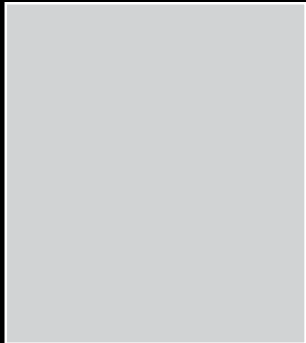




Alexandria  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION

# 2018 IMPACT REPORT

[AlexEducationFoundation.org](http://AlexEducationFoundation.org)





# AEF MISSION

The Alexandria Education Foundation is committed to supporting student excellence and expanding learning opportunities in Alexandria Public Schools.

## CONNECT WITH US



We want to keep you informed and hear from you. Visit [AlexEducationFoundation.org](http://AlexEducationFoundation.org) for upcoming events and to sign up for our newsletter.

Become a fan and stay connected with the Alexandria Education Foundation.



Like us by visiting: [www.facebook.com/alexedfound](http://www.facebook.com/alexedfound)



Follow us at @AlexEdFound206

## CONTACT US

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P.O. Box 308  
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Through the support of these connections, AEF has contributed over **\$4.4 million** in grants, scholarships and capital gifts in support of education in Alexandria Public Schools.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ★ Jay Sieling, Chair
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- ★ Julie Critz, Ex-officio



Jeff Montgomery, Dana Christenson, Anthony Zimny, Tom Ellison, Patrick Kalina. Seated (l to r): Jennifer Heydt, Jay Sieling, Jean Bristow, Sarah O’Kane, Meri Ripley. Not pictured: Eric Karlstad, Linda Nelson, Josh Tatge.

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

The Alexandria Education Foundation had a successful year in 2018 and has exciting things on the horizon for 2019. As you look through this impact report, you will get a glimpse of the organization’s work over the past year. The foundation’s main goal is to help the teachers of Alexandria Public Schools impact students every day. Last year, the foundation awarded \$38,083 in teacher grants. This results in more opportunities and enhanced learning experiences for students.

The foundation is always striving to connect alumni, businesses and community members to join efforts in supporting our public schools. We connected with friends and supporters at our annual events: the Hall of Fame Luncheon, the annual fundraising gala, EdTalk, and EdRock.

The first EdRock fundraising concert was a hit where over 500 people enjoyed a beautiful summer evening with great music and dancing.

The Alexandria Education Foundation continues to grow and evolve and this could not happen without your support. We look forward to another successful year in 2019!

With thanks and appreciation,

Christine Reilly  
Executive Director



Our vision is to be a premier education foundation that significantly impacts Alexandria students.

Visit us at: [AlexEducationFoundation.org](http://AlexEducationFoundation.org)





# INVESTING IN STUDENT LEARNING



**TEACHER GRANTS**  
AEF AWARDED **\$38,083**  
in Teacher Innovation  
Grants for 2018-2019



*Visit our website for details on each of these exciting grants – as well as the 55 previously awarded to Alexandria Public Schools.*

**SPHERO EDU**  
Discovery Middle School -  
Lukas Gotto



**SEESAW**  
Carlos Elementary -  
Kristen Schmidt

**MAKERSPACE**  
Voyager Elementary -  
Jacob Munsch

**ELEMENTARY ROBOTICS**  
Miltona Science Magnet  
Elementary - Denise Jurud

**LEARNING WITH LEGOS**  
Voyager Elementary -  
Maari Ost, Kayla Walsh

**A CAMERA FOR EVERY STUDENT**  
Alexandria Area High School -  
Kassandra Gibbons

**LEARNING BEYOND THE SCREEN**  
Miltona Science Magnet  
Elementary - Chad Gilbertson

**SNAP CIRCUITS IN SCIENCE**  
Woodland Elementary -  
Barb Walswick

**GREEN OFF-GRID POWER SYSTEM FOR A TINY HOUSE**  
Alexandria Area High School –  
Todd Dahlseid

**BREAKOUT EDU KITS**  
Voyager Elementary -  
Kari Gilbertson

**NINJA WARRIOR OBSTACLE COURSE**  
Lincoln Elementary -  
Patti Hinrichs

  
**\$290,000+**  
AWARDED IN GRANTS  
TO TEACHERS  
SINCE 2009

**3,700**  
PreK–12 students  
impacted yearly by  
AEF Funding

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# INVESTING IN FUTURE LEADERS

## 2018 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



*The Class of 1988 Scholarship* recipients, Bryce Ludwig (left), Craig Olson, foundation board member (middle) and Alexis Habberstad (right).



*Seeds for Future Learning Scholarship* recipients, Jared Fridgen (left), Craig Olson, foundation board member (middle) and Tori Jeseritz (right).



Michael Helgeson, *2016 AEF Scholarship* recipient, U of M-Twin Cities Kinesiology major and avid Gophers fan.



“Thanks to the scholarship awarded through the Alexandria Education Foundation my loans are reduced and I feel the support of a community that I have grown up in.”

– 2016 AEF scholarship recipient  
Michael Helgeson



### SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation wants to build a financial cornerstone for investing in students in Alexandria Public Schools. One of the ways we do this is by helping students attain college degrees.

Through a competitive scholarship process, the Foundation financially supports students in the transition from high school to 2 and 4-year colleges.

Visit our website for details on these continuing education scholarships to graduating seniors.



SINCE 2009,  
NEARLY  
**\$30,000**  
has been awarded  
to help **32 students**  
further their  
education

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# ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY

## EdCelebrate

Our fall fundraiser (formerly Jeans & Jewels) is a part of Homecoming Connections weekend and remains the signature event of the Alexandria Education Foundation. Guests enjoy games, silent auction, jewelry prize drawings, fabulous food, and friends while they support our schools and our students.



## EdTALK

Our annual EdTalk event brings notable alum back as a tie-in to the strong education foundation they received in Alexandria Public Schools and to give back by creating connections with current students.



Alexandria native and current University of Minnesota Associate Athletic Director Scott Ellison ('77) was the 2018 EdTalk speaker. Ellison, the Associate Director for the Gophers oversees all the athletic facilities at the University of Minnesota.



Robert C. Johnson ('66)  
Heather Stefanski, M.D. ('89)  
Ed Rooney ('53)



The stage was set, the weather was fantastic, and the band was rockin' at our summer concert fundraising event featuring *The Fabulous Armadillos*.



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(Gifts received January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018)



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## ENDOWMENT GROWTH

*Did You Know...*

THAT THE ENDOWMENT  
HAS GROWN TO

**\$400,000**

SINCE 2007

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**In addition, thank you to the many supporters who participated in our fundraiser and attended our annual events.**

*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 the Foundation at 320-815-5052 so corrections can be made.*  
THANK YOU for Your Support.

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