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# THIS YEAR DURHAM HAS SHOWN HOW WE COME TOGETHER TO CARE FOR EACH OTHER.

2020 has been an unpredictable year for everyone, demanding of each of us resilience and flexibility.

One thing that has brought us joy is the vibrancy and strength of our community. This year, our annual report includes a coloring sheet (that's right, pull out your crayons!) on the front and back cover and illustrations throughout featuring the wonderful artwork of DPS student Andy Feiler.

We asked Andy to illustrate the ways our community showed up for students through COVID relief efforts that mobilized over 2,800 people in support of our students.

DPSF also grew our core programming during FY 19/20, establishing the Youth Advisory Council and Teacher Leadership Academy, awarding grants to students and educators, and becoming the organizational home for the Bull City Community Schools Partnership. Read on to learn more about this work, made possible through community investment.

On behalf of the entire DPSF family, we are so grateful for your past support and your ongoing commitment to our DPS students, educators, and families.

Sincerely,

Magan Gonzales-Smith Executive Director

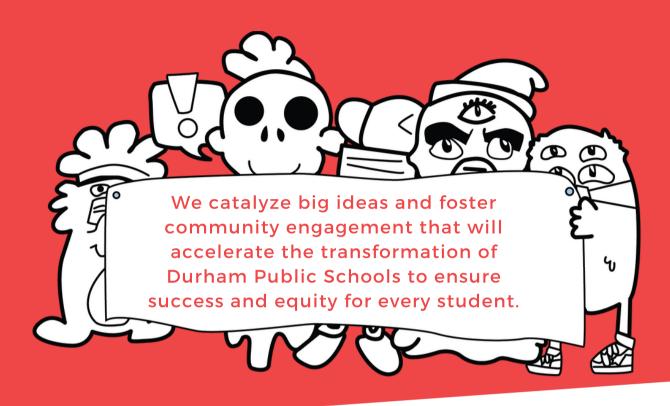


Zack Hawkins Board Vice-Chair



Adam Klein Board Chair





# WE WORK FOR A FUTURE DURHAM THAT HAS

Empowered students, educators and families who create nurturing, challenging learning environments.

Public schools where every student develops a love for learning and skills to thrive in career and life.

An engaged community that supports and invests in our public schools.

# **OUR VALUES**

#### **WE BELIEVE...**

All children can succeed at the highest levels.

Students' and families' voices matter and they know what they need from schools in order to thrive.

Professional educators deserve support.

Public schools can lead in dismantling systemic racism when they address current and historic systems of inequality.

Public schools are crucial to a growing Durham with shared prosperity.

Impact is sustainable when we continuously learn and collect evidence for what works.



# HISTORY

In 2018 a group of education advocates, community leaders and business leaders came together around the shared belief that in order for Durham to have growth and prosperity shared by all of our neighbors we need broad and deep community investment in our public schools.

This group launched the DPS Foundation in fall of 2018 as an independent non-profit that builds community support for public schools and makes strategic investments for improving our public schools.

# **Our Priorities**

July 2019 through June 2020, we grew the programs at the core of our organization. Each program maps onto at least one of our three priorities:



#### **FOSTER EQUITY THROUGH INNOVATION**

Our vision: Students, educators, families, and community leaders come together to create innovative, transformative learning environments that ensure all our students not only attend school together, but thrive together.

#### **INVEST IN OUR PEOPLE**

Our vision: Our students are empowered to drive meaningful changes that address challenges they identify in their schools.

Great educators choose to work and stay in DPS because they feel valued as professionals and are provided meaningful support to grow and innovate.



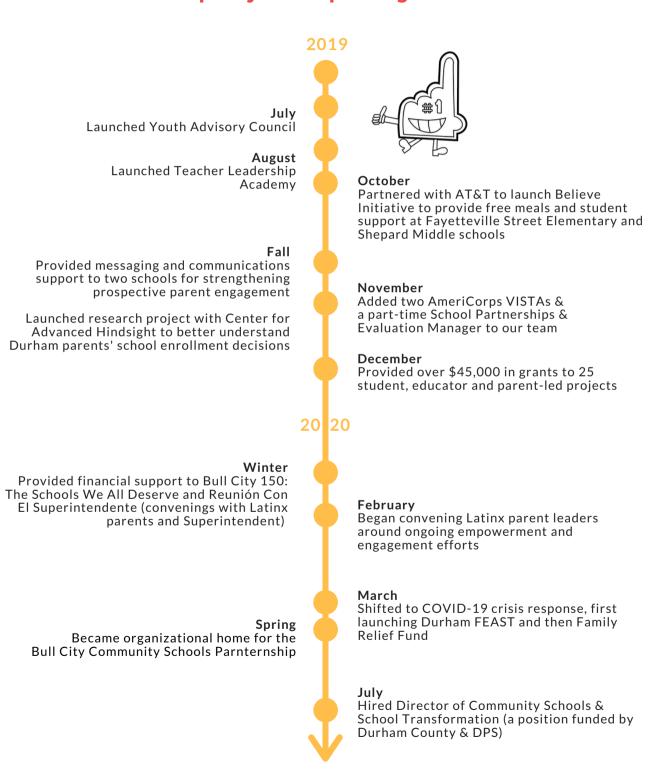


#### **CHAMPION PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Our vision: The Durham community supports and celebrates our public schools. Durham's public schools reflect the racial and socioeconomic diversity of Durham and embody culture and practices that equitably serve every student.

#### Year In Review

The 2019-20 school year was the first full school year DPS Foundation operated with staff. This year we made significant strides in growing our initiatives and capacity before pivoting to address the COVID-19 crisis:



# **08** Equity Through Innovation

#### **Launched the Youth Advisory Council**



For over the past year and a half, the Youth Advisory Council has been working to expand the impact that students in Durham have on issues we care about. Our inaugural meeting centered around the redistricting of public school systems, and how these boundary lines could create an environment where some schools have a completely different set of resources than others--the very definition of inequity!

This launched our discussion about creating equity within our institutions and has led us to plan the successful Youth Equity Summit that covered various topics. Whether talking about youth leadership, or advocating for LGBTQ+ students, we knew we needed to amplify the voice of our fellow students to start increasing student engagement!



- Malkiyah, JDC Early College & Samuel, Hillside High School DPSF Youth Advisory Council members



## **Equity Through Innovation 09**

## Became home to the Bull City Community Schools Partnership

Community Schools seeks to transform schools through community-driven problem solving and wraparound services for students.

The approach is currently being piloted at Lakewood Elementary and Club Boulevard Elementary. DPS Foundation is supporting this effort in partnership with DPS, Durham County, Durham Association of Educators, Community Alliance for Public Education, and Southern Vision Alliance.



If we agree that a "whole-child" approach is necessary, we are faced with the task of organizing our entire community around supporting public schools to achieve this vision.

- Bull City Community Schools Partnership. Learn more at www.bccsp.org



## 10 Investing in Our People

#### Awarded over \$45,000 in grants

for projects designed and led by students, educators and parents.

Funded 25 projects including:

Boys 2 Men Mentoring Program, Fayetteville Street Elementary School
DPS Latinx Professional Learning Network, Northern High School
Neal Student Leadership Team: Increasing Student Voice and Choice
Industry Greenhouse for Outdoor Learning Space, Carrington Middle
Making Family Involvement Accessible for ELLs, Hillside High School
Parent Teacher Conference Block Party, Spring Valley Elementary



See all the amazing projects our school communities are leading with DPSF funds at: www.bullcityschools.org/funded-projects Above: Author Derrick Barnes was the featured speaker at an R.N. Harris Elementary School event supported by DPS Foundation. Students asked thoughtful questions, such as: "How do you keep your cool on days when you have trouble thinking of what to write?" and "Do you remember what was the first book that you read on your own?" In a post-event survey of parents and caregivers, 93% of respondents felt likely or very likely that, "I am more likely to read with my child 5 or more times a week."

## Investing in Our People 11

# Launched Teacher Leadership Academy

to empower teachers to become decisionmakers and change agents in their schools and in our community.



The TLA is a group of dedicated teacher leaders who have been given the wonderful opportunity to develop our leadership skills and learn to be strong advocates for our students, colleagues, and community. We have met with influential leaders such as school board members, county commissioners, city council members and our wonderful Mayor. We have walked the streets of downtown Durham and learned the history of our city. We have sat in creative spaces and learned about resources and opportunities in Durham and have come together to collaborate freely.

We want our students and our community to understand that Durham and DPS is committed to giving our students the BEST educational experience. Generous donations to DPSF of time, finances, expertise, and resources has allowed 20 educators from all over Durham representing elementary, middle, and high school to help ignite and spread the passion and purpose to create change that impacts our students, their families, and ultimately the community as a whole.

- Glenda Narcisse, member of inaugural Teacher Leadership Academy

## 12 Championing Public Schools

# Partnered with Brogden and Lucas Middle Schools to develop communications strategy for prospective parents

Click to view the video from Brogden Middle:



#### Launched research study with Duke's Center for Advanced Hindsight

to apply behavioral science principles to understanding parent's school enrollment decisions.

The research will be concluded early in 2021 and the findings will help inform DPSF's long-term strategy to encourage more Durham families to enroll in our public schools.

# 13 Crisis Response



Providing direct support to students and families during COVID-19

#### **Durham FEAST**

When schools first closed, one of the first urgent needs we saw was providing meal relief for students who rely on free meals at school. Together with our key partners--Durham Public Schools, Durham County, Food Insight Group, and over 25 local restaurants organized by chef Andrea Reusing--we formed a partnership called Durham FEAST to fill a critical gap in DPS food service that the COVID-19 crisis caused.

FEAST provided **627,000+ meals to kids** and **115,000 meals to families** April-July 2020. **1,150+ community members volunteered**.

# **Family Fund**

We also launched a \$100,000 family relief fund that provided \$500 to DPS families experiencing financial hardship due to the crisis for needs such as rental assistance, utilities and food.

"I just wanted to take a moment to thank all those responsible for the assistance I received. I was just wondering a couple of days ago, how I was going to pay the other half of October's rent. Then I pulled this letter from my mailbox today and sighed some relief. I had to resign from the hospital in August with the schools being closed and not having reliable childcare for my son's virtual learning. I'm currently interviewing for positions to fit my families new schedule and hopefully will be able to pay November's rent on my own."

- note from a family member supported by the DPSF Family Fund

#### **HOPE Network**



The HOPE Network is about Harnessing Our Partnerships for Education during this crisis. The network now includes over 50 local organizations and over 100 volunteers (and counting!) who have all signed up to help DPS school communities during this time of crisis and into the future. Learn more: <a href="mailto:dpsfhopenetwork.org">dpsfhopenetwork.org</a>



# Digital Equity Listening Project

We partnered with **Student U** on a listening project to hear directly from DPS students, families and educators about their experiences with remote learning and their input on where our community needs to focus resources and support to ensure digital equity for students. Read what they had to say at: <a href="mailto:bullcityschools.org/listening-project">bullcityschools.org/listening-project</a>

# Accelerating Digital Equity





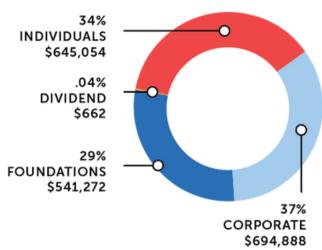
In summer of 2020 we launched a major campaign to raise at least \$1.5 million to support Durham Public Schools in realizing digital equity for every student. With this campaign, we are not only patching a hole that's been ripped open by pandemic - we are accelerating a long-overdue response to inequities in schools. Learn more at: bullcityschools.org/digitalequity

### 15 Financials

July 2019 - June 2020

#### FY 19/20 INCOME

Total income \$1,881,876

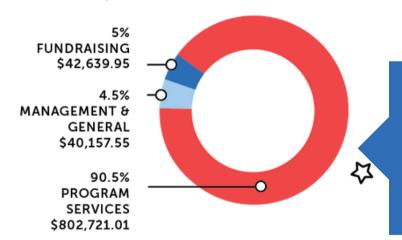




Note: this includes \$1,204,655 contributed by the community for COVID-19 relief efforts including Durham FEAST, the Family Relief Fund, and Accelerating Digital Equity.

#### FY 19/20 EXPENSES

Total expenses \$885,518.51



Note: this includes \$563,454.79 spent in FY19/20 on COVID relief from March-June 2020. This work is ongoing in FY 20/21, follow along at @bullcityschools for the latest updates.

Our financials reflect how we pivoted and you showed up to meet extremely urgent needs facing our students. COVID relief funds will continue to be applied to crisis relief. Additionally, unrestricted funds raised have gone toward our core programming and building a sustainable infrastructure for the organization including retaining 30% of our annual budget in reserves.

#### **Board of Directors**

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Michelle Burton, DPS educator
Javiera Caballero, DPS parent, organizer
Drew Cummings, Durham County
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Matthew Hickson, DPS Assistant Principal
Ann Rebeck, Girls On The Run
Laura Helms Reece, CEO Rho, Inc
Amy Salo, Student U
Edna Wallace, RTI International

Special thanks to former board members **Henry McKoy, Fernando Campos** and **Justin Laidlaw** for their service during FY 19/20.

#### Staff

Magan Gonzales-Smith, Executive Director

Xavier Cason, Director Community Schools & School Transformation

Brianna Kennedy, Director of Programs

Logan Barcus, School Partnerships & Evaluation Manager
Alyzia McAlmon, Equity & Youth Empowerment Manager (AmeriCorps VISTA)
Katie Spencer Wright, Development & Communications Manager

Special thanks to **Nathalie Kauz** for her work as Youth & Family Empowerment Manager (AmeriCorps VISTA) during FY 19/20

#### Circle of Advisors

Pascal Mubenga, DPS Superintendent
Steve Schewel, Durham Mayor
Bill Bell, Former Durham Mayor
Heidi Carter, County Commissioner
Marcia Morey, former District Court Judge
Bill McNeal, Former Wake Superintendent
Elaine O'Neal, Retired NCCU School of Law Dean
Stelfanie Williams, Duke VP Durham Affairs



# 17 There are many ways to say I love you...

We're asking you to continue showing your love for Durham students and educators by investing in our public schools

Click here to watch the Durham love letter we made to thank the thousands of volunteers and contributors who rallied around our students and families:



Our students, families and educators face enormous challenges in the months and years to come as our community recovers and heals from this time of crisis.

#### When you give to the DPS Foundation...

You pave the way for children across Durham to receive high-quality education.

You ensure Durham attracts, retains, & supports great educators who can excel.

You invest in transformative learning environments that ensure all students have the opportunity to thrive in years to come.

Join us! Learn how at bullcityschools.org/donate

#### FY 2019-20 Annual Fund Donors

**Bolded** names are DPSF sustainers who support our schools by contributing monthly.

#### Cornerstone Partners (\$25,000-\$100,000)

AJ Fletcher Foundation

**Anonymous** 

AT&T Foundation

Biogen

Duke University - Office of Durham and Community Affairs

#### Visionaries (\$10,000-\$24,000)

C.T. Wilson Construction

**Capitol Broadcasting Company** 

Jennifer Jenkins

Jubilee Fund of Triangle Community Foundation

Ken Soo and Kitty Moses

Mary Duke Biddle Foundation

Steve Schewel and Lao Rubert

**Triangle Community Foundation** 

Triangle E-Cycling

United Way of the Greater Triangle

#### Leaders (\$5,000-\$9,999)

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The Bydale Foundation

Glaxo Smith Kline

The Harkrader Giving Fund

Ruth and Stephen Grant

#### Advocates (\$2,500-\$4,999)

The Lois and Irving Blum Foundation

Matt and Jenny Crowley

Spreedly Inc

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W Rhett Davis and Christina Gibson-Davis

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William A Rearick

#### FY 2019-20 Annual Fund Donors, continued

**Bolded** names are DPSF sustainers who support our schools by contributing monthly.

#### Supporters (\$500-\$999)

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**Timothy Price** 

Tolly Boatwright and Paul Feldblum

Tractor Tavern

William and Patricia Armistead

#### Friends (up to \$499)

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**Bolded** names are DPSF sustainers who support our schools by contributing monthly.

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#### **COVID-19 Crisis Support**

2,265+ people and partners gave gifts of time and/or money for crisis relief for DPS students during FY 19/20.

#### Leadership Gifts (\$25,000+)

Bigen Foundation United Way of the Greater Triangle

Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina AT&T

Novartis US Foundation Hiss Golden Messenger

Duke University Merge Records

Oak Foundation Steve Schewel & Lao Rubert

James & Lauren Whitehurst Clearwind Fund

Pacific Western Bank Immaculate Conception Church

IDEAL INDUSTRIES Foundation Robert Glenn and Connie Winstead

No Kid Hungry A Good Measure Foundation

#### Major Gifts (\$1,000-\$24,999)

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Ben and Sophia Abram Mt. Sylan United Methodist Church
Chapel Hill Bible Church North Carolina Central University

Darren Gobert Pradeep Baliga

David Mountain and Carol Mansfield Richard and Lonna Harkrader

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Meg and Sarah Baesmith

# Additional support came from 1,350 donors and 1,511 volunteers (Click here to view)

#### Thank you.

