



5

YEAR

ANNIVERSARY

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023

Original artwork by Riverside High
School student Abbey McKinney

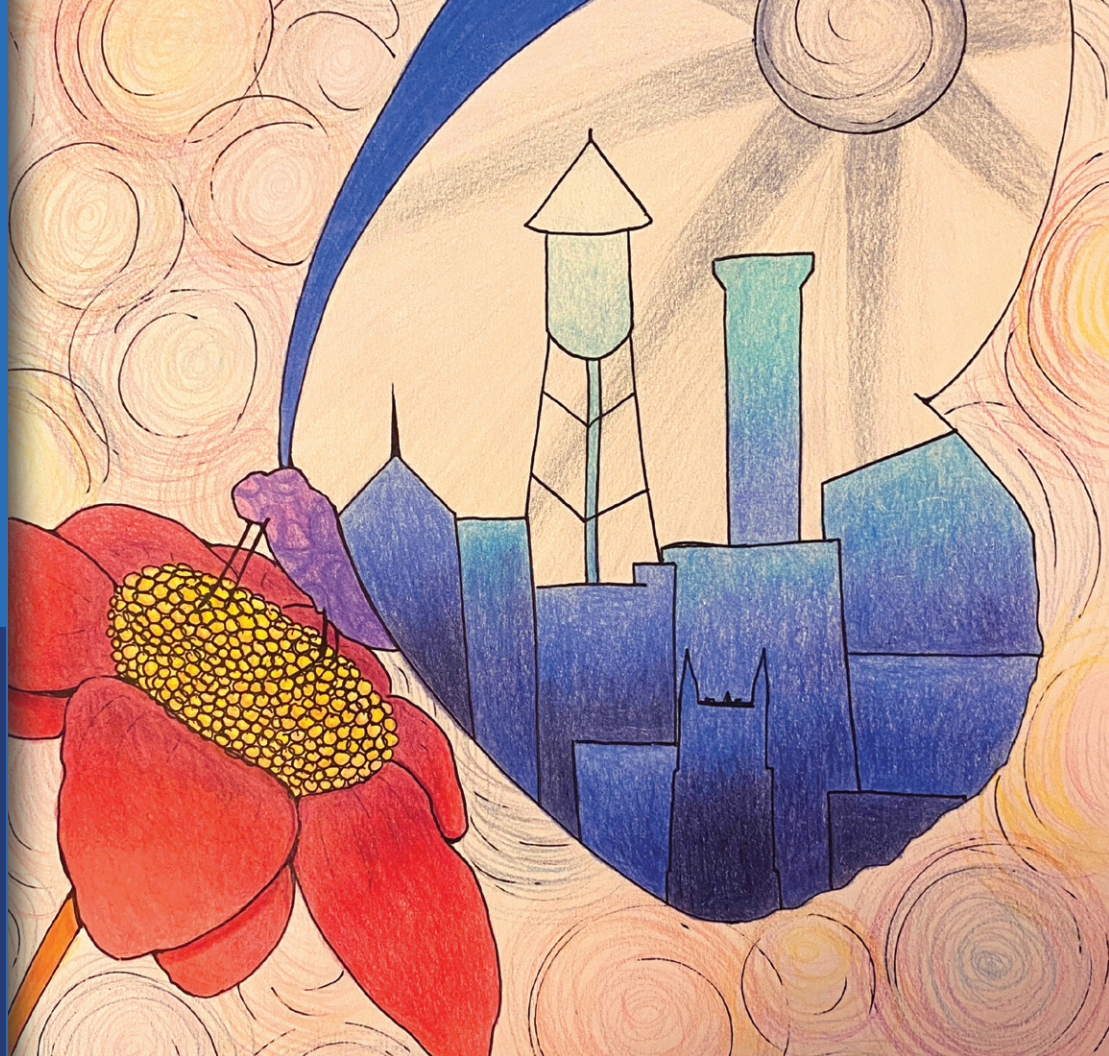


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A MESSAGE FROM ERIKA

This year, DPS Foundation turns five! It's hard to believe that in just five short years this organization has gone from a small kick-off meeting in Dr. Mubenga's office to awarding over **\$1 million in grants** and supporting innovative programs that are making a difference for our kids, families and educators. And along the way, DPSF delivered essential crisis relief during a global pandemic.

As we move into year five, I'm honored to take the helm. This work is incredibly personal to me as a former teacher and administrator, a native Durhamite, and a DPS alum. I've seen and experienced the amazing things that DPS has to offer and its vital role in Durham's success.

In the upcoming year and beyond, we'll continue to prioritize school grants and college scholarships, as well as strengthen parent advocacy, roll out new workforce development initiatives, and scale the impact of programs like Community Schools and WHOLE Schools.

Together, we can continue championing our public schools and build a Durham where everyone can thrive in work and life. Let's get to work!

Sincerely,



Erika Reese Wilkins

Executive Director



WHO WE ARE

DPS Foundation is a community-led effort to accelerate the transformation of Durham Public Schools for success and equity for every student.

WHAT WE DO

Provide Funds

We provide resources to support the immediate needs and the big dreams of schools, students, educators, and families.

Foster Innovation

We partner with schools to pilot promising approaches to education and help scale what's working district-wide.

Champion Equity

We help to build leaders and shift power to historically marginalized students, educators, and parents.

Connect Community

We convene partners, align efforts, and connect people and organizations to DPS.

DPS Foundation Turns Five!

Here are the first five years by the numbers.

5

years ago, in March 2018, Superintendent Mubenga brought together community leaders around a vision for a local education foundation in Durham.



\$1 Million

**IN GRANTS AWARDED
SINCE OUR INCEPTION**

2,400+

volunteers

500+

educators supported
through DPSF programs

2,500+

doors knocked on to share
info about Growing Together

100,000

dollars provided to DPS families
experiencing financial hardship
due to the pandemic

1

laptop for every
DPS student starting in
September of 2020

79

college scholarships
provided to DPS seniors

46

community partners
supporting DPS's three
Community Schools

3,942

donors

600

DPS educators, students,
and families engaging in
mental health, wellness, and
well-being-centered events



PROVIDING FUNDS

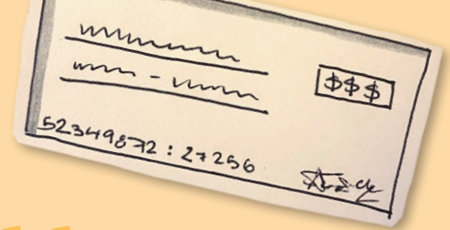
To schools, educators,
students and families

We awarded **\$65,000 in college scholarships** to 27 DPS seniors from 13 schools.



See our 22-23
scholarship
recipients

We established a crisis response fund and provided emergency funding to families and educators for housing security, food security, and other needs.



“My moms have always told me that it takes a village to raise a child, and indeed every educator I have encountered in and throughout DPS have been part of my village. You are part of my village and for that I am humbly grateful.

Scholarship Recipient

We awarded **\$159,365 in grants** to 35 schools in FY 22-23 for our Innovation Grants and WHOLE Schools Fund.

We also awarded \$8,500 in summer camp scholarships and \$123,943 for equipment and digital literacy support.



See these funds in action!



“As an educator, I want to buy diverse and inclusive books for my classroom...This project has allowed us to put those books in every grade level.”

Sarah Dickens

First Grade Teacher at Oak Grove Elementary

FOSTERING INNOVATION

Supporting promising approaches
and scaling what's working

I tell everyone this school is straight out of a Disney movie. The people care, are full of energy, and it's just all around the best.

Lakewood Elementary Parent



We deepened our commitment to the **Bull City Community Schools Partnership** — an exciting research-based model that is transforming schools by engaging the entire community around supporting students' basic and educational needs.

In 22-23, DPS's three Community Schools conducted a comprehensive listening project with students, staff, and parents/caregivers. The schools are tailoring the 23-24 school year around the priorities emphasized in this process, creating a more inclusive and supportive learning environment.



The **WHOLE Schools Movement** is a partnership between DPS Foundation, Duke Health, and Durham Public Schools. Together we hosted a wellness fair and student and educator mental health retreats. We also awarded \$98,050 to 21 schools for mental health initiatives.



“How can anyone learn and absorb information if they’re not mentally, physically, and spiritually well? I want to give students a place where they feel comfortable.”

Denise Tucker

DPS teaching assistant and
Mental Health Ambassador

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Check out the
**WHOLE Schools
Impact Report**
for more

WHOLE Schools recruited the first cohort of mental health ambassadors, which includes over thirty ambassadors representing eleven schools.

CHAMPIONING EQUITY

Side-by-side with parents,
educators and students

More than 30 Latinx families across DPS gathered weekly for **Sembrando Raices**, a time to share information, resources, and advocate together.

We helped build power among parents-of-color and supported teachers and principals in centering equity in their schools.

“We have found what we have in common, which is the education and welfare of our children.”

Rosana Salcedo

Sembrando Raices, Parent Leader



Watch a short video about
Sembrando Raices.



Members of DPSF's **Teacher Leadership Academy** share their work on equity-centered projects that address problems in their own school communities.



Giving teachers the chance to be leaders and do things together is really important. If we can continue doing this, it will have lasting effects in the community.

Charlotte Quick-Swindell

Teacher at Neal Middle School



The DPS Foundation has invested in the strength of DPS principal leadership through an ongoing principal fellowship geared towards inclusive leadership practices. Principals have been able to collaborate and reflect on ways to continue engaging in their staff and communities.

James Hopkins

Principal of Lyons Farm Elementary

CONNECTING COMMUNITY

A record 2,200 people attended **An Evening to Shine**, a community event featuring hundreds of DPS students performing at DPAC. This annual event raises funds for college scholarships for DPS seniors.

“What a powerful way to bring together our community.”

An Evening to Shine Attendee



At the **DPS Community Assembly: Priorities for the Best Year Ever**, community members heard directly from district leaders about their big priorities and connected with community organizations who are advocating on behalf of students and public schools.





Get involved
in this effort!

High enrollment in DPS is essential for our Durham community to thrive. In FY 22/23 we increased efforts to support **enrollment**, in partnership with DPS and the DPS Growing Together initiative.

In June, we went beyond traditional communication by getting into our community. We knocked on our neighbors doors to inform them about DPS enrollment opportunities and Growing Together changes.

“Enrollment in our public schools is an investment in the public good. DPS does excellent work in preparing students for further study, work and life, and we are better at each of those when the incredible diversity of Durham is reflected in our classrooms, PTA’s, and school school staff.”

Bettina Umstead

Chair of Durham School Board

STAFF

Our dedicated team is made up of 6 full-time staff and 3 part-time staff. We also host 5 positions for programs managed jointly with community partners (Bull City Community Schools and WHOLE Schools); and 3 AmeriCorps VISTAs.

Special thanks to Magan Gonzales-Smith, our founding Executive Director, for her vision and leadership and best of luck in the next chapter!



See our full
team here!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is made up of parents, educators, and leaders in business, education, and the Durham community.



See the full list and learn about their passion for our schools here.

Vernetta Alston, North Carolina State Representative; Attorney

Tucker Bartlett, Executive Vice-President, Self-Help Ventures Fund

JB Buxton, President, Durham Tech Community College

Richard Chung, MD, Pediatrician and Adolescent Health Specialist, Duke Health

Satana Deberry, *Board Co-Chair*, District Attorney for Durham County

Catherine Edmonds, NCCU Chief of Staff, North Carolina Central University

Rebecca Feinglos, Founder, Grieve Leave

Micah Gilmer, Co-Founder and Senior Partner, Frontline Solutions

Brittany Gregory, Vice Chair Durham Community Member

Zack Hawkins, *Board Co-Chair*, North Carolina State Representative; Director of Development, Student Affairs, UNC-Chapel Hill

Axel Herrera Ramos, Civic Engagement Manager, Poder NC Action

Susan Herst, Partner, Urban Durham Realty

James Hopkins, DPS Principal, Lyons Farm Elementary School

Mika Hunter-Twietmeyer, *Board Secretary*, DPS Teacher, Riverside High School; High School Director, Durham Association of Educators

Tony Hutchins, *Board Treasurer*, Senior Financial Analyst, Extreme Networks

Tony Macias, Community Interpreter, Translator, and Language Justice Organizer, tilde Language Justice Cooperative

Jade Manley, Manager, Community Relations, Fidelity Investments

Eliza Matthews, Senior Program Manager, Duke Community Affairs

Amy Salo, Chief Operating Officer, Student U

Ketty Thelemaque, Lead Organizer, Durham CAN

Ray Trapp, Executive Director, NPower

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHAMPIONS

Thank you to the Public School Champions who invested in our schools during FY 22/23! Together we are making Durham a better place to live and learn.

Note: Bolded names are sustainers who give monthly



JOIN US!

Make a gift or
become a monthly
sustainer today.

[BULLCITYSCHOOLS.ORG/DONATE](https://bullcityschools.org/donate)

CORNERSTONE | \$25,000+

Biogen Foundation | Duke Energy Foundation | Durham County Government | Durham Public Schools | The Family Office at Synovus | US Department of Health and Human Services | United Way of the Greater Triangle | Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation

VISIONARIES | \$10,000-\$24,999

Backyard Fund of Triangle Community Foundation | CBC/WRAL Community Fund of Triangle Community Foundation | Carey Family Fund | City of Durham | Colopy Family Fund of Triangle Community Foundation | Donahue Family Donor Advised Fund | Fidelity Investments | The Forest at Duke | Susan Herst | Harry and Kerry Kuhlman | Novartis Gene Therapies | Oak Foundation | Research Triangle Foundation of NC | Kate B Reynolds Charitable Trust | Rho, Inc. | Wolfspeed

LEADERS | \$5,000-\$9,999

Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church | Nicole Barnes and Maciej Tyrlik | Matt and Jenny Crowley | Richard and Lonna Harkrader | Jordan Jones | RSF Social Finance | Three Oaks Engineering | Breanna Torrione

ADVOCATES | \$1,000-\$4,999

Vernetta Alston | **Mary R. Amend** | Gowthami Arepally | AT&T North Carolina | Henry Baird | Mariel Beasley | Biola Household | **Leigh and Clay Bordley** | Elizabeth Brill | **Evan and Lucy Cate** | Charlie Bucket Fund of Triangle Community Foundation | The Cople Family Limited Partnership | Caitlin Curtis | **Alice Dolbow** | Jayme Dyer | **Cagla Eroglu** | Rebekah Farris | Fashoro-Lublin Family | Anne Fogg | **W. Rhett Davis and Christina Gibson-Davis** | Roslyn Grace | Brittany Gregory | **Zack Hawkins** | **Kristin Heery** | **Dabney Hopkins** | Mary Rae Hunter |

Katherine Hagan and Anthony Hutchins | Andrew Janiak | Emily Kahn | Jim and Ruth Key | **Vance Kite** | Barrett-Kurzman Household | **Cynthia Lichorowic** | Sandy and Ken Lyles | Ralph Mccaughan | Jennifer McGovern and Steve Unruhe | Anne McNally | Merge Records | Motorco Parts&Labor | **Laurie Muzzy** | The Nandu Fund | North Carolina Community Foundation, Inc. | North Carolina Justice Center | Michael Page | Mark and Anne Paulson | Pikaart Household | **Cory Quammen** | Red Hat, Inc. | Pamela Richey | Susan Ross and Tom Hadzor | **Linda Routh** | **Laura Schanberg** | **Nazema Siddiqui** | Robert Stephens | Patricia Stiegel | Jeanette Stokes | Svetky-van de Horst Fund of Triangle Community Foundation | **Amanda Vizedom** | Lewis O. Wardell III | Widmark Family Fund of the Triangle Community Foundation | **Laurie and Matt Williamson** | Duncan and Susan Yaggy | **Debbie Yamauchi** | Yates-Hiremth Household

SUPPORTERS | \$500-\$999

Amanda Abrams | Almac Group | William Austin & Pamela George | Jacob Baldrige | Katy Barron | David and Kathy Bartlett | Susanne Bauman | Maria Bradshaw | Bright Funds | John Buxton | Xavier and Cynthia Cason | Chung Household | Seong Sook Chung | Christine Cordell | Elizabeth Efird | Jennifer Ethridge | Kirsten Firminger | Linda Foreman | Angela & Bryan Fox | Joshua Fulan | Angela Gantt Holliday | Janice Giles | Elizabeth Gillis | Anna Grant | Beverly Gray | Kaaren Haldeman | Lucy Inman | Manda and Adam Klein | Matt Kopac and Sarah Cottingham | Mary Kopac | Jessalee Landfried | Joyce Lawson | Lenovo | Micah Luftig | Susan Lupton | Matt and Sue Mathias | Gail S. McCormick | Ari and Diana Medoff | Julie Mooney | David Mountain and Carol Mansfield | Museum of Durham History | O'Mansky Household | Claire Osgood | Jenni and Todd Owen | Sari Palmroth |

Catherine and Joachim Pleil | Sanjay Premakumar | Ruth and Russell Roberson | Margaret Sanford | Seattle Theatre Group | Kitty Sherwin | Patrick Shields | Gale and Larry Smith | Sara Terry | Michel C. Tharp | Monika von Windheim | Sara Webb | Clarice Weinberg | Sarah Weissberg and Ben Reid | Helen Wolfson | Charles Wood | Justin and Emily Wright | Yamazawa Household

...and more than 400 additional community members who are making a difference.



See the full list of champions here.

SCHOLARSHIP INVESTORS

Every DPS student deserves a debt-free college education. Thank you to the 135 supporters for investing in scholarships for our students.



View the full list here.

WHOLE SCHOOLS INVESTORS

Thanks to the following investors for helping to address urgent mental health needs in our Durham Public Schools communities with donations during FY 22/23.



See the full list and learn more at wholeschools.org.

CORNERSTONE PARTNERS | \$25,000+

BUILD Health Challenge | Cigna Foundation | Durham Public Schools | Principal Foundation | UCB Community Health Fund

VISIONARIES | \$10,000-\$24,999

Mary Duke Biddle Foundation

LEADERS | \$5,000-\$9,999

Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church

ADVOCATES | \$1,000-\$4,999

Zack and Tracey Hawkins | Susan and Michael Hershfield | Diana and David McNeill | Susan Ross and Tom Hadzor

FINANCIALS

INCOME TOTAL

1,705,000



55%

42%

1%

2%

Annual Fund

\$936,000

WHOLE Schools Movement & Covid Relief

\$716,000

College Scholarship Program

\$23,000

Investment Income

\$30,000

Annual Fund Income by Source

Individuals | 32%

Corporate | 13%

Foundation Grants | 30%

Faith Community | 1%

Government | 24%

EXPENSES TOTAL

1,789,000



81%

11%

9%

Programs*

\$1,441,000

Fundraising

\$194,000

Management & Administration

\$154,000

*Programs Include:

\$315,000 in direct funds to Durham Public Schools

\$88,400 in direct funds to DPS Staff, community partners and families

\$114,000 College Scholarship program

\$225,000 WHOLE Schools partnership

\$186,000 Community Schools Partnership

\$160,000 DPS Enrollment

\$352,600 Other Programs

Note: The amounts above are presented on a modified cash basis. The FY2023 accrual-basis numbers are not available at time of publication. Our audited financial statements and Form 990 will be available upon request and on our website upon issuance.



600 E UMSTEAD ST
DURHAM, NC 27701

