



Sara Hazel, President & CEO

At Denver Public Schools Foundation, we believe that our city is strengthened by every student who graduates ready to lead a successful life. At the DPS Foundation, we invest in accelerating progress, we connect the community to our classrooms, and we inspire confidence in the promise of public education.

Sara Hazel (she/her/hers) is the President & CEO at the Denver Public Schools Foundation. Sara is a proud DPS parent, advocate for public education, and a community builder. She has 20 years of nonprofit development and leadership experience. Sara has worked at global, national, and local organizations, including The Red Cross, The American Cancer Society, and Girls Inc. of Metro Denver. Sara joined the DPS Foundation in May of 2020 as the Vice President of Development & Impact, and also served as our Interim CEO from June 2021-February 2022. Sara was appointed our President & CEO on February 1, 2024.

In all of her roles, Sara has held management and leadership responsibilities and loves to build and work with exceptional teams, while challenging current systems and fostering growth through collaboration and innovation. She loves the nonprofit sector and fundraising because of a desire for social justice and the ability to help donors navigate a path to support a mission that they can impact.

Locally, Sara is involved in many organizations including as a Board of Directors Member for City Year Denver, serving on the Denver Women's Commission, a Development Committee member at the Lighthouse Writers Workshop, and is an alumna of Metro Denver Chamber Leadership Foundation Leadership Denver Class of 2020. Sara was awarded the prestigious Denver Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Award in 2022.

When Sara is not raising money for humanitarian causes, Sara is an avid reader, aspiring writer, and enjoys Kansas City BBQ. She loves spending time in the Colorado mountains, traveling, watching Kansas Jayhawk basketball, and spending quality time with her husband, friends, and chasing around her DPS kiddo.

We know that when our students thrive, our city thrives. I believe in our mission because I believe that the DPS Foundation can accelerate progress and be a catalyst for change in the district, and every child deserves an opportunity for high-quality education.