

# 2022-2023 Annual Report Oldham County Educational Foundation



The mission of Oldham County Educational Foundation is to elevate the public educational experience for Oldham County Schools' students by filling the funding gap between the available resources and the current need.



# Letter from President

The 2022-2023 school and fundraising year continued to build on previous years' momentum, and OCEF continued to lay more solid foundations for growth in the future.

The OCEF legacy is rich and getting richer as a new wave of need increases in our district. More than 30 years ago, OCEF's goal was to place a single computer in every classroom in the Oldham County Schools district. Through grants and fundraising, OCEF has helped to place enough Chromebooks in each classroom that all students now access digital learning every day. That original goal has certainly continued to ignite focus on innovation, creativity and giving our students and teachers resources they need to achieve excellence.

Beyond the direct funding of in-classroom technology, students and teachers have gained distance learning technology, literacy resources, STEM support, mental health training and resources, classroom libraries, CRISPR upgrades, flexible seating, music enrichment, art initiatives, extracurricular scholarships, college trips, and the list goes on and on! The majority of these innovations come directly through creativity and desire from individual teachers. Their drive to ignite passion for learning and foster an enriched learning environment continues to be funded through Pyramid Award grants. This year that funding was able to be increased to historic levels.

It has been my pleasure to continue the work of OCEF and pass the torch. Thank you for letting me serve our students and school district in this way. It is my desire that this annual report show OCEF's continued passion for OC Schools.

Susan Arterburn OCEF President 2022-2023



## **Board Members**

#### **Executive Committee**

- Susan Arterburn President
- Aleah Schutze Vice President
- Kathleen Line Treasurer
- Nicole Kirby Secretary
- Gina Babbitt Executive Board Member at Large
- Cara Jarrell Executive Board Member at Large

#### **Board of Directors**

- Dean Barke
- Brandon Berry
- Michelle Dement
- Brad Horner
- John Jennings
- Clint Kaho
- Vickie Majewski
- S. Doug Miles, Jr.
- Davis Page
- Christy Paulin
- Patrick Pollard
- Nick Stephens
- Kiley Walker
- Jon Whittemore
- Mary Whittemore
- John Wilkerson

# Strategic Planning – Building Up

The 2022-2023 OCEF fiscal year continued to build upon a strategic planning foundation laid in the previous year. Quarterly Strategic Planning committee meetings served to keep the entire board focused on three key initiatives designed with our mission in mind:

## Increase Awareness of OCEF:

Community and school awareness of OCEF as well as knowledge regarding what the foundation does in the community was increased through a school liaison program, increased social media presence, and attendance at community events.

## Increase Revenue/Donations to OCEF

As a result of the increased awareness, OCEF was able to increase revenue by over \$16,400 from the previous year.

## Increase Gifts to Oldham County Schools

The increased revenue allowed OCEF to support two additional programs, increase the gift amount for each Pyramid Award from \$1,000 to \$1,250, and create an emergency fund in our budget for unexpected requests from the District.



## **Community Participation Events**

OCEF was able to attend and participate in two major community events at Yew Dell Botanical Gardens to help bring awareness to our foundation – Boo-Dell and Yew Dell and Yuletide.



## Fundraising Events

Fundraising events help to connect OCEF and our mission to parents, teachers, staff, families and students within Oldham County Schools, as well as local businesses and donors. Fundraising is a core component of the Board's work as it supplements the grants awarded to OCEF. Grants are the bedrock of OCEF's work, and their impact are discussed later in this report.

## Send Your Love

We love our teachers and staff, and what better time of year to show it than Valentine's Day! The gift offerings were expanded this year, and all options were SOLD OUT! A total of 1,200 gifts were sent to teachers and staff on Valentine's Day through the work of OCEF and its community partners – Dough Baby Donuts, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Hometown Pizza, Red Pepper Deli, and Gustavo's.

Through the generous sponsorships of Pollard Reality and First National Bank of Kentucky, OCEF was able to give **\$5,263.39** to Oldham County Schools through the Send Your Love event!





#### Bracket BBQ

Oldham County loves basketball and BBQ! The Rotary Clubs of LaGrange and South Oldham came together with Ameriprise Financial, Champion Chevrolet, Baptist Health LaGrange, First National Bank of Kentucky, and Wehr Constructors to make this event a success yet again. Oldham County's very own culinary program students at Arvin Center prepared the food and received many accolades. Over 65 attendees listened to a "bracketology" analysis from former U of L basketball player and current North Oldham basketball assistant coach, David Padgett. Many placed their bids in an auction for the winning teams, and selected teams at random through pool play. This event raised a net amount of **\$4,323.57** to give to the schools!



## Limo Ride Raffles

After the initial success of the Limo Ride Raffle to end the 2022 school year, OCEF expanded the event and gave families an opportunity to win the raffle at the start of the 2022-2023 school year too! A group of South Oldham Middle Schoolers got a kickstart to the long weekend with a limo ride to Main Event!

The Last Day Limo Ride continued that success in May 2023, taking a group from Harmony Elementary School to Main Event on the last day of the school year.



We had numerous sponsors come out in a big way to support the Limo Ride fundraisers. Thanks to our sponsors – USI Insurance, Huntington Learning Center – East Louisville, Operation Parent, The County Press, Pollard Realty, Nick Stephens Financial Planning and Pollard Realty! Sponsorships and raffle ticket sales generated **\$7,118.21** for Oldham County Schools!



## Grant-Funded Projects 2022-2023 School Year

Metro United Way and the Peyton Samuel Head Trust grants helped fund our summer literacy program, Camp Literacy Live. This program is crucial for our youngest learners who are falling behind in literacy skills and provides rising 1st graders with a 3-week camp focusing on building literacy skills.

Through an additional grant from Metro United Way and an anonymous grantor, we were able to provide take-home permanent libraries for students at La Grange Elementary. Many of these students had no books at home or limited access. Opportunities such as these provide students with an opportunity for continued literacy gains. The Kentuckiana Post of the Society of American Military Engineers provided grant funding for the Engineering Academy at the Arvin Education Center. This \$3,320.00 grant was used to purchase a class set of competition drones for our new TSA chapter at the Engineering Academy.

Thanks to a Peyton Samuel Head Trust grant, we were able to continue our popular Artist-in-Residence program. This year Oldham County Schools had an author as one of their artists-in-residence. Every year, the artist-in-residence works with OSCAC and CAPAA, as well as all schools within the district to help inspire and improve artistic expression and learning.

The Peyton Samuel Head Trust awarded a \$30,000.00 grant for the annual Pyramid Awards, as well as \$5,000.00 for OC Project Graduation.

The Buckner Related Arts program received a \$10,350.00 grant for iPads for digital art classes at Buckner Elementary School.

The South Oldham Rotary awarded a \$2,500.00 grant for Pyramid Awards.

We received a \$10,000.00 grant from Friends for Michael to upgrade the playground at Buckner Elementary, providing accessible equipment making the playground inclusive for all students.

# Continued Giving

Care Solace: Dr. Jason Radford presented insightful data from student and parent surveys, along with strategic planning information and results from programs funded by OCEF to the Board of Directors. His information and discussion lead to the OCEF Board's decision to partner with Oldham County Schools and the Oldham County Health Department to fund Care Solace for the 2023-2024 school year.

\$20,000 was given by OCEF to Oldham County Schools to help keep Care Solace available for students, teachers and families for another year.





*Pyramid Awards* – A record-breaking \$46,545.12 was awarded through 43 Pyramid Awards to teachers and certified staff in the district.

Since the beginning of the Pyramid Awards program almost 30 years ago, teachers were eligible for up to \$1000 in award money. In 2023, the OCEF Board recognized that a thousand dollars doesn't go as far anymore, and voted to increase the maximum award to \$1,250. Due to increased awareness in the schools, and excitement regarding the award amount increase, 76 Pyramid Award applications were submitted to OCEF for review. The process included many rounds of scoring to select the top 43 applications as the ultimate winners. An awards reception was held in September 2023 to recognize the winners and their innovative classroom projects.

#### Extracurricular Scholarships - \$2,500

Economic pressures sometimes mean that students are left without the opportunity to participate in school-related activities that require a fee. The OCEF board recognizes the social-emotional impact that participating and being connected with one's school can have on students, and was able to reserve \$2,500 to be used to support Oldham County students who are unable to participate in school-related programs due to financial concerns. Through a partnership between OCEF and the school counselors, a general budget fund has been established, which can be used to fund student extracurricular activities. The application process was developed to protect the privacy of families in need and be simple to access.

## **Generous Donors**

In addition to the donors already mentioned, OCEF received donations from over 300 individuals who donated over \$100 in this fiscal year. Many gave over \$1000.



#### **Financial Overview**

Income	
Pledges & Contributions – Unreserved	
OCEF Board Member Donations	\$1,340.00
Business Donations	\$643.46
OCS Staff Donations	\$1,783.91
Individual Donations	\$7,462.77
Fundraising Events	
Bracket BBQ	\$15,199.38
Send Your Love	\$12,356.50
Limo Ride Raffle	\$12,058.91
Donations	\$352.00
Interest Income	\$95.57
Pledges & Contributions – Unreserved TOTAL	\$51,292.50
Pledges & Contributions – Temp Reserved	
Pyramid Awards	\$33,000.00
Arts & Education Opportunities	\$12,800.00
Pyramid Awards Reception	\$3,300.00
PLTW Academies/STEM/Engineering	\$4,275.00
Project Graduation	\$5,000.00
Camp Literacy Live	\$30,000.00
Restricted - Other	\$12,850.00
Pledges & Contributions – Temp Reserved TOTAL	\$101,225.00
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$152.517.50</u>
Expenses	
Program Expenses	
Arts Education & Opportunities	\$13,000.00
Camp Literacy Live	\$30,000.00
PLTW Academies/STEM/Engineering	\$4,275.00
Other Program Service Expenses	\$10,350.00
Designated, Misc.	\$22,500.00
Project Graduation	\$5,000.00
Program Expenses – TOTAL	\$85,125.00
Fundraising Programs	
Pyramid Awards	\$44,444.49
Pyramid Award Expenses	\$3,532.95
Limo Ride Raffle	\$4,940.70
Send Your Love	\$7,093.11
Bracket BBQ	\$10,875.81
Other	
Teacher Appreciation	\$1,400.00
Operations	\$1,295.86
Marketing and Fees	\$3,721.77
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$162,429.69</u>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<mark>\$-9,912.19</mark>