Lark or Owl Grant Project and Steadicam for DSLR Cameras

Free State High School: Lark or Owl Grant Project

Langston Hughes Elementary: STEM Project for 2nd grade students Deerfield Elementary: Sensory Floor Project

Sunset Hill Elementary: Tiny Polka
Dots for Tots Program
Quail Run Elementary: Osmo
Equipment for 1st grade students
Woodlawn Elementary: Sensory Floor
Project

Excellence In Teaching/ Bobs Award (\$10,000)

Susan Lomshek, 3rd Grade Teacher, Schwegler Elementary



School Assistance Grants (\$6.834 total)

Lawrence High School: ED Program TimberRidge Challenge Course Free State High School: SOAR Program Safe Space Billy Mills Middle School: Clothing Closet

West Middle School: Essentials of Engagement Leadership Training Program

New York Elementary: Mindfulness

Program and Materials Hillcrest Elementary: K-5 Student Success Skills Redesign Team

Dedication to Education Award (\$5,000)

Project

Jessica Rohrberg, District-Wide Physical Therapist

MusicWorks Grants (\$4,377 total)

Hillcrest Elementary: Music Library
Proposal
Sunflower Elementary: Modern Bar

Sunflower Elementary: Modern Band Enhancement Program District Wide K-5: Workstations for the Music Room

Educators of the Year/Golden Apple Awards (\$1,500 each)

Tara Pearson, Title Reading,
Pinckney Elementary
Deborah Woodall Routledge, Band
Director, Southwest Middle School



Carl Knox Staff Development Grants (\$1,000 total)

Ameshia Tubbs, Lawrence High School Library Media Specialists, West Middle School, Billy Mills Middle School, Southwest Middle School and Liberty Memorial Central Middle School Susan Cooper, Liberty Memorial Central Middle School

Fall 2019-Spring 2020 A.C.E Awards (\$500 each)

Wendy Avery, Head Custodian, Quail Run Elementary Julie Goulding, Administrative Assistant, Lawrence College & Career Center Michelle Barnes, Parent Facilitator– Title 1, Woodlawn Elementary Lisa Spencer, Library Media Specialist, Sunset Hill Elementary

Allen Press Distinguished Teacher Award (\$500)

Jo Huntsinger, Anatomy Teacher, Lawrence High School

Barbara Hodgson Dream to Achieve Award (\$100)

Ashley Cauthon, Title 1 Teacher, New York Elementary

WE CELEBRATE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



We know that strong schools are a hallmark of a strong community. So we work to build community partnerships through civic involvement and good old-fashioned honest conversation. We also do this through inspiring events like the Community Education Breakfast, the Foundation Follies, the Expanding Performing Arts Access Dinner, Ovation! and more. The pandemic put a kibosh on our 2020 public events, but also gave us space to think about reframing them in a new way to align with our mission and vision. This sparks interest in our schools and generates momentum for the cause — inspiring learning and enhancing teaching. And everybody benefits.







In case you're wondering, many of the photographs included in this annual report were taken prior to the pandemic, when it was safe to be close together without wearing face coverings.





The Lawrence Education Achievement Partners (LEAP) program establishes and facilitates mutually beneficial partnerships between community businesses/organizations and schools to enrich learning by sharing knowledge, time, and resources. Partnership activities — reading to students, connecting classroom activities to work life, job shadowing, mentoring and more — are tailored to the needs in each school and the interests of the organization/business.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Broken Arrow Elementary

Central National Bank Pet World Premier Martial Arts Raising Cane's

Cordley Elementary

Capital City Bank/ Capitol Federal Cottin's Hardware & Rental Dairy Queen-Mass. Street Dillons Stores-Mass. Street Lawrence Noon Rotary Club

Deerfield Elementary

Hy-Vee

Hillcrest Elementary

Commerce Bank-Iowa Street Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers Premier Martial Arts The Merc Co-op

Kennedy Elementary

Independence, Inc. Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club United Way of Douglas County

Langston Hughes Elementary

Dillons Stores-6th & Wakarusa Hy-Vee J&S Coffee Truity Credit Union University National Bank

New York Elementary

Altrusa
Connect Church
Cottin's Hardware & Rental
Emprise Bank
Kiwanis Club
Lawrence Breakfast Optimist
Club
Stevens & Brand, L.L.P.
Western Star #1 Masonic Lodge

Pinckney Elementary

Applebee's Gould Evans Associates LMH Health

Prairie Park Elementary

Bank Midwest Capitol Federal Savings Hy-Vee Truity Credit Union

Quail Run Elementary

Berry Plastics
Darin Domnanish AgencyFarmers Insurance
Jefferson's-West
Hy-Vee
Legends Dental Center
Pioneer Ridge
Premier Martial Arts
Rock Hill Church

Schwegler Elementary

Story Hill Church

Dairy Queen-lowa Street Premier Martial Arts Raising Cane's Runza Schlumberger

Sunflower Elementary

Central National Bank Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers Hy-Vee Premier Martial Arts

Sunset Hill Elementary

Meritrust Credit Union Stephens Real Estate The Merc Co-op

Woodlawn Elementary

Bowersock Mills & Power Company First State Bank & Trust ICL Performance Products Juniper Hill Farms

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Billy Mills Middle School

McDonald's of Lawrence Printing Solutions Raising Cane's

Liberty Memorial Central Middle School

Cottin's Hardware & Rental First State Bank & Trust KU Natural History Museum Lawrence Arts Center Rodrock Chiropractic & Acupuncture The Summit

Southwest Middle School

Bartlett & West Engineers, Inc. Hy-Vee Jefferson's-West McDonald's of Lawrence t.Loft

West Middle School

Commerce Bank-lowa Street Sonic-6th Street t.Loft The Merc Co-op

LAWRENCE COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER

Amarr Entrematic

HIGH SCHOOLS

Lawrence Free State High School

Capital City Bank/Capitol Federal Central Bank of the Midwest Commerce Bank-Wakarusa Street Eileen's Colossal Cookies Hy-Vee Juniper Hill Farms McDonald's of Lawrence Raising Cane's t.Loft Theatre Lawrence Therapy Works

Truity Credit Union Lawrence High School

Amarr Entrematic
Commerce Bank-23rd Street
Gould Evans Associates
Hallmark Cards
Hy-Vee
Pinnacle Career Institute
Printing Solutions
Raising Cane's
Truity Credit Union

DISTRICT-WIDE

Best Western Lawrence Big Brothers Big Sisters Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence Chili's **Douglas County** Conservation District Douglas County Fire & Medical Edmonds Duncan Registered Investment Advisors Eileen's Colossal Cookies Envista Credit Union Epic Fun. LLC First Student Freezing Moo Goodcents J Magnuson Agency-Farmers Insurance Jason's Deli Jefferson's Hot Box Cookies Kansas Athletics, Inc. Kona Ice Lawrence Topeka, LLC Lawrence Habitat for Humanity Lawrence Police Department Lawrence Public Library McAlister's Deli Merchant's Pub & Plate Minuteman Press

'N The Mix Nutrition

Papa Keno's Pizzeria Pelathe District, Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America Pet World **Printing Solutions** Quinton's RCB Bank Royal Crest Lanes Salvation Army of **Douglas County** Sonic Texas Roadhouse The Basil Leaf Café Toppers Pizza Truity Credit Union 23rd Street Brewery Wal-Mart Watkins Museum of History

District-wide-Community Connections/ C-Tran

Applebee's Lawrence Family Video

District-wide-Early Childhood

Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Dr. Sharon Michel Green, O.D. Dr. James Otten, D.D.S.

District-wide-Fine Arts

KU Theater Lawrence Arts Center Lied Center of Kansas Theatre Lawrence US Bank

District-wide-Project Search Joblink,

a Division of Cottonwood KU Dept. of Human Resources LMH Health United Way of Douglas County

WE CELEBRATE DONORS

Amounts listed are reflective of the 2019 year

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SCHOLARS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

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Warren-McFlwain

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Thank you, too, to all of our anonymous community and school district donors.

All efforts have been made to make this report as accurate as possible. If you find an error or omission, please accept our apology and notify us at 785-330-1941.

FINANCIALS

	2019	Last Five Years
Donated:		
Via Campaigns and Events	\$ 188,250	\$ 760,096
For Specific District Betterment Programs	\$ 210,927	\$ 1,094,636
Funds:		
Grants, Programs and Awards	\$ 248,389	\$ 2,250,821
Scholarships	\$ 387,645	\$ 1,619,123

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

ASSETS Cash and Equivalents Investments at Fair Value Total Assets	\$ \$	115,769 1,821,910 1,948,679
Current Liabilities	\$	60,855
Net Assets Endowed Funds Temporarily Restricted Funds Unrestricted Funds Total Net Assets		426,001 871,922 589,901 1,887,824
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	1.948.679

CELEBRATE WITH US





LAWRENCE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

When you donate to the Lawrence Schools Foundation, you support and enhance public education in Lawrence. Find out more by visiting LawrenceSchoolsFoundation.org.

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS You may donate in honor or in memory of someone special. At your request, the gift can benefit the unrestricted fund or be earmarked for a special purpose or scholarship.

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFTS Please check to see if your employer has a matching gifts program. All or a portion of your donation may be matched.

PAYROLL DONATIONS In 2019, Lawrence School District staff contributed \$27,266.47 to help support Foundation programs. 100% of the money collected from staff goes directly back to our schools to support our students, classrooms and educators.

PLANNED GIVING AND TRUSTS The Foundation can accept gifts through bequests, charitable remainder trusts (annuities and unitrusts), charitable lead trusts, appreciated stock, life insurance, real estate, individual retirement accounts, and company retirement plans. A bequest through your will or living trust may result in tax savings to your estate. In your will, you may designate a specific gift, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder after specific distributions are made. Please talk with your attorney.

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