2024 - 2025
ANNUAL REPORT

















Our Vision

Every student in our district has the resources to learn, thrive, and contribute to our vibrant community.

Foundation for
Edmonds
School District

www.FoundationESD.org

Our Mission

We develop community partnerships and bridge sustainable funding in support of the Edmonds School District's children, families, and educators in their pursuit of educational excellence.



Dear Foundation for Edmonds Schools Donors:

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to the Foundation for Edmonds School District for its support in providing 1.4 FTE certificated music staffing to our district for the 2024/25 school year. Your contribution was solely responsible for maintaining our district's vital Jazz Band programs at six secondary schools.

Thanks to your support this year, we've been able to continue offering Jazz Band at Meadowdale High School, Edmonds-Woodway High School, Meadowdale Middle School, Brier Terrace Middle School, College Place Middle School, and Alderwood Middle School. This has directly benefited 158 students who make up the majority of our district's comprehensive Jazz Band feeder program. Without your generous staffing support, these classes simply would not have been possible.

Your commitment has preserved an important musical and educational experience for our school community. The impact of your support extends far beyond the classroom, enriching our students' lives and maintaining the strong tradition of jazz education in our district. Thank you again for helping us sustain these valuable programs.



EWHS Jazz Band - Save the Arts

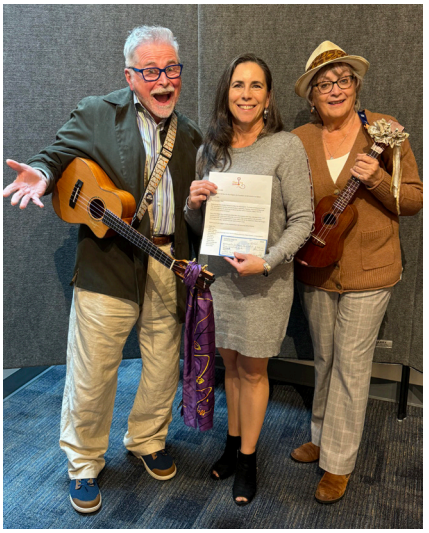
Sincerely,

Tam Osborne

MANAGER, VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS
EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SAVE THE ARTS









> *I am very grateful for all the individuals and organizations that have donated so generously to support music in our schools. High quality music classes are key to building self-esteem and cooperation skills in our youth. The music students of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Investing in strong music programs is not a luxury but rather a commitment to a brighter future for all of us. Thanks to Deb Brandi and the Foundation and the many donors for standing up for all of these players and helping to make their futures brighter.*

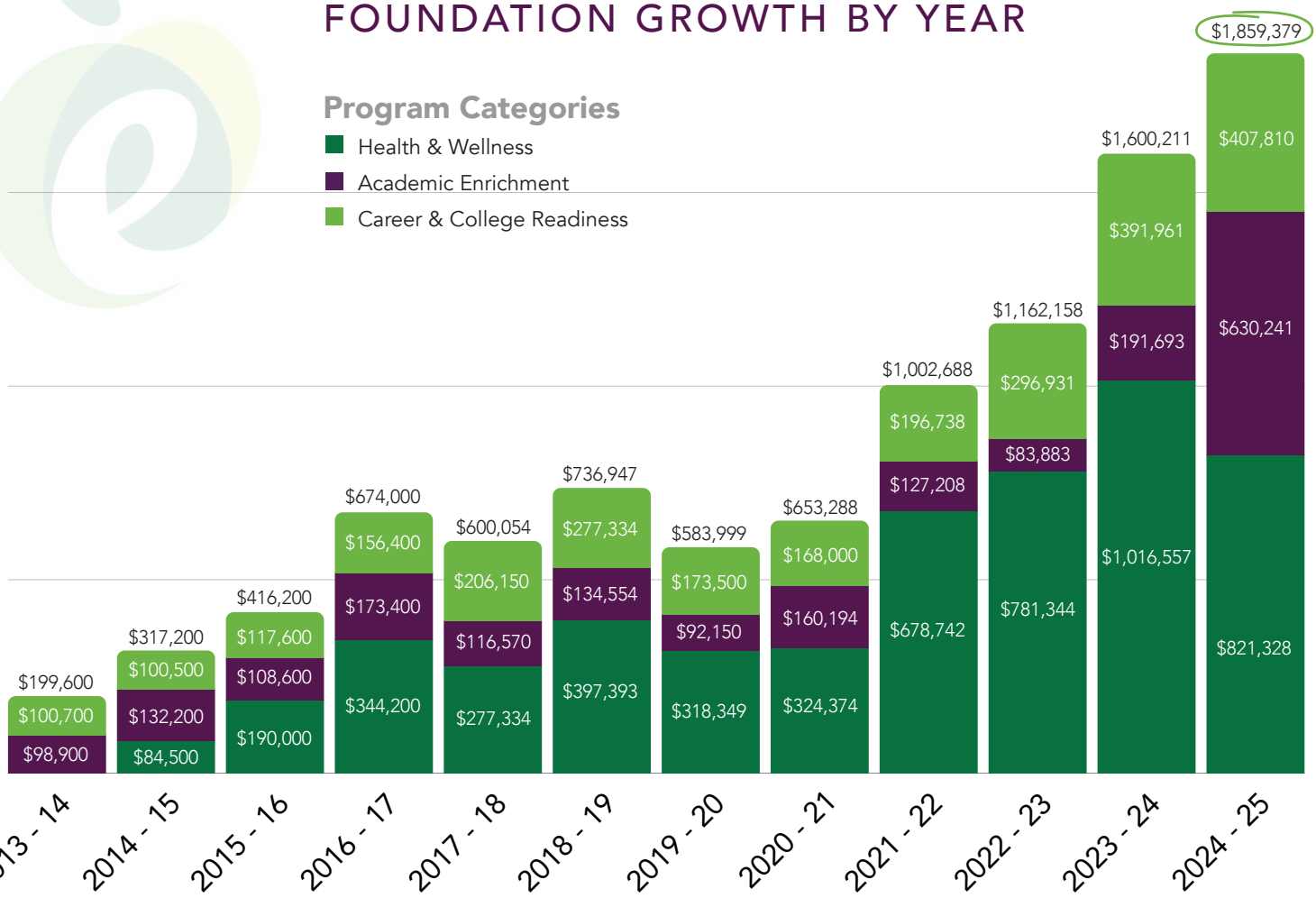
– JAKE BERGEVIN
Director of Bands, Guitar/Piano Teacher, Edmonds Woodway High School

The campaign's impact has been deeply felt. As longtime LHS music teacher and department chair Amy Stevenson shared, *"Our school system doesn't have the resources or support that teachers need to survive or be successful… The Foundation is a huge resource for our community. They have been key partners in the opportunities for LHS Music students. This past year they helped pay for staffing and saved pieces of many music jobs and programs throughout the district. The Foundation is consistent and effective. I am very grateful."*

PROGRAM INVESTMENTS

2013 - 2025

FOUNDATION GROWTH BY YEAR









ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

CLASSROOM & SCHOOLWIDE GRANTS

Community Dinner & Drum Making: Thanks to a Foundation grant, more than 70 students and parents gathered for a special event that brought families together through culture, creativity, and community. The event allowed people to connect and learn together.

"All 40 of our drums were made by children, while the remaining ones were used by adults reconnecting with their heritage. We kicked off the event with introductions and were excited to discover more than 20 tribes are represented within our school district," says Nicole Askarian, Title III & VI Native American Education Program.

Throughout the day, students and families made drums, learned a traditional powwow dance, joined in drum songs, and sat down to a shared meal of bison sloppy joes, jojos, and fresh fruit salad. There was laughter, learning, and a real sense of pride. As Nicole shared, "It's truly inspiring to see how our community continues to grow—when we create space for connection, culture, and learning, people show up! A heartfelt thank you to everyone for your support, we couldn't have done it without you!"



EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM

Empowering Learning at Little Treasures Daycare: At Little Treasures Daycare, the Early Learning Program has been instrumental in creating a vibrant, engaging environment for the children. "The Zeno math games have been a wonderful addition to the children's daily activities," shares Simin Zare. These interactive, colorful games bring excitement and curiosity to math, making concepts like counting, sorting, and recognizing patterns more accessible. "It has been heartwarming to see them so eager to learn and explore these math skills through play, building their confidence along the way," Simin explains. The support from the Early Learning Program has also made a significant difference in Simin's teaching approach. "Access to these teaching resources has been incredibly helpful, allowing me to enhance the learning environment at my home daycare," she says. With the program's support, she feels more confident in guiding her students' growth, knowing she has the right tools to provide quality learning experiences. "Thanks to the Foundation, I truly appreciate all that you do to make this possible," says Simin.



Early Learning Program
$127, 509
invested

Classroom & Schoolwide Grants
$162,404
invested

Music Enrichment
$280,000
invested

CAREER & COLLEGE READINESS

ON THE JOB TRAINING

The Foundation's On-the-Job Training Program equips high school students with real-world work experience, helping them build confidence, develop practical skills, and explore future career paths. Through the program, Cainen Huffman turned his interest in business into real-world experience as an HR intern at the Alderwood Boys and Girls Club, a role that quickly led to a permanent position.

"Business enables me to merge creativity with problem-solving while making a meaningful impact on others," Cainen shares. "Eventually, I want to be in a major leadership role where I can innovate, lead, and help build a more positive and accepting world."

Cainen's journey shows how classroom learning, combined with hands-on opportunities, can shape a student's future. Thanks to the support of our community, students like Cainen are discovering their strengths and stepping into tomorrow with confidence.



Scholarships: 103 scholarships
On-the-Job Training: 55 students
Seal of Biliteracy: 180 students
World Language Test Fees: 300 students

AMITHA THOMAS | *CLASS OF 2025*



Amitha Thomas has always loved science. But in her junior year, she did something more, she created opportunities for others to love it too. She started the Science National Honor Society at her high school, creating a welcoming and inclusive place for students from all backgrounds to explore STEM together.

Whether tutoring younger students, volunteering as a STEM camp counselor, or supporting the Science Olympiad as a judge and event supervisor, Amitha leads with compassion and purpose. Through her work in both NHS and the Science NHS, she encouraged more students to see a future for themselves in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Now, as the recipient of the 2025 $10,000 Innovation Scholarship, Amitha is taking the next step in her journey. She will attend Purdue University to study biomedical engineering. Her goal: to help develop cancer treatments that are effective, affordable, and accessible to everyone.



VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are everyday people with big hearts. Some are retired, others just have time to give, but they all show up ready to help their neighbors.

Weeks are busy and full of purpose. On Thursday's volunteers arrive to deliver weekend meal kits. I spend time greeting them, loading up cars, and answering questions about their routes, and there's always a positive energy in the air.

There's a sense that what we're doing is bigger than ourselves: from Tuesday bagging nights, when the room feels full of abundance and shared purpose; to watching a volunteer drive off with a full car reminds me how much this collective effort matters.

Some of the most meaningful moments come when a family is in crisis. Within a few hours, we pull together an emergency pantry kit to get them through the week, and you can feel their panic shift when they know they're taken care of.

This meaningful work brings a mix of emotions: pride in what we provide, exhaustion from the effort, hope for the kids we serve, and humility knowing the need is still greater than we can meet. It humbled my thoughts about food and community. When the last driver picks up on Thursday, I know I've done my job.

- Chad James
Nourishing Network Operations Director



WHOLE FAMILIES, WHOLE COMMUNITIES

Middle school can be a challenging time for students. The Foundation's new after-school program, piloted at Alderwood Middle school this past year, works to ensure that no student faces it alone. By connecting young people and their families to counseling, tutoring, mentoring, after-school enrichment, and culturally responsive programming, the program creates a network of support that helps students feel seen, supported, and ready to

"Middle School is a pivotal window for early intervention. By surrounding students and caregivers with supports such as counseling, academic enrichment, and community connections, this program helps our young people thrive socially, emotionally, and academically."

— Dr. Greg Schwab,
Assistant Superintendent
EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOURISHING NETWORK

BY THE NUMBERS

Weekend Meals:
16,957 kits

Summer Meals:
5,278 meals

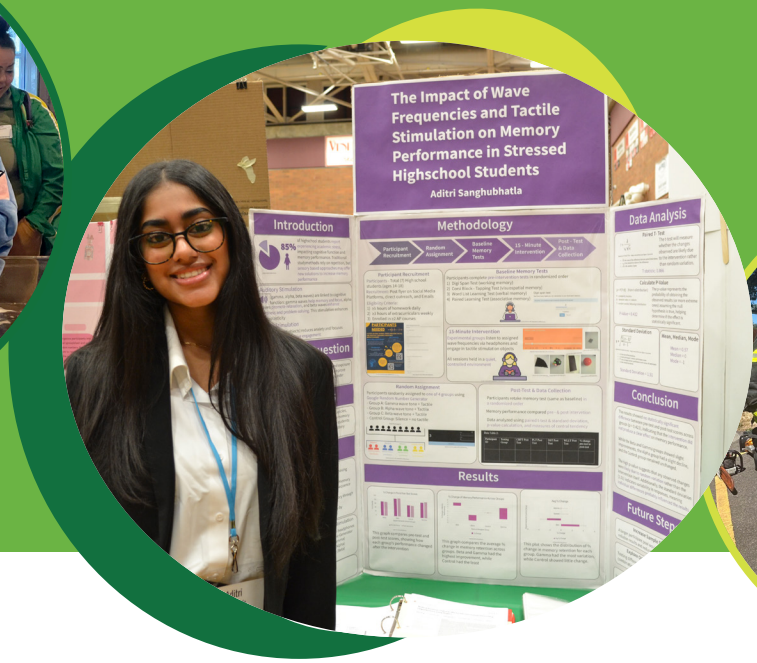
Holiday Meals:
920 meals

Pop Up Pantries:
83,832 items

Total Food Distributed:
347,978 items

School Supplies Kits:
1,346 kits







Dear Friends,

My grandfather came to America when he was seven years old. My great-grandfather painstakingly brought his family to America so that they could have better lives than they would have experienced surviving in Italy through poverty, two world wars, and limited opportunities for advancement.

With the promise of the American Dream, my grandfather opened his own business, Charlie's Meats, built and owned his own home, sent his daughter - my mother - to business college, and created a successful life for his family. He was a hard-working man of few words. He was my hero.

In our world today, eager families still come to America filled with hopes and dreams for a better life, similarly to my great-grandfather and grandfather. In today's environment though, achieving the American dream is much harder, with too many barriers standing in the way of both new families and those who have been here for generations.

Hopeful families and children cross our schools' thresholds eager to belong and to do their best. Many dream and aspire to be an astronaut, ballerina, doctor, or teacher.

It is you, our generous community, who fills their hearts and fulfills their dreams with your worthiest gifts of time, talent, and treasure: who lovingly fills bags of food and delivers weekend meals kits; provides scholarships; sends children to museums and the Artic to explore polar bears. It is you who makes the promise of the American Dream possible.

On behalf of my blessed grandfathers, our personal and work families, and myself, we humbly thank you for your thoughtful care and generous support of our most precious resources, our children.

Warmly,

Deborah Brandi
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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& DONATE: