

CHELSEA EDUCATION FOUNDATION IMPACT STATEMENT 2023-24

Mission

Enhance the Chelsea School District's educational experiences by financing projects beyond the resources of the district and by providing scholarships to district graduates.

Vision

Chelsea Education Foundation is a highly regarded, valuable and caring resource to students and teachers and is a trusted and beneficial conduit for all community members.

Values

Mission Driven, Strategically Grounded, Financially Sustainable, Community Focused

Chelsea Education Foundation (CEF) is a non-profit organization that provides funding for a wide spectrum of educational activities benefiting the students of Chelsea, Michigan. Funds raised through donations, endowments, and events are managed by investment professionals and distributed to recipients by the CEF board. The Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan and Charles Schwab provide assistance to ensure investments are maximized.

In 1990, the Chelsea Education Foundation was founded by Joe Piasecki, then superintendent of the Chelsea School District. The goal of the foundation was to provide a link between the school, businesses and the community to strengthen Chelsea's future. Thanks to strong community support and several significant endowments, the Foundation grew steadily and in 1999 was registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Since its beginning, over 190 volunteers from the Chelsea community have served one to three year terms on the CEF Board. Many school board members, administrators, and countless others, have donated time, energy, resources, and services throughout its 30+ year existence.

Community Impact

Contributions to CEF are given back to the Chelsea community through college scholarships for Chelsea High School graduates and grants to support innovative initiatives by teachers and administrators.

A Message from the President

Dear CEF Supporters,

Reflecting on this transformative year, I am filled with deep gratitude for your unwavering support. Thanks to your generosity, the Chelsea Education Foundation has continued to expand its reach and increase its impact within the Chelsea School District. This year brought pivotal growth through new partnerships and initiatives, allowing us to align more closely with the district's evolving needs.

One of the most significant milestones for the Chelsea School District was the reopening of **Pierce Lake Early Childhood Center**. We are proud to have raised initial funds for the outdoor play space, designed to promote social play and create a nurturing environment for our youngest learners. This investment highlights our commitment to early education while continuing to sustain the scholarship programs that have long provided opportunities for students.

Our impact has also been strengthened through collaborations with nonprofits like **5 Healthy Towns** and **Ann Arbor Kiwanis**, which enhanced our ability to meet increasing grant requests. Continuing initiatives such as the **Rivalry Match**, **Serendipity Book Drive**, **Authors in Chelsea**, and **Literacy Night** have supported students, educators, and local businesses, fostering community engagement in the process.

The effects of your support are felt throughout the district. Through our educator grants, we've helped foster spaces that encourage social play, provided resources to support students' emotional well-being, and supplied classrooms with the materials they need to enhance learning at every level. Our funding has contributed to the launch of new elective courses designed to spark creativity and problem-solving skills, while also supporting essential learning experiences, ensuring that financial barriers don't prevent any student from fully participating.

Looking ahead, we are committed to aligning with the district's strategic plan, with a focus on cultural awareness, teacher development, and expanding early education initiatives. At the same time, we will continue to nurture our scholarship programs, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

None of this would be possible without you. Together, we are Building a Bulldog Future for Chelsea's students—one that will resonate for years to come.

With Appreciation,

any Forehand

Amy Forehand President, Chelsea Education Foundation

2023-24 CEF Teacher Grants \$84,000 to Chelsea Schools

Early Childhood

- Preschool Supplemental Math Supplies
- Math and Literacy Tools for Early Learners
- Sand Gardens For Early Childhood Center at Pierce Lake
- Preschool Outdoor Learning Space

North Creek Elementary

- Kindergarten Multi-sensory Teaching Tools
- 1st Grade Hands On Museum Field Trip
- 1st Grade Classroom Area Rug and Storage Bins for all Class Rooms
- 2nd Grade Classroom Mailbox Bins and Organization
- Lap Tray Desks for Flexible Seating
- Supplies to Support Early Literacy Instruction
- Phonics Instruction Student Whiteboards
- Decodable Readers

South Meadows Elementary

- Let's Mic South
- Emotion Regulation Resources
- Maker Space
- 3rd and 4th-grade Drawing Class Supplies
- Native American Experience-Bringing the Museum to You
- Animal Themed Research Book Sets
- Resource Room Educational Tools

Beach Middle School

- WEB (Where Everyone Belongs)
- 6th Grade Camp Scholarships
- 7th Grade Design Project Field Trip
- 8th Grade Washington D.C. / Gettysburg Trip Scholarships
- 8th Grade Orchestra Field Trip to Ann Arbor Symphony Youth Program at Hill Auditorium, Holocaust Museum, & Greenfield Village
- Keys to Harmony Supporting BMS Bands
- Beach Middle School Art Program
- Technology classes at BMS
- Individual Learning Hour/Special Education Classroom Programming

Chelsea High School

- CHS Link Crew
- Diversity and Social Awareness Club
- Independence Hall Sublimation Printer Start Up Equipment
- Art CHS Ceramics Program Glazes, Field Trips DIA & UMMA & Cameras for Photography
- Science and Math Equipment and funding for Physics Equipment, Computer Science - Intro to Game Design, & Project Geometry a Senior Math Elective Course
- Literacy Book Tasting for Free-Reading & Songs as Poetry Guest Teacher
- Grecian Sword Combat Workshop with Theatrical Gladiatoria

District Programs

- Instrument Petting Zoo with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
- Authors in Chelsea
- District CPR Equipment and Training
- Grades 3-12 Resource Room Educational Experiences
 Beyond the Classroom

During the 2023-2024 school year, CEF funded \$84,000 in grants that helped support the creative endeavors of the Chelsea School District educators. These grants supported a wide variety of initiatives at every level of the student experience, from early learning to high school leadership. They spanned from social emotional learning support to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM) topics to literacy support, and beyond.

6th Grade Camp

PROVI

Spotlight on Teacher Grants

Sand Gardens For Early Childhood Center at Pierce Lake

Anne Frank's Window - Holocaust Museum





Chelsea High School Link Crew



Project Geometry Class in Chicago



Materials for Beach Middle School and CHS Ceramics Art



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In Addition to CEF's Joseph Piasecki, Academic, and Community Service Scholarships, We are Honored to Support these Memorial Scholarships.

The Robert W. Wagner Engineering Scholarship Honors a graduate pursuing a degree in Engineering. Funded by the Electa M. Wagner and Robert W. Wagner Endowment

The Joel Gentz Memorial Leadership and Service Scholarship

Honors a Chelsea School District graduate who demonstrates leadership and service. *Funded by a CEF endowment*

established in Joel's honor

The Judith Lynn Wagner Owens Teacher Scholarship

Honors a resident of the Chelsea School District who is pursuing a degree in Education.

Funded by the Electa M. Wagner and Robert W. Wagner Endowment

The Mary Merkel Scholarship

Honors a Chelsea School District resident pursuing an Associate's, Bachelor's, or Masters degree in a health-related field.

Funded by the Mary E. Merkel Endowment

CEF is **Proud to Support all Careers**

The Charles and Florence Pour Memorial Aviation Scholarship In memory of Charles and Florence Pour, grandparents to a local Chelsea resident, this scholarship is awarded to a graduate pursuing a post secondary education in the aviation field. *Funded by a Chelsea Family*

Continuing Education CEF Scholarship for Non-Traditional or Returning Students

Honors Chelsea residents who are not graduating seniors and are pursuing a degree or skilled training at the post-high school level after an interruption of at least one year or more. *Funded by CEF General Fund and endowments gifted by Wagner and Schumacher*

Chelsea Education Foundation Skilled Trades Scholarship

Established to support the advancement of skilled trades in our community. The honored recipient is a high school senior or graduate, or currently enrolled in a trade certification or undergraduate program who demonstrates a commitment to learning a trade and completing certification. *Funded by Diane L Kieliszewski, Edward Jones and The family of Gary Bentley in his Memory*

The Jillian Lea Drow Memorial Scholarship

Honors a graduate who is pursuing a degree or skilled training at the post-secondary level.

Funded by a CEF Endowment established in Jillian's honor

The Doris Schumacher / A. Henry Schumacher Memorial Scholarship

Honors a graduate from Chelsea School District who is currently enrolled at an accredited college or university and has completed at least one year of schooling at an accredited college or university. *Funded by the Doris Schumacher Endowment*

Scholarship Recipient
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2023-24 CEF Scholarship Awards \$40,300 to Chelsea Students

The Joseph Piasecki Scholarship Jackson Dell

CEF Academic Scholarships

Addison Adams, Gabriella Basar, Marina Hinz-Johnson, Peyton Kifer, Phoebe Ledbetter, Trillian Krug, Madison Morgan, Isabella Murphy, Jenna Ouellette, Lily Paddock, Marah Putnam, Harper Williams

CEF Community Service Scholarships Gabriella Basar, Jackson Dell, Charlotte Diesing, Katherine Krugh, Gabe Landis, Jenna Ouellette, Eason Xiao

Chelsea Education Foundation Trades Scholarship Cameron Proos

Chelsea Education Foundation Trades Scholarship in Memory of Gary Bentley

Logan Eckhout The Charles and Florence Pour Memorial Aviation Scholarship

Misha McElrath

Jillian Lea Drow Memorial Scholarship

Seren Angus

Robert W Wagner Engineering Scholarship Augustine Alafita

Judith Lynn Wagner Owens Teacher Scholarship Megan Hayduck *former C.H.S. Graduate

The Mary Merkel Scholarship Gabriella Basar

Doris Schumacher / A Henry Schumacher Memorial Scholarship

Avery Landis *former C.H.S. Graduate

Female in Finance Scholarship

Lindsay Favre

Chelsea Family Dentistry Scholarship

Madison Morgan

Chelsea Rod and Gun Club The David B. Steinbach Memorial Scholarship Award

Marah Putnam

Chelsea Rod and Gun Club Scholarship Isabella Murphy

Joel Gentz Memorial Leadership and Service Scholarship

Mary Zoran

CEF A.C.E. (Accounting, Computer Science, and Engineering)

Evan Muchler

CEF Scholarship for Non-Traditional or Returning Students

Malcolm Keaton

CEF and CAA Committee - President's Award Mitchell Brown, Kiera Crawley, Emily Gagnon, Arianne Hunter, Kyle Valik, Phuong Hong Ngoc Tao* *former C.H.S. Graduate* CEF is a Conduit for Community Members, Organizations and Businesses to Sponsor Scholarships

Chelsea Education Foundation A.C.E. (Accounting, Computer Science, and Engineering) Scholarship

Honors a graduate pursuing a degree in Accounting, Computer Science, or Engineering at the post-secondary level. *Sponsored by John and Nancy Daly*

Chelsea Family Dentistry Scholarship

Honors a graduate pursuing a degree in the healthcare field.

Sponsored by Dr. Todd A. Napieralski, Chelsea Family Dentistry



CEF Scholarships Awarded on Class Night 2024

Female in Finance Scholarship

Honors a graduate or a currently enrolled college student who self-identifies as female and intends to pursue a Bachelor's or Master's degree in a financial field. *Sponsored by Diane L Kieliszewski, Edward Jones*

The Chelsea Rod and Gun Club Scholarship

Honors a graduate who has completed an Outdoor Recreation Safety course and has an interest in, but not limited to hunting, fishing, conservation, shooting sports, or other outdoor-related activities.

Sponsored by Chelsea Rod and Gun Club

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2023-2024 SPONSORS

Gold Sponsors



Blue Sponsors



Rivalry Matching Sponsors

High Paw Sponsors



Highlights

Chelsea Alumni Association Committee | 2023

Chelsea Alumni Association continued to advance its mission to create avenues for Chelsea alumni to Communicate, Connect, Volunteer, Support, and Participate in Chelsea schools and Chelsea-related activities.

Rivalry Match | October 2023

Chelsea Education Foundation and the Educational Foundation of Dexter teamed up for a fourth Rivalry Match fundraising event in October 2023 and the communities raised a combined \$41,000. In total, the Rivalry Match has generated a remarkable \$194,000 for our community districts since its inception, supporting everything from teacher grants to district-wide initiatives and scholarships for graduating seniors. 2024 is a tie-breaking year for the two foundations.

Book Drive | December 2023

CEF hosted their second annual Book Drive to help fill district requests for books. Serendipity Books partners with CEF to fill the book orders, making it a wonderful way to support small business and our teachers and students. We look forward to filling the bookshelves again in November 2024!

Building a Bulldog Future | May 2024

CEF congratulated the Class of '24 and extends its gratitude to all who helped raise \$2,515 during the 2024 Building a Bulldog Future Fundraiser aimed to support graduate scholarships.





Chelsea Alumni Association Committee



Chelsea | Dexter Education Foundations Rivalry Match



CEF | Serendipity Book Store Book Drive



Impact of Chelsea Education Foundation

56,000 STUDENTS

Fifty-six thousand students have benefited from the donations made by CEF

Wierverter Wierve

Programs ranging from physical and mental health initiatives to

the arts, field trips, and literacy development

GRANTS



CHS Link Crew

1,096

CEF scholarships awarded to graduating students with outstanding character, performance, and future ambitions

SCHOLARSHIPS

794



DONATIONS

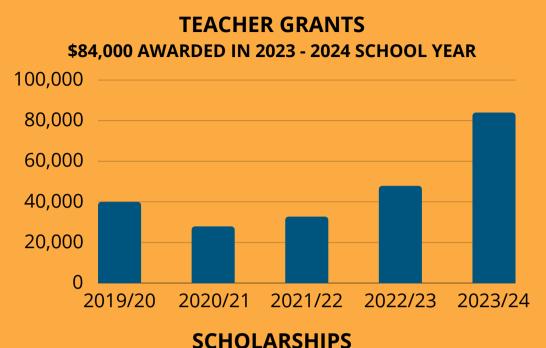


CHS Project Geometry Visits Chicago

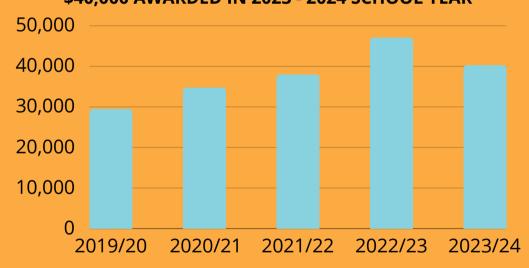
\$1.4M

Has been collected to support grants and scholarships throughout the Chelsea School District

2023-24 Financial Impact



\$40,000 AWARDED IN 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR





Chelsea School District Staff

Spotlight on Chelsea Alumni Association Committee

Chelsea Alumni Association's mission is to create avenues for Chelsea alumni to Communicate, Connect, Volunteer, Support, and Participate in Chelsea Schools and Chelsea-related activities.

The Chelsea Alumni Association (CAA) is growing, with over 650 members, and continues to strengthen its mission of connecting, supporting, and engaging Chelsea alumni with the school and community.

Monthly Board Meetings

The Steering Committee meets monthly to plan initiatives and welcome new members. Meetings are open to all CHS alumni—check our eNews, social media, and website for dates.

Connecting Events

CAA has expanded events, including Meet & Greets, Euchre Night, a Christmas Sing-along, and a popular Homecoming tent for alumni to reconnect and learn about upcoming activities.

Class Reunions

New this year...CAA has a Reunion Coordinator, Angie (Cavadas) Smith '70! CAA helps reunion planners wrap their arms around all the tasks necessary to hold a successful reunion and shares information regarding venues, vendors, and reunion activities. Most importantly, we help get the word out to classmates using CAA communications and social media.

CHS Alumni History Wall Project

We're excited to share our latest initiative: the CHS Alumni History Wall **Project**. With this project, we will honor and preserve the rich history of Chelsea High School alumni by transforming a wall in the high school into an engaging historical timeline of our beloved schools. Visit our website to learn more and how you can help support this project.



One of many Meet & Greet Activities



Class of 1964 60th Class Reunion



CHS Alumni History Wall Project Rendering of Proposed Wall













Thank You to Our 2023 - 2024 Board CHELSEA EDUCATION



Amy Forehand PRESIDENT



Katie Hepler VICE PRESIDENT



Patrick Roberts TREASURER



Sarah Button SECRETARY



Beka Alter IMPACT CHAIR



Jane Diesing ALUMNI CHAIR



Frank Grohnert POLICY CHAIR



Sandy Lantis BOARD MEMBER



John L Daly BOARD MEMBER



Nicole Darby BOARD MEMBER CSD Representative



Suzanne Morison BOARD MEMBER



Marcus Kaemming BOARD MEMBER CSD Representative



Karen Owen BOARD MEMBER



Matt Ceo BOARD MEMBER CSD Representative



Wendy Zielen BOARD MEMBER



Mike Kapolka BOARD MEMBER (non-voting)

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CEF Scholarship Recipients

Chelsea Education Foundation P.O. Box 281, Chelsea, MI 48118

Email

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