

FIVE STAR
Education Foundation

YEARBOOK
VOLUME I



OUR VISION

The Five Star Education Foundation contributes to the improvement of the overall quality of life in our community through investments in educational services and programs to assist Adams 12 students in achieving their full potential.

A LETTER FROM OUR LEADERS

The Five Star Education Foundation has always been about putting education first and investing in our most precious resource: our kids. Together with you, we continue to improve the impact on ALL students. Keeping in mind the idea of providing for a strong future, we invest in the innovation of our teachers through Student Success Incubator Funds. We create partnerships with businesses and cities to show young adults career pathways in Career Discovery programs. We engage students in real-world learning with the launch of the Career Playbook project with more than 60 students working on every aspect of the project and will reach more than 21,000 students and their families this year. Finally, we have a program to put tools directly into the hands of our educators with a grant workshop program, empowering them to create relationships and seek resources for the best of their ideas. None of this is possible without all of us, a community of individuals, businesses, funders and leaders who believe that education is the cornerstone of community building.

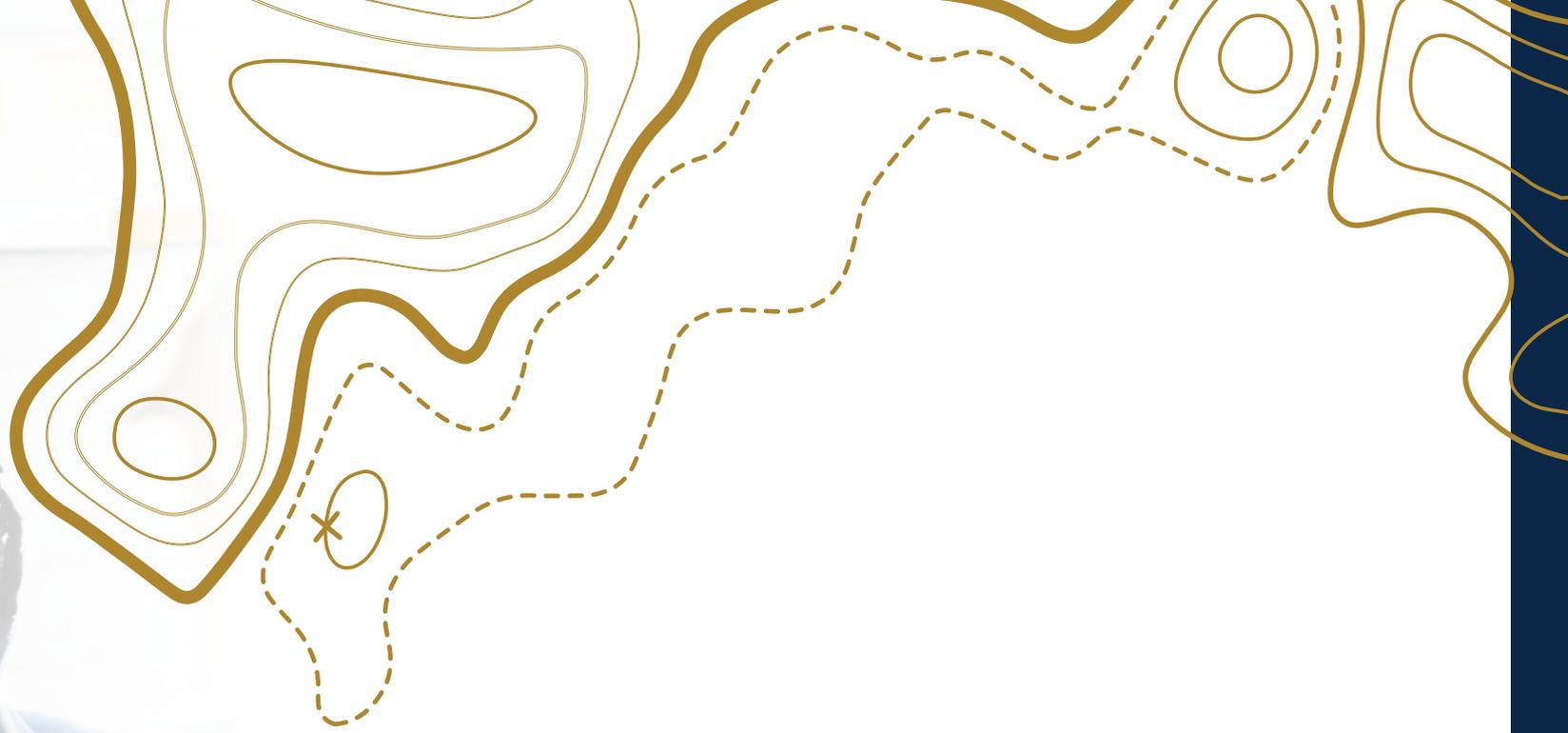
THANK YOU.

It's truly not about any of us, but about our students. This Yearbook is a way to tell THEIR story, through their eyes. You'll see a snapshot of what it really takes to *Invest in Student Success*.

Let's stay on this road together because even better things are on the horizon.

Thank you

Shannon Hancock | *Executive Director*
Rebecca Bennett | *Board Chair*



OUR MISSION

We believe that actions speak louder than words. Our mission statement, “Investing in Student Success,” is more than a transfer of money, but a reflection of the efforts the Five Star Education Foundation pours into our work to help ALL of our students. The Five Star Education Foundation’s Yearbook and 2019 Financial Report is more than just numbers, it is a collection of stories, proof of impact, and a call to action.

We say we mind the gap of K-12 education with the real world. Our areas of practice involve career discovery and readiness, and capacity building for Adams 12 Five Star Schools. We build connections with businesses to support our students and build a sense of community. We envision a paradigm shift where students know what they want to be, what education they need to get there, and where they need to go to get that education. Together with the community, we ensure that ALL students see their own path to future success and have partners on that road with them.



OUR GOALS

Through this organization we strive to:

1. Provide financial assistance to programs and schools that ensure student readiness for post K-12 education and career success.
2. Ensure the successful development of public and private partnerships that benefit our students.
3. Partner with Adams12 School District to ensure that programs deliver a leading educational experience and implementation of desired curriculum above traditional offerings.
4. Preserve technological and content relevance for supported career-focused programs.
5. Build awareness of and connection to Adams12 supported programs within our community and across the state.



CAREER DISCOVERY

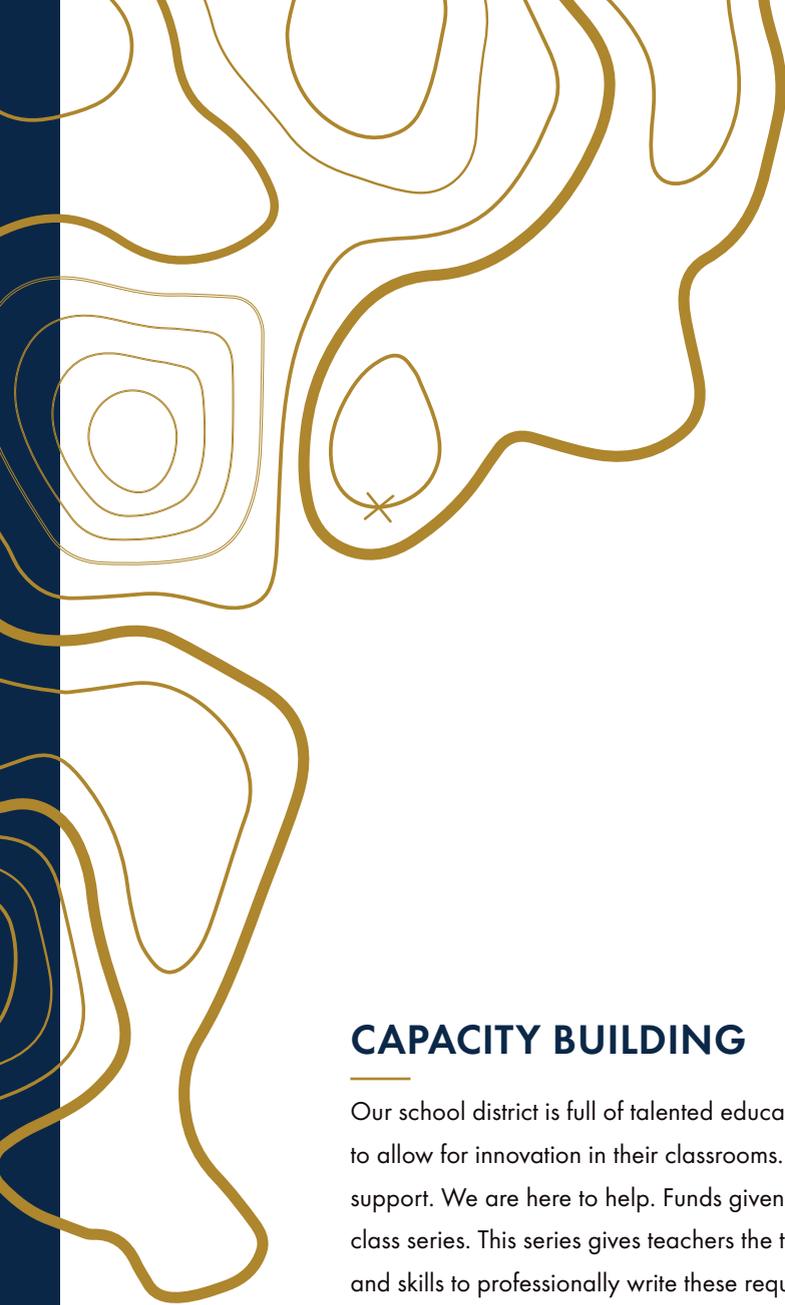
The City of Thornton launched an exploration program in partnership with the Foundation that promotes career exploration opportunities for Thornton High School students. Students are nominated to attend an 8-week program that gives them a clear insight into career opportunities directly after high school and with additional education. Students attend two hours each week to learn about the different departments within the city. They learn about the jobs that are available and the education needed to get those jobs. They ask questions, network and learn the functions of city government. Students in this program have already secured internships.





CAREER PLAYBOOK

Coming Fall 2020 is the highly anticipated Career Playbook. This sleek, marketing forward guide will highlight the career programs offered in Adams 12 Five Star Schools, tell student success stories and provide career pathway information from businesses that are excited to hire those that graduate from these programs. The Playbook is being created by 60 students from various classes in the district and gives them real world project experience. It will be distributed to more than 21,000 students and their families to help explore, inspire and prepare students for their future.



CAPACITY BUILDING

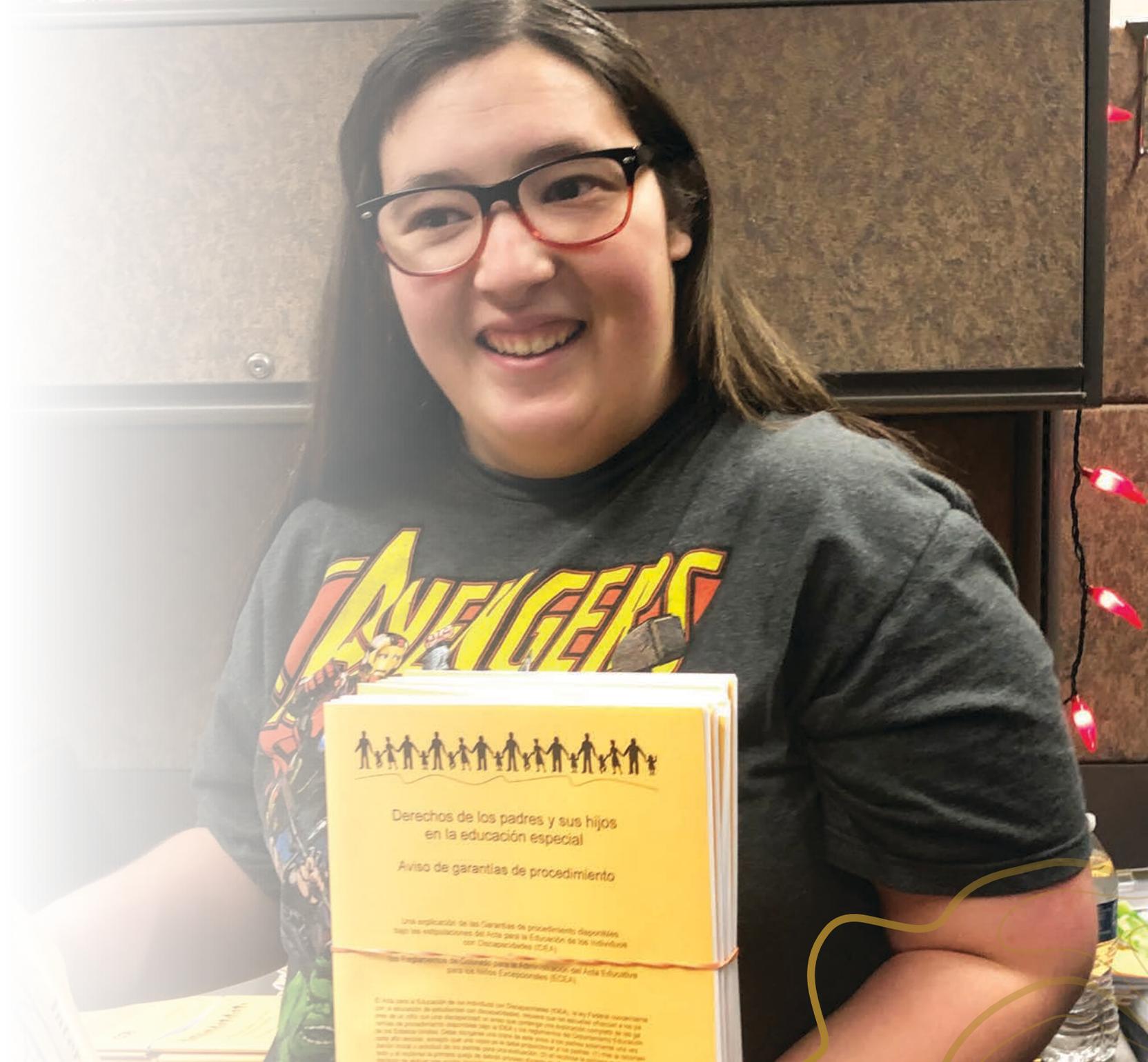
Our school district is full of talented educators who look outside the traditional school budget to allow for innovation in their classrooms. They do this on their own time and without structured support. We are here to help. Funds given to the Foundation allow us to host a grant writing class series. This series gives teachers the tools and resources they need to find outside funding and skills to professionally write these requests. Capacity building also means helping schools with their fundraising, fostering and managing scholarships, providing financial services and alleviating the need for costly tax services and administration for already stretched volunteer groups. This program is having a real impact on classrooms and schools.





ALL MEANS ALL

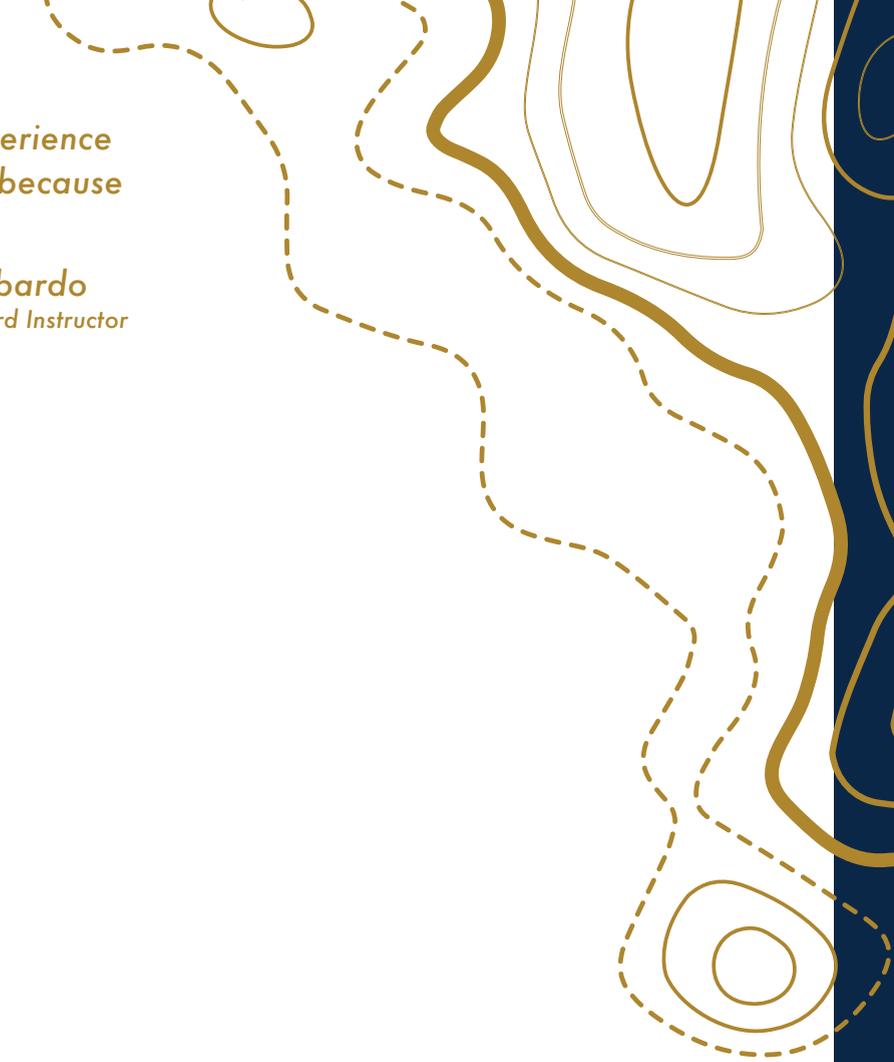
Thanks to our donors like you, the Foundation funded program leaders from the School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) to attend the *Think Big Conference*. This conference focuses on cutting-edge career development strategies, vocational education opportunities, career exploration, and job development techniques, as well as other employment-related issues facing our youth. SWAP assists young adults transitioning from school to employment and helps with integration in our Five Star community. Resources also allow for transportation to job training and volunteer projects.





“Students are getting real world experience on an ambulance, every single day, because the Foundation invested in us.”

— Tom Lombardo
FutureForward Instructor



CAREER READINESS

The Five Star Education Foundation facilitates your investment in the new FutureForward at Washington Square with an automotive collision repair paint booth. This gift allows students to be ready for an in-demand career in collision repair directly out of school. They have also started working on the hybrid cars YOU funded, so the students stay up-to-date on automotive technology. Students will be able to start using the new equipment in the Fall of 2020.



STUDENT SUCCESS INCUBATOR FUNDS

SSI Funds are donor-supported funds that are designed to partner on initiatives that expose students to career opportunities through experiences, hands-on learning, innovative teaching and other authentic learning pathways. A goal of the Foundation is to fund projects that will have growth potential and/or sustainability either within the school, with the student, or in the community. We want to provide teachers and students the opportunity to 'test, prove and scale' their initiatives and ideas with these seed funds. The following pages showcase our teachers and their innovations.



SSI: THE “PATH” TO SUCCESS AT COTTON CREEK ELEMENTARY

Cotton Creek Elementary is one of the few elementary schools in Adams 12 Five Star Schools District that supports two programs: a structured learning program for autism, and a program for students with significant needs. If students aren't learning-ready, they can't become future-ready. These sensory paths were designed as a series of movements that are intended to release the blocked synapses in their brains and allow them to refocus. The paths give students the opportunity to jump, balance, push and hop. These paths not only support our students with autism and significant needs, but they also support the school's general education students who have trouble regulating, have ADHD, or are impacted by high levels of anxiety. These paths were designed by occupational therapists, physical therapists, and autism specialists to reduce their need for sensory input without overstimulating them. Students in general education are able to visit with our students who are supported by this program, which supports our belief that all students should have opportunities to learn and grow together in an inclusive atmosphere. Students who use this path will begin to see this as a resource for self-regulation and begin to advocate for themselves when needing a break or identifying a need for sensory integration.



SSI: YOUNG AMERITOWNE AT WESTVIEW ELEMENTARY

The Young AmeriTowne curriculum includes lessons mapped in the Colorado Content Standards, Personal Financial Literacy Standards as well as Common Core Standards and is a capstone of their learning. Teachers prepared their students for the trip with hands-on activities that teach banking, basic economics, money management, government, communications, and philanthropy. This program is all about “planting a seed” and getting kids thinking about their futures, jobs, skill sets, how to work with others, and how to make smart decisions about their money. At Young AmeriTowne, fifth graders learned about working as a team to support their business in making a profit. Young AmeriTowne provides a taste of the real world and the skills they need to have in place in order to be prepared for their futures. Without this support, the students at this impacted school would not have been able to attend.



SSI: WEATHER AND SCIENCE DAY AT STUKEY ELEMENTARY

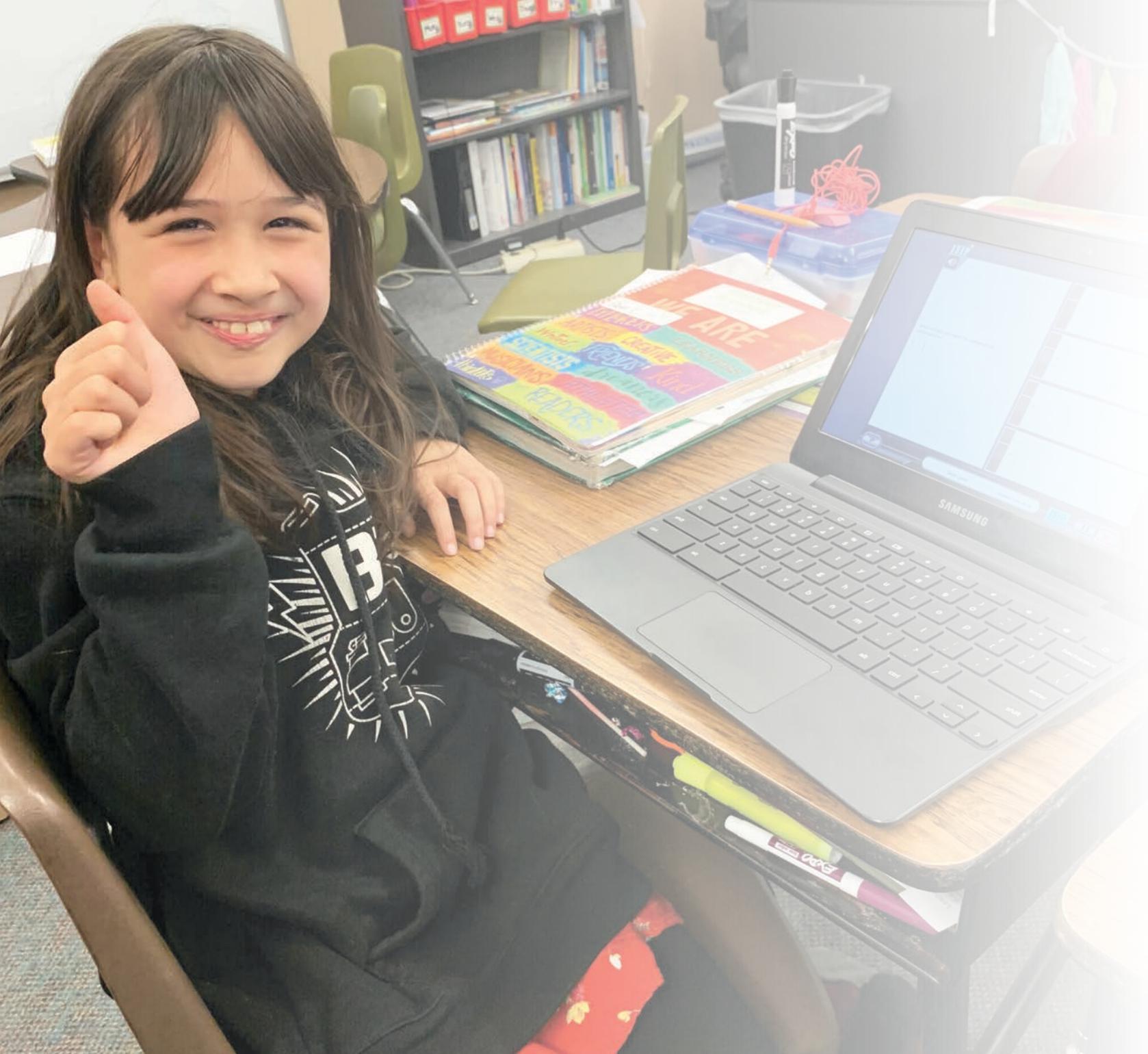
Because of our donors, the fifth graders at Stucky Elementary are attending Weather and Science Day at the Colorado Rockies hosted by 9NEWS and Steve Spangler. At this event, students watch a variety of experiments about physics, math, and meteorology and are introduced to models and tools that scientists use to collect and interpret data. Students also hear the presenters talk about different weather and science vocabulary. The goal of this adventure is to provide fifth grade students from a less affluent school a chance to learn science concepts outside of the classroom. By the end of the field trip week (May 1st), students will be able to show their competency about concepts they learned at Weather and Science Day through a written reflection.



SSI: YOUNG ENGINEERS FABRICATION PROGRAM AT PRAIRIE HILLS ELEMENTARY

As a combined effort between the Digital Literacy Teacher Librarian and the Art Teacher, Prairie Hills offers our Young Engineers Fabrication Program to classes and after school clubs. Using a Glowforge (a 3D laser cutter and engraver) students create relief maps, architectural models, containers, mathematical representations, literature representations, expressive art and more out of wood, cardboard, fabric, acrylic, and leather. By planting the seed that our students are “young engineers” and providing the tools to see that design process come to life, we are helping them to develop positive associations with engineering, creativity, technology and science. These areas will be integral to their future lives, and are also potential career paths. These students’ first client is the Five Star Education Foundation and are tasked with making center pieces for the Reach for the Stars 2020 Gala. The students had an intensive math day learning how to design art deco through geometric equations and then created the center pieces with the Glowforge.





SSI: ACADEMIC INTERVENTION - ISTATION AT THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AT THORNTON MIDDLE

At The International School at Thornton Middle, teachers are facing an ever-increasing population of students who are far below grade level in reading and writing and the majority of students are English Language Learners. These students are just beginning to understand the nuances of our language as they try to follow along in a multitude of subject areas. Through the Student Success Incubators Funds, Language Arts teachers utilize *No Red Ink* to engage students in improving language usage and composition skills. This program can easily be used to level each skill in order to modify for the numerous needs of every student. Without the ability to write clearly, there is much room for misinterpretation which could lead to future loss of career and educational opportunities for our students. By utilizing this program, our students have daily practice accompanied by immediate feedback for enhancing not only their language usage, but their writing skills. Since implementing this program, our students score higher on tests and ultimately communicate better with their peers.

"It's cool because there are large and small cups so there are different cups for customers to choose from."

— Hobbes
Kindergartener

SSI: DRAMATIC PLAY-BASED CENTERS AT STEM LAB

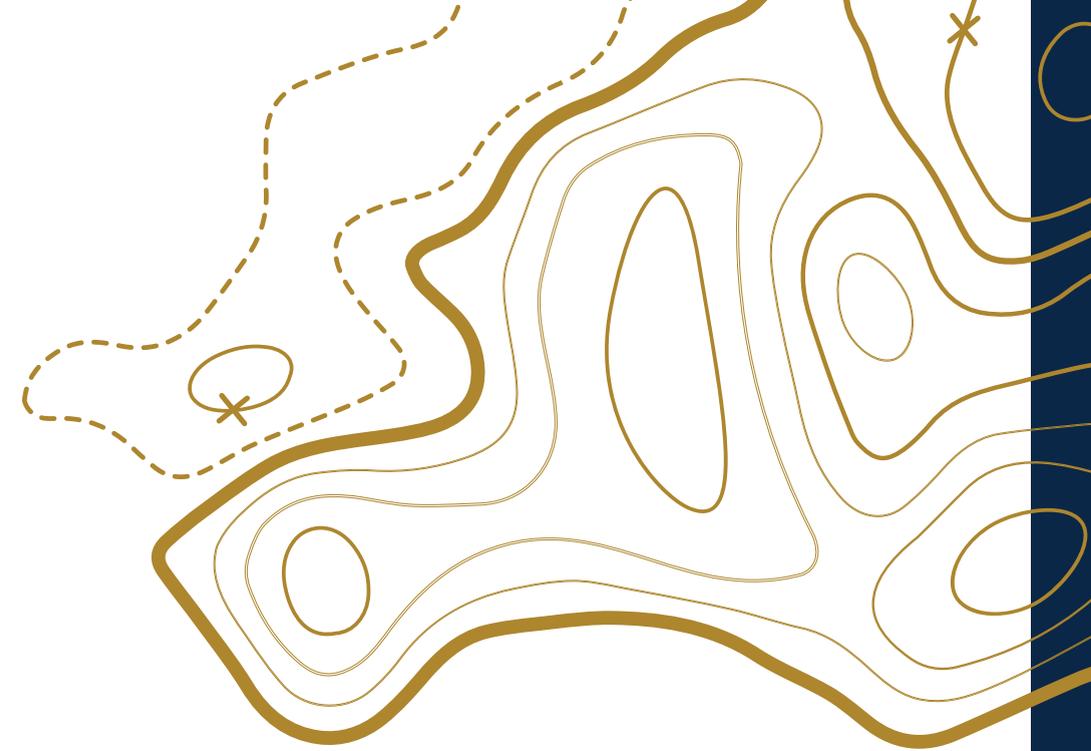
The impacts of play-based learning are widely known on social, emotional, and academic skills for students, if set up with clear success criteria and learning intentions. It is also a great opportunity to introduce community and job understanding concepts with our youngest learners. By creating monthly career-focused themes within the play-based centers, the kindergarten class at STEM Lab will be introduced to a variety of unique and different career possibilities. Each month the students will develop new vocabulary and build on their communication skills. Along with a new theme each month, a guest speaker from that industry will come to the classroom to discuss their career. This opportunity will enhance and encourage career exploration for our youngest students.





SSI: DASHING OUR WAY TO EQUITY AND ACCESS AT STEM LAUNCH

Our population of students at STEM Launch come from varied backgrounds with 69% of the students on free and reduced lunch. Predictions for future STEM jobs indicate that coding skills will be in high demand and that there will be a shortage of computer science majors. It is our goal to improve the coding, collaborative and communication skills needed for work in the computer science industry by teaching students in an authentic and engaging way using educational technology. Our third through fifth graders are now learning how to code using DASH and DOT robot educational products from Wonder Workshop. Because of this additional technology, we can prepare our students for careers that require technical skills while bridging the equity gap that is so prevalent in our community. The students will also be engaged in fun activities that bring joy to the learning and have writing assessments on what they are learning.



SSI: NATURE LAB CABINET OF CURIOSITIES AT MOUNTAIN RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Students in the Foundations of Art Class study the anatomy and ecology of biological reproduction and preserved specimens alongside drawing skills of value and creating depth. This program develops problem solving skills working with art media to grow aspects of cognition and learning, and show how art contributes to critical thinking skills. This cross-curriculum program includes assessments from the biology teachers to evaluate students' observational growth in both art and biology; this program also helps English Language Learners gain new vocabulary. Teachers have begun to see students develop better observational drawing skills and a better understanding of the world around them and to grow student awareness of themselves in the world.

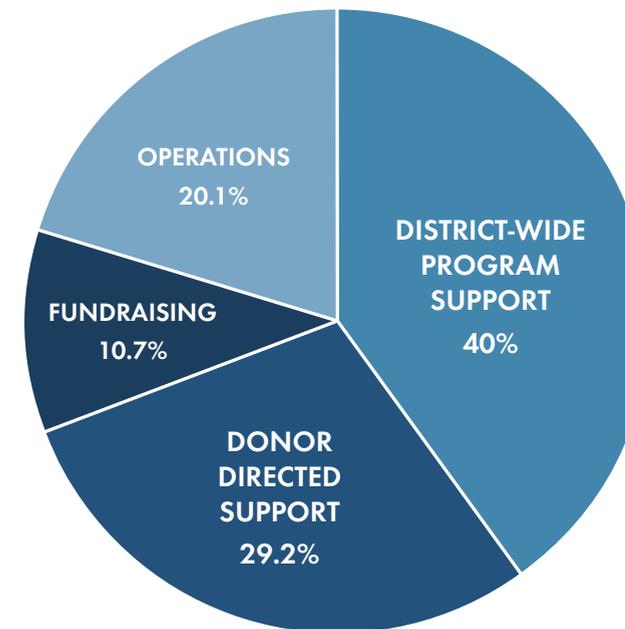
SNAPSHOT OF SUPPORT

2019 REVENUE

\$540,079.84

2019 ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$23,985
Operational Reserve	\$122,751.49
Project Reserved	\$608,204.38
TOTAL	\$754,940.87



2019 EXPENDITURES

District-wide Program Support	\$210,548
Donor Directed Support	\$153,521
Operations	\$105,566
Fundraising	\$56,140
TOTAL	\$525,775



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