



IMPACT REPORT

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www.EdFoundationLake.com

about the FOUNDATION



*A note from the
Board of Directors
President,
Lori Baker:*

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As a direct support charity for Lake County Public Schools, the Education Foundation is committed to enhancing the educational experience for all students. I am proud to be a Lake County Public School graduate and a parent of three Lake County Public School graduates, and it's an honor to serve on the Foundation board.

The Foundation's efforts, from scholarships to teacher mini-grants, are crucial in fostering success in our schools. We also take pride in our community events and educational opportunities for students countywide.

I want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the staff and Executive Director for their unwavering dedication to realizing our mission and positively impacting the lives of students and teachers alike.

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Local Education Foundations bridge the gap between the community and local classrooms to drive innovative learning, power potential, and celebrate achievements. We believe that a connected and engaged community is key to the success of both teachers and students. Understanding that our schools can't thrive in isolation, we are dedicated to cultivating the investment and involvement necessary for every student to achieve their fullest potential.

Our story began in 1987 when local business leaders recognized the need for homework support for struggling students. Teaming up with the school district, they established a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization known as Dial-A-Teacher. By 1988, the organization was rebranded to the Education Foundation of Lake County, Inc.

As the sole direct support organization for Lake County Public Schools, our mission is to serve as the connection between our community and public education. We evaluate needs and secure resources to enhance the quality of education. As a proud member of the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, we benefit from the State of Florida License Tags “Support Education” Revenue Program and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program, which help to maximize the impact of your contributions.

Foundation INITIATIVES



- *Career & Technical Education*
- *Classroom Equipment*
- *Faculty & Staff Recognition Programs*
- *Increasing Graduation Rates*
- *Scholarships for Graduating Seniors*
- *School Supply & Backpack Drive*
- *Student Support Services*
- *Teacher Classroom Grants*
- *Teacher Recruitment & Retention*
- *Teacher Resource Stores*
- *VPK Program Expansion*



Snapshot of Lake County Schools:

B District Grade per DOE

92% Graduation Rate

Student Enrollment 43,290

Faculty and Staff 5,730

Number of Schools 49

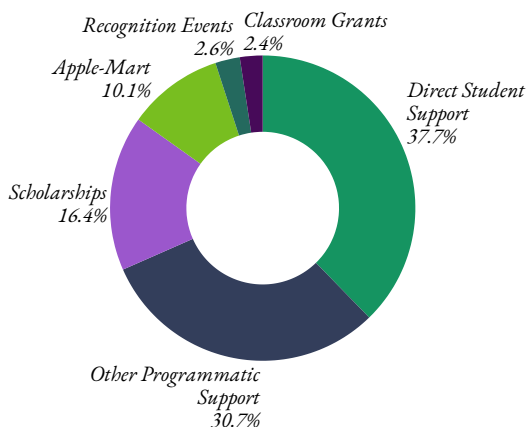


your IMPACT

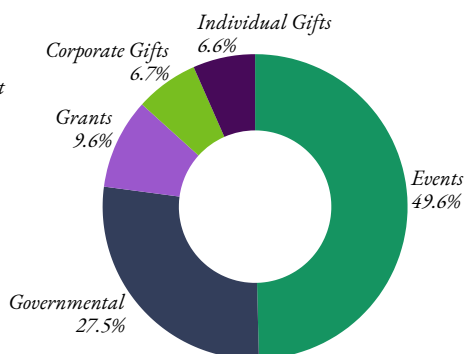
Supporting Lake County Schools is the core of our mission. Every donation you make directly benefits students and teachers in our public school district. Our Board of Directors and staff members are all personal donors who are committed to our cause.

*Total investment to Lake County
Schools in the 2023-24 school year*
\$2,151,227.00

Programmatic Breakdown



Revenue Breakdown



greater REACH



Apple-Mart Stores

In 2005, the Education Foundation launched Apple-Mart, a free store for teachers. Teachers get monthly shopping passes, distributed by their leadership team. School social workers have unlimited access. The stores operate with volunteer support and donations from the community, businesses, and other organizations. We operate 3 store locations and each visit is valued at \$155. During the 2023-24 school year, the value of Apple-Mart supplies that were distributed was \$218,627.



Senior Scholarships

The Education Foundation administers scholarships for graduating seniors, with awards ranging from \$250 to \$5,000. We had 254 students that applied for these scholarships. Over 65 scholarships were awarded to graduates from the class of 2024. At the end of the 2023-24 school year, we celebrated our 29 Take Stock in Children graduates, and each was awarded a scholarship. A combined total valued at \$353,474 was awarded to an amazing group of seniors!



Classroom Grants

Each year, the Board of Directors earmarks funds for direct student and district support. These funds cater to various needs such as teacher support, classroom resources, equipment, and program development. Current priorities encompass career and technical education, literacy enhancement, financial literacy, and STEAM initiatives. Evaluation criteria include student impact, sustainability, potential funding sources, and measurable outcomes. In the 2023-24 school year, \$53,426 was awarded to our teachers!



Recruitment & Retention

Over 40% of teachers feel unprepared for classroom management, resulting in low achievement and high turnover. By addressing these needs, we can boost achievement and create a more stable, supportive teaching environment. This program aims to build resilience in both students and teachers. The Board of Directors allocated \$80,000 to assist the school district in teacher recruitment and retention, this includes additional support for new teachers with a mentor as well as the paid teacher intern program.

Foundation EVENTS

Annual fundraising events play a significant role in advancing the Foundation's objectives. With the support of corporate partnerships, business owners, and dedicated donors, these events thrive. There are various opportunities available, from volunteering to sponsorship, and we are eager to engage you in them.

- *Stepping Out For Education*
- *Red for Ed - Community School Supply Drive*
- *Scott A. Strong Memorial Golf Tournament & Clay Shoot*
- *Lady of the Lakes Renaissance Faire*
- *Ladies Fore Education*
- *TSIC Graduation Celebration & Mentor Gala*
- *LCS District recognition events such as Teacher of the Year, Night of Stars & Retirement Dinner*



meet the TEAM



2023-2025 Board of Directors

Lori Baker, Premier Sotheby's International Realty | 2019
Matt Hackler, Edgewater Family Wealth, Mount Dora | 2020
Kasey Hobbs, United Southern Bank | 2021
Rich Billings, Citizens First Bank, ret. | 2017
Kevin Stone, Stone & Gerkin, PA | 2017
Joe MacLaren, Addition Financial | 2018
Margo Odom, Embarq, ret. | 1993
Mike DeGraw, DeGraw Properties LLC | 2012
Bill Mathias, Lake County School Board | 2017
Diane Kornegay, Lake County Superintendent | 2017
Kathy Smith, Lake County Education Association | 2021

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Attorney to the Board
Past President
Executive Advisor
Executive Advisor
Ex Officio
Ex Officio
Ex Officio

Jimmy Adams, Electric Services Inc. | 2022
Cathy Blankenship, United States Postal Service, ret. | 2017
Janet Bolivar, Bolivar Consulting | 2006
Rosanne Brandenburg, Insight Credit Union | 1999
Chief Chuck Broadway, Clermont Police Department | 2021
Pam Burtnett, Florida Education Association, ret. | 2005
Peggy Campbell, Lake County Schools, ret. | 2007
Cindi Falanga, Citizens First Bank | 2024
Sheriff Peyton Grinnell, Lake County Sheriff's Office | 2017
Don Marx, Financial Services, ret. | 2021
Alise Morris, Lifestream Behavioral Center | 2021
Kristy Parsons, NFM Lending | 2014
Brenda Peterson, Fairwinds Credit Union, ret. | 2014
Marc Robertz-Schwartz, Red Apples Media | 2022
Bobby Rhodes, ECO Construction | 2017
B. E. Thompson, Lifestream Behavioral Center | 2012
Loren Vasquez, McLin Burnsed | 2022
Barbara Wilson-Smith, Lake County Schools, ret. | 2006
Lee Woods, Lee Woods Construction | 2020

Foundation Staff

Carman Cullen-Batt, Executive Director
Amber Castellano, Communications and Event Specialist
Kacey Edmondson, Donor Development Relations Specialist
Jennifer Grinnell, Finance and Grant Specialist
Mandy Cooke, Take Stock in Children College Success Coach
Melisa Franklin, Take Stock in Children Mentor Coordinator
Kim Pauling, Take Stock in Children College Success Coach



*Be social with us
@EdFoundationLC*

join
US

You have the power to positively impact
students and teachers in Lake County!
To contribute, scan the QR code provided
below or contact us at:



352-326-1265

EdFoundation@Lake.k12.fl.us

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www.EdFoundationLake.com

