



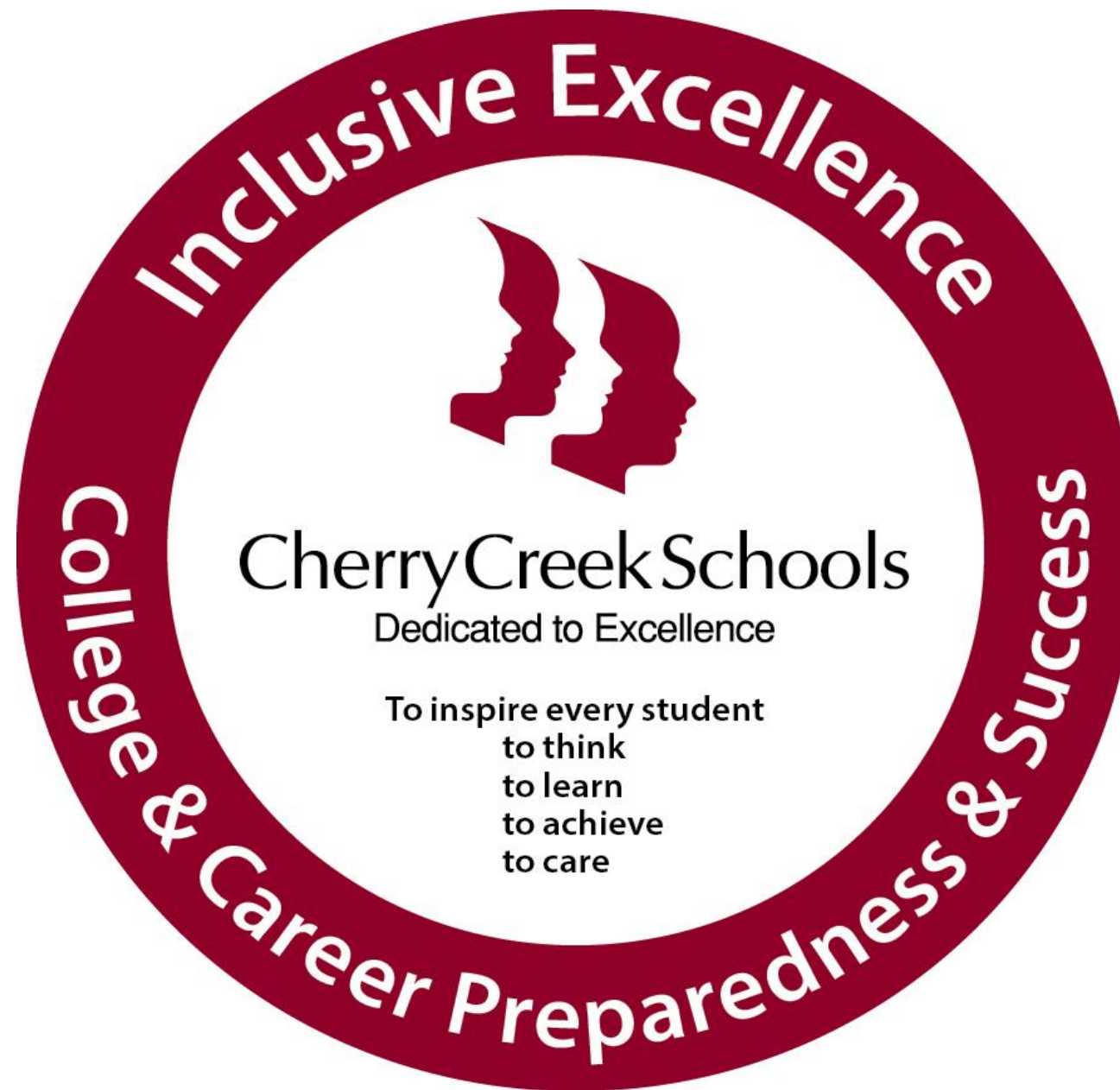
Cherry Creek Schools  
Foundation

# IMPACT DRIVES INCOME

- The stories we tell – YOUR WHY – is what will be the driving force behind the Foundation
- The Toolkit is to familiarize you with the WHY – the stories of our grants so that YOU can champion our impact
- Our impact is what drives donors to invest with us
- When donors see impact they want to solve a problem, change a life, move the needle and give more

# The Cherry Creek Schools Foundation is dedicated to:

- **IMPACTING** all of our students
- Investing in **INNOVATION** in the classrooms
- Providing **OPPORTUNITIES** for every student to achieve to the best of his or her abilities
- For 25 years, the Cherry Creek Schools Foundation has connected our community to the Cherry Creek School District by identifying resources and partnerships that maximize **IMPACT** through **INNOVATIVE** programs and meaningful educational **OPPORTUNITIES** for all 54,000 students and educators.
- CCSF has awarded over 1,000 Educator Initiative Grants totalling over \$1 million that enhance the visionary work of classroom teachers who ensure that our very diverse population of students are prepared for an ever-changing world.
- The Foundation raises funds for groundbreaking educational opportunities in alignment with District needs. From elementary school literacy, to middle school engineering, to high school robotics programs, to professional development, the Foundation financially backs ideas that get results across all curriculums and grade levels.
  - For more information about the Cherry Creek Schools Foundation, visit [www.ccsdfoundation.org](http://www.ccsdfoundation.org). With your help, **IT ALL ADDS UP!**



The Foundation exists to support the mission of the Cherry Creek School District

The Cherry Creek School District is:  
Colorado's fourth-largest school district, educating more than **54,000** children;  
One of the highest achieving in the state.

Almost one in three children receive Free and Reduced Lunch

Our Diversity:  
126 languages are spoken in the District

Our Demographics:  
African American: 11%  
American Indian/Alaska Native: 1%  
Asian: 8%  
Hispanic: 20%  
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 0.2%  
White: 53%  
Two or more races: 7%

These statistics disprove a common misconception of Cherry Creek as a homogenous district.  
We are racially, culturally, geographically and economically diverse.

# GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS

*"Cherry Creek schools are using innovation to imagine new ways to inspire learning and prepare our students to be the next generation of problem solvers, creators and leaders. It's our job to create the conditions that allow our kids to rise to their potential and achieve success."*

DR. HARRY BULL,  
SUPERINTENDENT



|                |         |  |  |
|----------------|---------|--|--|
| TOTAL STUDENTS | 54,700+ | <p>11.0% African-American</p> <p>1.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native</p> <p>8.0% Asian</p> <p>20% Hispanic</p> <p>0.2% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</p> <p>7.0% Two or more races</p> <p>53.0% White</p> <p>29% of our students qualify for free and reduced lunch</p> |   |
| TOTAL TEACHERS | 3,719   | <p>Average Class Size</p> <p>24.1 Students Grades K-5</p> <p>25.9 Students Grades 6-8</p> <p>25.7 Students Grades 9-12</p>   | More than 77% of faculty members have advanced degrees and teachers have an average of 10 years' experience. Cherry Creek Schools has the third-highest number of National Board Certified teachers in Colorado. |
| TOTAL SCHOOLS  | 60      | <p>42 Elementary Schools*, (K-5)</p> <p>1 school on year-round, four-track calendar</p> <p>7 schools on transitional calendar</p> <p>10 Middle Schools* (6-8)</p> <p>7 High Schools (9-12)</p> <p>1 Magnet School (K-8)</p> <p>2 Charter Schools (K-8)</p>                 |    |

\*A new elementary school and middle school will open in the 2018-19 school year.

| ACT SCORES                                   | CCSD | STATE | NATION |
|--|------|-------|--------|
| ACT Composite Score, 2016 Graduating Seniors | 22.3 | 20.6  | 20.8   |
| ACT Composite Score, 2016 11th graders*      | 22.2 | 20.4  | *      |

| GRADUATION RATE | CCSD  | STATE |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| 2016            | 88.1% | 78.9% |
| 2015            | 87.2% | 77.3% |

\*There is not a national average for 11th grade ACT scores.

The academic data in this report was current at time of publication. For updated information, visit the Colorado Department of Education website, [www.cde.state.co.us](http://www.cde.state.co.us)





# What is the need for funding?

Colorado ranks in the bottom ten states in the nation for K-12 spending per \$1000 of personal income;

The challenging state budgetary environment has limited the money available for public school funding.

The Cherry Creek Schools Foundation aligns our funding with the needs of the District.

# OUR ABILITY TO MAKE AN IMPACT COMES FROM PARTNERSHIPS WITH OUR INVESTORS

- INDIVIDUAL DONORS
  - BUSINESSES
  - FOUNDATIONS
- CHERRY CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT



In 2016-17, the Cherry Creek Schools Foundation gave **\$261,271** which directly benefitted students. We funded:

- Educator Initiative Grants in the classrooms (given in amounts up to \$1000), such as grants for robotics in the classroom and strengthening literacy;
- Scholarships such as the annual Dr. Monte Moses Scholarship to inspire future educators;
- District opportunity grants such as providing tutors for the AVID program (Advancement Via Individual Determination).
- Professional development grants for Professional Learning Communities for Teachers

IMPACT, INNOVATION,  
OPPORTUNITY

IT ALL ADDS UP!

Every contribution, whether \$20, \$200, \$2000 or \$20,000 adds up to make an absolute impact in the lives of students and educators.

# Why Give?



Cherry Creek Schools  
Foundation



## Impact



*Deepen teacher training*



*Provide individual coaching*



*Maximize team work*



*Utilize new technology*

*CCSF funds "professional learning communities" that provide teachers with new and meaningful opportunities for growth:*

# IMPACT

Provide teachers with new and  
meaningful opportunities

Attract and retain outstanding  
teachers

# Why Give?



Cherry Creek Schools  
Foundation



## Innovation



*CCSF funds more than 85 educator initiative grants annually that mobilize innovative concepts into classrooms of the future:*

*Utilize technology in the arts in order to create audiobooks and ebooks*



*Provide equipment such as voice apps and stationary bike desks that enhance speaking and listening skills*



*Enhance learning experiences such as Google-inspired genius hour where students choose projects based on personal interest to promote problem solving and embrace imagination.*

# INNOVATION

Mobilizing visionary concepts in the classroom

\*Funding in area of **Innovation** mainly accomplished through Educator Initiative Grants

# EDUCATOR INITIATIVE GRANTS (EIGs)

- Awarded to individual classroom teachers or teams for up to \$1000
- Encourage, facilitate, recognize and reward **INNOVATIVE** and creative instructional approaches
- Some EIGs may ultimately become scalable in the District
- September 2017:
  - \$95,608 awarded
  - 36,202 students will benefit from these grants
  - Awarded 62 grants to Elementary Schools (60% of elementary students)
  - Awarded 30 grants to Middle Schools (93% of middle school students)
  - Awarded 15 grants to High Schools (62% of high school students)
  - Awarded 6 “other” grants for other populations of students (home hospital, mentorship programs, etc.)
- 113 grants in total
- For a complete list of EIGs given since 2014, see our website at <https://ccsdfoundation.org/what-we-do/grants/educator-initiative-grants.html>



# Why Give?



Cherry Creek Schools  
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## Opportunity



*Maximize return on investment*



*Increase number of teachers and students reached*



*Exponential growth in number of schools impacted*

*Your dollars are put to work for EVERY student and educator. CCSF is committed to:*

# OPPORTUNITY

Increase number of teachers and students benefitting from funds

The Foundation is able to provide funds for classroom grants to ensure that all students have equal opportunities to learn, especially in schools where PTOs are unable to fund programs that may go above and beyond.

# CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

**Opportunity** (and even **Innovation**) at its finest – open to every student in the District at no cost to create whatever they can imagine out of recycled material!

\*This event is made possible through our partnership with Arrow Electronics



# SCALABILITY

When our impact is multiplied



# STEAM

Science  
Technology  
Engineering  
Arts  
Math

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## INNOVATION:



*School wants to build, launch and film weather balloons while acquiring key experimental data*



*School identifies funding need for materials*



*District receives \$6,000 from the CCSF to launch 6 weather balloons*



*Each school recruits 50 students to participate*

## IMPACT:

- 1. 15 Other schools begin program 
- 2. District-wide grants from the CCSF support 70 launches throughout the district 
- 3. Kids see how science connects to every day issues like weather 
- 4. Visual arts merges with science to interest more students 
- 5. Practical event can put theory into action 

Intentionally or organically, we may SCALE the types of grants we give:

- Differentiated Learners (for example)
- Since our founding, the Foundation has provided significant grants for our most vulnerable students.



In 2017, grants included:

- 3D Printers to help students with needs develop communication systems
- Audiobooks for English Language Learners
- Training in life skills and vocational skills for students with special needs
- Ipad applications for students needing assistance in literacy, math or fine motor skills
- Tools for struggling readers
- \*Spreadsheet of all grants is available



# SOME OF OUR STORIES





# A STORY OF IMPACT

## Professional Learning Communities

- A group of educators that meets regularly, shares expertise and works collaboratively to improve teaching skills and academic performance of students
  - Promotes teamwork for the benefit of every student in the building
  - Every school, impact every teacher and ultimately every student
    - Teachers learn how to meet every child where he/she is
      - 3700 teachers in the District trained
      - Over 600 teachers trained as facilitators
    - District can attract and retain amazing teachers
- “Collaboration and learning from one another are the keys.” - Ryan Silva, Principal, CCHS

# A STORY OF INNOVATION



- Ozobot Triathlon (2016-17 EIG)
- Students at the Hollys learned how to program mini-robots, “Ozobots”, to compete in a triathlon.
- Although the \$1000 grant was originally intended for fourth and fifth graders, the teacher expanded the use of the mini-robots for the entire K-5 school population of 600 students. Students as young as kindergarten learned to code and problem solve, through “ozoblocky code”, using colors and robotics.
- The students’ creativity kicked in, designing gameboards and mazes for the Ozobots, complete with trapdoors and other obstacles through which to navigate the Ozobots.
- Students at the Hollys, an ethnically and linguistically diverse school often without extra funding resources, were given the opportunity to be INNOVATIVE problem solvers with hands-on and fun STEM experience.

# A STORY OF INNOVATION

## Using visionary concepts in the classroom, including through the arts

- An Extraordinary Cave Experience (2016-17 EIG)
- At Trails West Elementary, the visual arts teacher created a cave to connect history, art and natural resources for the students.
- Originally designed to reach only first and fourth grade students, the teacher ultimately expanded the purpose of her **\$723** grant to allow **300** students – almost every grade level - to experience the cave in a different manner.
- First graders learned about prehistoric people and culture, second graders used the cave to learn about folklore and fairy tales, third graders used the cave to explore ancient Egypt, and fourth graders used the cave to analyze Native American experiences in Colorado history. Each grade level decorated the cave with art work tailored to their period of study.
- The Foundation provided funding for the supplies for the construction of the cave as well as posters, specialized materials and books that each class used for the projects. As their teacher expressed, “I can see the excitement in children as they innovate to the best of their abilities. The creation process is a profound amalgamation of senses, inspiration, and prior knowledge that comes together in a final product.”

# A SOON-TO-BE TOLD STORY OF INNOVATION IN THE CLASSROOM

- Google Cardboard to Make History Come Alive! (2017-18 EIG)
- Fox Ridge Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> graders (550 students) will use Google Cardboard devices and smartphones (or virtual reality glasses) to revolutionize the social studies classroom with virtual reality.
- They can explore ancient civilizations, important sites, take virtual field trips around the world. The students will experience history through their own eyes.



# A STORY OF OPPORTUNITY

Increase number of teachers and students benefitting from funds



- AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination
  - Regularly scheduled elective program based on writing as a tool of learning, inquiry method, and collaborative grouping
  - CCSF funded **tutors** for AVID students to ensure that over **2100** students in the academic middle, in middle and high schools are college ready
  - In 2017, the AVID programs at both Campus Middle School and Prairie Middle School were awarded grants to take their **230** students to visit a local college campus, to encourage students to spark curiosity around higher education
  - Almost **100%** of AVID students in the District in 2016 were accepted into college
  - **157** total number of AVID Seniors in the District, **155** accepted into college, one student was accepted into the military. 154 seniors took a course at the college/university level numbered 100 or higher.
  - **894** 9th-12<sup>th</sup> graders took courses (including AP and IB classes) which were 100 % meeting the four year entrance requirement for college enrollment.

# A STORY OF OPPORTUNITY

Providing opportunities for every student to achieve



- TranspOREtation (2016-17 EIG)
- An unanticipated life's lesson, given the terrible floods in Texas, Hurricanes Irma in Florida and Maria in Puerto Rico - through civil, software, mechanical, and environmental engineering
- 120 Liberty Middle School students learned how automated vehicles change a human's ability to manage natural disasters and resource management.
- LEGO EV3 robotics provide the students with the opportunity to study Colorado's unique environmental and economic needs while enacting the engineering design process.
- The \$1000 EIG allowed the teacher to purchase three additional robots to ensure that pairs of students, rather than triplets of students, could work together. As the teacher noted, this grant was critically important to underserved populations in STEM, such as female students and students of color, whose diverse opinions can sometimes go unnoticed.
- Through this grant, every student was given the actual hands-on **OPPORTUNITY** to achieve to the best of his or her ability, while understanding the real-world impact of STEM in their lives.



# Cherry Creek Schools Foundation

IMPACT, INNOVATION, OPPORTUNITY: IT ALL ADDS  
UP!

[www.ccsdfoundation.org](http://www.ccsdfoundation.org)