



Creating Opportunities for Every Child
2022/2023 Impact Report



Dear Friends,

I am excited to report another record breaking year for AEF. The broad and deep support of our local community has enabled AEF to expand the programs and the breadth of initiatives we bring to the Aspen School District. This doesn't happen without you and it doesn't happen without an enthusiastic administration and teacher base, a powerhouse board, and a tireless Executive Director and staff. With all these components working together, I am excited to report that for the 2023/2024 school year, AEF will commit over \$1M for a more extensive slate of programs and positions.

AEF likes to say that our funding quietly touches every student in the district, and that has never been more true than this past year. With Aspen Words, we launched what we hope is the first of many initiatives that partners with the world class organizations in our valley to bring their vision and expertise into our public schools. We continue to partner with Aspen Family Connections to touch the families most in need in our community. Our push and support of the transition to a full K-12 International Baccalaureate school district is transforming the curriculum and consistency through all grades. The addition of both an elementary and middle school counselor has never been more important, and a second post secondary counselor offers equal access for all students. Finally, in support of our hallmark outdoor education program, AEF added a coordinator to ensure that all safety standards and curriculum needs are met. When AEF sees a need in the district, we roll up our sleeves.

As the parent of 4 children, I am so grateful for a strong, local public school and the impact of AEF. This strong foundation will allow us to build and expand into next year—so stay tuned for some exciting new initiatives and announcements. I speak for the whole board and staff when I extend a sincere thank you to all of our supporters in this fantastic community!

With gratitude,

Paul Sohn

Dear Friends,

As I enter my 6th year as Executive Director of AEF, I am so motivated by the progress we have made in our district. The immediate impact of AEF fundraising on the educational experience for all of our students has been transformational.

Funded by AEF, the district transition to an IB world school will teach our students to ask questions to truly understand - not to memorize for a test. Open-minded thinking and problem-solving, two key components of the curriculum, are truly what our world needs today. Ask any AHS graduate and they will credit our unique ODE program with instilling confidence, curiosity, and a deep appreciation and awareness of the world around them. The state of our world begs for people to care in that way. The mental health counselors in our schools offer support and programming in an effort to make each day just a bit better for our students. And partnerships with world class institutions like Aspen Words and Anderson Ranch bring eye-opening programming into our schools. These changes are made possible by AEF, and we are thrilled with the outcomes. Our students are well-rounded, intelligent, and caring individuals who are truly benefitting from forward thinking public schools in a small town setting.

As a parent of two AHS graduates, I see firsthand the unique benefit of raising kids in Aspen. Aspen is a community that celebrates and values the mind, body, and spirit. We take care of one another with the closeness of a small town, and recognize that our greatest assets are our local children and families. We are so lucky to have a safe and thriving public school system. It isn't perfect, but it is filled with teachers, administrators, and staff who care and work countless hours to make it better.

Additionally, the AEF board is filled with individuals who care deeply about your student's education. We have board members whose children graduated years ago who still work tirelessly for our schools. It is so inspiring to see and - I hope - a comfort to our parents knowing that AEF keeps pushing for better behind the scenes.

Thank you to everyone who has supported AEF. Our impact would not be possible without you.

Warmly and with gratitude,



Cynthia Chase

18.5%

Since 1991, AEF has invested over \$17,500,000 in our public schools

1,540+

students a year use at least one AEF program

90%

of students list an AEF program as why they love school

Financials

We are grateful to our local community for an outstanding fundraising year. AEF was able to fund more school programs and positions than ever in our history.

As we look toward the future, AEF has ambitious goals to support and elevate Aspen School District. We will continue to fund our annual primary programs, but will also build the program endowments—so all future generations will benefit as our students do today. AEF is also committed to supporting our district with teacher retention, recruitment, and housing.

We can't do this without our community's support. Please join us, however you can, to support our students and our district. After all, our kids can't make changes to their educational model—but we can.

INCOME

\$345,000	Annual Fund
\$1,612,000	Event Income
\$242,000	Restricted Gifts

\$2,199,000	Total Income
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GRANTS

\$60,000	Academic Support ASD K-12/ Aspen Community School
\$100,000	International Baccalaureate (IB) program AHD K-12
\$70,000	STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) ASD K-12
\$85,000	Aspen Middle School Counselor AMS 5-8
\$85,000	Aspen Elementary School Counselor AES K-4
\$85,000	Post-Secondary/College Counselor AHS 9-12
\$205,000	Outdoor Education (ODE) and Experiential Education (Ex Ed) ASD K-12
\$45,000	Aspen Words AMS 5-8
\$153,500	G&T/Special Needs ASD K-12
\$243,000	Restricted Gifts
\$100,000	Aspen Family Connections ASD K-12/ Aspen Community School

\$1,231,500	Total Grants
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\$400,000	Reserves
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Outdoor/Experiential Education

Outdoor Ed and ExEd are hallmark programs of Aspen School District (ASD) and AEF. Since its inception in 1968, Outdoor Ed has expanded greatly to offer beyond-the-classroom educational experiences in which students participate in a variety of outdoor challenges: hiking, climbing, rafting, ropes courses, and group initiatives in the wilderness. The high school ExEd program has evolved to include a variety of national destinations for cultural, artistic, urban, or community-based learning. Outdoor Ed and ExEd across all grades within the ASD provide carefully chosen activities that require students to take initiative, make decisions, reflect and analyze, and be accountable for the results. These experiences offer growth opportunities that are life changing. AEF funds scholarships so that every student, in all grades, can participate. We also fund teacher training programs and wilderness certifications to ensure the highest quality experience. Last year, AEF added a full-time Outdoor Ed/ExEd coordinator to ensure that all safety measures are taken, that the curriculum is aligned with the school curriculum, and that the program is held to the highest standards.

"Come forth into the light of things. Let nature be your teacher."

William Wordsworth



25 miles

trekked by each eighth grader
in the wilderness to reach their
overnight 24 hour solo

56 years

of ODE/ExEd in ASD

\$75,000

in scholarships given each year



"I loved my freshman year ExEd, In Search of West. It was an amazing backpacking trip that beautifully gave me a new perspective on my life and my connection with nature."

Evelyn Stefli

ASD K-12
AHS Class of 2023
Colby College 2027



"Going to Lake Powell with a group of fellow students my senior year was a milestone in my life thus far. This experience pushed me beyond my comfort zone and opened up a whole new world for me that I never imagined. I learned much about nature, myself and others. Because of ExEd, I am leaving AHS with a niche set of lifelong skills that I would not have been able to acquire anywhere else in the country."

Emma Bern

ASD 10-12
AHS Class of 2023
University of Miami 2027

STEAM

Through STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) classes, our students are building the important life skills of problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, leadership, and resilience. They are also having fun and developing a love of learning.

Robotics, specifically, is a hands-on, innovative, and fun program designed to engage students in STEAM learning, while developing the social and emotional skills required for successful teamwork and collaboration. The focus of robotics in our schools is on getting students excited about acquiring skills that will help them in college, the workforce, and life.

This year, the AMS robotics teams competed against 45 teams from the region in Fruita. In just its third year, AMS had four teams advance to the First Lego League State Championships: the Robot Rookies, Electric Blitz, TuxBots, and AIR. We are so proud of all of our students.

Visual and performing arts are essential to the development of creativity, resilience, and self expression. With AEF and community support, we are fortunate to have a strong theater, music, and studio arts program in the school district. Our District Theater regularly showcases our talented student performers, and our district has formed a strong partnership with Theatre Aspen to enhance theater in the schools.

"Robotics showed me the true value of teamwork! I accomplished missions that I never thought would be possible. Working with the robots was a big challenge, but when I saw them complete the missions that we coded, it was very fulfilling. My favorite parts of the program were coding the robots, seeing all of its capabilities, presenting our innovation project to the panel of judges, and seeing our hard work bring us to third place in Regionals and then onto States! I can't wait to see what we can achieve next year!"

Sam Gilmore

'Electric Blitz' Team, AMS 5th Grade



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASD

CREATED

To ensure that all future generations of Aspen students will have access to robotics, we have a strong Robotics Endowment.

100

AHS students concurrently enrolled at AHS/CMC in a graphic design course earning college credit (in 2022/23)



"The breadth of programs available at Aspen High School is outstanding. Whether you are throwing on the wheel for the first time in the ceramics club or learning how to prototype mechanisms for FTC Robotics, whatever experience you seek will be of quality. The dedication of the staff and the support behind these programs allow students to figure out what they're passionate about."

Andy Bass

ASD K-12

AHS Class of 2023

University of California, Berkeley 2027

International Baccalaureate Program

We are so excited that Aspen School District has taken the next step to add a second IB-authorized World School. In June of 2023, ASD was authorized for the Middle Years Programme (MYP) which includes grades 6-10 at both AMS and AHS, adding to our already existing IB Diploma Programme (DP) in grades 11-12. During the 2022-23 school year, we sent 24 teachers/administrators to MYP workshops and 12 teachers to additional training for the DP. In 2023-24, we will pursue the authorization of our Primary Years Programme (PreK-5).

Offering the International Baccalaureate programmes throughout ASD has increased the rigor and opportunities available to our students. Offering a curriculum that challenges our students to ask questions, instead of memorizing, incorporates open-minded thinking and problem-solving. Additionally, adding IB to grades 6-10 will connect our schools and support students' progression from grade to grade using the same approach to learning. It aligns our district with a common philosophy and framework. As the program progresses, AEF is committed to providing the funding necessary to bring IB learning to all students.



100%

of our seniors took
an IB class during
their time at AHS

12

seniors earned the
IB Diploma in 2023

\$200k

AEF's 2023/24
program gift to fund
IB implementation



*AEF: What part of your education do you feel best prepared you for next year?
"Definitely IB diploma. It was soooooo crucial to my learning. I had to learn so many time management skills and doing things I didn't want to do, such as the Extended Essay."*

Josie Siegried
ASD 10-12
AHS Class of 2023
University of Notre Dame 2027



"A combination of all of my IB classes best prepared me for next year. I formed relationships with all of my teachers that really helped me understand and respect the importance of their lessons."

Haylie Hopson
ASD 5-12
AHS Class of 2023
University of Colorado 2027

Post-Secondary Counseling

The Aspen High School Post-Secondary Counseling Program is dedicated to helping all students make the best possible decision for their time after high school. The Post-Secondary team prepares each student for after high school success via one-on-one meetings, parent evenings, and student workshops and classes. This year, our 127 seniors applied to 240 distinct public and private colleges and universities. 115 will attend college, 4 will attend trade school, 4 will participate in continuing education transitional programs, and 2 will enter the workforce. Of these students, 6 will take a gap year before college to pursue service, travel, career exploration or competitive sports (skiing, hockey). Our counselors helped each student find the right path for after high school. We are so proud of their choices!

How is this individualized attention possible in a public school setting? AEF funds one of the full-time Post-Secondary counselors. Each counselor works with juniors and seniors, and has a student:counselor ratio of 134:1. The American School Counselor Association recommendation is 250:1. This is truly a rare opportunity in a public school today. Additionally, In April of 2023, our post-secondary office hosted 30 of the country's finest admissions directors and counselors to guide our parents and students through a mock application process. The small and intimate group exercise between students and admissions counselors was an incredible and rare experience. Stay tuned for the 2024 date!



"The theater application for college is more work than I could have imagined and Charlie was immensely helpful. A lot of kids have an outside counselor, but I opted not to. The AHS post-secondary office gave me all of the information necessary, helped me manage my time and the steps necessary and really helped me achieve my dreams."

Haver Muss-Nichols

ACS K-7, AHS 9-12
AHS class of 2023
New York University, Tisch Drama 2027

134:1

student:counselor ratio.



95%

of students applied
and were accepted
to college

"Karen Hawkes was an incredible support in the entire college counseling process at AHS. She truly went above and beyond in her work, with an attention to detail and genuine care for each student that I had not experienced in my school in LA. From reading thousands of my college essays and supplement drafts to generously advocating for me to my dream school, Karen is not only an amazing college counselor but an incredible person with kindness and a genuine care for her students that is rare to find."

Océane Jones

ASD 10-12
AHS class of 2023
Columbia University 2027



"The post-secondary office was vital to my success and ultimate admittance to my dream school. Being a first gen student they were an incredible resource in all the aspects of the college journey. I would never have known how to navigate the process without them!"

Ricardo Saucedo

ASD PK-12
AHS class of 2023
Dartmouth University 2027

The Aspen Promise

The Aspen Promise is an endowed scholarship fund at AEF. It was founded by the Lichtenwalter Family, and strengthened by the Styslinger Family, Steven and Kiki Esrick, and the Esther Pearlstone Family. This scholarship helps promising and principled students access a college education. This year, AEF Board Members Raifie Bass and Kurt Hall were thrilled to present The Aspen Promise Scholarship to ten new recipients, and to renew the scholarships for five other college students.

AEF also administers the William Sandersen Veterans Memorial Scholarship, which aims to help students persevere through college. This year, two graduates from the class of 2023 received the Sandersen Scholarship.

We are so proud of all of these deserving students. We can't wait to see what their futures hold!



"My Biology, English, and Math have been both my most difficult and most rewarding classes I've taken. I feel very strong when it comes to writing analytical papers, solving complex calculus problems, and understanding systems in the body and environment,"

Claire Anderson

ASD K-4, 9-12
AHS Class of 2023
Washington University in St. Louis 2027



"After 15 years, it is hard to believe that our time as ASD parents has come to an end. We will always appreciate the passion, leadership, kindness and talent of our Aspen teachers, staff and administration. Thank you so much for treating each student as an individual, recognizing strengths and differences, and encouraging Aspen students to be their best. Our three children would not be where they are today without the quality of the education, inspiring opportunities and impactful experiences provided by the Aspen School District."

Kimberly & Bradley Schlosser - parents

Alex, AHS class of 2023, Vanderbilt University 2027
Sophie, AHS class of 2019, Syracuse University 2023
Razzi, AHS class of 2017, Tufts University 2021

Mental Health Support & Aspen Family Connections

Supporting the Whole Child

Working closely with the district, AEF is committed to funding positions and programs to support our students' emotional well-being. For the last four years, AEF funded a second counselor in the Aspen Middle School (AMS). This year, with the help of an individual donor, AEF has added a second counselor to the Aspen Elementary School (AES). This has enabled our school counselors to be in touch with every student and to offer counseling services back-to-back every day. With the added support, our counselors are now able to be proactive with social and emotional learning. There are school and class meetings on how to treat each other, anti-bullying, and how to ask for help and support when you need it - all work that was not possible with one counselor.

AEF is also very proud to support Aspen Family Connections (AFC) as one of our priority programs. Aspen Family Connections is a family resource center, created to connect all Pitkin County children, youth, and families with a wide range of community resources. This might be academic and extra-curricular support, social/emotional and mental health counseling, summer activities - or anything else - to help our youth succeed. AFC has proven to be a critical partner in the well-being of our students and families.



"I love how welcoming our school district is and how we attempt to make all things equitable. I love how approachable all the teachers are and the safe, positive, accepting and loving environment that has been created here. ASD is filled with amazing courses taught by the most special of teachers who have truly made my school experience beyond amazing. I'm grateful for everyone that works in the school and has helped me become who I am today!"

Sophie Genshaft

ASD K-12
AHS class of 2023
University of Wisconsin 2027



160

AFC served 160 families and over 400 children this year

20+

new AMS clubs created with local community partners

"The Salmon Foundation funds mental health support in our schools because we believe that social emotional learning should be an equal part of the academic curriculum and should be accessible to every student. The Aspen schools offer so many unique life-skill learning opportunities, and teaching our kids from a young age that it's ok to ask for help is another layer of the strong foundation for success being built every day in the Aspen schools. The ability to give to this aspect of education is a true honor for us and we are so appreciative of AEF's commitment of mental health support in our school community."

Diana Duffey & Vince Lahey - parents

Sebastian Pedinelli, AHS Class of 2021, Gonzaga University 2025
Luca Pedinelli, AHS Class of 2023, Gonzaga University 2027

Community Partnership Spotlight: Aspen Words

AEF believes that partnerships with the world class institutions, located right here in our backyard, can elevate our student experience even further. During the 2022/23 school year, we launched a pilot program with Aspen Words, the literary organization that is part of the Aspen Institute, to design a program that would bring poetry through Aspen Words to Aspen Middle School.

For one week, three visiting poets from Aspen Words — Natasha Carrizosa, Joaquín Zihuatanejo and Logan Phillips —led 46 in-class poetry workshops with students at AMS. Students had regular in-class sessions with the option of additional workshops with these renowned poets throughout the week. It was a rare opportunity to be exposed to the art of poetry and for so many students to explore a new literary form. The engagement and interest was incredible.

The culmination of their workshop was a poetry slam at the Black Box Theatre with poet Natasha Carrizosa as the emcee. Families packed the house while students showed confidence, bravery, and support of one another. We are thrilled about the Aspen Words partnership and can't wait for more collaboration in the future. We could not have asked for a better community partner!

"Aspen Words has been hosting workshops in schools throughout the Roaring Fork Valley for well over a decade; but the Aspen Education Foundation allowed us to bring our poetry programming to the next level in 2022 at Aspen Middle School. AEF believed in the importance of securing nationally renowned poets and teaching artists to inspire youth in every English Language Arts class. Their partnership also allowed us to bring students, parents, and teachers together to showcase the unique and powerful voices of middle schoolers in the community. We are looking forward to building upon this partnership for years to come!"

Caroline Tory
Managing Director, Aspen Words



"The Aspen Words collaboration was transformational for so many of our students and the trickle effect has been beautiful to witness. This summer, rising 6th grade AMS student Tamir Finesilver read his poem in front of Margaret Atwood at the Aspen Words Book Ball. His confidence and pride was truly magical. Without the ASD/Aspen Words partnership, this would have never been possible!"

Jess Barnum
Reading Specialist, AMS



"I will always be grateful for my extraordinary experiences in the Aspen School District. I was given countless opportunities to be inspired and pursue academic excellence. Not only was I able to engage in the material and challenge myself academically, but I was able to focus on areas of my personal interest where I genuinely wanted to learn more. Knowing my teachers wanted me to succeed just as much, if not more than I did, caused me to constantly push my academic limits. My teachers and the staff were a huge part of my success at Aspen High School."

Alex Schlosser
ASD K-12
AHS Class of 2023
Vanderbilt University 2027

Flamingo 2022

Our annual Flamingo fundraiser is the highlight of AEF's fundraising year. Continuing with the success of our most recent Flamingo events, attendees again "flocked" to different local restaurants in town and took over downtown Aspen for a night. The theme was Vintage & Velvet, and our community showed up in style for a night that was festive, celebratory, and intimate. There was a spirited live auction with trips and unforgettable experiences that raised record amounts for the school.

The record breaking event this year is a testament to how broad the support of the community is for Aspen public schools, and how strongly the community supports the initiatives we strive to bring to our students and schools year-after-year. Thank you for a night and a year that we will never forget! We would also like to thank our amazing restaurant partners: Betula; Cache Cache; Campo de Fiori; Hooch; Las Montanas; Mi Chola; Steakhouse No. 316; and Woody Creek Tavern, and our after-party partners: Caribou Club and The Sterling Aspen!



Flamingo, December 2, 2022

EVENT SPONSORS

Tracy & Bubba Eggleston
Molly & William Gilmore
John Mahedy
Jennifer & David Millstone
Mary & Pat Scanlan
Sarah & Paul Sohn
The Styslinger Family
Allison & Randall Bone and
Amy & Jeff Verschleiser

TABLE SPONSORS

The Berger Family & The
Zilberman Family
Esther & Craig Navias
Obermeyer Wood
Tom Clark
Kimberly & Brad Schlosser
The Stiller Family & The
Butler Family
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Vanessa Obregon & Edgar
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Alpine Bank
Michelle & Raifie Bass and
Elizabeth Plotke & Kurt Hall
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Brodsky Family
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CP Restaurant Group,
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Hendrickson Construction
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EVENT COMMITTEE

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Cori Berger
Cathy Bern
Allison Bone
Nikola Burrell
Jeffie Butler
Ross Daniels
Diana Ettlinger
Emily Farrell
Alex Ferreira
Molly Gilmore
Anna Hansen
Ellie Knaus

Lyndsey Haynie
Pippa McHugh
Karl Peterson
Max Rispoli
Michelle Stiller
Amy Verschleiser

TEACHER TABLE SPONSORS

Anonymous
Victoria & Adam Stevenson

A Special Thank You To:

EKS Events, Local Spirits,
Alex Ferreira, and Casey
Altman Design.

AEF Alumni

With over 1,600 active members, the Aspen High School Alumni Association on Facebook has been revitalized to help former AHS students connect with one another, and for faculty and leadership at the Aspen School District to share exciting news, opportunities to engage with the school or to welcome newly minted seniors to the Alumni group. With the assistance of AEF board member and AHS Alum, Maxwell Rispoli, Class of 2010, the group has grown in size and in active participation. As the group continues to grow and develop, Max hopes to enable the platform to aid in the establishment of future alumni events, class reunions and keep the group connected with the wider Aspen community.

This year, AHS Alum Casey Altman, Class of 2010, did all of the digital design and graphics for the 2022 Flamingo, our biggest Flamingo event yet. The community response to Casey's incredible flamingo design was a hit!

If you are interested in joining the Alumni group, please find us on Facebook at "Aspen High School Alumni Association".



Casey Altman
AHS Class of 2010



Maxwell Rispoli
AHS Class of 2010 and
AEF Board Secretary



AEF Ambassadors 2022/23

Andy Bass, Co-President
Haver Muss-Nichols, Co-President

Mady Haerter	Stella Sherlock
Grace Hollander	Sophia Theriot
Michaela Kenny	Peyton Thomas
Lauren Kinney	Sonya Tralins
Taylor Lewis	Clea Welden
Luca Pedinielli	

AEF Ambassadors

AEF believes that students are the best spokespeople for our programs and the impact that they have. In addition to helping AEF introduce our organization to families at back-to-school night and at the Flamingo fundraiser, student ambassadors also volunteer throughout the year in meaningful ways, like raising money for Aspen Family Connections or creating a pen-pal program with senior citizens in our valley.

Our 2022/23 Ambassador Co-Presidents, Andy Bass and Haver Muss-Nichols, supported our organization in both ambassador recruitment efforts and in creating a video series for our social media channels, called the AEF Student Series. This ongoing project features lively, engaging interviews about various programs that AEF supports. [Here is an example](#) from the popular Student Series on Mental Health in our schools. We can't wait to see what the AEF Ambassador Club does in our schools and community next year!



"AHS was very supportive of my ski competition schedule. My counselors worked with me to create a schedule where I could take rigorous IB classes while also taking time off in the winter to compete and train. Additionally my teachers were very understanding and flexible. They worked with me often giving me assignments ahead of time so I could stay on track if I would be missing school. Overall AHS allowed me to not have to choose between skiing and school, I could excel at both."

Selby Hall
ASD 5-12
AHS Class of 2023
Montana State University

Donor List

We are truly fortunate to live in a community that values strong public education. It is because of these supporters that our schools are filled with possibility. We would like to take this time to thank our donors from our 2022/23 fundraising years.

\$100,000+

Debra and Reza Abbaszadeh*
Adam and Melony Lewis**
John Mahedy**

\$50,000+

Anonymous
Vanessa Obregon and Edgar Farah
Mary and Patrick Scanlan**
Sarah and Paul Sohn*
Katya and Zach Sternberg*
Nicole and Jason VandeBoom
Stephanie and Dan Zilberman*

\$25,000+

Daniel Abrutyn
Anonymous
Sabrina and Stephane De Baets
Bubba and Tracy Eggleston
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\$10,000+

Alpine Bank*
Anonymous*
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Kimberly and Brad Schlosser
Emily and Rich Simeone
Hillary and Scott Simon
Jen and Mike Tullar
Laura and Michael Umansky
Vectra Bank
Woody Creek Distillers

\$5,000+

Shannon and Glenn Andrews
Anonymous
The Aspen Skiing Company
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Sonya and Guillaume Auvray
Michelle and Raif Bass
Marc and Cathy Bern
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Victoria and Adam Stevenson
Michelle and Kenneth Stiller*
Billy Stolz
Ellie and Adam Szykiel
Judy and Michael Wood
Kelly Doherty and Michael Woodrow

* lifetime giving of \$100,000+

** lifetime giving of \$250,000+

*** lifetime giving of \$500,000+

Our sincere apologies if we omitted a name

Donor List

\$2,500+

Alicia and Daniel Adams
The Beaufort Foundation, Inc
Gavin Beekman
Pamela and Jim Bolger
Jeffie Butler
Lee and Keith Bryant
Cathy and Thomas Crum
Andrea and Jim Detterick
Ashley and Andrew Ernmann
Lyndsey and Eric Haynie
Chris and Wendy Hendrickson
Jack Hilty
Adriann and Chris Kelly
Mid-Shore Community Foundation
Robin and Kenny Smith
Carrie and Joseph Wells
Kari Wells

\$1000+

Vanessa and Michael Adam
Alison Agley
Anna and Lance Armstrong
Aspen Community Foundation
Associated Jewish Charities of Baltimore
(Pearlstone)
May Bory
Marilyn Bouldin
Meghan Buck
Christine and Rick Case
John Cavalieri
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Our sincere apologies if we omitted a name

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We would also like to thank
those previous donors
whose life time giving has
exceeded \$100,000:

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Donor Spotlight

Katya and Zach Sternberg

Sasha Sternberg, 4 years old

Piola Sternberg, 1 year old

In the spring of 2021, AEF was approached by Katya and Zach Sternberg. They wanted to help our students recover from the impact of Covid-19. Of particular interest to Katya and Zach was supporting the mental health of our students. At that time, Aspen Elementary had only one counselor for 500 students. Without hesitation, Katya and Zach offered to fund an additional counselor in the elementary school for the next three years. Because of their incredible generosity, Aspen Elementary now falls within the recommended ratio of 1 counselor per 250 students, and our K-4 students have benefited directly from having Steven and Shae, the beloved counselors at Aspen Elementary, in their school and life. The donation from Katya and Zach, and the work of Steven and Shae, has been transformational for our elementary school!

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As we head into 2023-2024, there is a feeling of optimism in the air in ASD. We are well on our way to becoming an IB School District Pre-K through 12th. As the only school district (in the world) to apply for this status during the pandemic we have kept true to the vision of IB for all and were approved as a Middle Years Program school towards the end of the school year. We are thrilled to be applying for the elementary program known as Primary Years Programme and hope to have good news by the end of the year. On other fronts, the construction efforts are going well, and we will soon be well poised for the next 20 to 30 years. Housing for staff has doubled and while more is needed we are, in no uncertain terms, optimistic that we will continue to address our housing situation. So, on all three key fronts we are moving forward firmly: academics, physical plant, and housing. We look forward to a great year, and because of AEF we are shifting from good to great!

Dave Baugh, Superintendent