

2022

Annual Report



EAU CLAIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

Charitable partner of the
Eau Claire Area School District

Ensuring the Future



Eau Claire
**Community
Foundation**
For Good. For Ever.

ECPSF, an independent
nonprofit 501(c)(3),
is a supporting organization
of the ECCF

P.O. Box 511
Eau Claire, WI 54702
715-497-4862
www.ecpsfound.org

2022-2023

Board of Trustees

- **Julia Diggins,**
UW- Eau Claire Foundation
- **Kim Hagen,**
Community Volunteer
- **Patti Iverson,**
Community Volunteer
- **Brad Juhlke,**
WIPFLI
- **Dr. Carmen Manning,**
UWEC College of Education
and Human Services
- **Heather Market-Sullivan,**
Community Volunteer
- **Laura Marthaler,**
Community Volunteer
- **Jim McDougall,**
Solar Forma
- **Jennifer McHugh,**
Royal Credit Union
- **Angie Nijhawan,**
Community Volunteer
- **Becky Noland,**
Community Volunteer
- **Amy O'Connor,**
Jamf
- **Derek Prestin,**
Ruder Ware
- **Michael Strubel,**
WEAU 13 News
- **Wayne Wille,**
U.S. Bank

Past Chairs

- **Jim McDougall (2020-2022)**
- **Dr. Blenda Yun (2017-2020)**
- **Charles Grossklaus (2015-2017)**
- **Dan Market (2011-2015)**

ECPSF Staff

- **Todd Johnson -**
Executive Director
- **Jane Christenson -**
Executive Assistant



Mission

Dedicated to promoting education by fostering supportive relationships with the Eau Claire Area School District and the community; raising funds to provide learning opportunities for students, teachers and staff; and awarding grants for value-added projects.

Vision

Ensuring the Future



Letter from the ECPSF Chair

2022 showed how the Eau Claire Public Schools Foundation, the charitable partner of the Eau Claire Area School District, was able to mature further from the strong base its supporters, donors and volunteers have entrusted to it over its ten plus years in existence.

We've continued to prudently oversee the funds entrusted to us – for the purposes intended. We've continued to issue grants to support the causes and focus areas appropriate to each of the established funds. We've continued our dialogue with key partners within the school district to understand the needs and areas we might be able to assist with, and we've continued to engage prospective donors to gather resources which would permit further support for those needs in concert with the interests of those donors. And we were able to return to the in-person format of the Golden Apple Awards banquet to honor the wonderful educational staff chosen from each of the district's locations. (Please review the rest of this report for more details around those efforts.)

But all of this happened while transitioning from one executive director- who left in good standing to pursue career growth, through the interim term of an experienced leader - who was willing and able to step in promptly to help guide us both through normal functions and help us through a search for our new executive director, and upon successful completion of that search, to Todd Johnson who joined us later in the year, ready and able to guide the Foundation into the future. In addition to those successions, we also acted to implement a long-discussed plan to add a support position within the foundation to enhance our operations and potential for growth for our important mission.

I share this, not to bore you with details of what an organization like this needs to do to remain successful and positioned for the future, but to affirm the efforts your volunteer board undertook, with key support, to keep us on track for both today and for the future. Thank you to our board members for their interest and dedication through such a year, thanks to all our donors, supporters, and volunteers for all you have done and might additionally do as we all continue our efforts of *Ensuring the Future* of quality public school education in Eau Claire.

Wayne Wille

Chair - Eau Claire Public Schools Foundation

Types of Funds



Unrestricted Fund

\$500 to establish, \$10,000 minimum to begin granting

Allows ECPSF the most flexibility to allocate dollars to the ever-changing needs of our schools through the grant process.



Donor Advised Fund

\$1,500 to establish, \$25,000 minimum to begin granting

Allows individuals, families and businesses to be fully involved in their philanthropy. Fund holders have the flexibility to recommend grants to specific schools.



Scholarship Fund

\$1,000 to establish, \$15,000 minimum to begin granting

Allows fund holders to support the post-secondary education of students from the ECASD.



Designated Fund

\$500 to establish, \$10,000 minimum to begin granting

Allows fund holders to support their favorite school, activity, sport, or program forever. They can support one or more schools, even specific programs.



Acorn Fund

Allows donors to invest as little as \$500 up front, then add tax-deductible contributions for up to five years. The Acorn becomes fully funded when it reaches the minimum balance required for granting.



Pass-Through/Special Project Fund

Allows donors to support a specific purpose or project that will benefit our schools. This type of short-term fund closes once its goal is accomplished. Although the fund is temporary, its impact is forever!

2022 Assets Held in Each Fund Type

11%

4%

58%

10%

2%

15%

Fund List

Unrestricted

Districtwide Endowed Fund
for the Future
ECPSF Fund for Tomorrow

Donor Advised

Market Family Education Fund
Terry and Flo Sheridan Education Fund

Scholarship

Brighter Futures Scholarship Fund
Eric Mosel Scholarship Fund
J. Murphy STEM Scholarship Fund
Joanne Marie Sommer Scholarship
Fund
PESI/Mike Conner Scholarship Fund
Ross Proctor Music Scholarship Fund
Ruth Girnaue Scholarship Fund

Designated

Artist in Classroom Fund
Connie Ulrich Women's Athletics Fund
DeLong Middle School
Endowment Fund
Flynn Elementary School
Endowment Fund
Homeless Children and Youth
Endowment Fund
Husky Helping Hands Fund
Longfellow's JRLC Fund
Niemuth Family Giving Tree Fund

Acorn

Caravan Scholarship Fund
Mai Kou Lee Scholarship
McKinley Charter School
Post-Secondary Success Fund
Memorial Class of 58 Endowment Fund
Music Access Fund
Samantha Renee Memorial Fund

Pass-Through

Adopt a Backpack Fund
Border Battle - an extension of
Homeless
Children & Youth Fund
Districtwide Greatest Needs Fund
for Today
ECPSF Operations Fund
ECPSF Scholarship Fund
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Fund
GATEWAYS Fund
Golden Apple Fund
Homeless Children and Youth Fund
Memorial Class of 1967 Fund
McKinley Environment Fund
Night to Fight Hunger Fund -
an Extension of Fight Against Hunger
Fund
North and Memorial All-Night
Graduation Party Fund
Prairie Ridge Fight Against Hunger Fund

School Pass-Through

DeLong Middle School Fund for Today
Eau Claire Virtual School Fund for Today
Flynn Elementary Fund for Today
Lakeshore Elementary Fund for Today
Locust Lane Elementary Fund for Today
Longfellow Elementary Fund for Today
Manz Elementary Fund for Today
McKinley Charter School Fund for Today
Meadowview Elementary Fund for Today
Memorial High School Fund for Today
Montessori Charter School Fund for Today
North High School Fund for Today
Northstar Middle School Fund for Today
Northwoods Elementary Fund for Today
Prairie Ridge Early Learning Fund for Today
Putnam Elementary Fund for Today
Robbins Elementary Fund for Today
Roosevelt Elementary Fund for Today
Sam Davey Elementary Fund for Today
Sherman Elementary Fund for Today
South Middle School Fund for Today



Featured Funds

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Fund

The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Fund gives grants to educators to promote education for all students regardless of their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or other factors. By prioritizing equity, public schools can help level the playing field and ensure that all students have the chance to achieve their full potential. Inclusive schools prioritize creating an environment where all students feel safe, welcome, and supported. This means providing accommodations for students with disabilities, respecting students' gender identities and expressions, and creating opportunities for students to learn about different cultures and backgrounds.

When public schools prioritize equity and diversity, they can help reduce the achievement gaps that exist between different groups of students. This includes gaps in academic achievement, as well as gaps in access to resources and opportunities.

Closet Fund

Schools need to provide clothing for children who cannot afford it because it can significantly impact a child's ability to learn and succeed in school. Students who come to school without adequate clothing can feel embarrassed, self-conscious, and isolated from their peers, which can negatively affect their self-esteem and confidence. Furthermore, students who do not have appropriate clothing may face bullying or discrimination from their classmates, which can lead to further emotional distress and hinder their academic performance. By providing clothing to students in need, schools can help level the playing field and ensure that every student has the opportunity to feel comfortable, included, and ready to learn.



Featured New Fund

Memorial Class of 1967

Thank you to the Memorial High School Class of 1967 for establishing a fund to support our schools. Their commitment to giving back to the community and supporting the education of future generations is truly inspiring. Their contributions will help ensure that students have access to the resources they need to succeed, both inside and outside of the classroom. Their generosity will have a lasting impact on our schools, and we are grateful for your commitment to giving back to the community that has given so much to you.

ECASD Alumni – WE NEED YOU!

It is important for alumni to give money to support their public schools in the Eau Claire community because it helps ensure that every student has access to a high-quality education. Public schools are the foundation of our communities, providing young people with the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to succeed in life. By giving back to the schools that provided them with an education, alumni can help ensure that future generations have access to the same opportunities. Additionally, alumni support helps to supplement public funding for schools, which can be limited in some cases. Overall, alumni support is crucial in ensuring that our public schools can continue to provide high-quality education and opportunities for all students.

Grantor Spotlight

Trust Point

Children at Longfellow and Meadowview will have easy access to books by having a book vending machine in their school thanks to a grant from the Trust Point Foundation. When books are readily available, students are more likely to read. Having this vending machine in school can help create a culture of reading, where students are encouraged to read for pleasure and can choose the books they want to read. This can help foster a sense of independence and autonomy, as well as a love for reading.

Royal Credit Union (RCU)

RCU has demonstrated its dedication to the future of our youth by helping establish the GATEWAY program. Recognizing the challenges young adults face during this critical phase of their lives, RCU's support has enabled the development of a program that equips students with essential life skills, guidance, and resources to successfully navigate the transition into adulthood. Through their investment in this initiative, RCU has empowered countless young individuals to build a solid foundation for their futures, positioning them for long-term success and personal growth.



2022

Grant Listing

ECASD Districtwide

- Student winter gear
- Student basic needs
- Student backpacks and school supplies
- Furniture for the Gateway program

DeLong Middle School

- 7th grade field trip to see a play
- Funds for an author visit "Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom"

North High School

- Community development through the arts
- Supplies for their Positive Behavior Interventions program
- Stained glass art supplies
- Scoreboard equipment
- Basic student needs

Robbins Elementary

- Equitable classroom materials

Meadowview Elementary

- Sensory Equipment

Putnam Elementary

- Speech and text connections through books

Northstar Middle School

- 7th grade field trip to see a play
- 8th grade field trip to see a play
- Funds for an author visit "Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom"

Sherman Elementary

- Vending machine books

Roosevelt Elementary

- Diversity materials
- Funds for a new playground

South Middle School

- Funds for an author visit "Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom"

Memorial High School

- Funds for basic student needs
- Author visit



Grant Spotlight

Stained Glass Grant

North High School art teacher Mr. Paral was awarded an ECPSF Grant to purchase supplies so they could create projects with thousands of dollars of stained glass that was donated. With this grant the students learned to use recycled stained glass to create amazing art projects. This is an incredible experience for the students at North High School.



7th Grade Holes Field Trip

"The entire 7th grade at DeLong Middle School as well as a small group of 8th grade special education students were able to attend the production of the play *Holes*. Many students were very excited as this was the first time, they had been to see a play before. The majority of students were familiar with the story line since they had previously read the book or seen the movie, so it was really neat to hear them discuss things that were the same and things that were different as well as why they made those adaptations to the stage version. Some students who were not familiar with the story described how they were at first confused at the parallel stories happening in the production and were excited to read the book or see the movie to learn more."

– Caryn Stanek,
7th Grade Math Teacher



Grant Awards

Each year, the Foundation awards grants to ECASD schools and classrooms for programs that provide students with value-added learning opportunities, fulfill schools' greatest needs, and support teachers' professional development. Applicants must be ECASD teachers and staff, and all applications are reviewed by Foundation trustees.

2022 Granting year gave out
\$168,823



Leave a Legacy for Learning!

Does your commitment to education in Eau Claire extend beyond your ability to make a current cash gift? If so, please consider remembering the Eau Claire Public Schools Foundation (ECPSF) in your estate gift plan. Planned gifts come in many shapes and sizes, and can benefit our schools in any way that you wish to have an impact and leave your legacy.

Your gift can support ECPSF's mission, can be added to an existing fund, or can establish a new fund to support your particular area of educational interest. All who establish a planned gift to benefit ECPSF become members of the Legacy Society. Of course, wishes for anonymity are strictly honored.

Types of planned gifts:

- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Charitable Remainder and/or Charitable Lead Trust
- Real Estate
- Bequest by Will
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Plans

- We welcome you to contact us to discuss your goals in supporting education. In all cases, please also seek the advice of your attorney, financial planner, accountant or other estate planning professional.

Become a Charter Member of our newly formed Legacy Society!

Charter Members:

Don* & Jan Etnier
Ruth Girnau*
Charles & Becky
Grossklaus
Phil & Carol Mosel
Rick & Carol Olson

Corrine (Connie) Ulrich*
Marv Lansing & Nancy
Kraft
Carol Craig
Anonymous (2)

*denotes deceased

- To learn more about how to make a gift in your estate plan to support our schools, please contact us at **715-497-4862** or director@ecpsfound.org

GOLDEN APPLE EDUCATORS AWARDS

The annual Golden Apples are awarded by nomination of peers and distinguishes one outstanding educator or staff member in each of the ECASD schools. ECPSF partners with generous area businesses to sponsor unrestricted grant funding for each honoree and school.



Founding Partners for Education

The Eau Claire Public Schools Foundation wishes to thank the Founding Partners for Education who generously established a strong base of support through leadership gifts to the District Wide Fund for Today & the District Wide Endowed Fund for the Future.

- o Anonymous (2)
- o Dean J. Arnold
- o Dr. Louis G. Arnold
- o David & Gail Barnes
- o William & Beth Blackburn
- o Steve Brimmer
- o Greg Caucutt & Amy Carr Caucutt
- o Patti Cigan
- o Trish Cummins & John Plewa
- o Kathryn Proctor Duax & David L.F. Duax*
- o Ken & Lori Faanes
- o Mark & Donna Faanes
- o Jim & Lynn Fering
- o Thomas & Monika Fiedler
- o Mike Graf & Lisa Stelter Graf
- o Charles & Becky Grossklaus
- o Wayne & Carole Halberg
- o Christine Hambuch-Boyle & Stephen Boyle Family
- o Mary Ann & Herb Hardebeck
- o Slavko & Elizabeth Ivankovic
- o Jerry & Jane Johnson
- o Wendy Sue Johnson
- o Jeff & Karen Jones
- o Jack & Sally Kaiser
- o Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe & Scott Lowe
- o Harold 'Diz' Kronenberg
- o Marv Lansing & Nancy Kraft
- o Dan & Debbie Market
- o Jef & Eileen Munger Family
- o David E. Richie
- o Terry* & Flo Sheridan
- o Kirk & Wendy Strang
- o Susan & Roger Tietz
- o Skip & Jane Van Gorden
- o Family & Friends of Michael J. Webb
- o Ben & Lori Whitis
- o Becky & Dave Wood
- o Dr. Blenda Yun & Lane Biggs
- o American Phoenix, Inc.
- o Eau Claire North High School Athletic Booster Club
- o Eau Claire Seymour Lions Club
- o First Choice Occupational Medicine & Disability, & Hebl Family
- o Ken Vance Motors
- o Lasker Jewelers, Lasker Family
- o Macy's Foundation
- o Market & Johnson, Inc.
- o Micon Cinemas, Mike & Connie Olson Family
- o Northwestern Bank
- o Scheels
- o Wipfli
- o Xcel Energy

*denotes deceased

Statement of Financial Position

	2022	2021
Assests		
Checking and Money Market	647,732	554,619
Investments	2,927,415	3,138,357
Pledges Receivable - Funds	20,000	61,000
Prepaid Expenses	636	636
Total Assests	\$3,595,783	3,754,612
Liabilities	-	0
Total Liabilities	\$1,157	0
Beginning Balance of Net Assets	3,712,614	3,152,607
Change in Net Assets	(117,988)	602,005
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$3,595,783	\$ 3,754,612

Statement of Financial Activity

	2022	2021
Support & Other Revenue		
Contributions - Funds	662,414	668,648
Contributions - Operations	74,881	63,266
Investment Gains (Losses)	(529,865)	313,734
Administrative Fee Revenue	17,807	18,316
Totals	\$225,237	\$ 1,063,964
Grants & Expenses		
Grants	168,823	315,666
Operating Expenses	62,834	66,511
Investment Gains (Losses)	40,921	63,065
Fund Expenses	56,835	-
Investment Management Fees	16,322	16,717
Totals	\$345,735	\$ 461,959



EAU CLAIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION