

We're
stronger
together

2022-2023 in review



**LAWRENCE
SCHOOLS**
FOUNDATION

“We are stronger together than we are alone.”

—WALTER PAYTON



In 2022-2023, Lawrence Schools Foundation worked to inspire learning, enrich teaching, and enhance opportunities for all **9,985** students and **1,536** educators and staff in Lawrence Public Schools. It’s an important community mission that involves all of us — LEAP program partners, volunteers, donors, parents, families, businesses, local organizations, you and me — because everybody benefits from great public schools.

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DEAR FRIENDS,



I can proudly say I am a product of public schools — from kindergarten through post-secondary — and the value and impact of public education has been a continuing influence throughout my life. Through my many professional careers as a classroom teacher, local district administrator, and teacher education faculty member at a major research university, the importance of strong public schools has been evident. It is only through the teachers, staff, district and board leadership, and community support that schools can reach their potential. Although I have not had children in the Lawrence schools, I am fortunate to have been able to continue my commitment to and support of public education through membership on the Lawrence Schools Foundation Board.

The Foundation’s mission to provide resources that inspire learning, enrich teaching, and enhance opportunities for all students, educators, and staff is achieved through the depth and diversity of programs, such as ICAN; teacher, staff and student recognition; and grants supporting innovative teaching. These programs are made possible through private support.

Over my tenure on the Board, I have been most impressed with the Foundation’s proactive approach as well as response to emerging needs. The pandemic highlighted an expanding role for schools in supporting learning for all of its students — helping students and school families with everyday needs. The Foundation through the generosity of donors and collaboration with community partners has been at the forefront of recognizing and providing opportunities to respond to such needs.

The impact identified in the following pages would not be possible without the vision and passion of the Foundation’s staff, Dena, Jamie, and Michelle; my fellow members of the Board of Directors; and community partners and donors like you. Please join us in supporting the Foundation’s work by investing in public education in Lawrence.

Everybody benefits from great public schools!

Sandra W. Gautt, President, Board of Directors



For more than 35 years, Lawrence Schools Foundation has had the privilege of supporting the Lawrence community and our public school system through thoughtful philanthropy. Especially during times of uncertainty, the Foundation continues to stand by our mission to generate and distribute resources to inspire learning, enrich teaching and enhance opportunities for everyone in Lawrence Public Schools.

As we take a moment to reflect on this year, we celebrate another milestone of awarding more than \$100,000 in grants, scholarships, professional development opportunities, and teacher and staff awards throughout our district. This was accomplished thanks to many generous donors who have provided donations and established funds with us. We are proud to help individuals, families, and businesses fulfill their charitable goals by establishing endowed funds for these purposes. We take stewardship of these funds very seriously, and we continue to seek support for the ongoing and ever-changing educational needs of our system.

On behalf of the board of directors and our Foundation team, I invite you to be a part of our mission. Whether it is through an annual or planned gift, participating in any of our fundraising events, community campaigns, volunteering, or supporting our community partners, every dollar you give benefits the educators, students, and classrooms within the Lawrence Public Schools.

Our students are eager to learn and our educators are eager to teach, even when it is more challenging than ever. We are working every day to ensure that we have what they need to be successful in school. Whatever your WHY, when you donate to Lawrence Schools Foundation, you support and enhance public education in Lawrence. We take pride in being a lot of things to a lot of people, and we hope you will help us by donating to support your WHY!

Thank you for making this possible!

Dena Johnston, Executive Director

WE'RE STRONGER



NEW YORK MONTESSORI OPENS

Lawrence Public Schools opened the first public Montessori school in the state of Kansas in August 2022. Three primary classes at New York Montessori served 59 students ages 3–6.

Maria Montessori, an Italian physician, observed that children from birth to age 6 have an “absorbent mind,” a great capacity for creative activity, and a natural desire to learn. She developed a “prepared environment” to offer both structure and freedom. The structure comes from the order of the classroom and knowing how and why to use different materials. The freedom comes from children’s ability to choose their own tasks, work at their own pace, and move ahead as they desire to know something more or different. The Montessori philosophy recognizes the uniqueness of individuals and their different rates of development and varying patterns of abilities. The approach stresses the importance of allowing children to experiment, learn independently, and progress at their own speed. Multi-age grouping encourages peer teaching and social interaction.

Each school year, the Montessori program will expand by one grade level. With support from the Board and Education and partnership with Lawrence Schools Foundation, New York Montessori has already expanded to serve 101 students.

Top: Students, teachers and staff at New York Montessori..

“Individually, we are one drop.
Together, we are an ocean.”

—RYUNOSUKE SATORO

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TOGETHER



WHERE ARE THEY NOW? 2012 STUDENT CHAMPION ALEXANDRA WENDT

Upon graduating from Free State, I pursued my bachelor’s degree in English and art history at the College of Wooster in Ohio. While enrolled there, I studied abroad for a semester in Siena, Italy and it would change the trajectory of my life. Living with an Italian host family with whom I had to learn to communicate despite the fact we didn’t speak the other’s language, visiting hidden gems around Tuscany, and seeing in person the art I’d been studying was a truly remarkable experience.

After I finished at Wooster, I returned to Siena to continue studying Italian and assist in the communications department of my old study abroad school, where I managed their website and blog, accompanied field trips, and organized language exchanges between their students and local Italian university students. I was fortunate to meet so many people from different backgrounds and get to travel elsewhere around Europe. I returned to the U.S. for a few months, then went back to Italy to pursue my master’s degree in Italian Renaissance Art through Syracuse University in Florence. During that time I met my now-husband. Our first date was at the Uffizi. I was projected to continue as a teaching assistant the following year, but the pandemic disrupted those plans. Stuck in Italy during lockdown, I re-evaluated my career path and decided to get certified to teach English as a Second Language. My husband and I got civilly married later that year in a beautiful ceremony in Palazzo Vecchio in Florence (followed by a larger ceremony in Kansas City the next year).



Today, I live in northern Italy with my husband and our infant son. I taught English for a while but recently acquired a job as an editorial writer for a company that assists people in getting Italian citizenship. I have long loved to be a writer. I also write novels on my own time and have started a Substack called *Till We Find Joy*, to be filled with personal essays and reflections to inspire people to search for joy in all aspects of their lives.

Top left: Alexandra Wendt with her parents at the Community Education Breakfast in 2012; Top right: 2012 Student Champions Antonio Schoneich (FSHS), Emily McEntire (LHS), Frankie Esparza (LHS), and Alexandra Wendt (FSHS); Above: Alexandra Wendt in 2023

Scholarships (more than \$58,000 total)
72 scholarships awarded to
graduating seniors

Innovative Teacher Grants (\$2,140 total)
Jennifer Burnes, C-TRAN
Nicole Ramirez, Kennedy Early Childhood
Center

Excellence In Teaching/Bobs Award (\$10,000)
Sam Rabiola, Free State High School

**Dedication to Education Award/
Sons of Bobs Award (\$5,000)**
Brandon Daley, Woodlawn Elementary

**Barbara Hodgson Dream to Achieve
Award (\$100)**
Mandy Shockley, New York Elementary

Carl Knox Teacher Grants (\$500)
Katie Brandau and Katherine Dillon,
Lawrence Free State High School

MusicWorks Grants (\$5,793 total)
Emily Boedeker, Woodlawn Elementary
Laurie Matney, Hillcrest Elementary
Lindsay Hatfield, Schwegler Elementary
Gary Burdette, C-TRAN
Deborah Woodall Routledge,
Southwest Middle School
Cassidy Markley, Prairie Park Elementary

Fall 2022–Spring 2023 A.C.E Awards (\$500 each)
Brenna Lane, Administrative Assistant,
Sunset Hill Elementary
Michelle Hindman, Administrative
Assistant, Hillcrest Elementary
Anastacio Romero, Head Custodian,
Cordley Elementary
Melody Barclay, Para Educator,
Lawrence Free State High School



Scan this code with
your phone to learn
more about grants,
scholarships, awards
and special funds.

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STRONG PARTNERSHIPS



Lawrence Education
Achievement Partners

Lawrence Schools Foundation signature events. Our LEAP partners enjoy being involved with the schools and learning from the students and teachers. They are the lifeline to the Foundation and to our community.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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

Cordley Elementary
Capitol Federal Savings
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
& Steakhouses
Premier Martial Arts
The Merc Co-op

Langston Hughes Elementary
Dillons Stores–6th & Wakarusa
Hy-Vee
J&S Coffee
Truity Credit Union

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
LMH Health
McDonald's of Lawrence
multistudio
Taco John's

Prairie Park Elementary
Bank Midwest
Capitol Federal Savings
Hy-Vee
Mar Lan Construction
Pretzels, Inc.
Taco John's
Truity Credit Union

Quail Run Elementary
Berry Plastics
Hy-Vee
Jefferson's–West
Legends Dental Center
Pioneer Ridge
Premier Martial Arts
Rock Hill Church
Story Hill Church

Schwegler Elementary
Dairy Queen–Iowa Street
Premier Martial Arts
Raising Cane's
Runza

Sunflower Elementary
Central National Bank
Freddy's Frozen Custard
& Steakhouses
Hy-Vee
Premier Martial Arts
Taco John's

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
Uplift Coffee Shop

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Billy Mills Middle School
Hy-Vee
McDonald's of Lawrence
Mainstreet Credit Union
Printing Solutions
Raising Cane's

Liberty Memorial Central Middle School
Cottin's Hardware & Rental
First City Church
First State Bank & Trust
KU Natural History Museum
Lawrence Arts Center
Rodrock Chiropractic
& Acupuncture
The Summit

Southwest Middle School
Hy-Vee
Jefferson's–West
McDonald's of Lawrence
t.Loft

West Middle School
Commerce Bank–Iowa Street
Sonic–6th Street
t.Loft
The Merc Co-op

HIGH SCHOOLS

Lawrence Free State High School
Capitol Federal Savings
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
Commerce Bank–23rd Street
Hallmark Cards
Hy-Vee
multistudio
Printing Solutions
Raising Cane's
The Valley Church
Truity Credit Union

DISTRICT-WIDE

Best Western Lawrence
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence
Chick-Fil-A
Chili's
Climb Lawrence, LLC
Collier's International|Lawrence
Dole Institute of Politics
Douglas County Fire & Medical
Edmonds Duncan Advisors
Eileen's Colossal Cookies
Envista Credit Union
First Student
Goodcents
J Magnuson Agency–
Farmers Insurance
Jason's Deli
Jefferson's
Hot Box Cookies
Kansas Athletics, Inc.
Kona Ice Lawrence Topeka, LLC
Kurt Goesser–State Farm
Lawrence Habitat for
Humanity
Lawrence Police Department
Lawrence Public Library
McAlister's Deli
Merchant's Pub & Plate
Minuteman Press
Papa Keno's Pizzeria
Pelathe District,
Heart of America Council,
Boy Scouts of America
Pet World
Printing Solutions
RCB Bank

Royal Crest Lanes
Salvation Army of
Douglas County
Silver Lake Bank
Solomon and Associates–
Ameriprise Financial
Services, Inc
Sonic
Sylvan Learning Center
T-Mobile
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**
Cottin's Hardware & Rental

District-wide–Early Childhood
Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary
Dr. Sharon Michel Green, O.D.
Dr. James Otten, D.D.S.
River City Church
Sunflower Bank
United Way of Douglas County

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

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

MULTISTUDIO

Having local businesses partner with local schools helps build and enrich the connection between the business and education communities. Our team in Lawrence finds value in partnering with our local public school system, its administrators, educators, staff and students. We have had the privilege to partner with Pinckney Elementary for several years, and we look forward to partnering with Hillcrest Elementary starting this year. It is our responsibility to be involved — not only through our historic and recent work on K–12 facility projects but also by staying on top of the successes and challenges the district currently faces. We enjoy developing relationships with board members and attending the annual Community Education Breakfast. Partnering with LSF allows us to interact with educators and students. We enjoy providing candy at annual Halloween events, emceeing school spelling bees, and more, sometimes providing Downtown Lawrence gift cards as prizes. It is heartwarming to attend the events and see faces light up with anticipation over treats and prizes we provide.



A typical day was made a little sweeter for USD 497 staff, courtesy of multistudio



USD 497 Superintendent Dr. Anthony Lewis, Lawrence Schools Foundation Executive Director Dena Johnston, 2023 Graham Edmonds Award Winner Arran Kennedy Orive, and Lied Center Executive Director Derek Kwan at the 2023 Ovation! Talent Show

LIED CENTER OF KANSAS

We strive to be a vibrant organizational partner that helps in creating a stronger sense of community. There is no better way to help create a deeper sense of community than by contributing to the lives of our youth. Serving as a LEAP Partner is undoubtedly the most effective way to connect with more than 10,000 local students. We enjoy all of our collaborations with Lawrence Public Schools and the Lawrence Schools Foundation. Our partnerships are so diverse — ranging from our annual schools-only performances, Ovation! USD 497 Talent Show, 3rd Grade Theater Arts Day, and One Dream MLK Celebration to the All-Staff Back-to-School Kickoff, College Fair, IMPACT Award and All-City Choir concert. The commonality among all of these initiatives is what we enjoy most: helping to build a stronger sense of community and belonging.

TRUITY CREDIT UNION

Being a Lawrence Education Achievement Partner is the best way to bring the business community together with the schools. Truity Credit Union is proud to partner district-wide, and we are always ready and willing to help out where we can. We have donated supplies and refreshments; our staff has volunteered time. Truity's business development officer, Audra Fussell, proudly serves on the Lawrence Schools Foundation Board. Truity is an annual Valedictorian Sponsor for the Community Education Breakfast and Ovation! events. Truity provides funding annually to help with professional development, scholarships, tuition assistance, etc. Truity helps fund scholarships for students meeting specific income thresholds who want to access college-level courses through The Jayhawk Blueprint program.



Truity Credit Union presented a check for \$75,000 to Lawrence Schools Foundation in November 2022 for sponsorships, the Foundation's community campaign, and other needs identified by the district.

YOU MAKE US STRONGER

(thank you, donors!)

MASTERS (\$10,000+)

Church, Earl
Cochran, Karen
Dann, William
Davidson III, John and Shirley Schaeffer
Durham (Debby)
Family Foundation
Haque Family Foundation
Skyline/Yellow Chair Foundation
Truity Education Foundation, Inc.

SCHOLARS (\$5,000–\$9,999)

Advanco, Inc.
Edmonds Duncan
Registered Investment Advisors
Hite, Kenneth and April Shanmugam, Kannon K. and Victoria K.
Srinivasan, Srinija

HONOR SOCIETY (\$1,000–\$4,999)

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Acree, Kristy
Alpha Roofing, LLC
Ameriprise Financial
Services–Teresa Kempf
Benz, Bob
Billings, Beverly Smith
Blaser, Chip and Karen
Buhler, Mark and Marsha
Cans for the Community
Capitol Federal
CEK Insurance
Central Bank
of the Midwest
Chestnut, Spencer
City of Lawrence, KS
Clark | Huesemann
Commerce Bank
Construction
Specialties LLC
Cork and Barrell
Crown Toyota–Scion
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Davis, Robert M
DCCF
Deiser, Jay
Dinsdale, Robert and Katherine
Dipman, J Patrick

Dobski, Tom and Marilyn
Drahozal, Christopher and Kaye
Dunn, Dixie K
Elmore, John and Rosy
Emprise Bank
Ethel and Raymond Rice
Foundation
Fry, Lawrence and Penny
Gautt, Sandra
Gish, Stephen and Bobbie
Gladbach, Joan and Timothy
Glass, Stephen E.
ICL Performance
Products LP
Imber, Jane and Michael
Jacobs, Sheryl and Robert

Johnson, Bob and Pauline
Johnson, Robert, Jr and Jana
Joseph Mastrosimone and Gina Spade Family
Kindred CPA
Knox, David
Laird Noller Automotive
Landmark National Bank
Lawrence Realty
Associates
Lawrence Rotary Club
Legacy Work Consulting, LLC
Lheureux, Marie Alice
LMH Health
Mainstreet Credit Union
Marsh and McLennan
Agency
McCown Gordon
Construction
Meritrust Credit Union
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Durand Reiber
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Pur-O-Zone, Inc.
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Senecal, Robert and Evelyn
Sheridan, Richard
Smith, Marsha
Smith, Rebecca
Stalcup, W.M., Jr. and Jan
Stephens Real Estate
Stephens, Robert and Mary Kay
Stevens & Brand, LLP

Thompson, David and Maria
United Way of Douglas County
Vick, Gail and Kevan
Warren, Steven F.
Warren–McElwain
Ziegler, David and Kathleen

LEADERS (\$500–\$999)

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Benevity
Berquist, Craig and Jennifer
Bert Nash Community
Mental Health Center
BG Consultants, Inc.
Boeing
Carson, Laura
Central Mechanical
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Clark, James and Shelly
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Intrust Bank
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Keller, Judy and Tim
Kristi R Keefer Insurance
Agency
KU School of Education
Kurt Goesser Insurance
Agency, Inc.
Lewis, Anthony
Lied Center–KU
Lopes, Steve and Lois
Midwest Concrete
Materials
multistudio

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Cities, Inc
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Deboard, Lysette A
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Elkin, Lauren Anne
Ellett, Ryan S
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Erickson, Rodger and Donna Ginther
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Fincham, Sheryl
Fowles, Jacob
Fox, Michael
Francisco, Marci
Frost, Linda and Victor
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Johnson, Sandy Thomas
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Jones, Lisa Marie
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Kelly, Patrick
Kile, Amanda
King, Bil
Knapp, Robert and Diane Kroger

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Lawrence Family Vision
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Battaglia, Gina K
Battaglia, Julie A
Beyer, Rita J
Bland, Megan M
Bolster Wesley, Christine A
Bonilla, Jennifer L
Bonnewell, Tiffany Maria
Booher, Lorie
Booker, Breanna Nicole
Boone Salazar, Daniel
Boyle, Julie
Branson, Kathryn R
Brown, Christina M
Brucker, Debra J
Buck, Lindsay Nichole
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Thomas, Lynisha S
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FRIENDS (up to \$99)

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Aguirre, Rosina I
Ahlvrs, Staci Noel
Akkerman, Susan Ann
Albertson Sears, Jolynn
Aldridge, Cara L
Allen, Brad
Amyx, Mike
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Anderson, Jill
Anderson, Phyllis
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Barker, Kelly A
Basil Leaf
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Bateman, Jane
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Clover, Melissa A
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Conforti, Nicole R
Conover, Marc C
Conyers, Carladyne Knox
Coons Jr, Kenneth V
Corliss, David
Corn, Nicole L
Crane, Howard
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Gipson, Karen E

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Hilanthom, Anita
Hill, Mena Therese
Holland, Meredith S
Houston, Peter C
Hoy, Krista H
Hunt, Christy M
Hurt, Megan A
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Iversen, Bethany L
Jackson, Anna Sofiapalos
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James, Janeen Elizabeth
Janousek, Guy and Keri Austin–Janousek
Jason’s Deli Lawrence
Jeppsen, Bethany Ann
Jevens, Jill E
Johns, Lori and Barry Fitzgerald
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Johnson, Cynthia
Johnson, Denise D
Johnson, Denise L
Johnston, Kylee
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Jorgensen, Kadie
Karasek, Daniel E
Katzenmeier, Stacy R
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Kennard, Perry W
Kennedy, Jodi E
Kenoly, Annette Renee
Keogh, Libby

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Langston, Jonathan
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Larsen, Jessica M
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Lauxman, Keri A
Lay, Supriya
Le, Amy R
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Lewin, Phyllis
Llewellyn, Heather
Lockwood, Rex Brian
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Lottinville, Lynette L
Lovelace, Mari L
Luna, Kendra
Lyke, Lisa Renee
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Mallory, Kristin D
Martin, Julie Ann
Matney, Laurie Lynn
Matson, Sue
Matthews, Sharon L
May, Kristen Michelle
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McKanna, Carolyn M
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Merz, Connie M
Metz, Kendra L
Meyer Szelewycz, Kristina S
Meyer, Kade
Meyer, Kathy L
Meyersick, Cory S
Mickel, Jacquelyn M
Middleton, Chalita Adell
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Sinclair, Jamie M
Smith, Ashli D
Smith, Caroline Marie
Smith, Dorcas L
Smith, Jewel
Smith, Manda Louise
Snyder, Kathryn L
Soileau, Tammi J
Sophocleous, Marios and Thelma
Spencer, Lisa M
Spicer, Shelbi Nicole
Spradlin, Joshua A
Stafford, Jacqueline
Stahl, Megan Nicole

Otter, Courtney C
Overton, Michelle E
Paloutzian, Andrea
Parkhurst, Kara E
Patchen, Sandy
Paulsen, Ellen
Pennybaker, Kent and Janet
Perkins, Angelia B
Perry, Brandi J
Peterson, Amanda M
Peterson, Maura
Philipp, Jeremy
Platt, David R
Poettker, Shana K
Pope, Maria S
Pratt, Ellen
Price, Nicole M
Pugsley, Jennifer Christine
Rabiola, Lori Kay
Radke, Brandt William
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Ramirez, Jo
Ramler, Peter Joseph
Raser, Sarah
Rayome, Laura Marie
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Richardson, Megan
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Rigg, Julie A
Ritter, Darby
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Robinson, Katherine R
Robinson, Ruth P
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Schwartzing, Julie
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Self, Keith Remel
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Showman, Carly C
Shultz, Patricia
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Smith, Ashli D
Smith, Caroline Marie
Smith, Dorcas L
Smith, Jewel
Smith, Manda Louise
Snyder, Kathryn L
Soileau, Tammi J
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Spencer, Lisa M
Spicer, Shelbi Nicole
Spradlin, Joshua A
Stafford, Jacqueline
Stahl, Megan Nicole

Stephens, Ann
Stevanov, Donald
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Stoll, Stephen B
Stoltenberg, Katherine
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Strawderman, Oather
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Wright, Judith
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Yoder, Amanda L
Yoder, Kim C
Zebas, Carole
Ziegler, Laurie A
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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.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

(the financials)

	2022	Last Five Years
DONATED		
Via campaigns and events	\$ 230,144	\$ 910,230
For specific district betterment programs	\$ 186,157	\$ 2,288,656
FUNDS		
Grants, programs, and awards	\$ 1,738,921	\$ 4,500,118
Scholarships	\$ 353,421	\$ 1,902,684

Lawrence Schools Foundation is a qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Federal Tax ID#: 48-1016950

“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.”
—HELEN KELLER

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS You may donate in honor or in memory of someone special. At your request, your 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 2021, Lawrence School District staff contributed \$22,791.21 to help support Foundation programs. One hundred percent 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.

DONATE ONLINE Visit LawrenceSchoolsFoundation.org and click Donate Now. You may donate any amount to the area of greatest need or to the project of your choice.

STAYING STRONG

(ways to engage)

FUND A NEED
Lawrence Schools Foundation has provided **more than \$550,000** in funding to our district students and families in need since 2018 through the Classroom Angel Network, or IC.A.N. program. Some children in our community are without running water or a mattress on which to sleep. Others are without shoes, socks, underwear, or maybe even toothpaste. Our goal is to make sure our school social workers, counselors, nurses, and psychologists have funds available to meet immediate and emergency needs such as these so students can come to school clean, confident, and ready to learn.

To donate to the IC.A.N. Fund or another Lawrence Schools Foundation program, scan this code with your phone or visit LawrenceSchoolsFoundation.org and click Donate Now.



TAKE THE LEAP
Does your business or community organization want to partner with a local school? Join the Lawrence Education Achievement Partners (LEAP) program! You business or organization will get to know your neighborhood or area school, learning about their unique challenges and cheering them on. You may choose to donate classroom supplies, volunteer to tutor or mentor kids, help out at school events, or make monetary or in-kind donations. Many LEAP partners also sponsor Lawrence Schools Foundation signature events.

To learn more or sign up for LEAP, call 785-330-1854 or email jsinclair@usd497.org.

ARE YOU A BOB?
More than 25 years ago a group of civic leaders who share the same first name “Bob” created the Excellence in Teaching award through Lawrence Schools Foundation. The benefactors choose to remain anonymous to focus attention on the outstanding educators selected annually to receive the award. The award honors a teacher who exemplifies extraordinary instruction skills, reflects commitment to quality education and dedication to teaching, focuses on individual student achievement, and administers to the whole child. It comes with a check for \$10,000, as a gift for the educator to use as they wish. Nominations for this award can be made by parents, students, colleagues, alumni, and community members. Since 1997, the Bobs have donated **more than \$290,000** to Lawrence Schools Foundation to provide gifts and cash awards for Lawrence Public Schools educators.

Are you a Bob or know of one (Bob, Robert, Roberta, Bobby, Bobette — you get the idea) who may be interested in joining this elite group? Call 785-330-1941 or email djohnsto@usd497.org.

“We’re all in this together
if we’re in it at all.”
—JOHNNY CASH





everybody benefits
from great
public schools



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