

# ANNUAL REPORT west contra costa public education fund

Celebrating 40 years of service & partnership with West Contra Costa Unified School District

127 A.S.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 02 Message from the Executive Director & Board President
- **03** Demographics
  - Mission, Vision and Equity Statement
    - Soaring to Excellence: Celebrating 40 years of Service & Teaching Excellence
  - Ed Fund Impact
- **09** Support for WCCUSD
- **11** Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities
- 12 Fiscal Projects
- 14 Financials
- 15 Our Supporters
- 17 Our Team & Values

04

05

06

07

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD PRESIDENT

#### Dear Friends,

We are thrilled to be celebrating 40 years of service to students, families, and the community of the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

When Proposition 13 was passed in 1978, our district faced budget cuts that would dramatically impact the quality of education in our schools. As they have done time and time again, our community banded together on behalf of our children to demand an equitable education. By 1983, the West Contra Costa Public Education Fund (Ed Fund) was born.

Throughout the years, the Ed Fund has provided grants to classrooms, community partners, college scholarships and recognized the tremendous work of our teachers. Our work this past year continues this tradition while deepening our role as an intermediary fund development organization for WCCUSD. We are dedicated to forging partnerships, resources. and supporting mobilizina equitable systems to ensure West Contra Costa County's students have what they need to realize and achieve their biggest dreams. Working with the district and our philanthropic community, we proudly contributed \$705,860 to support key district initiatives, \$147,743 in programming support, granted over \$75,000 to our classroom and teachers, and an additional \$119,500 from the Ed fund to support district requests for funding - over \$1 million in all! These funds have forwarded major district initiatives, pandemic recovery, social-emotional supports, STEM education, literacy, professional development for teachers, and so much more that you will read about in this report.



The 2022-2023 school year was a challenging one for our kids, teachers, and schools as they transitioned back to in-person learning. As the year kicked off, the effects of distance learning were immediately felt. Students and educators struggled with mental health challenges, dysregulation, and serious concerns about lost instructional time. One of the most effective ways the Ed Fund met this challenge was through our fiscal sponsorship program. This past year, the Ed Fund supported over 50 organizations and individuals working in our schools, providing over \$4.5 million in programming to our kids. Through the work of mental health providers, after-school programs, and caring adults, the Ed Fund's mission reached a record number of students through our incredible fiscal projects when they needed it most.

We want to thank all our Ed Fund supporters for an incredible 40 years! We hope this report inspires you to start or continue your partnership with the West Contra Costa Public Education Fund. Please visit our website at <u>www.edfundwest.org</u> for more opportunities to be involved.

Sincerely,



Robert Bunce, Executive Director West Contra Costa Public Education Fund



Kathleen Harris, President Board of Directors

# 2022-23 School year

**The Ed Fund serves 56 schools** in the cities of El Cerrito, Richmond, San Pablo, Pinole and Hercules and the unincorporated areas of Bayview-Montalvin Manor, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, North Richmond, and Tara Hills.

**56** Schools served

5 K-8 schools

32 elementary schools

6 middle schools

8 high schools

4 alternative schools



Pacific Islander (<1%)



## MISSION

1201-0-20

When communities work together to eliminate inequities, our youth will thrive. The West Contra Costa Public Education Fund mobilizes resources for our students and aligns the efforts of our partners to ensure that all students succeed in college, career, and life.

# VISION

All children and youth in West Contra Costa County will achieve their highest aspirations and help build healthy, safe, and vibrant communities for generations to come.

# EQUITY STATEMENT

In order to reverse the historic and societal failure in our schools, we will center Black students and families to support them in achieving their fullest potential. We believe by centering the most marginalized students, all students will thrive.

# 1983

Ed Fund founded in response to decrease funding for public education.

Began to offer mini grants.

1988

Introduced inaugural teacher excellence awards.

## 2005

Offered our first scholarships!

> The Ed Fund's bequests make an ongoing and lasting difference for WCCUSD students!

2008

Schroeder bequest.

# 2011

Convened the West County College Access Network and Out-of-School Time Collaborative.

Bradley Arts bequest.

2012

Carrico bequest.





# **40TH ANNIVERSARY**

The Ed Fund proudly celebrated its 40th year of dedicated service in West County. Our Soaring to Excellence event gathered community members, teachers, and esteemed colleagues from WCCUSD to honor our 40-year legacy. Three special awards were presented to WCCUSD, acknowledging our longstanding partnership, Full Service Community Schools Support Collaborative for their commitment to developing systems to support high quality schools, and the Irene S. Scully Family Foundation for the unwavering support to the students of West Contra Costa. We also recognized our 13 deserving scholarship recipients and applauded the achievements of our 35th cohort of Teaching Excellence Award Winners.

We wholeheartedly express our gratitude for your invaluable support in which this milestone would not have been possible. Cheers to 40 years of the Ed Fund and many more to come!



#### Jrene S. Scully FAMILY FOUNDATION

To celebrate our 40th Anniversary, we're honored to share these stories of how the Ed Fund has supported educators and students in the West County community.

2019

Focus shifted to equity and shift to lead development partner in WCCUSD.

The formation of WCCUSD

2015

Transition to

intermediary

organization.

2021

Inaugural Black History grants.

> Freggarrio bequest.

> > Strong bequest.

202

COVID-19

Response Fund and R3F.

Celebrating 40 years of the Ed Fund



During the 2022-23 school year, your support made possible:

\$4,613,540.66 FUNDS RAISED FOR FISCAL PROJECTS

**\$705,860.16** FUNDS RAISED FOR WCCUSD INITIATIVES

\$119,500

DIRECT ED FUND GRANTS AWARDED TO SUPPORT WCCUSD

\$28,750 BACK TO SCHOOL GRANTS AWARDED TO 115 TEACHERS \$28,342 IN ARTS GRANTS AWARDED TO 40 PASSION PROJECTS

USING ART TO DISTRUPT HISTORICAL INEQUITIES

**\$27,000** BLACK HISTORY MONTH GRANTS AWARDED TO

27 CLASSROOMS School wide initiatives & community events

\$19,500.00 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO

> **13 STUDENTS** PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION

# CLASSROOM MINI GRANTS & Scholarships

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

At the Ed Fund, we have an ongoing commitment to dismantle barriers and create opportunities, ensuring that Black students, and by extension, all students, can discover their sense of belonging in a community that fully embraces the richness of their history and unique experiences. In 2022, the Ed Fund awarded \$27,000 in Black History Month Arts grants which supported 27 classroom, school-wide initiatives, and community events. These grants empower educators and community members to create an inclusive educational environment where all WCCUSD students can learn about the contributions and achievements of Black individuals to promote diversity and a more equitable and understanding society, instilling a sense of pride and belonging.

VISA REWARDS CARD

# ED FUND Initiatives

### **BRADLEY ARTS GRANTS**

Thanks to our Bradley Arts Bequest, we were able to award 40 classroom grants in 2022-2023. The support of the Brad Bradley bequest has been essential to providing these grants every year to educators across the WCCUSD and funds projects that wouldn't happen without our support. **Through this program, \$28,342.00 in arts education was funded!** Educators across the district submitted their passion project and provided students with incredible learning experiences this past school year. Please visit our website to see all these amazing projects.



Students from Middle College High School's Leadership class and Black Student Union joined forces to organize a school-wide Black History Month Rally and Celebration.

## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL MINI-GRANTS**

We all agree that being a teacher is hard enough without having to spend your own money on your classroom. With the average teacher spending over \$650 of their own money, we were overjoyed to be able to award 115 teachers Backto-School Grants, totaling \$28,750! This was the first year we've held this grant opportunity for our educators and hope to be able to continue to provide this funding opportunity to educators with your support in the future.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Ed Fund distributed scholarships totaling \$19,500 to our 13 scholars from the class of 2023 - recipients of the African American Scholarship, Schroeder Family Foundation Scholarship, Freggarrio Family Scholarship, Contra Costa Chorale Vocal Music Studies Scholarship, and Makana Pule Scholarship. We anticipate the promising futures that await them as they pursue their education at institutions such as USC. UCLA. UCB, Napa Valley College, Virginia State University, and more. Our donor-funded scholarships make it possible for students to see themselves and to succeed in higher learning environments. We thank you for your support for our students!

"Thanks to the Ed Fund and the Schroeder Family Foundation Scholarship, my family and I can feel more confident in supporting my higher education journey, and I am one step closer to achieving my dreams. This scholarship serves as a great help and we are so grateful."

> - Sara Alvarez El Cerrito High School, Class of 2023



### TEACHING Excellence Awards



For the last 35 years, the Ed Fund has recognized the outstanding contributions of teachers in the district through the Teaching Excellence Awards.

These awards celebrate educators who consistently go above and beyond, placing students at the heart of the educational experience. This year, our selection process focused on teachers who demonstrated commitment to socialemotional learning and prioritized the needs of marginalized students in their teaching practices. After insightful classroom observations and interviews, the Ed Fund, in collaboration with WCCUSD, proudly presented Teaching Excellence Awards to four remarkable teachers who reminded us of the transformative power of education in shaping a brighter future for every student in our district. Congratulations to you all!

- Maria Dizon, Michelle Obama Elementary School, Grade 4
- Dorcas Sims, Nystrom Elementary, 5th/6th Grade General Education
- Andrew Wilke, Richmond High School, Music Director
- Patricia Ogura, Hercules Middle/High School, 6-12 Special Education

# SUPPORT FOR WCCUSD

During the 2022 - 23 school year, we raised \$705,860.16 to support WCCUSD initiatives and positions. Combined with the funds raised for our fiscal projects, the Ed Fund brought in over \$5.5 million to support a range of projects and positions that support our students and wider community. Through our holistic approach to fund development we proudly present some of our many contributions to the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

## **STEM PROGRAMMING**

Early STEM education has been a priority for WCCUSD and the Ed Fund over the past few years. In partnership with WCCUSD, our goal is to support curriculum and develop programs that provide a worldclass education in STEM for our students.

Thanks to Chevron, we've received \$75,000 to support early STEM education, the FabLab, and Welding Lab at Kennedy High School. The Ed Fund also raised \$150,000 in partnership with the Cowell Foundation to provide Zearn math curriculum for all 32 WCCUSD elementary schools. These licenses supported over 12,000 students in achieving academic success in math.



### LEARNING Loss

One of the biggest concerns of the 2022-2023 school year was how to best support our students' academic needs as they returned to the classroom after distance learning. The district approached the Ed Fund with a request to support district-wide implementation of i-Ready, a top-rated instructional and assessment platform. Through our partnership with the Hellman Foundation, we were able to support the district with \$375,000 in grant funding over the next three years. We look forward to seeing all our students improve as a result of this investment.

"iReady program lessons help my students work independently to reach their goals. Due to the pandemic and some unfinished learning, students are at different levels and need extra lessons and support at their individual levels. After practicing on iReady, students show growth and success and this leads to improvement."

> - Maria Dizon 2023 Ed Fund Teaching Excellence Award Winner





Awardees for the Full Service Community Schools Support Collaborative receive recognition at the Ed Fund's 40th Anniversary celebration

# **SCHOOL CLIMATE**

## **FULL SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

Building on the shoulders of a movement that extends back to 2007, WCCUSD received a major boost to support their Full Service Community Schools Initiative in 2022 with a \$29.45 million grant from the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP). In 2023, an additional \$6M grant was awarded, supporting 26 sites with long-term community schools grant funding.

With these investments, WCCUSD is working to substantially expand and strengthen the community schools initiative. The Ed Fund has supported these efforts, securing \$50,000 to support project leadership and systems building through the esteemed Glen Price Group, bolstered community engagement by providing stipends to parent and community leaders to participate in the planning development of the initiative, and secure additional nonprofit partnerships to support our students at school sites.

## **CLIMATE COACHES**

In 2022, the Ed Fund worked with WCCUSD to develop a position to support the district's efforts to create inclusive and supportive school climates. Through this collaboration, the Ed Fund began housing three Climate Coach positions for WCCUSD. We are excited to lead this critical initiative for WCCUSD.

These Climate Coaches are supporting school sites with their implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention Systems, with an emphasis on training in restorative and healing-centered practices. Coaches also help sites use data to support schools in sustaining positive school climate practices, increasing students' positive behavior, and decreasing discipline disproportionality. We are excited to see the impact they will have on WCCUSD climate and culture in the years to come.



# HEALTHY SCHOOLS HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



### DIRECT SUPPORT TO FAMILIES: FIT & FOSTER/ARPA SUPPORT

Through our partnership with the Richmond Rapid Response Fund (R<sub>3</sub>F) and the Family and Community Engagement Department in WCCUSD, the Ed Fund directed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) pandemic relief funds and other grants to support Families in Transition (FIT) and Foster Youth, who are some of the most in need students in our district.



# **FISCAL PROJECTS**

# \$4,613,540.66

OF THE GRANT FUNDS RAISED THROUGH THE ED FUND LAST YEAR WENT TOWARDS SUPPORTING FISCAL PROJECTS



The Ed Fund currently supports more than 50 individuals and organizations as a fiscal sponsor, making the Ed Fund the largest fiscal sponsor organization for WCCUSD. Fiscal Sponsorship allows organizations and individuals to focus on their project and/or programs without having to worry about grant management, contract writing, bookkeeping, operational staff, insurance coverage, bridge funding, and human resources expertise. This allows fiscal projects to focus on what matters most - serving our students, teachers, and families.

Last year, projects ranged from individuals serving as support staff at school sites and the district office, counseling students, leading dance and theater classes, to STEM, pickleball, and skateboarding programs.

## **ROB SKATE ACADEMY**

Enabling all students to reach their full potential is a priority for the Rob Skate Academy, the Ed Fund's newest fiscal project. Children's health and well-being contribute to their ability to learn so we were excited to introduce Rob Skate Academy in our Middle Schools as a way to change the social emotional approach used for our teens in WCCUSD.

Utilizing the natural curiosity with extreme sports in this generation, this incredible after school program makes kids feel safe, included, and accepted, fostering positive, respectful interactions and healthy relationships - all contributing to a positive self image and improved school climate. Let's go skate!







# **WEST COAST CHESS ALLIANCE**

The West Coast Chess Alliance (WCCA) is another amazing program under the fiscal sponsorship of the Ed Fund. TC Ball, "The Black Knight," founded the organization and is dedicated to spreading the many educational and social benefits of leveraging chess to engage, enrich and empower young minds living in our communities.

WCCA provides low-cost chess instruction to WCCUSD elementary schools, free community chess workshops and tournaments, family chess nights and numerous community chess tournaments in partnership with the Richmond Recreation department. Through TC's tireless championing of chess, the Richmond's City Council issued a proclamation declaring October as "Chess Month," encouraging residents to play chess with local youth and attend the Richmond Chess Festival. Who's ready to play?

## **WEST COUNTY READS**

Kids who have access to great books become readers. There is simply nothing that makes teaching reading easier, that gets kids reading with tremendous volume, or that lifts reading skills higher than a collection of truly fabulous books.

Founded in 2001 by Robin Wilson, West County Reads is a volunteer-driven organization that promotes family literacy through events, activities, and book giveaways. Last year, West County Reads launched their most ambitious project to date, opening the West County Book Depot at Stege Elementary School. The depot provides free books to any professional working with kids, with a specific focus on building classroom libraries for our teachers. We couldn't be more proud of Robin and her decades of service to building literacy in our community.



REVENUE	Ed Fund Operations	Fiscal Projects	Funds Raised for WCCUSD
Foundation Support	311,927.94	1,405,229.00	615,900.00
City Government	18,400.00	725,625.00	-
Individuals, Local Businesses, Corporations	104,101.11	506,480.43	65,558.31
Earned Revenue	441,783.91	1,976,206.23	-
Gains on Investments	404,667.30	-	24,401.85
Total	1,280,880.26	4,613,540.66	705,860.16

EXPENDITURES	Ed Fund Operations	Fiscal Projects	Funds Spent by WCCUSD
Programs	147,743.05	3,805,099.28	594,562.70
General Operating	577,976.43	862,825.00	55,302.80
Fundraising	55,179.68	-	-
Investment Management Fees	-	-	416.25
Total	780,899.16	4,667,924.28	650,281.75

## FY 2022-23 SUPPORTERS

### BUSINESSES, FOUNDATIONS & GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

#### \$100,000+

- Chevron Products Company
- City of Richmond
- Hellman Foundation
- Pacific Gas and Electric
- Sobrato Philanthropies

#### \$99,999 - 50,000

- County of Contra Costa
- Irene S. Scully Family Foundation
- Lesher Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente
- Skyline Foundation
- Stupski Foundation
- The San Francisco Foundation

#### \$49,999 - 25,000

- Ahlsten Foundation
- Ahlsten Foundation
- Blue Shield of California
- City of Richmond
- PayPal Giving Fund
- S.H. Cowell Foundation

#### \$24,999 - 10,000

- 10,000 Degrees
- Capital Group
- Chamberlin Education
   Foundation
- Coughan Family Fund
- Foundation for Students Rising
   Above
- Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley
- Illumina Foundation
- Making Waves Foundation
- Oakland Promise
- Reinvent Stockton Foundation
- Richmond Promise
- San Jose Public Library
- The James Irvine Foundation
- Witkin Foundation

[15]

#### \$9,999 - 1,000

- Bartz Marr Family Foundation
- BNY Mellon Charitable Gift
  Fund
- City of San Pablo
- Crankstart Foundation
- East Bay Municipal Utility
   District
- Excite Credit Union
- Hayward Promise
- Lawrence Livermore National
- MUFG Union Bank
- Rose Family Creative
   Empowerment
- Skinner for Senate
- Vanguard Charitable
- Zaitlin-Nienberg Family Fund

#### \$999 - 1

- Ameriprise Financial, Inc.
- David Lloyd Harris Charitable Fund
- Empathy In Action Consulting
- Give Lively Foundation
- HKIT Architects
- Kapor Center for Social Impact
- Levin-Richmond Terminal
   Corporation
- Rotary Club of Richmond
- United Methodist Women
- United Teachers of Richmond
- Vestia, Inc.
- West County Forum

#### INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

#### \$2,499 - 1,000

- Robert Besuner
- Mark and Bonnie Burt Liss
- Lisa Ellis
- Kathleen Harris
- Janet R. Koupal
- Ralph Leighton
- Kerry McDermott
- Jae Park
- Carrier Schulman
- Shannon Sidey
- Mike Wilson

#### \$999 - 500

- Bradley Andrews
- Nel Benningshof
- Stephen K. Easton
- Harold Freiman
- Janet Johnson
- Stacey Krum
- Lozano Smith
- Anna Luna
- Naomi Mayo
- Lee Standen
- Doug Straus

#### \$499 - 250

- Steven Boege
- Hilary Cooper
- Darlene Drapkin
- Caitlin Driscoll
- John and Mary Nelson Ferreira
- Scott Gemmer
- Maria Jimenez
- Mary Le
- Nicole RogersJoel Roseman

Janice RuizZuhair Saadat

Marsha Sato

Veronica Sisneros

Jessica Weiser

Paul Werner

Eric Aaholm

Michael Aaronian

Michiko Asao-Wells

Jacqueline Bassman

Eugene and Myrna Binnall

Robert and Wendy

Teresa Arriaga

Patricia Banks

Bergman

\$249 - 100

- Norman and Gillian Bookstein
- Robert Bunce
- Michael Caine
- Tammera Campbell
- Neil Collier
- Joan Connolly
- Nriktaar Dhesi
- Laurie Earp
- Gina Figone
- Lillian Fujimoto
- John Gioia
- Marco Gonzales
- Marc and Dana Grisham
- Charles and Ginger Guthrie
- Philipp Iwawaki
- Madeline and Hale
   Kronenberg
- Mark Lobaco
- Joey Macapinlac
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- Jessica McLoughin
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- John Mengel
- Thomas Morioka
- Sofia Nazario
- Neal and Suzanna Pierce
- Abelson Perez
- Lon and Karin Bliman Poole
- Leslie Reckler
- Jay Ruiz
- Summer Sigler
- Edward Skyler
- Vicente R. Smith
- Robert Sondereffer and Joana Moss
- Bharat and Usha Srinivasan
- Robert Stein and Olga Skarin
- Geraldine Ueda
- Stephen Van Den Eeden
- Andrew Wallach
- Kristian and Ellen Whitten
- Michael and Barbara Woldemar

#### Up to \$99

- Robert Adams
- Maya Alvarado
- Virginia Atienza
- Martha Berthelsen
- Deshawn Blake
- Martine Blake
- Lori Breunig
- Greg Chang and Saidah Said
- Jerry Clopp
- Juster and Norita Collins
- Marty Collins
- Oscar Cruz
- Maria Dizon
- Carole Dombrowksi
- John Ellis
- Gabriela Gonzalez
- Ketasha Hartfield
- Antoinette Henry-Evans
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- Michael Nevitt
- Cheryl Noland
- Kara Obradovic
- Patricia Ogura
- Beatrice O'Keefe
- Douglas Pelton
- Julie Perea
- Shakira Reynolds
- Aron Roberts
- Carolina Perez and Justino
   Rodriguez



#### Buck-a-Month

- Danilo Baoas
- Susan Chai
- Tiffany Chieudjui
- Gabriel Chilcott
- Jerry Chilcott
- Linda Coleman
- Valerie Collura
- Nicole Giusti
- Ana Lilia Guzman
- Mary Hamilton
- Steve Hoffman
- John and Nicole Iwawaki

Barbara McCormick-Degnan

- Juliet Jamsheed
- Mary Ann LaFosse
- Igor Litvin

•

• Daniel MacDonald

• Monika Mendes

• Anita and Alfred Miller

Salvatore and Dolores

Hillary Milani

Mary Moore

Morabito

Carolyn Mosley

Cheryl Noland

Kara Obradovic

Manjot Pannu

Marilyn Potter

Jennifer Rader

Greg Santiago

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Pamela Suess

Staci Thompson

Katherine Williams

Cheryl Woolery

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Catherine Jones

Daniel Schacht

Marcus Walton

David Whitenack

[16]

Michael Mav

Trent Sova

David Tuft

Kevin Toney

Marty and Linda Takimoto

Tunisha Salvador

## OUR TEAM & VALUES

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**Linda Delgado** Director, EdMetrix

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**Dilan A. Pedraza** Director, Teach Plus National Policy Specialist

Shakira W. Reynolds Director of Strategic Partnerships

Sarah Camacho Program Manager

Margot Aishiteru Business Success Manager



We see the brilliance & potential of all WCCUSD students.



We believe that quality, equitable public education is a human right.



We work to correct the historic and ongoing divestment in Black students.



It takes strong and deep collaboration across the region to make sure all students have what they need to thrive.



Everything we do is in service to this place we call home!

O.



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[17]