

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation

Annual Meeting Minutes • Tuesday, April 2, 2024 • 5:30 p.m.
Ellensburg Pasta Company

Attendance

Mike, Dick, Troy, Maureen, Mary, Michelle

Guests: Amy Morse (Ida Nason Aronica parent group), Michele Cawley (Early Learning Coalition), Hayley Naboychik (EHS Choice)

Opening Agenda Items

- The meeting was called to order by Mike McCloskey at 5:34 p.m.
- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of March minutes
 - Motion- Michelle, 2nd- Mary, Passed

Treasurer's Highlights

- Annual Report (attached) – Dick noted the key accomplishments for the year, including a new grant for district teachers to put toward student loan debt, the highest grossing fundraiser to date, and contributions to staff appreciation.

Highlights of the Year

- Caring Cupboard – Mary reviewed the inception and objectives of the Caring Cupboard program.
- Superbowl Kick-off – Mary reviewed the preparation for this year's fundraiser, including the organizational process, gathering sponsors, soliciting auction items, and developing new games. The event grossed over \$34,000. Proceeds will fund our 2025 Learning Enhancement Awards.
- Learning Enhancement Awards- Michelle reported award requests exceeding \$26,000 with over \$14,000 distributed. Applications are building back up after a pandemic low. The next round of applications are due November 1, 2024 and will be considered at the November 2024 board meeting.
- Scholarships/Unified Scholarship Program – Mike noted the EDSEF manages 20 scholarships, most being under the unified application. 2024 applications are due April 15, 2024. Most awards are chosen by the scholarship sponsors. Of approximately 180 high school graduates roughly 30 students apply.
- Kittitas County Youth Awards – 75 students (including one group of 39 students) were recognized at the spring 2024 awards. The Daily Record reached out to Mike for more information following the event.

FACEBOOK CONTENT SCHEDULE 2023-2024

MONTH	CONTENT	CREATOR
May	Teacher Appreciation	Maureen
June	Year End Highlights	Dick
July	Bookmobile	Maureen
August	Caring Cupboard	Mary
September	Back to School/Year Ahead	Mike
October	Past LEA Winners	Dick
November	LEA Grants	Michelle
December	LEA Winners	Maureen
January	Pre-SBWU, Youth Awards	Mary, Mike
February	Post SBWU	Michelle
March	Youth Awards	Mike
April	Scholarships	Mike
May	Teacher Appreciation	Maureen

Associate Reports

- Ida Nason Aronica: Amy Morse reported on the Sunflower Festival Fundraiser to be held May 16 and 17, including environmental activities and a fun run, and evening activities the following day including a baked potato fundraiser and tours of the garden and pocket forest.

Michelle Bibich Mary Gordon Mike McCloskey
Maureen Rust Troy Tornow Dick Wedin

- Kittitas County Early Learning Coalition: Michele Cawley explained that the KCELC was established in 2011 as a need for school preparation among young children became apparent. Efforts include helping to establish home libraries and teaching parents how to model a love for literacy and informational tools. Recently the coalition has incorporated books that meet emotional needs. It provides developmental screening, hosts monthly free family activities at Hal Holmes community center, and contributes children's books (often bilingual) to the Ellensburg Morning Rotary little free libraries throughout the community.
- Early Learning Center: Juli Hamilton emailed that the Early Learning Center has been working closely with Lillie Button (Sensory Wall Design Artist) on finalizing the design and keeping the rising cost of materials within budget. Lillie has been an asset in selecting cost efficient, interesting, durable materials that will stand up against outdoor elements. They anticipate a late spring installation date and look forward to having the ELC sensory wall up and ready for preschool students to access.

LEA Recipients

- Haley Naboychik thanked the board for the 2024 award that supports the Choice students' personal projects and noted the importance mentors play in the student experience.
- Amy Morse reported that the author who was scheduled to visit in March has been rescheduled to later in April due to inclement weather.
- Michele Cawley shared a book she recommended a socio-emotional common read for all incoming kindergarten students entitled *What Does it Mean to be Kind?*, including summarizations in English and Spanish. She also noted the KCELC is able to customize services and supports to families in need according to their circumstances.

New Business

- Fundraiser Save-the-Dates: February 7, 2025, January 30, 2026
- 2024-25 Elections – Michelle Bibich made a motion to approve the following roster, Mary Gordon seconded. Motion passed.
 - President, Mike McCloskey
 - VP, Mary Gordon
 - Treasurer, Dick Wedin
 - Secretary, Maureen Rust

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Next meeting: Annual Meeting – Tuesday, May 7, 2024, Morgan Middle School, 5:15 pm

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation 2023 Annual Report Summary April 2, 2024

Education Foundation Metrics: (The following are values detailed in the Foundation's December 31, 2023, financial report.)

1. Total Assets		\$1,513,959
Net Assets Restricted:	\$1,441,701	
Net Assets Unrestricted:	\$72,258	
2. *Statement of Activity – Unrestricted Funds:		
Cash Receipts	\$33,691	
Cash Disbursements	\$26,553	
Investment Income (Expenses):	\$3,989	
3. **Statement of Activity – Restricted Funds:		
Cash Receipts	\$50,085	
Cash Disbursements	\$88,625	
Investment Income (Expenses)	\$148,815	

* Donations received with no restrictions, includes Edward Jones Foundation CD and general investments accounts. Expenses in parentheses is an investment loss due to the stock market.

** Donations received with restrictions are generally scholarships. Expenses in parentheses is an investment loss due to the stock market.

Education Foundation Purpose Statement:

The purposes of the Ellensburg School District Education Foundation are to:

- (1) promote educational programs for the Ellensburg School District No. 401, Ellensburg, Washington;
- (2) provide a committee to review program ideas and to make grants to the schools, departments, staff, individual students, and student groups in furtherance of the purposes of the Ellensburg School District;
- (3) raise funds to meet the above objectives through donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations as well as a through sponsorship of fundraising events;
- (4) act as a fiscal agent for donors who wish to sponsor projects, grants, and scholarships for the schools, staff, and students;
- (5) establish endowment funds on such terms and conditions as established by the Board of Directors of the Ellensburg School District Education Foundation and as reflected, as needed, by these Bylaws, as amended from time to time; and
- (6) engage in any and all other lawful endeavors of a non-profit corporation.

Education Foundation Why Statement:

The Foundation provides resources and recognition for all students in an equitable way so they can reach their full potential.

Michelle Bibich	Mary Gordon	Mike McCloskey
Maureen Rust	Troy Tornow	Dick Wedin

Education Foundation Organization Summary:

Launched in the fall of 2001, the Ellensburg School District Education Foundation began when a group of community leaders recognized that not all the growing challenges in the public school system could be met through traditional funding sources. The Foundation's goal is to enhance programs, equipment, and services available to the Ellensburg public school students and staff.

Schools, departments, student and parent groups, faculty and administrators are encouraged to develop innovative programs and projects for their schools and submit them to the Foundation for their funding consideration. To qualify, it must be shown that the project cannot be funded through traditional means.

The Foundation also assists individuals and organizations to create, and manage family and organization sponsored scholarships. In addition, the ESDEF coordinates all EHS senior scholarships presented through the Unified Scholarship Project. We also assist district parent groups in purchasing reasonable liability insurance through a liability insurance pool managed by the Foundation and an insurance broker.

The Foundation Board is comprised of nine community volunteers who manage and conduct the functions and purposes of the Foundation. The Foundation is a 501 c (3), nonprofit organization by the Internal revenue Service and all donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. The Foundation's EIN number is: 91-216338.

Education Foundation Key Accomplishments in 2023:

- Spent a total of \$93,093 funding grants for staff, scholarships, and students in the Ellensburg School District.
- Spent \$7,522 for Academic Support (Learning Enhancement Awards)
- Spent \$4,746 for Basic Student Needs (Caring Cupboard)
- Spent \$58,438 for Scholarships for Graduating Seniors
- Spent \$20,000 for a Scholarship for Teacher Loan Forgiveness. New this year, funds by an anonymous donor.
- Spent \$1,541 for K – 12 teacher/staff recognition. Teamed with the four elementary school building parent groups/council to help fund teacher/staff recognition at the elementary level.
- Provided liability Insurance through the Foundation Liability Insurance Pool for eleven parent groups/councils and organizations.

Education Foundation Key Projects & Events:

- Held a remarkably successful Super Bowl Warm Up fundraiser on February 9, 2024, raising a little over \$34,000 (in gross terms) to support students and staff in the Ellensburg School District.
- Approved funding over \$14,100 in Learning Enhancement Awards in December of 2023 to be paid out to teachers/staff for fiscal year 2024.
- Recognized 23 youths at the County Youth Awards event in the spring of 2023 sponsored by the Foundation and Rodeo City Kiwanis and 75 youths in 2024.

Education Foundation Goals:

- Recruit new Foundation Board members to bring the Board up to 10 or more.
- Increase the sales of the number of Legacy Tile Wall tiles that recognize students, staff, and community members/organizations and businesses at Ellensburg High School.

Education Foundation Contacts:

- Visit the Foundation's website at www.ESDEF.net for all the detailed information concerning the Ellensburg School District Education Foundation.
- You may email the Foundation at: ellensburgedfoundation@gmail.com
- Foundation's mailing address: PO Box 464, Ellensburg, WA 98926