



MAIZE
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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On the Cover

Intermediate students learning about shadows and the angle of the sun with Project Lead the Way resources funded through donor contributions.

Below

Maize students competing in the 2022 world robotics championships in Dallas.



2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Every single school year is so incredibly different from the one before. If I've learned nothing else in my tenure as the MEF president, that is one thing I can say with confidence. But each year, we have the opportunity to learn from every year that came before, and I'm so proud to be part of the Maize School District. Because I see our community actively learning and growing together in order to strengthen our district and support our educators and students.

Thank you to our donors and sponsors who have continued to give in support of much-needed resources and curriculum. Thank you to all the students, staff, and community members who have volunteered their time and expertise to pull off district-wide efforts to show support to our educators and raise money for educational programs. And thank you to our Board of Directors who volunteer their time, talents, and treasure to keep building the Maize Education

Foundation so that it is stronger and stronger every year. Thank you for allowing me to lead and to learn from each of you for the past 4.5 years.

As I pass the reins to our incoming president, Tyler Harrison, I ask one thing of you - our Maize Family. Please keep building relationships and partnerships, because together, we truly can help students succeed.

Brandon Brungardt
Outgoing Board President



PURPOSE:

It is our belief that supporting students in defining and pursuing their individual versions of success is one of the greatest legacies we can leave for our community and one of the most important things we can do to build a better future.

MISSION:

To drive resources and foster relationships to help Maize students reach the promise of their potential.

2021-22 IMPACT

MAIZE
STUDENTS:

MAIZE
STAFF:

TOTAL
FUNDED:

7,500+
1,600+
\$81,000

What is Your Why?

CHALLENGE GRANTS

The Maize Education Foundation is uniquely positioned to “assume the risk” in supporting pilot programs and other innovative opportunities where district leaders may not be ready to take a chance with taxpayer funding or where funding simply falls short. Donor support is crucial to allow educators to create these impactful and meaningful opportunities including one new program at Complete High School Maize, the district’s alternative high school program, which serves approximately 85 at-risk students at a time.

With this \$4,100 grant, CHMS educators have started a 3-year trial of their Wilderness Expedition program. In the first year, they took 17 students, some of whom had never been out of the state, to Colorado. Prior to the trip, the students learned survival, cooking, and executive functioning skills. They worked out all the logistics, prepared meals (with supplies purchased through the grant funding), planned the trip, and created the itinerary.

“It’s hard to quantify the impact of the funding support on our students. But seeing our students discover success is priceless.”

CHSM Assistant Principal, Adam Melichar, says that a few weeks after the trip a student painted a picture and said, “Thank you for showing me success. Climbing a mountain is a physical activity, and being able to feel my heart race as I saw the breathtaking view of the mountains all around us made the success feel all the more real. I’ve struggled with feeling success before. I am grateful for having experienced that with you.”

2021-22 \$37K GRANTS



(l-r) Adam Melichar, CHSM student, Cody Breeding, science teacher, Caitlyn Gregory

Mr. Melichar adds, “It’s hard to quantify the impact of the funding support on our students. But seeing our students discover success is priceless. These real-world skills are transferable in so many ways and can pay dividends in all aspects of their school and personal lives. Thank you for believing in us.”

STUDENT GRANTS

Every year, donors help Maize students in grades 7-12 fund a range of learning experiences in the areas of Leadership and Civic Engagement, Education and Career Exploration, and Community Service. Through our Student Enrichment Grant program, students apply for grants of up to \$500 to help cover the costs of experiences like Gonzaga Debate Institute, National Journalism Convention, KAY Leadership Seminar and a range of other educational and community service projects.

One student, Maize Middle School 7th Grader, Emery Atchison, received a \$500 grant to help cover his costs to join a group of classmates on an educational trip to Washington, D.C., where he toured government buildings, explored museums, toured monuments, while learning a great deal of US history.

Now an 8th grader at MMS, Emery has shared that among his favorite places in the capital city were the Capitol Building, Jefferson Memorial, and the White House. When asked how the experience might impact his future goals, he says, *"I think this experience will change some of my class choices. I was really interested in the history I learned about on this trip, and I think I will want to take more history classes in the future."*

"This trip wouldn't have been possible without the grant from the Maize Education Foundation."



Emery Atchison visits the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

**27 GRANT
RECIPIENTS**

\$11K

STAFF APPRECIATION

Educators are among the most dynamic and inspirational people we will ever meet. It's hard to imagine that any one of us doesn't have at least one teacher or counselor or other school employee that made a positive, life-long impression. We are truly indebted to every individual that plays their part in making our district run each and every day.

During the 2020-21 school year, with the help of a number of our community partners and Maize parent groups, we created what we now call our Staff Appreciation program. The goal of the program is its namesake – to show district employees that their relentless dedication is appreciated. With the help of both cash and in-kind support, this program has grown to include anchor efforts in both the fall and in the spring, First Year Teacher stipends, Celebrating Excellence Awards, and a smattering of what we like to call "surprise and delight" throughout the school year.

**\$40,000+
estimated value of
appreciation gifts**



(l-r) Travis Bloom, Mrs. Milanovich, and MEF board member Terry Johnson

"Mrs. Milanovich is a para at Maize Intermediate. She daily goes above and beyond to make sure students feel seen, valued, and cared for. Wonderful blessing to our district!"

Our donors absolutely make all of this possible – supplying more than 1,600 educators with the equivalent of more than \$40,000 worth of promotions, discounts, and gift cards during our GivingTuesday effort in November as just one example. Swag bags are a way to celebrate the end of the school year and include a number of gift cards and discounts at area merchants and provide a new opportunity for our area partners to pitch in to send educators off to summer break.

Anyone who would like to support our Staff Appreciation efforts should contact MEF Executive Director, Travis Bloom at tbloom@usd266.com.

From time to time, we hear about our educators doing good things through social media posts. Thanks to parents, staff, and community members, we have a chance to surprise these educators and give them small tokens of appreciation for their dedication.

The Salsbury family "nominated" Mrs. Milanovich, a para at Maize Intermediate, for always going the extra mile to make sure students feel seen and supported. We appreciate these "tips" and plan to continue these efforts to show appreciation.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

In addition to supporting core Foundation programs, our donors also contribute funding for a range of special projects and unique learning resources. This year, the Health Sciences department was able to purchase a portable ultrasound device, which allows students to study a variety of tissues and view images on their phones. The portability of this device means that students of all ages can experience the technology and gain exposure to a new area of learning.

Additional restricted contributions funded robotics kits for one of the district's intermediate schools as well as a variety of scientific probes and measuring devices for the MSHS Science department. Enterprise Holdings Foundation also made a 5-year pledge totaling \$25,000 to support the Parents As Teachers program at Maize Early Childhood Center.

These are just some examples of the special projects our donors have made possible.

**\$21,500
total restricted
contributions**

In 2019, the Foundation awarded an \$11,665 grant to Maize Elementary School for resources to create a STEAM program called "Stop Everything and STEAM," which was created by then math teacher, Callie Harris.

As Mrs. Harris wrote in her application, "Through the implementation of this program, all students in the building will be able to access Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math

in a hands on and engaging way. The materials this grant will provide are just not attainable with general school funding."

"80% of our elementary schools do not have the innovative tools needed to provide appropriate STEAM education."



MES students develop critical thinking and teamwork skills through engineering activities.

**STEAM Lab
fundraising goal
\$44,750**



COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

What began as a two-room school house in 1886, is now a bustling community hub comprised of 14 schools in a district that spans just more than 42 square miles. And within those buildings—new and old—students of all ages benefit from state-of-the-art instruction and experiences that will guide them to and through their future.

But a district like ours doesn't simply happen on its own. School funding and bond issues only go so far, and the projects they fund are limited in scope. Our district, our students, and our educators thrive because of support from our community of families, alumni, business partners, and district residents who take pride in the Maize School District and want to ensure our youth find success.

We extend our gratitude to the donors, partners, and volunteers who contribute and participate in order to support our students and educators. And CHALLENGE our Maize Family to help us continue building and strengthening the legacy that is Maize USD 266.

We can't do it without you!

A SPECIAL CHALLENGE TO ALUMNI...

Maize. Your alma mater. A sense of pride and nostalgia - concerts, football games, shop class, student council. Maize is one of the premiere districts in the state of Kansas, and you should be proud. And you can help continue the legacy and support programs and special projects that will help our students succeed.

Please watch this district video produced by One Maize Media, a program of the Maize Career Academy.

<https://bit.ly/DistrictVid>



DID YOU KNOW?

When you consider how much educators give of themselves to make sure students have what they need to learn and grow, it's easy to imagine how little they have left at the end of the day. But many of our district's employees also personally support the Foundation's efforts.

Many employees volunteer their time and talent in countless ways, helping us reach students with opportunities or brainstorming with us to understand real needs facing them in their buildings.

But many of our educators also give financially, making contributions by enrolling in a payroll donation option. Last year, district employees collectively donated more than \$12,000 to MEF and words cannot express how meaningful that kind of support is from our own educators.

We challenge our Maize Family to help demonstrate our gratitude by matching educator gifts next year.

2021-22 HONOR ROLL

The Maize School District is made better through the invaluable support of our donors. Thank you to these businesses and organizations for believing in our students and educators and demonstrating support through financial and in-kind gifts.

STAR

ALDI
American Underground
APAC
Bank of the West
Cambridge Family Dentistry
Capitol Federal
Central Mechanical
Children's Dental Professionals
Club Carwash
Conrade Insurance
Cornejo Construction
Cristy Kerbs ReeceNichols
Debbie Holmes JP Weigand
Digital Office Systems
Dillons
Dudley Williams and Associates
Epoxy Coating Specialists
Fidelity Bank
Fleeson Gooing Coulson and Kitch
Fugate Enterprises
Generation Esports
Halstead Bank
Hampel Oil
Hellas Construction
HTeaO
INTRUST Bank
J Russell Communities
Kansas Building Products

SCHOLAR

Ameritime
Basis Engineering Consultants
Beran Concrete
City of Maize
City Print
CM3 Mechanical
Foley Equipment
Heartland Credit Union

\$25 - \$1,499

Kansas Truck Equipment
Kruse Corporation
Legacy Bank
M&M Mowing
Mahaney Group
Maize Recreation Commission
Martin Roofing
Metro Courier
NCRI
Northridge Vet Clinic and Rehabilitation
NuStar Energy
Patton Termite & Pest
PEC Field Services
Perfection Masonry
PrairieFire Coffee Roasters
RCB Bank
Reflection Ridge Retirement Community
Sam's Club
SGH Concepts
Shelter Insurance
Star Lumber
Stover's Restoration
US Engineering
Vet Emergency & Specialty Hospital
Voegeli Concrete
Weber and Associates
Xpress Signs

\$1,500 - \$2,499

Occidental Chemical Corporation
Piper Sandler
Project Teacher
QuikTrip
Schellenberg Development Co.
SJCF Architecture
Wilson Building Maintenance

ADVOCATE

Andy's Frozen Custard
Atlas Electric
Chick N Max
Credit Union of America
HCA Wesley

LEADER

Anonymous
Building Controls & Services
Enterprise Holdings Foundation

PARTNER

Charlie's Carwash
Chick fil-A
Hutton

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Hurts Donut
McClelland, Inc.
Mel Hambleton Ford
MOXI Junction

\$5,000 - \$7,499

Foulston Family Fund
Meritrust Credit Union
Tropical Smoothie Café

\$7,500 +

Torchy's Tacos
Wichita Family Vision

\$100

1 First Year Teacher Stipend

\$500

1 Student Enrichment Grant

\$1,000-5,000

1 Challenge Grant

\$5,000+

Major Challenge Grant or Special Project



Evan Rogerson competes in the VEX World Robotics competition with the help of a Student Enrichment Grant.

13TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

It was a HOT day at Reflection Ridge, but 120 golfers came out in support of our students and educators. These 30 teams along with nearly 50 sponsors raised more than \$50,000 - a record for the annual tournament.

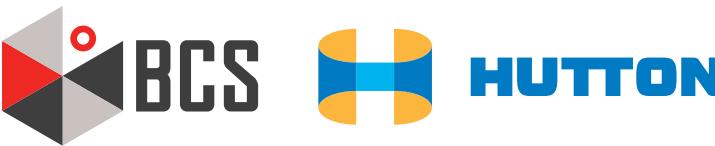
Special thanks to Dr. Chad Higgins, Superintendent of Maize Schools, for joining our sponsor networking reception in the clubhouse right before tee-off.

And to our board of directors and volunteers - this event would not be possible without you!



Executive Director Travis Bloom presents the traveling trophy to Shelter Insurance team captain and MHS alum Boston Basham.

Presented by



Major Sponsors

Atlas Electric
Ameritime
Heartland Credit Union

Mel Hambleton Ford
Piper Sandler

Supporting Sponsors

Basis Engineering Consultants
Beran Concrete
Central Mechanical
Chick fil-A
Conrade Insurance
CM3 Mechanical
Foley Equipment

SGH Concepts
Martin Roofing
Meritrust Credit Union
Schellenberg Development Co.
Star Lumber
Wilson Building Maintenance
Xpress Signs

Prize Hole Sponsors

American Underground
APAC
Cambridge Family Dentistry
Epoxy Coating Specialists
Fidelity Bank
Fugate Enterprises
Kansas Building Products
Kruse Corporation

Mahaney Roofing
New Market Square
Perfection Masonry
Reflection Ridge Retirement
Community
Shelter Insurance
Voegeli Concrete

Hole Sponsors

Bank of the west
Children's Dental Professionals
Cornejo Construction
Debbie Holmes - JP Weigand
Digital Office Systems
Dudley Williams & Associates
Fleeson Gooing Coulson & Kitch
Hampel Oil
Kansas Truck Equipment

Legacy Bank
M&M Mowing
Maize Recreation Commission
McClelland Sound
NCRI
Northridge Vet Clinic & Rehab
PEC Field Services
RCB Bank
Weber and Associates

Golf Committee

Brandon Brungardt

Cristy Kerbs



Roy Mansch takes home the longest drive championship receiving a range finder donated by Hellas Construction.



15TH ANNUAL

AUGUST 21, 2023 | REFLECTION RIDGE

GOLF
TOURNAMENT

2022 SPRING BREAKFAST

Presented by



The energy in the room was amazing, and we'd like to thank our volunteers, sponsors, and guests for making it truly successful, raising more than \$17,500. We would especially like to thank the students and educators who helped to make this year's event extra special.

The program focused a lot this year on some examples of the high-quality work students in our district are creating. Breakfast was catered by Maize Career Academy's culinary arts students, and industrial arts students made custom lighthouse centerpieces out of a mixture of materials including resin, wood, acrylic, and metal. Students from OneMaize Media also produced a 2-minute district video that featured a voiceover from MHS alum Desi Oakley.

Major Sponsors

Meritrust Credit Union

Buffet Sponsors

Credit Union of America

Red Sponsors

Building Controls and Services

City of Maize

SJCF Architecture

In-Kind Sponsors

McClelland, Inc.

PrairieFire Coffee Roasters

Program Sponsors

Maize Recreation Commission

Star Lumber

Table Sponsors

Capitol Federal
CM3 Mechanical

Generation Esports

Mel Hambelton Ford

Metro Courier

Patton Termite & Pest

Project Teacher

Rachel Bell

Reflection Ridge Retirement Community

Stover's Restoration

US Engineering

Wilson Building Maintenance



(l-r) Travis Bloom, Cara Poole, Caitlin Hamilton, Kristy Custer

Following a district update from Superintendent Chad Higgins, we were joined for an insightful panel discussion with Cara Poole, Caitlin Hamilton, and Kristy Custer. It was incredible to hear directly from educators about some of the struggles and triumphs we are seeing in today's classrooms.

Thank you again to everyone who continues to support our students each and every day!



(l-r) Travis Bloom, Legacy honoree Richard Stiverson, and Supt. Chad Higgins

We are proud to name Richard Stiverson as our 2022 Legacy Honor Roll honoree.

Richard began his first term as a Maize USD 266 board member in 1981 and offered 40 years of service to the district. His impact on our board, our schools, and our community cannot be understated. He oversaw the passing of 6 bond issues throughout his tenure, totaling \$296,755,000. He served 6 terms as board Vice President and 8 terms as board President.

The entirety of Richard's service to the Maize school district community was just that, serving a mission to do what he believed was best for students.

The Maize community is indebted to Richard's years of service, and we are privileged to recognize him.

2020-2021 FINANCIALS

Consolidated Statement of Activities Year Ended June 30, 2022

Revenue, Gains, and Other Support

Fundraising Revenues	\$109,529
Outside Grants	\$3,000
Restricted Gifts	\$21,486
Miscellaneous Gifts and Donations	\$11,521
Other	\$12
Total Revenue, Gains, and Other Support	\$145,547

Expenses

Grants and Scholarships	\$48,971
Staff Appreciation	\$10,288
Projects with Restricted Funding	\$21,487
Total Program Expenses	\$80,746
Fundraising Expenses	\$20,513
Administrative and Overhead	\$67,698
Total Expenses	\$168,956

Change in Net Assets

Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$115,061
Net Assets, End of Year	\$91,652

*unaudited

Statement of Financial Position Year Ended June 30, 2022

Assets

Operating Checking Account	\$13,737
Money Market Accounts	\$80,473
Investments	\$27,519
Total Assets	\$121,730

Net Assets

Unrestricted Funds	\$78,295
Restricted Funds	\$15,915
Restricted Endowment	\$27,519
Total Net Assets	\$121,730

*unaudited

YOU CAN HELP

DONATE

Support programs and operations.

SPONSOR

fundraisers and events.

VOLUNTEER

for committees and special projects.

SHARE

Tell the community about MEF.

LEARN MORE

SIGN UP

for our newsletter.

FOLLOW

MEF on social media.



The Maize Education Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In most circumstances, donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.



***Together, we help students succeed.
Every student.
Every day.***