

2018-19 Annual Report



Olathe Public Schools
Foundation
meeting the need

A Message from the President



Dear Friends,

We hear it all the time... Olathe is a great place to live and raise a family. This is in no small part because of the tremendous asset the Olathe Public Schools is to our community. They do such an amazing job teaching our kids and providing experiences that prepare them for their future.

I am proud to say that, thanks to the generous financial support of the community, the Olathe Public Schools Foundation continues to play a significant roll in supporting teachers, staff and students across the district to help make that excellence possible. Annually the Foundation funds over \$200,000 in grants that meet student needs and allow innovative ideas to flourish. Year after year the Foundation works to ensure that all students have what they need to be in school, ready to learn with the Wimmer Student Care Fund, Student Health Emergency Fund and other student care programs.

A growing challenge is meeting the mental health and wellness needs of students. The Olathe Public Schools Foundation has made an ongoing commitment to supporting the mental health and wellness of all students in the district. The OPSF supports suicide prevention programs, on-site mental health therapists and a parent-support speaker series. Most importantly, the Braden Robertson Student Mental Health Fund supports timely access to mental health care for underinsured students.

We all have a responsibility to care for our students. Thank you for your continued support of the Olathe Public Schools Foundation. I encourage you to continue your support of students and teachers through a contribution to the Olathe Public Schools Foundation. During the year we have several events that enjoy broad support from the community: Autumn Breakfast with the state of the district message from Superintendent Allison, Annual Golf Classic and Taste of the Town, a new event where Olathe Culinary Arts students put their skills to the test. Please plan to join us at one or all of these events.

Your contributions to the Area of Greatest Need or a specific fund that is meaningful to you are most appreciated. Also, legacy gifts are an awesome way to plan future giving that will have a lasting impact on Olathe Schools and students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Rock".

Dave Rock
OPSF Board of Directors
President, 2018-19



2018-19 Financial Statement

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2019

Assets

Checking Account	\$12,379
CD	\$72,561
Money Market Account	\$274,992
Investments	\$2,918,060
Other Assets	\$13,607
Total Assets	\$3,291,599

Liabilities

Funds held on behalf of others	\$63,330
--------------------------------------	----------

Net Assets

Unrestricted Endowment	\$1,327,497
Temporarily Restricted	\$2,021,515
Decrease in Unrestricted Assets	-\$120,743
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,291,599

*unaudited



District-Wide Innovation Grant

Project Lead the Way

Project Lead the Way is a district-wide program that allows middle school students the opportunity to discover computer science concepts and coding skills through hands-on projects. This innovative program will be rolled out at all Olathe middle schools at the beginning of the 2019-20 school year. Middle school is an important time for students to discover their passions and set the foundation for future learning.

**The Olathe Public Schools Foundation supported
Project Lead the Way with an \$80,000 District Innovation Grant.**



Classroom Grants

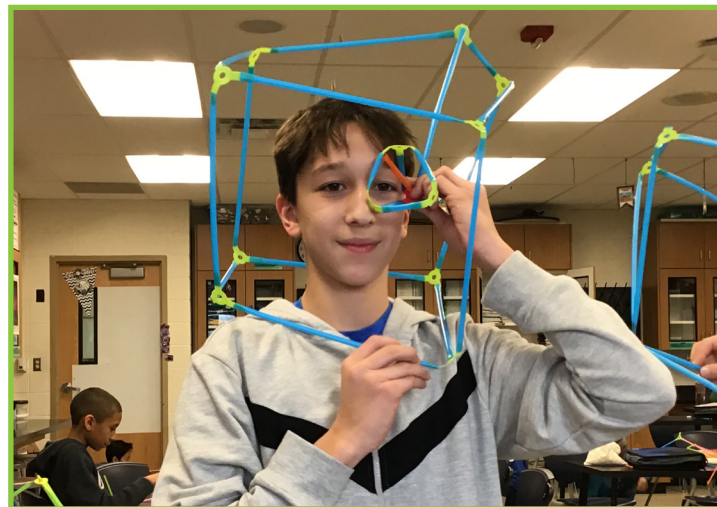
Olathe teachers have great ideas about new ways to connect with their students and meet their needs. The Olathe Public Schools Foundation is proud to support those teachers by providing grants to fund those great ideas. The OPSF annually funds over \$100,000 in classroom grants to support innovative ideas as well as programs to support student need.

Grants funded during the 2018-19 school year included programs, a wind tunnel, phlebotomy practice tools, materials for growing produce indoors, a fire truck for the Public Safety Academy, and a program to connect geometry concepts with hands-on construction.

Find a complete list of grants funded during the 2018-19 school year at www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org.



Over \$114,000 was awarded in classroom grants in the 2018-19 school year.



Student Mental Health & Wellness

Mental Health Support is Critical

Student mental health and wellness is just as important as physical wellness. Unfortunately, more and more youth are experiencing mental health crises. This can include anxiety, depression or even suicidal thoughts and actions.

Working with the Olathe Public Schools to financially support programs that address students' mental health needs is a priority for the Olathe Public Schools Foundation. With OPSF support, the district embedded mental health therapists at all five Olathe high schools. Additionally, with the support of OPSF, the district has implemented a successful mental health parent speaker and support series, added free summer mental health therapy sessions, and added programs focusing on social and emotional learning and suicide prevention. The Signs of Suicide (S.O.S.) suicide prevention program is an important tool used annually at each high school.

Braden Robertson Fund

The Braden Robertson Fund provides up to six visits with a mental health therapist for any student who is underinsured or who cannot access their own benefits in a timely manner.

This fund was created in 2018 in honor of Braden Robertson, an Olathe West High School student who died by suicide.



Introducing Taste of the Town

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation, in partnership with the Olathe Rotary, hosted Taste of the Town March 23, 2019 at the Embassy Suites Olathe. Guests at this evening event enjoyed wine, spirits and craft beer tastings, gourmet food samplings and live and silent auctions. The event also featured the O-Town Throw Down, an epic culinary throw down, pitting Olathe Culinary Arts program senior students partnered with professional chefs in a battle for epicurious victory.

The event raised over \$63,000 for the Olathe Public Schools Foundation's support of student mental health and wellness programs. Funds also were raised for the Olathe Rotary and the Olathe Culinary Arts program.



TASTE of the TOWN

In Partnership
With

Olathe
Rotary



Recognizing Excellence

Educator Excellence and CEERA Awards

Supporting teachers and staff is a core mission of the Olathe Public Schools Foundation. It's also one of the most fun!

The Olathe School District is home to some amazing people. The Educator Excellence Award and Classified Employee Excellence Award (CEERA) are two great ways to show teachers and classified staff how much they are appreciated.

Every month the OPSF Surprise Squad drops in to support two educators and two classified staff members with a surprise presentation. Each recipient is honored with kind words, a plaque, an OPSF mug - and a check for \$500.

Special thanks to Mainsreet Credit Union, sponsor of the Educator Excellence Award.



Leader in Me

We continue to hear about the importance of teaching our kids “soft skills” in addition to traditional textbook information. Soft skills can include intrapersonal skills (work ethic, perseverance and self-discipline) and interpersonal skills (communication, citizenship and teamwork).

The Leader in Me program is one way some Olathe schools have chosen as the framework for teaching these critical skills to their students. Leader in Me is a nationally recognized program that teaches students the 7 Habits of Happy Kids and embeds these habits in the culture of the school. It integrates leadership development into existing school programs and curriculum and impacts all stakeholders starting with the staff of the school, then to the students, their families, and the community at large.

Over an 8 year period the Olathe Public Schools Foundation will provide \$160,000 to 8 Olathe elementary schools to help offset the costs of implementing the Leader in Me program.

OPSF-Supported Leader in Me Schools

- Arbor Creek
- Bentwood
- Brougham
- Mahaffie
- Millbrooke
- Prairie Center
- Pleasant Ridge

7 Habits of Happy Kids

1. Be Proactive – You’re in Charge
2. Begin with the End in Mind – Have a Plan
3. Put First Things First – Work First, Then Play
4. Think Win-Win – Everyone Can Win
5. Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood – Listen Before You Talk
6. Synergize – Together is Better
7. Sharpen the Saw – Balance Feels Best



Student Care

Wimmer Student Care Fund

Some students need support that goes beyond the classroom. The Wimmer Student Care Fund helps meet the need when the families of our most vulnerable students face financial hardships. This fund is used to help overcome obstacles that are preventing students from focusing on learning including: gas money for a parent to get to work, help for a family to recover after a house fire and purchasing size 13 cleats for a middle school student to play football. Established as a tribute to former superintendent Dr. Ron Wimmer, the fund allows the current superintendent flexibility to direct these non-taxpayer funds to families within 24 hours.



Backpacks & School Supplies

Thanks to the support of individuals and corporations, the Olathe Public Schools Foundation filled and distributed over 2,200 backpacks to Olathe students at the start of the 2018-19 school year. For a growing number of students, providing basic school supplies is a financial hardship. Students, families and teachers count on community support to ensure students have what they need to arrive at school ready to learn on the first day of school and throughout the year.

This program wouldn't be possible without financial support and the gift of time. This year, OPSF supporters volunteered hundreds of hours to fill and deliver backpacks donated by the community and purchased with donor support.



Dr. B's Musical Instrument Program

For many students, their dream of playing a musical instrument is hindered by the financial cost of buying or renting an instrument. Because every student who wants to play should have that opportunity, the Olathe Public Schools Foundation launched Dr. B's Musical Instrument Fund in 2017.

This fund helps purchase new and used instruments and to renovate donated instruments, with a goal of maintaining a consistent inventory of musical instruments available for loan to Olathe students.

Dr. B's Musical Instrument Fund was named in honor of Dr. Alison Banikowski on the occasion of her retirement after 34 years with the Olathe Public Schools. The fund was launched with a \$10,000 grant from the OPSF Women's Giving Circle.

Student Health Emergency Fund

The Student Health Emergency Fund, supervised by district nurses, supports the immediate medical needs of the district's most vulnerable students.

Last year this fund supported Olathe students with \$11,049 in emergency medical needs including hearing aids, inhalers, orthopedic shoes and insulin.

This fund impacts the lives of youth in Olathe and eases the burden felt by families who struggle to meet a household budget, but cannot afford to go without their child's medical necessities.

A.L.L. Fund (Avid Lifetime Learner)

Students who start their college transcripts while still in high school are more likely to attend college upon graduation, be successful at college, and graduate from college. As part of Olathe's rigorous AVID curriculum, students are encouraged to take the ACT test and enroll in AP-level courses or College Now classes, which allow them to earn college credit while still in high school.

These fee-based options are challenging for students who come from families that struggle financially. With your support, the A.L.L. (Avid Lifetime Learners) Fund last year provided \$28,000 in scholarships and test fee stipends - giving these students a hand-up towards a better future.



meeting the need

Scholarships

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation scholarship program is a way to give students one last boost as they leave the Olathe Public Schools system. With an endowment surpassing the \$2.9 million mark, the Olathe Public Schools Foundation provides oversight and management of 37 scholarship funds, awarding \$185,595 in scholarships to Olathe high school seniors graduating May 2019.

New this year were scholarships for debate and forensics study, children of veterans, visual artists and students planning to attend Johnson County Community College.

For a list of our scholarship opportunities, check out the OPSF website at www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org.



Women's Giving Circle

Great Things Happen When Caring Women Gather

The Olathe Public Schools Foundation's Women's Giving Circle is the perfect example of how working together can make amazing things happen in the community.

Women's Giving Circle members met twice during the 2018-19 school year. During each session more than 150 women individually gave \$100, which became a total of \$35,000 awarded to four projects benefitting Olathe students.

Need

In September the group awarded a \$10,000 grant to help Ridgeview Elementary implement Leader in Me, a 4-year program that empowers students with the skills they will need in the 21st Century.

Because of increased participation in the Women's Giving Circle, the group also awarded a \$5,000 matching grant to Westview Elementary to expose students early to computer science and encourage interest in computer technology and also a \$5,000 grant for STEM exploration at Oregon Trail Middle School.

Innovation

During the spring gathering in April, the group voted to award a \$15,000 grant to Prairie Learning Center to create a sensory modulation room to be used by students with emotional disabilities. The sensory modulation room is an innovative way to help children with social-

emotional needs learn self-regulation and proactive strategies for reactive behaviors.

Membership in the Women's Giving Circle is \$100 per cycle, with Sustaining Members making the commitment of \$200 per year.

The Olathe Women's Giving Circle has awarded \$140,000 in grants to Olathe classrooms since Spring 2014.

For more information, please contact the Olathe Public Schools Foundation at (913) 780-8222.



21st Annual Autumn Breakfast

Nearly 800 Olathe School District supporters came together on November 2, 2018 to support the Olathe Public Schools Foundation at the 21st Annual Autumn Breakfast. Breakfast attendees were entertained by Olathe South High School band students and the Madison Place Elementary Special Chorus and heard the State of the District Address from Superintendent John Allison. Students from five Leader in Me schools greeted attendees at the doors.

Breakfast sponsors and attendees helped raise close to \$200,000 to support Olathe students and teachers. Of that total, \$30,000 was donated to establish the Azalia Morales Career and Technical Education Fund in honor of 2018 Olathe Advanced Technical Center graduate Azalia Morales.

Azalia is so committed to giving back to those who supported her in school, that she gave \$1,500 of her savings to provide scholarships for future OATC students. Mike and Julie Hiron, who were in attendance the night Azalia's scholarships were awarded, were so inspired by Azalia's story they decided they too should contribute to OATC scholarships. Breakfast attendees had the opportunity to hear Azalia's story and also contribute to the scholarship fund.

Presenting Sponsor



Investing Sponsors



Special thanks to all of the sponsors whose donations help ensure that every dollar raised will go directly into grants and special programming for students.

Platinum Sponsors

Capitol Federal Savings
Farmers Insurance
Garmin
McCownGordon Construction

Gold Sponsors

CBIZ
City of Olathe
CommunityAmerica Credit Union
ConvergeOne
Delta Innovative Services
First Student
Lifetouch
Robert Brogden Buick GMC
Shawnee Mission Health

Coffee Sponsor

Validity Screening Solutions

Silver Sponsors

Ash Grove Charitable Foundation
Bank of Blue Valley
College Church of the Nazarene
Emporia State University
Enterprise Bank & Trust
First National Bank
Gilmore & Bell
Hollis + Miller Architects
Piper Jaffray
TVH Parts Co.

Bronze Sponsors

APAC/Holliday Sand
Arvest Bank
Assisted Transportation
AT&T
Atmos Energy
Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas City
BSN Sports
Children's Mercy
City of Lenexa
City of Overland Park
Commerce Bank
Consolidated Communications
Delta Dental
Foulston Siefkin, LLP
Henderson Engineers, Inc.
HTK Architects

Steve & Nancy Ingram
Johnson County Community College Foundation
KidsTLC
KVC Health Systems
Lakemary Center
Learning Quest 529 Education Savings Program, managed by American Century Investments
Meyer Music
MidAmerica Nazarene University
Nabholz
Olathe Bible Church
Olathe Chamber of Commerce
Olathe Fire Department
Olathe NEA
Olathe Police Department
Olathe Public Library Foundation

Olsson
Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home
RicoH USA
SafeDefend, LLC
Soapbox Promotions
Solid Ground Environmental
State Farm Insurance - Debbie Swinney
State Farm Insurance - Harlan Parker & Jason Parker
Strickland Construction
Thomas McGee, L.C.
United Manufacturing
Westar Energy



23rd Annual OPSF Golf Classic

Only one thing could be better than spending a beautiful day at the golf course – and that's spending it supporting Olathe students and teachers! Over 350 golfers and volunteers spent a sun-filled day Thursday, June 13, 2019 raising over \$132,000 for Olathe schools at the 23rd Annual OPSF Golf Classic.

The Foundation partnered with Olathe Health to present the tournament. Funds raised will provide mental wellness programs for students who need us the most, as well as innovation and need-based classroom grants and recognition for outstanding classroom teachers and staff.

Golfers enjoyed hospitality provided by community sponsors and several on-course contests including the popular John Deere Winning Ball contest, which rewards teams for completing 18 holes without losing a branded ball.

This event wouldn't be possible without support from our generous golfers, sponsors and volunteers.

Staff from the Olathe Advanced Technical Center were on hand with their handicap accessible golf cart to assist with transporting golfers and volunteers and keeping them hydrated throughout the day.

Corporate Sponsors

CBIZ
CommunityAmerica
Credit Union
Consolidated Communications
Garmin
Heritage Tractor
Piper Jaffray
SafeDefend, LLC
Synetic Technologies

Special Sponsors

Advent Health
Bank of Blue Valley
ConvergeOne
John Deere
Johnson County Park and
Recreation District
Lennox
Lifetouch
Mainstreet Credit Union
Olathe Parks and Recreation
Robert Brogden Buick GMC

Tee Box Sponsors

American Fidelity Assurance
Arvest Bank
Associated Air Products, Inc.
Baron BMW/Mini
Delta Dental
D.H. Pace/Overhead Door
Flynn Midwest
Hollis + Miller Architects
HTK Architects PA
K&W Underground
KVC Health Systems, Inc.
Lithko Contracting, Inc.
Major Saver Holdings, Inc.
Metro Air Conditioning
Company
Nabholz

Olathe Ford
Ricoh
State Farm Insurance -
Debbie Swinney
State Farm Insurance -
Harlan and Jason Parker
Thomas McGee Group
TVH Parts Co.
Validity Screening Solutions
VanTrust Real Estate

Presenting
Sponsor





2018-19 Board of Directors

Officers:

Dave Rock, President, *John Deere, Retired*

Todd Ramsey, Vice President, *McCownGordon Construction*

Monica Dahl, Secretary, *Core Bank*

Theresa Stoker, Treasurer, *Community Volunteer*

Mark McGavran, Past-President, *Commerce Bank*

Board Members:

Jerry Barios, *Atmos Energy*

Susan Brooks, *Farmers Insurance*

Lindsay Dandoy, *N2 Publishing/Cedar Creek Life*

Mimi Eckart, *Capitol Federal Savings*

Brian Geary, *Bank of Blue Valley*

Brian Hamilton, *TVH*

Nancy Ingram, *Community Volunteer*

Terri Jarboe, *Community Volunteer*

Jennifer Nehrbass, *Church of the Resurrection*

Darren Odum, *Olathe Health*

Matt Stromberg, *Foulston Siefkin, LLP*

Jason Tucker, *John Deere*

Emily Vincent, *City of Olathe*

Ex-Officio Members:

John Allison, *Olathe Public Schools*

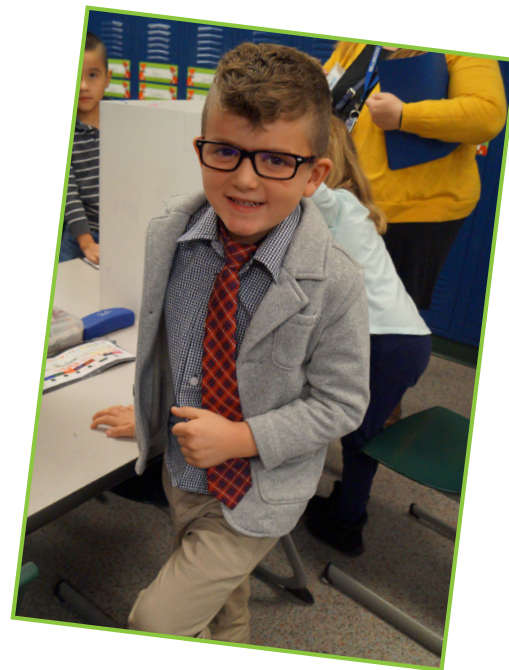
Candy Birch *Olathe Alumni Association*

Dr. Earl Martin, *Olathe Retired Employees Association*

Kathy Meyer, *Olathe NEA*

Amy Martin, *Olathe Board of Education*

Cindy VonFeldt, *Executive Director*



Staff:

Cindy VonFeldt, *Executive Director*

Katie Beaudin, *Senior Development Specialist*

Alice Snider, *Community Outreach Specialist*

Maureen Hurd, *Executive Assistant*

Mission: *Connecting financial and volunteer resources to the Olathe Public Schools to recognize and enhance educational excellence.*



You can help meet the needs of Olathe students.

Gifts can be made through the OPSF, which is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In most circumstances, donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

Ways YOU can contribute!

Annual Fund Contributions

A gift to the OPSF Annual Fund supports the programs listed in this annual report. Gifts may be made throughout the school year, via check, credit card or pledge.

Bequests

An attorney can advise you on the many ways to leave a gift to the OPSF while saving estate taxes and/or providing for a survivor.

Fund-A-Need

Tax support isn't always available to fund items for a top-notch education. Fund-A-Need is a window into the classroom for teachers' needs.

Gifts in Memory

Pay tribute to someone who valued the Olathe School District or whose life was changed for the better by a district employee. The Foundation will acknowledge your thoughtful gift with a letter to the honoree's family.

Tribute Gifts

Consider a gift to support the OPSF for a graduating senior, teacher or that special someone who has everything. Your contribution is tax-deductible and will be acknowledged by a gift letter to the honoree.

Staff Campaigns

District employees can support the Foundation with automatic payroll deductions. Contact an OPSF representative for details.

Women's Giving Circle

Great things happen when caring women gather. 150+ women give \$100 to fund a \$10,000-\$15,000 grant for Olathe District Schools programs.

For more information contact Cindy VonFeldt at 913-780-8222.



Olathe Public Schools
Foundation

300 E. Loula • Olathe, KS 66061
www.olathepublicschoolsfoundation.org • 913-780-8222

