

# INVEST

Annual Report 17/18

# CONNECT

# INSPIRE

Our city is strengthened by every student who graduates ready to lead a successful life





In partnership with Denver Public Schools, we raise and manage funds, make strategic program investments, and serve as community leaders so that all students have the opportunity to succeed.



#### We INVEST in accelerating progress.

We make strategic investments in proven and promising programs that spur growth for our students and schools. Since our inception, we've granted nearly \$124 million to benefit DPS schools and initiatives.



### We CONNECT the community to our classrooms.

We forge partnerships that bring talent, resources and volunteers to benefit students and schools across Denver.



### We INSPIRE confidence in the promise of public education.

We celebrate our students' triumphs, and demonstrate what's possible when our students, teachers and schools have access to greater opportunities.

See how we've worked to invest, connect and inspire this year—thanks to the support of our family of loyal donors.



## WE INVEST IN ACCELERATING PROGRESS



#### **FACE Center Expansion** at Montbello Children's **Network Schools:**

The newest FACE Center, operated

by Denver Public Schools, began to serve members of the Montbello community this fall with wrap-around services that promote economic self-sufficiency and student academic achievement. The DPS Foundation is proud to support this expansion that provides free English-language and GED classes, as well as help with tax preparation, financial coaching, legal assistance, utility assistance, veteran services, free childcare for participants and more to all community members regardless of age or whether they have a child in a DPS school.





The FACE Center in Montbello is the second center to open within the district, following the success of the first location in Southwest Denver, which has enrolled more than 1,200 participants since it opened in 2014. The innovative model helps DPS work toward many of the goals in its strategic plan, the Denver Plan 2020.



## WE INVEST IN ACCELERATING PROGRESS

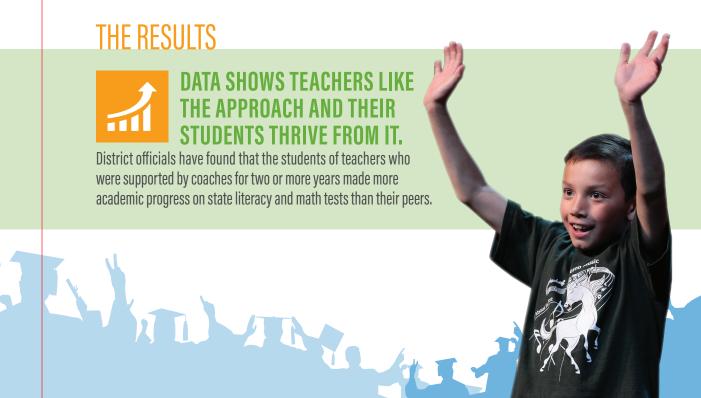
This spring, the DPS Foundation received a \$1 million grant to support trauma-informed practices, which was awarded by The Campbell Foundation, a donor-advised fund of The Denver Foundation.



The grant announcement follows the resolution passed by the DPS Board of Education in October 2017, declaring the district to be a trauma-informed district. Nationwide, one in four students is impacted by trauma, which can mean anything from divorce to homelessness. The grant will support a comprehensive four-part strategy that provides

training and coaching for trauma-informed practices, including the development of an official trauma certification for DPS staff, and will help create education environments that recognize learning and behavior challenges as a symptom of root causes. A portion of the Campbell grant will also be dedicated to the development and implementation of a therapeutic day school. This investment truly holds the promise of helping us address barriers so *Every Child Succeeds*.

The DPS Foundation helped to secure a \$2 million grant to support the Thrive Fellowship amongst other leadership work in Denver Public Schools from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the charitable foundation of former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. The Thrive Fellowship is an innovative new pilot where twenty DPS teachers are given resources and training they need to be able to coach other teachers, something the district considers to be a key strategy to encourage great teachers to stay in the classroom and share their knowledge and skills with other teachers.







"I see where
I'm going, and
I believe I can
actually make
a difference in
kids' lives."

- Cindy, Junior EdConnect student at CEC Early College



We are developing educator talent and increasing the diversity of the teachers in our classrooms through career pathway programs such as EdConnect.

The first of its kind in the nation, EdConnect, in part made possible by generous support from Janus Henderson, provides DPS high school students with a combination of coursework and real-world

learning to become teachers. This helps the district to train and hire talent from within DPS to build diversity in classrooms by drawing upon our current DPS students to become the teachers of tomorrow. Cindy, a junior at CEC Early College, is part of the first cohort of students in EdConnect. For students like Cindy, the EdConnect teacher program is a pathway to lifelong success. Supporting our students today, helps them create a successful tomorrow.

### THE RESULTS

Data shows that students in career pathway programs are

30% MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE THAN THEIR PEERS

## 8 YEARS IN A ROW

DPS students posted stronger academic growth than the rest of the state per the Colorado Measures of Academic Progress (CMAS).



3-POINT LITERACY GAP IN 2018

#### 2-POINT MATH GAP IN 2018



Academic gaps between DPS students and their Colorado classmates have nearly closed. In 2005, the gap was 25 points in literacy and 22 points in math.



### 7-POINT INCREASE IN 3 YEARS

Students of color gained seven points in English language arts proficiency over the past three years and DPS English language learners now significantly outperform their peers statewide.



"In 2005, DPS was last among the state's largest 12 districts in academic growth in English language arts and math. Through the focus of the Denver Plan and the incredibly hard work of our teachers, students and families, DPS has gone from last to first in academic growth." - Tom Boasberg, DPS Superintendent, 2009-2018

### WE CONNECT

#### THE COMMUNITY TO OUR CLASSROOMS

### With community support, our students and schools can thrive.



Mortenson Construction held its  $11^{\text{th}}$  annual golf tournament where the DPS Foundation was selected to be the beneficiary. The tournament raised more than \$54,000. We are grateful for Mortenson's continued partnership and support of Denver's schools.





#### Corporate engagement provides unique opportunities for students:

The Western Union Foundation committed a multi-year grant totaling \$250,000 to the DPS Foundation in support of innovative programs in DPS, with a strategic focus on narrowing Colorado's skills gap. In addition to focusing on career readiness, Western Union Foundation honored DPS teachers on-court at the Denver Nuggets' Hispanic Heritage Night for their commitment to the success of their students. Additionally, Western Union Foundation gave several groups of DPS students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do basketball drills and receive pointers on-court at The Pepsi Center.



"We are grateful for Western Union Foundation's generosity. It is so special for our students to have an experience like attending a professional sporting event and getting to play on the court!"

- Elaine Gironini, DPS teacher

### WE CONNECT

#### THE COMMUNITY TO OUR CLASSROOMS

### Unique opportunities make students aware of careers they never thought possible.

Students from Bruce Randolph School's eleventh-grade journalism class got to participate in the C-SPAN Bus as part of its 50 Capitals Tour in partnership with Comcast. The bus tour helps to politically engage teachers, students and elected officials while promoting local initiatives in the community.





"I wasn't even aware that something like this existed! I learned that C-SPAN is really beneficial to students and teachers. They don't force ideas on you and instead let you make up your own mind—which is awesome."

-11th grade journalism student



products that we use thanks to oil and gas extraction. Connecting businesses to our students by showing them different experiences in the workforce can open students' eyes to new careers and give them a taste of what future opportunities are possible.



#### Students soar to new heights thanks to United Airlines partnership.





Generous support from United Airlines this past year provided the opportunity for nearly 30 DPS students and staff to step out of the classroom, enhance their perspectives and learn in new ways. United Airlines provided students, many of whom have never traveled on an airplane before, experiences that are shaping their futures. See examples of opportunities made possible below.











Students from Bruce Randolph School's Spanish Language Arts class (pictured above) traveled to Foxboro, MA to attend the National Spanish Spelling Bee competition. Students worked the entire year on improving their bilingual skills. The students, who earned their spots by winning the local spelling bee, not only were able to experience a new city, they also placed in the spelling bee as finalists!



One DPS Educator, Samuels Elementary teacher, Jamie Patton Rochford, traveled to Accra, Ghana with the non-profit organization Limited Research Teacher Training (LRTT), where she provided training to local teachers, focusing on effective teaching strategies for the foundation years of primary school. Ghanaian students have improved educational experiences as their teachers learned about rigor, pacing,

differentiation, collaboration and more. The collaboration Jamie received by working with LRTT also benefited her by providing cultural insight and perspectives so she could learn how to effectively teach a very diverse group of students. Moving forward, this experience helped increase equity within her school and the district overall.





### WE INSPIRE

#### CONFIDENCE IN THE PROMISE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION



#### Achieve Gala 2018



the eyes of student producers from the Career Education Center Early College; music from student singers and musicians from North High School, STRIVE Prep-Excel, Abraham Lincoln High School, and Hamilton Middle School; student artists who drew one-of-a-kind pieces during the reception; vases for the table centerpieces created by six different DPS classrooms; an original spoken-word piece written by a Denver School of the Arts student; a student emcee from Denver Center for International Studies; and student keynote speaker Danna Al-Rashidi-Schmiedel, a high school student from DPS' PREP Academy, who shared how her education has helped her achieve what others thought was not possible, demonstrating what our students can achieve when they have access to great opportunities.

The evening raised \$1.13 million to continue our momentum for them and for students for years to come.

"Growing up, I was often told I would be another statistic. That not only would I not attend a four year university—but that I wouldn't even graduate high school. I am proud to beat these odds and will be attending my dream college this fall."

- Danna Al-Rashidi-Schmiedel, Gala Keynote Speaker who now attends Colorado State University



### CONFIDENCE IN THE PROMISE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

This October, in partnership with the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, the DPS Foundation hosted an engaging roundtable event, Thriving Schools Thriving Businesses. There, several panelists spoke to business and community leaders and shared their thoughts on the role businesses should have in providing educational opportunities for students in the city they live in, as well as the need for other businesses to get involved to support our future workforce—in turn strengthening the city of Denver as a whole.

We're always glad to educate our partners on current progress being made for our students and the challenges that remain. This May we facilitated a discussion with DPS Superintendent Tom Boasberg at the offices of TIAA, one of our longtime partners. There, employees heard about the vision for DPS, exciting innovation happening in the district, and how business leaders can connect and make a difference in the community. **Ensuring our community leaders and businesses are engaged, helps provide stronger and better supports for students for years to come.** 



#### Denver Public Schools: An example of focused impact

#### Montbello Children's Network Schools

FACE Center offers free wrap-around services to community members 16 or older in order to obtain critical life skills and increase their economic self-sufficiency and the academic achievements of

their students. FACE Center offers a variety of multi-generation services at one location, making it convenient for families to benefit from multiple services offered in their school community.





#### **Barnum Elementary**

The **Equity Fund** grant opportunity aimed to encourage school leaders to propose impact projects aligned to DPS's commitment to building a culture that embraces the unique identity and

culture that embraces the unique identity and potential of every child. These projects seed work in a school that will continue to help close the gaps within the school beyond the timeline of the project. These projects work to drive change to: (1) close the opportunity gaps, (2) remove any obstacles that stand in the way of success for any child, and (3) make schools inviting, inclusive, and caring and equitable places for all of our educators and children.



of Denver that provides funding to ensure the sustainability of quality, school-based afterschool programs that keep our student's engaged in enriching learning experiences during the critical 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. hours.

#### **Ellis Elementary**



Project Esperanza is funded through generous support from the W.K. Kellogg

Foundation. This investment aims to scale a successful Denver Public Schools pilot that builds teacher and principal capacity in a K-5 dual language instructional model at select schools that will serve as the district's demonstration sites and that will narrow the achievement gap between English learners and native English speakers.

225



Whole child, whole family



School flexibility



Teacher and school leader growth & support

### FINANCIALS

#### **Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets**

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

#### Revenue, gains and other support:

Contributions:

Family and grant-making foundations & organizations	\$4,679,000
Corporate & corporate foundations	2,666,000
Individuals	412,000
Local government & agencies	109,000
In-kind	60,000
Special events, net	978,000
Investment income	169.000

#### Total revenue, gains and other support \$9,073,000

#### **Expenses:**

Program services & grants	\$6,824,000
Management & general	580,000
Fundraising	568,000

#### Total expenses \$7,972,000

Change in net assets \$1,101,000 Net assets, beginning of year 7,745,000

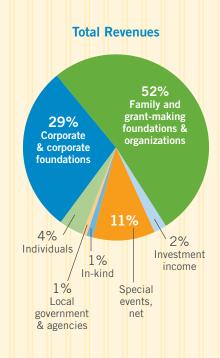
#### Net assets, end of year \$8,846,000

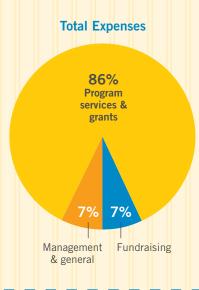
Denver Public Schools Foundation received an unmodified opinion by independent auditors EKS&H LLP for the year ended June 30, 2018. The complete Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report is available upon request.

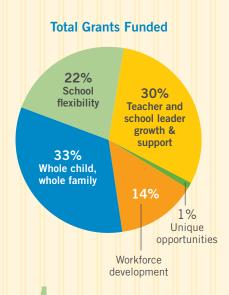
#### **Grants funded:**

Teacher and school leader growth & support	\$2,013,000
School flexibility	1,442,000
Whole child, whole family	2,182,000
Workforce development	954,000
Unique opportunities	70,000

#### Total grants funded \$6,661,000







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DPS Foundation Board of Directors and team lists are current as of October 15, 2018.

<sup>\*</sup>This annual report reflects 2017-2018, when Tom served as DPS Superintendent



1860 Lincoln Street, 9th Floor Denver, CO 80203-7301 (720) 423-3553

dpsfoundation.org

# GET INVOLVED

TODAY

ACHIEVE GALA 2019 | April 10, 2019 SAVE THE Reception at 5:30 p.m. DATE Dinner & Program at 7:00 p.m. Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center The Achieve Gala is the DPS Foundation's annual fundraiser to support the more than 92,000 students and nearly 200 schools in DPS. The event is sure to inspire and remind us what's possible when we come together to support our students. For more information, visit dpsfoundation.org/achieve. **Volunteer Opportunities** 

The Denver Public Schools Foundation relies upon committed individual volunteers to help us advance our work, and help DPS accelerate its progress. There are many ways for you to make a positive impact on Denver's students and schools. Whether it's reading to a student each week, or working with your company to have a service day for a school, you can make an impact in the lives of DPS students. To learn more call (720) 423-3553 or email us at info@dpsfoundation.org.

View the donor roll here: dpsfoundation.org/annual-report

## THANKYOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

#### \$250,000+

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