



DEAR COMMUNITY, A QUARTERLY REPORT ON IMPACT

October 2024



Grantmaking

A to Z Fund Classroom Grants for Teachers:

DPS Foundation awarded \$172,196 to 79 schools and departments during the first cycle of the 2024-25 school year. Educators can apply for up to \$3,000 in grants each semester. An estimated 20,353 students will be supported with these dollars - an average of 258 students per grant. This cycle's grants will support a variety of projects and programs, musical instruments, transportation expenses for field trips and other travel, culturally responsive books, and so much more.

"These funds will instill a love of learning and show students that they are able to learn everywhere. Field trips help students make connections to the outside world. Every child deserves the same educational opportunities regardless of socioeconomic status or means. This grant will help us reach our academic and social emotional standards for all kindergarten students."

- Eleanor Lucy, educator at Holm Elementary

Dear Community,

The Denver Public Schools Foundation is dedicated to galvanizing and mobilizing our community to invest in essential resources and programs that significantly enhance student well-being and success, while also supporting families and educators. One word that stands out in this is dedicated. Looking back at these last few months, I am inspired when I think of just how dedicated our team has been in making BIG impact possible. I see grit, hope and again- dedication in our students, educators and families every day. It's clear that when we unite in this effort, not only do our students thrive, we all benefit.

We are deeply grateful to each of you who have generously stepped up as donors and partners over the past year-with many of you having shown up for students year after year. Your support has been instrumental in uplifting our public schools and advancing the achievements of our students and educators. This collective effort is propelling our community to greater heights, fostering a more vibrant future for all.

Each quarter, our impact reports showcase different aspects of the work that we do, thanks to each of you. We are proud of a lot of our work and have a few special highlights below, including the impact of afterschool programs, our support of the DPS Bond that was voted on by the DPS Foundation Board of Directors, and our increasing commitment to being involved in and supporting the Denver community. Thank you for being a part of our community, and for the role you play in making Denver Public Schools a place where every student can thrive.

For all of our students,

Sara Hazel
President & CEO

A to Z Fund has now awarded more than \$3 million since its inception in 2006!

Afterschool Programs

Thanks to funder support, we provided comprehensive afterschool programming

Discovery Link is the DPS district-run and comprehensive out-of-school-time program that covers time before school, after school, and has programs during the summer. Discovery Link offers a free to family option if the school's free and reduced lunch percentage is at 71% or higher, and of the 62 programs operated in 2023-24, approximately 50% were free sites. The DPS Foundation raises funds to support the cost of operating these free sites and with another nine free sites recently opened this fall, the need continues to grow.

"**Discovery Link** has been very helpful as it has enabled us to work full time knowing our child is safe and happy in after school care. Sometimes when we are off early and we try to pick up our child, she doesn't even want to leave or she is mad she is going home early because she has so much fun there."

- Parent of a Kaiser Elementary student

Kyle Clark's "Word of Thanks" Microgiving Campaign

In August, the Denver Public Schools Foundation was selected by Kyle Clark at 9NEWS (KUSA) to be featured in Next with Kyle Clark's "Word of Thanks", a micro-giving campaign that encourages 9NEWS viewers to join Kyle in supporting a small to mid-sized non-profit making an impact in Colorado. On August 21st, during Kyle's 'Next' segment, he shared more about the DPS Foundation and asked people to join him in donating to our A to Z Fund Classroom Grants for Teachers! This was an exciting opportunity to not only spread awareness about the work of DPS Foundation, but also to raise funds for A to Z!



[Watch the clip here!](#)

We raised more than \$30,000 for A to Z Fund thanks to more than 156 donors brought to us through Kyle Clark's fundraising and awareness campaign!

Dollars at Work

For the 2023-24 school year, DPS Foundation allocated \$273,306 to support **Discovery Link** from the following sources:

- **Mile High United Way** (\$25,000) - This grant specifically supported the opening of a Discovery Link program at Marie L. Greenwood.
- **DPS Foundation** (\$250,000) - This funding was allocated from funds on hand designated to afterschool programs. These typically are donations made by individuals who wish to restrict their funds to a childcare tax credit eligible program.

Discovery Link Impact



15 DPS schools



1,694 students served

- 81 at Marie L. Greenwood
- 1,613 supported by individual donations



The majority of families surveyed reported that Discovery Link was valuable to their students and allowed them to go to work or school.



Students report that they make friends in the program and that adults help them when they have a problem.





Events

Insiders Event

DPS Foundation hosted an Insiders Event to get an Insider’s Look at November’s Proposed Ballot Initiatives. This event brought our community together to ensure we all have an understanding of the importance of this year’s ballot.

In August 2024, the DPS Board of Education voted to put a \$975 million bond measure on November’s ballot. This will be presented to Denver voters on November 5th. In support of our students, DPS Foundation’s Board of Directors voted for our organization to support this bond so that students and schools may have critical support that is needed to thrive.

Interested in learning more? Watch the [webinar recording](#) of our **Insiders Event: An Insider’s Look at November’s Ballot Initiatives**.



Back to Class Bash 2024

Back to Class Bash 2024 was a huge success! We saw a wonderful transformation at our three school sites: Ashley Elementary, Doull Elementary and Wyatt Academy.



Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and donors, we raised more than \$40,000 for DPS students!



Doull Elementary School Principal, Jo Carrigan (right), pictured with DPS Superintendent, Dr. Alex Marrero and DPS Foundation President & CEO, Sara Hazel.

Inspired by the day of giving back, Jo Carrigan, Principal at Doull Elementary shared, “Today, Doull Elementary was transformed not just by the fresh coats of paint and newly spread mulch, but by the incredible spirit of our volunteers. Your dedication and hard work have made Doull a more beautiful place for our students to learn and grow. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to our community, and we can’t wait for our kids to return and see the difference you’ve made. Thank you for choosing kindness and making a lasting impact on our school!”

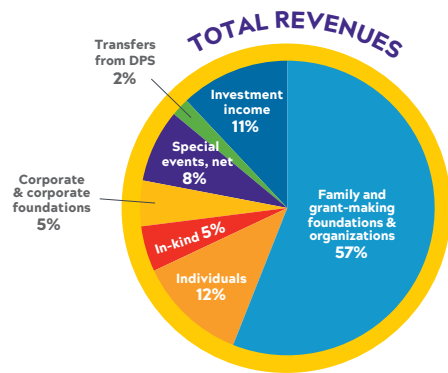
DPS Foundation in the Community

DPS Foundation team members have continued spending time out in the Denver community, starting with visits to 13 different DPS schools to welcome back students and educators at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year (top right). We also visited Responsive Arts & Steam Academy FNE (RASA) for a tour of the new school and the ribbon cutting ceremony in early August (bottom right). The team gathered for our fall retreat in September at Geneva Glen Camp for a fun and successful day! DPS Foundation staff also attended several recent community events, including the Trautman and Shreve second annual golf tournament (bottom left), the Black Excellence Summit, Big Brothers Big Sisters Gala, Latinas First Foundation luncheon, the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce's Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Business event (top left), and more!



Financials

Thank you to all donors! For the full donor roll list, please visit our [website](#).



Total Revenue: \$8,662,795

Thank You To Our Hardworking Team!

DPS FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Officers

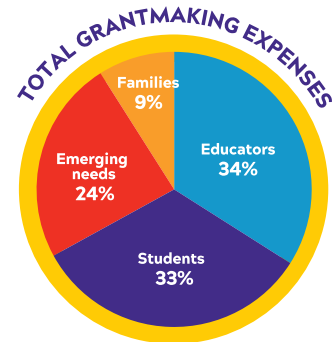
Carmon Hicks, Chair, Senior Managing Director, Jones Lang LaSalle
Rebecca Grant Zarret, Chair-Elect, Educator, Consultant, Coach
Mary Clark, Treasurer, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, University of Denver
Nancy Walsh, Secretary, Vice President of Experiences & Partnerships, Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Ex-Officio

Sara Hazel, Non-voting, President & CEO, Denver Public Schools Foundation
Dr. Alex Marrero, Non-voting, Superintendent, Denver Public Schools
Dr. Carrie Olson, Non-voting, President, Denver Public Schools Board of Education

Board Members

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Laney Vazquez, Managing Counsel, Rockies Business Unit, Chevron
Jamie Villarreal Bassett, Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Pinnacle Assurance



Total Grantmaking Expenses: \$6,949,118

DPS FOUNDATION TEAM

Sara Hazel, President & CEO
Traci Brooks, Operations Manager
Hannah Cooper, Development Specialist, Corporate Relations
MaryBeth Lawson, Vice President of Development
Lauren Lindgren, Development Officer, Grants & Foundation Relations
Joslyn Lopez, Bookkeeper & Operations Assistant
Jenny Martin, Director of Development
Jennifer Mays-Krimmer, Impact Engagement Director
Ashley Muramoto, Vice President of Marketing & Communications
Kimberly Reynders, Database Manager
Samantha Rogan, Events & Communications Manager
Erin Shelby, Development Specialist, Annual Giving
Jennifer Struthers-Johnson, Finance Controller