



2020-21 **IMPACT** REPORT



AlexEducationFoundation.org



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Alexandria Education Foundation
P.O. Box 308
Alexandria, MN 56308
320.815.5052

AEF has contributed over
\$4.47 million
in grants, scholarships and
capital gifts in support of education
in Alexandria Public Schools.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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AEF MISSION



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

July 2021

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

The Alexandria Education Foundation Board of Directors and I are grateful for a strong donor base that has allowed us to continue to provide financial support to the Alexandria Public Schools throughout the challenges of 2020 and 2021. Thank you!



In the spring of 2020 the Alexandria Education Foundation Board of Directors was quick to respond to the needs of the Alexandria Public Schools by granting \$41,473 to purchase chrome books for students in grades K-2. Learning at home and connecting with teachers and other students was made easier because of financial support from donors like you.

In May of this year, the board approved funding for thirteen Teacher Innovation Grants totaling \$40,773. These grants will be implemented in the upcoming school year and are highlighted in this publication. Your gifts made all of these grants possible!

When you make plans to give to the Alexandria Education Foundation this year please consider donating online. It is efficient, easy to navigate, and allows you to make monthly or annual contributions.

The Alexandria Education Foundation continues to grow because of your support.

With much appreciation,

Christine Reilly

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

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INVESTING IN STUDENT LEARNING



FARMBOT
Alexandria Area High School -
Linnay Schweisthal



MOBILE MAGNET WALL
Miltona Science Magnet -
Amy Revering



OUTDOOR MAKERSPACE
Woodland Elementary School -
Barb Walswick



TEACHER GRANTS
AEF AWARDED **\$40,773**
in Teacher Innovation
Grants for 2020-2021



*Visit our website for details on each of these exciting grants –
as well as the 78 previously awarded to Alexandria Public Schools.*



\$408,000+

AWARDED
IN GRANTS
TO TEACHERS
SINCE 2009

4,000

PreK-12 students
impacted yearly by
AEF Funding



EXPANDING SPHERO EDU
Discovery Middle School -
Lukas Gotto

**ORFF IN THE MUSIC
CLASSROOM**
Voyager Elementary -
Rhonda Blaser



STEM BINS
Voyager Elementary -
Lynn Strandskov

**REDBIRD AVIATION
FLIGHT SIMULATOR**
Alexandria Area High School -
Corey Halstead



DASH AND DOT ROBOTICS
Lincoln Elementary -
Jillian Burns

**NETWORK CABLE
TERMINATION**
Alexandria Area High School -
Jan Finazzo



TRAVERSE CLIMBING WALL
Lincoln Elementary -
Patti Hinrichs

DELTA WASP CLAY EXTRUDER
Alexandria Area High School -
Nathan Knick



GROSS MOTOR MOVEMENT
Voyager Elementary -
Kayla Walsh and Maari Ost

SCREEN FREE ZONE CAMPAIGN
Early Education Center -
April Larson

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INVESTING IN FUTURE LEADERS

2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

AEF Board member, Sarah O’Kane, presented 7 Alexandria Area High School (AAHS) seniors with scholarship awards at the annual Honors Night celebration:



Whitly Netland (l) and Hadlie Dahlseid (r) were recipients of *The Class of 1988 Scholarship*, each receiving a scholarship in the amount of \$2,200.



Logan Hegg (l) and Morgan Hungness (r) were the *Seeds for Future Learning Klimek Family Scholarship* recipients, each awarded a \$400 scholarship.



Maria Montanez (r) was awarded The Kim Jensen *“Lift Her Up” Scholarship* in the amount of \$1,000.



Maya Klimek (l) was the recipient of *The Bev “B” Lohrman Grossman Scholarship* for \$1,000.



Lucas Newhouse (l) was awarded *The Ron Lindley Memorial Scholarship* in the amount of \$3,000.

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.



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ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY



Love for Learners Fundraiser

The Foundation held its first online fundraiser on February 8-14. In keeping with the theme for Valentine's Day, our theme was **Love for Learners!** The online auction featured all Alexandria Area businesses. Over \$8,000 was raised to support classrooms for PreK-12 in Alexandria Public Schools. Thank you to the generosity of all who participated and for your support of area businesses.



Thanks to all of you who attended EdRock 2021 - we had our highest attendance yet with 560 and raised \$13,000 to support enhanced learning experiences for students in Alexandria Public Schools. It was such a fun night... a beautiful MN summer evening and The Fabulous Armadillos were, well, fabulous!



The band will return next year for EdRock - mark your calendars for June 24, 2022.



Hall of Fame Virtual Celebration

A virtual celebration of the Hall of Fame inductees from 2007-2019 was held on Friday, September 25, 2020. The virtual celebration reintroduced Hall of Fame inductees for the past 13 years. The presentation went year by year and recognized each inductee through photos. We had 364 views for the virtual celebration which was a terrific response! If you missed it, watch at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3x82Jfj>

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Foundation Donors

(Gifts received July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021)



206
CLUB
Alexandria Education Foundation



ENDOWMENT

Did You Know...

THAT THE ENDOWMENT HAS
REMAINED STRONG AND MAINTAINED
A HEALTHY BALANCE OF

\$409,000+

206 CLUB

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Kelly & Linda Anderson
Mark & Sally Anderson
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Jeff & Amy Wensman

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Brian & Sara Zimny
Dan & Colleen Zimny
Anthony & Leann Zimny
Dan & Lavonne Zinda
Craig & Becky Zwilling
Anonymous

ACADEMY FUND

Dr. Thomas Kiehne

ARTS & MUSIC FUND

Alan & Kathy Grundei
Margaret Opp

DONATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Timothy & Tracy Lindley
Ronald Lindley Scholarship

Michelle & Ben Johnson
Beverly Lohrman Grossman Scholarship
Michael & Julie Lohrman
Beverly Lohrman Grossman Scholarship
Bob & Mary Grossman
Beverly Lohrman Grossman Scholarship

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Dean Pass & Lisa Bowen
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CB Designs LLC
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Ken & Jan Esala
Thomas & Insley Flaig
Amanda Hegg
Keith & Coleen Hoeschen
Dan & Pam Langseth
Tom & Ruth Obert
Sheila Olson
Donna Podratz - *In honor of Marge Van Gorp's 98th Birthday*

Bruce & Kathleen Pohl
Shawn & Christine Reilly
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Roger & Ruthie Schultz
Brent & Sally Smith
Marti Stember
Brent & Heather Timm
Brent & Jill Urke
Mark & Carmon Watkins
Tom & Kelly Wosepka

LOVE FOR LEARNERS FUNDRAISER

AFLAC
Ameriprise Financial
Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate
Integrity Title
O'Kane Dental
Pemberton Law
Stu Wood Real Estate
Vantage Bank
Zimny Insurance Agency

MATCHING GIFTS

New York Life Insurance
The Aagard Group

MEALS WITH CARE

Robert & Beverly Dokken
Anita Ferguson
Glen & Lois Forster
Alan & Catherine Hansen
Kim Jenson
Ruth McDonald Fund
Dave & Diane Olson
Larry & Kathleen Orloff
Jill Blashack Strahan
Dan & Colleen Zimny
Dan & Lavonne Zinda

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

AAHS Sunshine Fund
In memory of Virgil Smith
AAHS Sunshine Fund
In memory of Marty Genz
Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Beverly Maack

Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Raymond "Stub" Burgau
Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Shelley Burgau
Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Sonia Bale
Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Stephen Waller
Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Tony Thiel
Tom & Angie Anderson
In memory of Verlyn Bruzek
Family of Paul Donley
In memory of Paul Donley
Alan & Kathy Grundei
In memory of Toni McCarten
Jill Johnson
In memory of Ronald Lindley
Pat & Haley Kalina
In memory of Dan Olson
Timothy & Tracy Lindley
In memory of Ronald Lindley
Dennis & Bonnie Miller
In memory of Ronald Lindley
Lona Neubarth
In memory of Ronald Lindley
Donna Podratz
In memory of Robert Botner
Donna Podratz
In memory of Bruce Anderson
Shawn & Christine Reilly
In memory of Shelley Burgau
Tom & Rachel Savageau
In memory of Ronald Lindley
Brent & Sally Smith
In memory of Beverly Lohrman Grossman
Dale & Tamera Strandlien
In memory of Ronald Lindley
Dick & Sandy Susag
In memory of Sandy Bloomquist
Colleen Waller
In memory of Stephen Waller
David & Kim Walsh
In memory of Courtney Grace Walsh
Anonymous -
In memory of Ronald Lindley

SPONSORSHIPS

Summa Cum Laude

Alomere Health
Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate
Blue Ox Timber Frames
Eldens Fresh Foods
Geneva Capital
Nodland Construction
Snyder Thornburg Wealth Management
The Aagard Group
Zimny Insurance Agency

Magna Cum Laude

Bremer Bank

Cum Laude

Ameriprise Financial
Bell Bank
Databae Systems
First Western Bank & Trust
Glenwood State Bank
Neighborhood National Bank
Pemberton Law
Vantage Bank
Viking Bank



2020-21 IMPACT REPORT

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.*



GRANTS

Meals With Care Grant

A \$4,000 grant from the Ruth McDonald Fund of the Alexandria Area Community Foundation (AACF). AEF used the grant to support Alexandria Public Schools families who may not qualify for free or reduced price meals but were experiencing a financial hardship and needed assistance with covering the cost of meals at school for their children.

Sustainability Grant

A \$5,000 grant from the Alexandria Response Fund of the Alexandria Area Community Foundation (AACF). AEF will use the grant award to meet general operating costs given fundraising efforts in the 2020-21 fiscal year were significantly impacted due to the pandemic.

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