

**The District 214 Education Foundation funds innovation, student success and lifelong learning beyond the limitations of conventional public education funding.**

**We secure resources and partnerships in a time when one in four of our students live in poverty and so many more are just above that threshold. Our Foundation focuses on the success of every student. An investment in the Foundation is an investment in our community.**

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In 2017, the Foundation gained 545 new donors and empowered:

- An estimated \$250,000 in **early college credits** for our students, through the funding of Advanced Placement tests for students who could not afford them;
- **College visits** and other enrichment opportunities for first-generation college students and their parents;
- More than \$200,000 in new **postsecondary scholarships** for our graduates;
- Nearly \$40,000 in **educator-requested grants** for innovative learning opportunities. This included a lecture by a renowned genetics speaker, who addressed nearly 400 science students from across the District, and a library at a mobile home park that is home to many Elk Grove High School students;
- \$2,500 toward the **future success of entrepreneurship students**;
- Nearly \$15,000 toward the **continued enhancement of Wheeling High School's nanoscience program** through the Lisa Del Muro Nanotechnology Legacy Fund;
- More than \$20,000 in support for **adult and family literacy, the Catherine M. Lee Women's & Children's Center and other integral programming** through District 214 Community Education, empowering generations through education;
- **Partnerships** with Lumen Optical and Panera Bread that have provided free eye exams, glasses and breakfasts for in-need students throughout the District;
- and nearly \$20,000 in **fine arts and athletics support** through the purchase of an online fundraising platform benefitting all six high schools.

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and contributions are tax-deductible. This has allowed us to access hundreds of thousands of dollars in new grants to enhance our curriculum and schools.

The Foundation is a separate entity from the District, but directly supports the District's mission. We work with administrators to determine funding priorities that prepare all learners for success.

In addition to scholarships and success funds (like the Cardinal Endowment, which supports Advanced Placement testing and early career credentials for students in need), the Foundation offers planned giving through bequests in wills and trusts; corporate sponsorships; individual or corporate naming opportunities; event sponsorships; individual gifts at all levels; and numerous other ways to support our students and schools philanthropically. ***Every dollar matters.***