

IMPACT REPORT

FISCAL YEARS
2020 and 2021

September 1, 2019 to
August 31, 2020

&

September 1, 2020 to
August 31, 2021*



resourceful

responding to student needs in challenging times



ISSAQUAH
SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

"We are grateful for the amazing support from our community for all the students. With your support, we delivered great impact for students, from assistance in remote learning and mental health, to a variety of programs assisting with basic needs. Our community is kind and generous. Thank you for making a difference for students."

Cloe Zeng, Board Co-President 2019-2021



Dear Foundation Supporters,

Given the Covid-19 pandemic backdrop and all the related implications, this past year or so has not been a normal year for anyone, including the Issaquah Schools Foundation. Despite the many challenges this past year has created and revealed for our organization we recognized that recovery from the pandemic is of utmost importance as we remain deeply committed to the work of "fueling success for every student, every school".

While describing the pandemic as challenging is an understatement, it did teach us a number of lessons as we worked to resourcefully respond to the greatest needs at hand. Our targeted focus in the new school year centers around relevancy and inclusivity, where a district wide impact can be made. This leads us to focus on areas of impact including academic support (bridging the learning loss/gap exacerbated by remote learning), behavioral/mental health, student basic needs, and equity opportunities.

We remain committed to providing resources to help students and we thank you for continuing to support our schools and community through the pandemic. Now more than ever, we are so grateful to you for funding, volunteering, celebrating, and advocating for the Issaquah Schools Foundation.

To every student's success,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cornell Atwater".

Cornell Atwater
Executive Director



Issaquah Schools Foundation—

resourceful

"My son, was super successful with your help. The grant we got from ISF allowed me to register him for math tutoring. I am so grateful. There are not enough words to express what this meant for our family. Not only was he able to pass the class, but also his self-esteem improved, and that gave him lots of confidence to start the new school year."

N.S. ISD Parent



re·source·ful /rə'sôrsfəl/ *adj.*

1. having the ability to find quick and clever ways to overcome difficulties.
2. able to meet situations : capable of devising ways and means.

"The Foundation works in partnership with the District to identify and pilot programs that support our students, and they responded quickly to the changing needs created by the pandemic. ISF and its supporters are an invaluable resource for our students and families."

Suzanne Weaver, ISD School Board President 2020-2021



Dear Foundation Supporters,

As the Issaquah School District has navigated the rough waters of the past 24 months, I have been ever grateful that the Issaquah Schools Foundation has sailed right along with us.

The Foundation has always been ready to expand and adapt their programs to better meet the quickly changing needs of our students and their families. For example, during the pandemic, they provided many students with desks and other supplies needed to engage in remote learning at home. They focused the content of their ParentWiser presentations on helping parents better manage the mental health, behavioral, and remote-learning issues that arose or grew more extreme due to COVID. They share the district's commitment to equity, and their partnership has been crucial as we work to better serve those students who have been under-served in the past.

As we move beyond the pandemic and into the future, I know the Foundation will continue to adapt to meet whatever new needs arise for our students. I am grateful and excited to move forward with the continued support of the Issaquah Schools Foundation and of you, its supporters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Thiele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ron" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Thiele".

Ron Thiele, Superintendent
Issaquah School District



thank

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"Thanks to our donors we were able to pivot to meet some of the needs of those most impacted by remote learning."

Sara Miller, Board Co-President 2019-2021

you 2020 & 2021 donors!

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Your 2019-2021 dollars at work



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

2019-20 | 37%—\$272,911

2020-21 | 31%—\$187,409

Academic support varies by grade level, but these programs offer students one-to-one help from a teacher in a quiet setting.

ARTS

2019-20 | 11%—\$82,274

2020-21 | 7%—\$41,697

The Artistic Support program provides opportunities for the development of innovative thinking through arts experiences, lessons, videos, and creativity training.

BASIC NEEDS

2019-20 | 12%—\$86,073

2020-21 | 16%—\$96,268

The Foundation works in many ways to lower barriers to academic success.

MENTAL HEALTH

2019-20 | 9%—\$64,049

2020-21 | 12%—\$70,358

Helping parents feel more confident becoming involved in school and supporting their students at home.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

2019-20 | 12%—\$85,814

2020-21 | 14%—\$85,739

Helping parents feel more confident becoming involved in school and supporting their students at home.

PROFESSIONAL DEV

2019-20 | 11%—\$80,363

2020-21 | 16%—\$93,607

Funding for teachers to help keep their skills sharp.

STEM

2019-20 | 9%—\$68,749

2020-21 | 4%—\$25,274

Funding at the high school level to further enrich co-curricular and extra-curricular groups for valuable learning opportunities.



programs

The Foundation funds programs for all schools in the district, enriching the lives of almost 20,000 students. Our programs help students in building academic foundations, exploring limitless opportunities, and launching successfully into the future.

Academic Support

- Academic Support at School
- Highly Capable & Science Tech
- Literacy Support
- Student Academic Grants
- Testing Scholarships

Basic Needs

- Backpacks & School Supplies
- Food support

Mental Health Support

- Character Strong
- Student Intervention Services

Support for the Future

- Great Careers Conference
- Student Scholarships

Support for Teachers

- Teacher Grants
- Professional Development

Community Outreach

- ParentWiser
- Cultural Bridges

Artistic Support

- Elementary Art Lessons & Training
- Secondary Fine Arts Funding

STEM Support

- Robotics & STEM Clubs
- STEMposium

While we continue to support a breadth of student needs, the past 2 years have meant a need to focus on specific areas to help students during remote learning and beyond. To best support student needs during this time, targeted focus was on academic support, basic needs, and mental health.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Tutoring – Remote learning created struggles for students and left many feeling behind. With so much time out of the school building, the Foundation setup a new Student Academic Grant program to help fill the gap in learning provided during the time at home. This new program provides money for outside tutoring or other academic support and garnered 180 applications during the first offering.

We also continue to provide funding for teachers to offer tutoring support before or after school during the year. Even during remote learning, this resource provided students with the opportunity for support at no cost to them.

"Thank you so much!!! This will be put to good use for summer tutoring."

Parent of a student academic grant recipient

Literacy – The Foundation provides extensive literacy support to the district, including over \$150,000 in funding for library books, online reading resources, audio books for struggling readers, diverse books, and pre-k books to instill a love of reading.

"I want to sincerely thank you for your generous support of our libraries! Wow! We are so fortunate to have your support to grow our collections with quality books."

Cougar Ridge Librarian

cultural bridges

BASIC NEEDS

Tools4School – Tools4School is a partnership between the Issaquah Schools Foundation and Issaquah Food & Clothing bank to provide new backpacks filled with school supplies for Issaquah School District students who need support. Each year the program distributes over 1000 backpacks filled with core school supplies to students. We also have backpacks and supplies available for those who arrive later in the year.

Food Support – We provide support for food so that students may receive breakfast, lunch, or a snack when they find themselves hungry during the school day. During remote learning, we provided 2000 grocery gift cards to support families with food insecurity.



"Thank you so much for all that you folks do for all of our families. You guys and all the donors are true blessings in our lives!"

Parent of students participating in Tools4School

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is important at every stage of life and plays a critical role in shaping a child's social, emotional, and cognitive development. Some of the greatest impact the Foundation has for our students is to support the overarching mental health resources for our district including professional development opportunities for staff along with curriculum for students. To that end, we provide funding for Character Strong curriculum at every middle school, along with support for training and materials related to stress, anxiety, and suicide prevention.



"Coming to a new country and not speaking the same language is not easy but Cultural Bridges helped and empowered me not only to increase my involvement in the education of my daughters, but also to see myself as someone who can make a difference in her community."

Sunset Elementary Parent



2019-2020

Dedicated an issue of our magazine to educate families about the number one health issue affecting young people in the United States, mental illness

Added a new language to our publications: Japanese

Offered a platform to African American families, and supported efforts in conversations about race



2020-2021

Provided a strong platform between ISD families and the resources available to them in our community

Launched Community Resources Presentations in different languages

Distributed desks for students doing distance learning

Offered a platform to Asian American families and supported the District efforts to educate families on reporting incidents related to culture and identity

sponsors

Thank you Corporate Donors!

Donations | September 1, 2019–August 31, 2021

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For a complete listing please visit <https://isfdn.org/>

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STUDENT TRUSTEES

Cassidy Applegate Liberty HS
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Katie Milne Business Manager
Nikki Singh Programs Coordinator, Board Liaison
Alicia Spinner Cultural Bridges Program Manager
Natalie Undi Data Base & Gift Processing Coordinator

The Issaquah Schools Foundation, in partnership with the Issaquah School District, drives resources to help students reach the promise of their potential.

MISSION STATEMENT

To create limitless opportunities that inspire our students on their personal path to success.

VISION STATEMENT

- We put student's needs first, focusing on the whole child
- We create opportunity
- We collaborate with our partners
- We seek innovation
- We focus on results
- We respect and build relationships with our donors

CORE VALUES



P.O. Box 835, Issaquah, WA 98027
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