



MAIZE
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

To say that this past year has been “different” would be a huge understatement. What began as a very exciting year changed course rather abruptly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Just like the rest of you, we continued forward the best way we knew how and continued to pursue our goals for the year.

For us, it goes without saying that we would not be able to accomplish so much in one year without your support. But this year, more than ever, we extend our gratitude to the community, for the generosity of our donors and sponsors, and also to the educators and parents who continue working so hard to support our students. Thank you all for being part of our education family and helping us in our mission to provide Maize students with the opportunities they need to find success.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Brungardt".

Brandon Brungardt
MEF Board of Directors
President, 2019-20

2019-2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Maize Education Foundation Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2020

Assets

Checking Account	\$11,577
Money Market Account	\$135,485
Investments	\$24,156
Total Assets	\$171,218

Net Assets

Unrestricted Funds	\$134,447
Restricted Funds	\$12,615
Restricted Endowment	\$24,156
Total Net Assets	\$171,218

*unaudited





STUDENT ENRICHMENT GRANTS

FUNDING STUDENT GROWTH

The Maize Education Foundation strives to support opportunities that encourage Maize students to find their own versions of success and to become responsible, civically engaged young adults.

Students in grades 7-12 can apply for a grant of up to \$500 to help cover the costs associated with enrichment activities like leadership seminars, expeditions, educational camps, national competitions, and more.

This year, thanks to the help of school administrators, counselors, teachers, and parent organizations, we received a record number of 58 applications for some really great activities.

We are proud to have awarded 22 grants totaling \$9,780 in the 2019-20 school year, which helped students start beehives, and attend Gonzaga Debate Institute, National Journalism Convention, and more wonderful enrichment experiences.

Due to COVID-19, a number of activities were cancelled or postponed until 2021. Funds that were already awarded have been transferred to the same activity in 2021.

CHALLENGE GRANTS



This year, we witnessed an elementary school STEAM program come to life thanks to funding support from one of our Challenge Grants. Other educators in the district are already trying to use this program as a model for their own buildings.

We are also proud to have helped school counselors across the district implement strategies and resources to help students with self-regulating emotions - leading to a reduction in “out-of-classroom” time, which helps keep students engaged and learning with their peers and feel less isolated and excluded.

During late spring, our school buildings were closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and our May meeting was held virtually to review and select this year’s Challenge Grant recipients. As usual, we received some very excellent applications, but also felt the need to be more conservative with this year’s funding in anticipation of heightened needs and potentially fewer donations in 2020-21.

One of this year’s grants provides additional resources for students who struggle with dyslexia. Ashley Proehl received a \$1,242 grant for ***Structured Reading for At-Risk Learners*** to provide additional support to those students and keep them on pace with their peers.

MEF awarded 6 Challenge Grants totaling \$15,124 for programs we will see launched in the 2020-21 school year. To see a full list of our 2019-20 Challenge Grant recipients, please visit www.maizeeducationfoundation.org/challenge-grants.

RECOGNIZING DEDICATED STAFF

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS



Each year, district and building leaders honor individuals throughout the district for the amazing work they do for the district and its mission of **connecting, learning, and leading**.

These individuals are nominated by their peers, and the Maize Education Foundation is proud to join the district in recognizing these individuals by presenting each winner with a \$25 award as a way to thank them for their dedication to helping Maize students succeed.

MEF awarded \$600 in 2019-20 to honor the 24 recipients of the Celebrating Excellence in Education Awards recognizing both Licensed and Support Staff throughout the Maize School District.

SCHOLARSHIPS

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Maize Education Foundation continues the support of graduating Maize USD 266 students by offering a number of scholarships each year.

During the 2019-20 school year, the Foundation maintained two memorial scholarship funds and awarded a total of \$4,000 in scholarships.

The **Shelley Woodard Poynter Memorial Scholarships** are offered to Maize USD 266 seniors in memory of Shelley Woodard Poynter, a graduate of Maize High School and Maize teacher and coach, who lost a hard-fought battle with cancer after 13 years. One Maize High School and one Maize South High School senior received a \$500 scholarship each spring.

The **Kyle Thornburg Memorial Soccer and Art & Design Scholarships** are offered to Maize USD 266 seniors in memory of Maize High School graduate, Kyle Thornburg, whose life was taken by a drunk driver. Each year, \$1,000 is awarded to one graduating senior who participated in soccer. \$1,000 is also awarded to a graduating senior with plans to pursue a career in Art, Architecture, or other visual arts and design fields.

FOUNDATION LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

The Maize Education Foundation Legacy Scholarship was created in 2019 and is awarded to graduating seniors who demonstrate the core values of the Foundation and have shown innovation and creativity in defining their version of success and a tenacious drive to achieve that success in spite of obstacles that may appear in their path.

Each year, the Foundation awards one \$500 scholarship to a graduating Maize High School student and one \$500 scholarship to a graduating Maize South High School student.

Scholarships are available to students who plan to pursue additional training and/or education in pursuit of their goals. Those plans may include college/university, technical/trade school and a variety of other training and certificate programs.

MEF CORE VALUES

The Maize Education Foundation's core values include dedication, perseverance, innovation, civic responsibility, passion, integrity, tenacity, and compassion.

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers:

Brandon Brungardt, President - Hutton
Tyler Harrison, VP - Heartland Credit Union
Sarah Kueser, Treasurer - Credit Union of America
Rachel Bell, Secretary - Kansas Turnpike Authority

Board Members:

Marci Barragan - Credit Union of America
Julie Eastlick - Maize South Middle School
Jamie Harrison - Meritrust Credit Union
Elina Spiegel - Equity Bank

Members at Large:

Sean Jones - Wichita Public Library
Stacy Woodard - Maize Community Member

Ex-Officio Members:

Chad Higgins, Superintendent of Maize Schools

Staff:

Travis Bloom, Executive Director

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.

In support of that belief, the Maize Education Foundation supports programs and opportunities that enhance the education and post-secondary preparation of students within the Maize School District, especially those opportunities that instill and inspire our core values in Maize students, who one day will become the stewards of our community. These core values include **dedication, perseverance, innovation, civic responsibility, passion, integrity, tenacity, and compassion.**

Our mission is to work with school and community leaders to pilot educational and enrichment programs, develop new curricula, and champion innovative and advanced experiential and project-based learning opportunities for all students.

It is our vision that Maize students will be the most prepared, the most competitive, and the most successful future students, employees, citizens, and leaders in the region upon graduating from the Maize School District.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 23, 2021 | REFLECTION RIDGE

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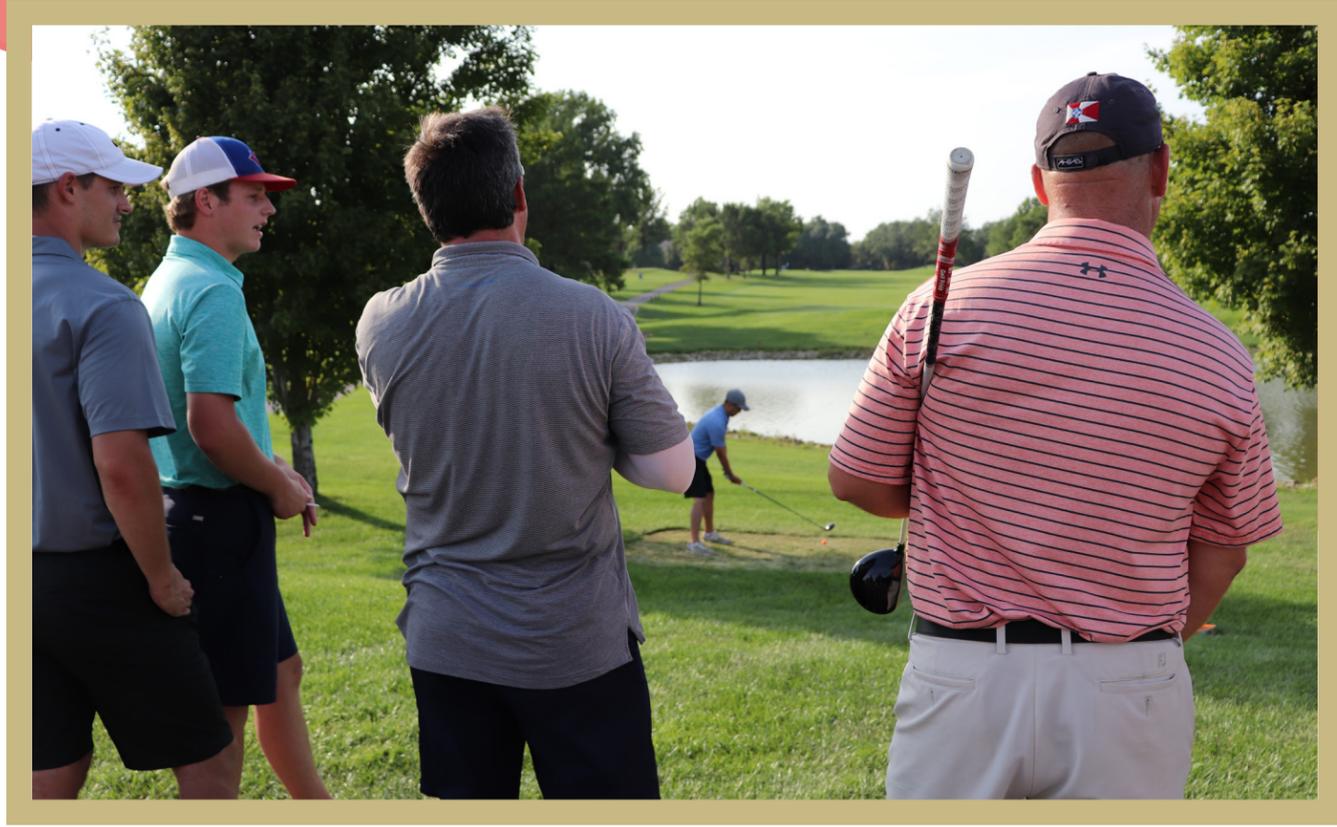
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Maize United Methodist Church
McClelland Sound
M&M Lawn Care
NCRI
Northridge Vet Clinic & Rehab
PEC
Perfection Masonry

11TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



We are grateful to all of our sponsors and volunteers who helped us raise more than \$39,000!

RCB Bank
RLC at Reflection Ridge
Shelter Insurance
SJCF Architecture
Texas Roadhouse
Trinity Sales
Vet Emergency & Specialty Hospital

2020 SPRING BREAKFAST

In the spring of 2020 the Foundation was ready to host its second Spring Breakfast Fundraiser at Botanica in Wichita, bringing together members of the Maize and Wichita area business and education communities.

Woodshop and welding students had been creating beautiful centerpieces, recent student grant recipients were preparing to participate in a panel discussion, and our culinary arts students were finalizing the breakfast menu. But in the end, we cancelled this year's event due to COVID-19.

We are incredibly grateful to the many sponsors and ticketholders who still donated nearly \$14,000 in honor of the breakfast so that the Foundation could continue its work.



Presenting Sponsor



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Program Sponsors

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Brooke Grizell

COMMUNITY OF GIVING



STAFF GIVING

We would argue that the staff in the Maize School District are the best in the state. But more than how simply a-Maize-ing they are, they are some of our biggest supporters.

All district staff have an opportunity to pledge a recurring gift that is deducted each pay period from their payroll checks. .

Staff contributed more than \$14,000 in the 2019-20 school year, and many even volunteered their time to help with our programs and fundraisers throughout the school year.

We could not be more grateful and proud for that kind of support from our own educators!

#GIVINGTUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is a day of giving all over the globe. And this year, our generous community contributed almost \$1,000 during this special time.

DONATE

Your donations help provide the Foundation with the funds it needs to maintain its operations while providing grants and supporting programs throughout the Maize School District.

Currently, Challenge Grants, Student Enrichment Grants, Legacy Scholarships, Student Workshops, and First Year Teacher Grants along with administrative costs constitute our areas of greatest need.

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer support is critical to our mission. Not only do we need help putting on fundraising events, we need volunteers of every kind in the office, in the schools, and out in the community.

If you'd like to support the Foundation, but are not able to contribute financially, please let us know. You'd be surprised how you might be able to help.

SPONSOR

Consider sponsoring our Spring Breakfast Fundraiser and join the Wichita area business-education community for an energizing morning event. If you prefer the outdoors, sponsor our annual Charity Golf Tournament at Reflection Ridge. Various levels of sponsor opportunities are available for both events.

CORPORATE MATCHING

Employee matching programs are corporate giving programs in which the company matches donations made by employees to eligible nonprofit organizations. It's an easy way to double your contribution to us.

Contact your employer's HR or community giving department to find out if your donation is eligible for a company match.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

For more information, contact Travis Bloom at 316-350-2029 or at tbloom@usd266.com.

Find us on  @MaizeEducationFoundation

