

Supporting Schools. Investing in Our Future.

2025 Annual Report





Our vision is that **all** students— of every **race, culture, socioeconomic and family status, language, ability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation— graduate as engaged community members, ready to contribute** to their **fullest potential** and **navigate the world's complexities.**

At the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation, we are filled with immense gratitude and pride for the work we have accomplished together with you, our community of supporters.

In the past year, public education has faced significant challenges, including decreased funding due to declining enrollment, a broken state funding model, and cuts in federal and state programs that serve our most vulnerable students. Amidst these challenges, Corvallis public schools have remained a safe, enriching, and welcoming place for all, because **we know that public education is the foundation of our community.**

Thanks to your unwavering support, we have provided critical resources to students experiencing barriers to education such as homelessness, poverty, trauma, mental-health and other challenges—opening the door to learning, and unlocking the potential in every student.

Your contributions funded transformative programs like the Bridges Program that meets students' unique needs in a trauma-informed environment; provided grants for art, music, STEM, and other enrichment programs; empowered educators to innovate in the classroom; and funded real-world learning opportunities that help all our students engage in their education and find success. None of this would be possible without you.

Your gifts didn't just meet a need—they sent a clear message at a critical time: **Corvallis cares about public education!**

As we look ahead, we know we will face more challenges, and we cannot meet them alone. But we are filled with hope and inspiration, knowing that you share our dedication to ensuring that every student has the resources they need to succeed in the classroom and beyond.

Thank you for believing in the power of education and for partnering with us to fulfill our mission. Your support is an investment in our community's future!



Leslie Hammond

Leslie Hammond
Chair of the Board of Trustees



Angela Hibbard

Angela Hibbard
Executive Director



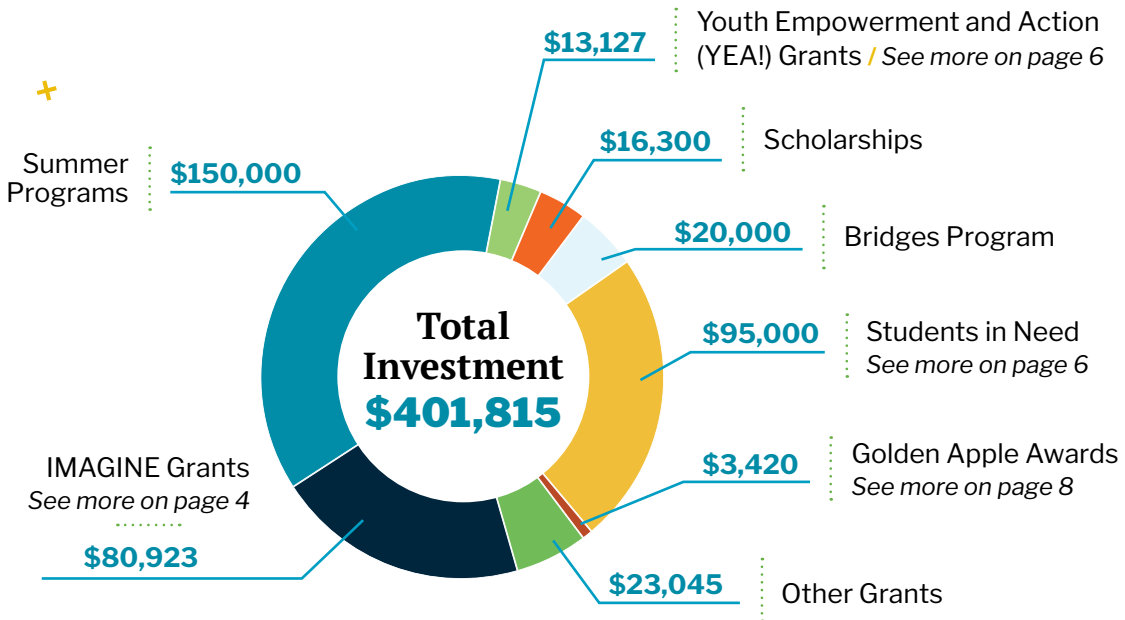
Thank you for giving me a second chance... The opportunity will not be taken for granted.

High school credit recovery student



Grants & Awards in 2025

Our grants and awards help students succeed by prioritizing *educational access, learning enrichment, and academic support*. Last year, thanks to our community's support, we invested more than \$400K in programs that help students find success and realize their potential.



These awards support **all** 6,051 students in our 13 schools and are made possible thanks, in part, to sustainable support from our endowed funds. *Learn more on page 10*



In addition to these grants and awards, we facilitated more than **\$160K** in direct donations to specific school programs including athletics, robotics, art, music, and more.

Summer Programs

- Benefitted **450** students from pre-K to high school
- 86** high school credits earned
- Programs included math, literacy, culinary arts, urban farm, credit recovery, and more.

For greater details on these grants and awards visit: cpsfoundation.org



IMAGINE Grants

Our IMAGINE Grants invest in educators' ideas that ignite real-world learning, advance equity in education, and enhance students' experience in the classroom and beyond.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and sustained support from our endowed funds, this year we funded **35** of the **67 applications** received for a **total investment of \$80,923**.

These *small* investments have a **BIG** impact!

Read more on page 7

“ I would like to thank the Foundation and the donors for supporting projects that bring the community together and showcase who our families are, where they come from, and celebrate this amazing place we get to live in.

Nancy Davila-Williams, Garfield Elementary Principal



- 1** **\$5,000** / CHS Mariachi Instruments! (Jens Lovtang)
- 2** **\$5,000** / Understanding Trauma: Supporting families to break generational cycles of trauma (Martha Calderon)
- 3** **\$4,400** / AI Advisory Group: Guiding ethical implementation of AI technologies (Amy Lesan)
- 4** **\$4,000** / Instruments for Equity (Andrew Zilar)
- 5** **\$3,940** / Global Spartans – Newcomer Integration for English Language Learners and recent immigrants (Karrie Woodruff)
- 6** **\$3,800** / 3rd Annual Districtwide Art Exhibit: CSD pARTy! (Christa Schmeder)
- 7** **\$3,800** / Art Supper Club: Bridging Culture and Language (Dana Monroe)
- 8** **\$3,200** / International Sports Unit (Jacob Newman)
- 9** **\$3,100** / Rainy Day Play: Gear to get kids outside (Kara Martinez)
- 10** **\$3,000** / Fruit Fly Design with OSU (Catherine Beran)
- 11** **\$3,000** / Partnering Garfield and OSU's STEM Academy (Claudia Cano)
- 12** **\$3,000** / Build and Grow Kits hands-on learning (Danielle Black)
- 13** **\$3,000** / Lincoln School Garden Improvements and ADA-accessibility (Kathy Feser)

- 14** **\$3,000** / LGBTQ+ Student Affinity K-12 Pride Clubs (Aurora Jensen)
- 15** **\$3,000** / R.I.T.M.O Latin music and dance (Maria Oritz)
- 16** **\$2,823** / Everyone Is an Author! Promoting literacy and fostering a love for reading (Dan Reynolds)
- 17** **\$2,500** / Keys for Equity! Portable keyboards (Jakki Moses)
- 18** **\$2,500** / Garfield Mural Part II, visualizing community diversity (Nancy Davila-Williams)
- 19** **\$2,000** / Kinnebar Swings for Life Skills (Brett Locey)
- 20** **\$2,000** / Adams Garden, Rebuild enhancing accessibility (David Abrams)
- 21** **\$2,000** / Adjustable Basketball Hoops for greater accessibility (Elton Kikuta)
- 22** **\$1,958** / Oregon Battle of the Books and Lucha Libre books (Claudia Cano)
- 23** **\$1,355** / Beyond the Classroom: Expanding Young Minds at the Oregon Coast Aquarium (Shayna Hicks)
- 24** **\$1,350** / Animal Adaptations Field Experiences (Emma Poff)

- 25** **\$1,000** / Math Tutors (Heathrina Stanfield)
- 26** **\$1,000** / Staff Renewal and Recovery: A Way to Process Grief (Kela Lynn)
- 27** **\$993** / Van de Graaff electro-static generator (Derek Michalski)
- 28** **\$915** / Mountain View Wetlands Nature Trail (Susan Kolar)
- 29** **\$800** / CVHS Community Picnic Tables (Keith Moses)
- 30** **\$750** / Coffee Cart for Small Student Business (Christine Lodal)
- 31** **\$630** / Estivating Animals 5th Grade Art with Drawing and Clay (Anicia Criscione)
- 32** **\$600** / Developing Social Skills Through Game Play (Lisa Mathews)
- 33** **\$510** / Meaningful Marine Science (Eva Riedlecker-Wolfe)
- 34** **\$500** / Early Bird Breakfast for Harding Center Students (Jennifer Smith)
- 35** **\$500** / Graphic Novels for English Language Learners (Diann Geisbert)

“ This was an experience that definitely went above and beyond what we were offering alone. This grant allowed me to offer more science time to students. It also showed students how interested we are in investing in their elevated experiences and extra opportunities.

Catherine Beran, College Hill High School Teacher

Education in Motion: More than Learning to Ride



For more than 25 years, Corvallis elementary students have been learning how to navigate their world on two wheels. What started as a small bike safety program for fifth graders has grown into one of the longest-running, and most comprehensive, bike education programs in the state.

The program would not have been possible without the generosity of Mid-Valley Bicycle Club and its volunteers. “It’s amazing to see what this program has become,” says longtime MVBC volunteer, Nancy Meitle. “Biking gives kids confidence, independence, and pure joy, and now every student gets that opportunity.”

This past school year marked a major shift for Bike Education when elementary physical education

teachers led the program for the first time ever. Previously delivered by outside volunteer instructors, the program became unsustainable under that model. When asked if they’d consider taking it on, the teachers said “yes,” but under one condition: that the program would expand from exclusively fifth grade to all grades.

“There’s something in it for every child,” says Cassie Minot, Corvallis School District K-5 Bike Education Program Coordinator. “Some are learning to ride for the first time. Others are building independence. You can see their joy and confidence grow. It’s a game changer for both kids and families.”

Thanks to dedicated volunteers and an endowment with the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation, not only has Mid-Valley Bicycle Club been supporting Bike Ed since the beginning, but they’ve also helped secure equipment year after year working with local business, Peak Sports. Whether a student needs an adaptive bike or specialized gear, they make it happen, because true bike education means making space for every child to ride, learn, and belong. 🚲



Traffic Gardens — scaled, kid-sized streetscapes for practicing safe riding in a protected space, typically by the playground — **are coming soon!** The first will debut at Lincoln Elementary, thanks to an Oregon Department of Transportation grant. With support from CPSF, the goal is to bring Traffic Gardens to every Corvallis elementary school. Help us make this exciting vision a reality for all kids!

“Biking gives kids confidence, independence, and pure joy, and now every student gets that opportunity.”



Congratulations to our 2025 Golden Apple winners

Since 1996, the Mario and Alma Pastega Golden Apple Awards have celebrated outstanding educators in the Corvallis School District with this prestigious honor.



Portrait by The Ball Studio

Golden Apple Award winners pictured alongside the Pastega family.

Front (left to right): **Chris Thornburgh**, Cheldelin Middle School; **Kristina Stone**, Crescent Valley High School; **Maria Ortiz**, Lincoln Elementary School, and **Jen Kreta**, Lincoln Elementary School. Back (left to right): Angela Hibbard, Corvallis Public Schools Foundation; Mieka Bartee, Viviana Bartee and Ken Pastega, Mario and Alma Pastega Family Foundation.



Look out for the inaugural **Green Apple Award** next year. Thanks to the endowed Corvallis Green Fund, **this recognition will honor a sustainability champion in the Corvallis School District.**

YEA! Grants

Our Youth Empowerment and Action (YEA!) Grants allow us to direct resources toward innovative, student-driven projects. They provide a unique platform for students to voice their ideas and drive positive change in their schools or the broader community. This year we provided \$13,127 in funding to the following projects:

- 1 **\$2,500** / Robotics Expanded Learning Opportunities—Corvallis High School (Logan Quaka, Marjetta Haapala, & Allison Frugia)
- 2 **\$2,483** / Revive and Ride Bike Shop Improvement Project—Corvallis High School (Woodsie Gibbs, Clay Canan, & Simon Lee)
- 3 **\$2,000** / Exploration into Throwing Ceramics—Cheldelin Middle School (Eli Amort)
- 4 **\$1,200** / Chicken Run—College Hill High School (Anthony Barnes, Kevan Walker-Chun & Connor Shepard)
- 5 **\$1,200** / BIPOC Open Mic Night—Crescent Valley High School (Penelope Seldera-Bahnsen & Lior Onaly-Kelsey)
- 6 **\$1,000** / SAFE Cultural Week—Corvallis High School (Isme Quao)
- 7 **\$948** / Go for Goals—Franklin K-8 (Ben Krawchuk Miller)
- 8 **\$706** / SAFE Climbing Field Trip—Multiple Schools (Joseph Kuang)
- 9 **\$500** / Crescent Valley Youth in Government—Crescent Valley High School (Clarence Fernando)
- 10 **\$300** / STEM Outreach Club—Multiple Schools (Maya Dobson & Emily Gu)
- 11 **\$290** / Repurpose for a Purpose—Cheldelin Middle School (Da-EI Cheong, Sophia HsuBalbi, & Matthew Hoelscher)

To learn more about our YEA! Grants visit cpsfoundation.org/grants-awards/yea-grants



Grants in Action

A glimpse into a few of the many impactful staff and student-led projects from the past year.

Math Tutors

Creation of weekly peer-to-peer math tutoring club



“ I want students to have positive experiences working with math and truly believe that happens a little each week (in the club). I am so thankful for the support and appreciate knowing the community cares about our students’ learning and attitude towards math.

Heather Stanfield, *Linus Pauling Middle School Teacher*

Developing Social Skills Through Gameplay

Building social skills for students with disabilities through cooperative games

“ I was given the gift of teaching through playing games, which has changed the life of at least one student for the better. I believe that is worth it. Plus, this program will continue to grow and continue to impact the lives of learners for many years to come.

Lisa Mathews, *Crescent Valley High School Teacher*



Fruit Fly Experimental Design

Partnership with Oregon State University and Phillips Lab



“ Students completed this unique and rigorous course, with eight weeks of learning about scientific method, collecting real world data, and presenting at OSU Cordley Hall to a room full of grad students and OSU faculty.

Catherine Beran, *College Hill High School Teacher*

Rainy Day Play photos on cover and page 4
Quality rain gear so all kindergarteners can explore outside

“ Not all students have the means to purchase high-quality rain gear. It is so beautiful to see every single student in Kindergarten playing in high-quality rain gear. There is a kindergartener who has special needs who LOVES to play in the mud and water. Before the rain suits were purchased, he was constantly having to change his clothes. Now, he was able to meet his sensory needs to touch and explore while staying dry and clean underneath his rainsuit!

Kara Martinez, *Lincoln Elementary Teacher*

Revive & Ride Bike Shop Improvement Project

Creation of student-run bike maintenance and repair shop

“ One of our repairs was for a student who needed their bicycle to commute to work, and it had broken down so we ended up fixing it. It showed how much people can rely on bikes, and how much of an impact a basic repair can have.

Logan Quaka, *Corvallis High School Student*

Chicken Run
Protect urban chickens from the elements

“ There was this one chicken in the coop, we called her Marissa, who at the start of the warm weather started laying less and less eggs. We kept a close eye on her to see what was wrong and we figured out that it was the heat that was the problem. We figured that a roof or something similar would cool her down and have her back in regular egg laying shape, but more importantly keep her and the other chickens happy, and it did! With the grant we got to build the coop, we built a nice roofed area for our chickens and ever since our chickens have been laying like normal and happier than ever!

Anthony Barnes, *College Hill High School Student*



Investing in Hope: the Power of Support for Families in Need

Every child deserves the lifelong benefits of a quality education. Yet for many students in the Corvallis School District, that opportunity is threatened by unmet needs. More than 300 students are experiencing homelessness, and many more are navigating poverty, trauma, mental health challenges, and other obstacles to learning. For these students and their families, support from their school community can be nothing short of life-changing.

For years, the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation has provided vital resources to the Family Support Program which enables our schools to respond to students' most critical needs. At a time when federal funding for assistance programs is declining, and local needs are on the rise, this work is a lifeline for our most vulnerable families. For these families, support means more than



I'm crying happy tears over here! You don't know how much this means to us.

A mom after receiving a laundry card and emergency clothing for her children

meeting immediate needs, it represents belonging and hope.

Corvallis School District Family Outreach Supervisor, Sarah Devine, underscores the power of this

connection: "When people understand that this money is coming from actual community members who see them and recognize their right to live here, that is super powerful." She explains that many families feel invisible in a town often perceived as wealthy and privileged. The Foundation's support

sends a clear message: they are seen, valued, and included.

One parent, who asked to remain anonymous, shared how Corvallis schools helped her family during a time of homelessness. The district provided a network of support that extended beyond the classroom, offering housing assistance, clothing, and help with medical needs. She credits this stability with transforming her children's outlook on school and their futures, giving them renewed confidence and hope.

Stories like hers illustrate how meeting basic needs opens the door to learning. When children have stable housing, consistent access to food, and the ability to attend school every day, their capacity to learn grows exponentially, laying the foundation for success in the classroom and beyond.

"That sense of hope and connection can be one of the most powerful things we offer," says Devine. In a community where poverty can feel isolating, knowing you are seen and supported can make all the difference. 🌱

Thank you to our community of donors and the following partners for their support of this important work: Church of the Good Samaritan, OCCU Foundation, Rotary Club of Corvallis, and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, Inc.



450 students and their families received support, 316 experiencing homelessness.

\$36,000 in gift cards provided crucial support for food, gas, and laundry services, helping families meet essential needs.



170 emergency bill payments covered critical expenses like utilities, phone bills, car repairs, and more, ensuring stability for families in crisis.

\$15,000 in emergency rental assistance helped prevent evictions for families when no other community resources were available, keeping families in their homes.



80 scholarships for after-school care enabled families to access safe, enriching, and reliable after-school programs.

Food and supply pantries in all 13 schools help students and families access support.



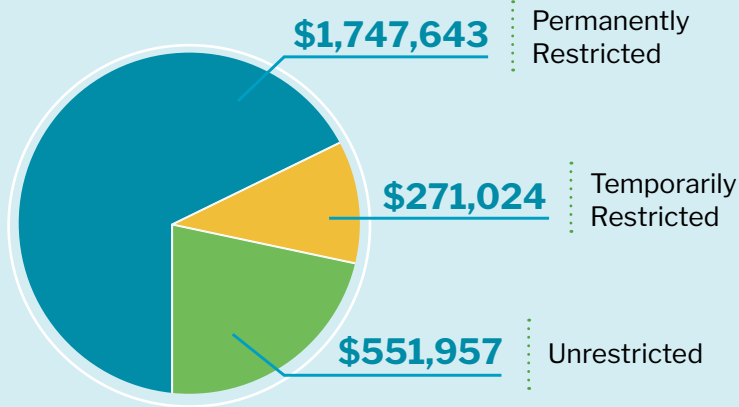
Our Finances in 2025

Covering financials and activities from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

\$2,570,624 Net Assets

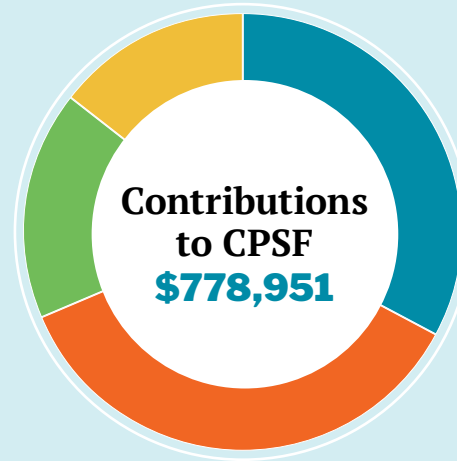
\$2,147,398 in Endowments

Distribution of Net Assets: \$2,570,624



Net Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents:	\$423,226
Investments:	\$2,147,398
Total Net Assets:	\$2,570,624



- Foundations and Other Nonprofits: **\$256,199**
- Households and Individuals: **\$278,869**
- Business and Government: **\$131,860**
- Fundraising Event: **\$112,023**



For a full financial statement, please contact us at 541-757-5857.

Thank you to our Sponsors

We recognize the invaluable contributions of our Hands Across Corvallis and Summer Programs sponsors for their generous support of Corvallis schools.

Sissel Family Impact Fund

STARKER FORESTS, INC.

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KWING WILLAMETTE

THE CURTIS AND DEBORAH ROSE FAMILY CHARITABLE FUND

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CORVALLIS DENTAL GROUP

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Reflects support at \$1,000 and above.

Endowments in 2025

Our endowed funds are designated based on what donors care most deeply about: support for enrichment activities, art and STEM programs, students in need, scholarships, and more. These endowments provide enduring funding that help every student succeed.

Total \$2,147,398 as of June 30, 2025

- » Anna J. H. Fang Scholarship for Journalism and Communication, \$57,771
- » Anna J. H. Fang Scholarship for STEM, \$55,510
- » Barbara E. Fry Endowment, \$288,585
- » Better World Endowment for Equity and Inclusion, \$113,326
- » **New!** Brent Montgomery Babbitt Memorial Fund, \$25,974
- » CHS Class of 1958 Legacy Endowed Fund, \$96,591
- » CHS Class of 1966 Student Participation Fund, \$47,659
- » **New!** Corvallis Green Fund, \$20,853
- » Corvallis High Schools Golf Committee Fund, \$105,575
- » David Zajicek Golf Scholarship Endowment, \$24,086
- » Dennis Staats Scholarship for the Arts, \$34,152
- » Doris L. Meyers Endowment, \$122,656
- » Eric Gorski Multimedia Scholarship Endowed Fund, \$21,622
- » Harold and Alma Moldenke Outdoor School Endowment, \$28,052
- » Hetherington Family Fund, \$18,473
- » Jared Pastega Endowment, \$85,105
- » The Joe Malango Endowment for Theatrical Arts, \$42,816
- » K.C. Bacon Fund, \$28,009
- » Kenneth J. Stevenson Memorial Endowment, \$31,052
- » **New!** Kiilsgaard-Greene Fund for Early Childhood Education Endowment, \$30,236
- » Lynn Lahey Somos el Futuro Scholarship, \$16,400
- » Mario D. Pastega Golden Apple Awards Endowment, \$34,054
- » Mario and Alma Pastega Professional Development Endowment, \$97,415
- » Midge Mueller Fund, \$59,856
- » Mid-Valley Bicycle Club Bike Safety Endowment, \$45,758
- » Olaf "Ole" Hedstrom Memorial Fund, \$13,386
- » Susan Small Hall Scholarship Endowment, \$41,276
- » Victoria Eastwood Memorial Scholarship, \$24,885
- » Yvonne Thomas Fund, \$41,486
- » Zel Brook Art Project Endowment, \$31,396
- » Zach Peters Memorial Fund, \$56,738
- » Zoe A. Silbernagel Endowment for Art, \$25,364



- 1 The Corvallis Green Fund** was established by John Swanson and Jeanne Holmes, with support from generous community members, to recognize sustainability initiatives in the Corvallis School District.
- 2 The Kiilsgaard-Greene Fund for Early Childhood Education Endowment** was established by Sarah Greene and Chris Kiilsgaard to support early childhood education (pre-K to 3rd grade) and District staff pursuing credentialing.
- 3 The Brent Montgomery Babbitt Memorial Fund** was created in memory of Crescent Valley High School graduate and career electrician, Brent Montgomery Babbitt. This fund awards scholarships to CV graduating seniors with plans to pursue vocational or technical training.

Community Support

We are incredibly grateful to the 654 donors who invested in Corvallis students last year. Together, we helped provide resources and opportunities that help every student succeed.

We were a proud sponsor of the annual **Benton County Career Convention** which convened hundreds of community volunteers and local businesses to provide our high school juniors with real-world career exploration.



Leaving a Legacy...

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our legacy donors. These planned gifts, large and small, are a powerful way to ensure our work continues for generations to come. Contact us at 541-757-5857 to learn how you can create a lasting legacy that will have a profound and permanent impact on Corvallis schools.

Visit cpsfoundation.org or call 541-757-5857 to contribute to an endowed fund, or to discuss establishing an endowed fund. Your generosity will provide sustainable support for our schools for years to come.



At our annual Hands Across Corvallis fundraising breakfast, we raised more than \$112K to support our schools. We are incredibly grateful to the 350 community members who came together to invest in students.

We are thankful for our Partners in Education (PIE) donors who provide monthly support for our mission. Their commitment creates reliable, year-round funding for critical programs, classroom innovation, and student support services. Our PIE participants are “core” to our success.



Together with the Corvallis School District we hosted a Community Forum on Education Funding to bring awareness to the impact of legislative changes, the biennial State budget, and the effect of limited local housing on our school budget.



From across Corvallis, donors showed their support for our schools.



Donations were made in honor of:

AJ Richardson • Alex Van Brocklin • Angela Hibbard • Bill Baldrige • Brian Robertson • Carla Callahan • Chris Hawkins • Christy Toliver • Connor Lynch • Connor Thornberry • Corvallis students and families • Corvallis School District staff • Daniel Mikula • Donna Silver • Evan Scheessele • Jane Kiekel • John Swanson and Jeanne Holmes • Kevin Dougherty • Kinder, Second, and Fourth grade teachers at Lincoln Elementary • Kira Mudd • Lincoln Elementary Literacy Teachers • Mark Goheen • CPSF Board of Trustees and support staff • Mindy Hamlin • Mrs. Perkins at CV • Mrs. Smith at LP • Paul Buchanan • Rick Mahoney • Rick Wallace • Ryan Noss • Sami Al-Abdrabbuh • The Charlton Family • Tracy Lengwin • Tristan Van Brocklin • Von Duerfeldt and Rose Dennison • Von, Kira, Alma, Rose, Theo, and Leif • WINGS staff

Donations were made in memory of:

Andrea Thornberry • Bill Corcoran • Bob Rice • Brent Montgomery Babbitt • Curtis McCann • Dennis Staats • Donald Olsson Jr. • Gloria Buckley • Harry Goheen • Jared Pastega • Joe Malango • Joseph E Pilon • Khuyen Do • Louise Van Vliet • Luis Rondon • Lynn Victor • Marjorie Stevens • Mildred Strauss • Cynthia Taylor • Peggy Zelfer • Rose Salvesson • Zach Peters • Zip Zirbel • Zoe Anne Silbernagel

These gifts are a meaningful way to honor or memorialize a loved one, or recognize a favorite educator, while providing support for our schools.



Join us in raising funds to support our schools!



Hands Across Corvallis Benefit Event

Tuesday*, January 27, 2026

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Corvallis High School

To learn more or register visit cpsfoundation.org

*This year's event is on a **Tuesday** (not Thursday)



Scan here to
make a gift today

The content of this report reflects activity from July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025.

*Sincere efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of this report, including names and donations.
If corrections are needed, please contact us at 541-757-5857.*

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