

# MAKING MORAGA *brighter*

MORAGA  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION



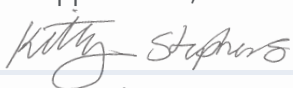
2018-2019 MEF ANNUAL REPORT

# Presidents' Message

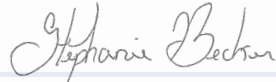
Once again, this community has come together to invest in Moraga's public schools. The return on this investment is a vibrant community, a strong housing market, and most importantly, opportunities for every student to realize their potential. California ranks 41st in per pupil funding, and within California, Moraga schools are among the lowest funded. Still, our schools consistently rank among the top in the state. The difference is our community's commitment to education.

This year, MEF exceeded its fundraising goal of \$2.5M thanks to your generosity. As a result, MEF has been able to significantly increase its grants for the 2019-2020 school year to \$2,475,000! We are very grateful to everyone who contributes to our efforts: businesses, civic organizations, parents, community donors, and volunteers. Thank you for supporting every student, every day!

In Appreciation,



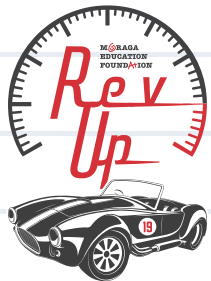
Kitty Stephens  
MEF Co-President, 2018-2019



Stephanie Becker  
MEF Co-President, 2018-2019



# Annual Auction Gala



Thank you to everyone who helped us raise over \$250K at the annual MEF Auction Gala. The event, held at the Blackhawk Auto Museum in Danville, focused on building community and supporting public education in Moraga.



Save the Date for the 2020 Gala! **APRIL 25, 2020**

You contributed  
**\$2,632,888**  
during MEF's  
2018-2019 Campaign  
**Thank You Donors!**

Operating expenses = 7.6% of Total Income.  
Audited financial statements are available at  
[moragaeducation.org](http://moragaeducation.org).

# 2019-2020 School Grants

<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>	\$ 2,425,000
Elementary Schools	\$ 990,000
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School	\$ 635,000
Campolindo High School	\$ 800,000



Thank you to **Peggy Cabaniss**, **Gary DeWeese**, and **Herb Gordon** for their nearly 30 years of volunteer service as the Endowment Advisory Team.

The **MEF Endowment Fund** was established in 1990 to provide a perpetual source of funds for students enrolled in Moraga elementary schools, Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, and Campolindo High School.

Only interest, dividends, or capital gains earned on principal may be spent. Earnings not paid out are retained in the Endowment Fund to safeguard its purchasing power against inflation and act as a cushion for periods of poor market performance or modest growth. Thus far, no Endowment Fund earnings have been spent.

Funds are invested in a diversified portfolio of asset categories and are invested in accordance with an asset allocation policy approved by the MEF Board of Directors.

Gifts to MEF may be directed to the Endowment Fund. Please also consider including a gift to the MEF Endowment Fund in your will or trust. Since the date of inception in February 2010, the Endowment Fund rate of return is 7.8%.

**ENDOWMENT  
PORTFOLIO VALUE**  
as of 6/30/2019

**\$1,334,492**

# Elementary Schools

At Camino Pablo, Donald Rheem, and Los Perales Elementary Schools, your donations ensure that students receive a well-rounded education. For all three schools, a grant of **\$990,000** funds:

- ✓ Science Aides
- ✓ Implementation of Next Generation Science Standards
- ✓ Counselor and Student Support Services
- ✓ Student Wellness Staff Development
- ✓ Technology Instructors
- ✓ Technology Upgrades
- ✓ Math Acceleration/Intervention Program
- ✓ Reading Tutors
- ✓ Art Teacher
- ✓ Teacher Aides
- ✓ Librarians
- ✓ PE Teachers
- ✓ Music Teachers



"Our new wellness activities — including counseling clubs and emotional learning lessons — promote inclusion, connectedness, and kindness."

— Ms. Inzeo,  
Moraga School District Counselor



"My kids ask to play Dreambox, the new math program, instead of video games! This program is a great tool that meets kids at their level and provides suitable challenges."

— MS&D Parent



"Every single day, elementary students participate in specialty classes that support the district's whole-child approach to education."

— Brian Sullivan,  
Rheem Elementary Principal



"Learning music in elementary school reduces stress, teaches students to focus, and helps with brain development, self-esteem, and social skills. And it's fun!"

— Mr. Jent,  
Elementary School Music Teacher



"As we implement new science standards, our teachers have amazing support from aides who ensure learning is not just from a book, but also from hands-on experiments."

— Bruce Burns,  
MSD Superintendent



# Joaquin Moraga Intermediate

At Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, MEF dollars impact every student, every day, with **\$635,000** funding:

- ✓ STEAM Electives and Equipment
- ✓ Technology Upgrades
- ✓ Librarian
- ✓ Music and Band Teacher
- ✓ Counselor and Student Support Services
- ✓ Student Wellness Staff Development
- ✓ 12 Class Sections of Electives
- ✓ Writing Aides
- ✓ Math Acceleration/Intervention Program

"Students who are in band, orchestra, or choir improve their skills significantly during their time at JM, and they have the important experience of learning to perform alongside their peers and professional musicians, as well as understanding music, which is one of the most common languages we hear every day!"

— Mr. Noel,  
JM Music Teacher





"I have been a math teacher in Moraga for eight years, and my three children attended Camino Pablo, JM, and Campolindo. Having seen the quality of education and student support provided here from the perspective of a teacher and a parent, I can truly say that the community's commitment to supporting our schools makes a huge difference in our children's experience. The student support at JM in particular enables me to better teach all students."

— Ms. Skimer, JM Math Teacher

"Art is the expression of life and a way to open yourself up to the world."

— 6th grade  
JM Student



"MEF donations fund the Coding STEM elective that I teach at JM. Thanks to this support, students get to learn the basics of Python programming language, helping to prepare them for our increasingly technology-driven world."

— Mr. Blalock,  
JM Science and Computer Teacher



# Campolindo High School

Even though students come from Lamorinda and beyond, the Moraga Education Foundation is the only education foundation that supports Campolindo. MEF's grants provide **\$800,000** in funding for:

- ✓ 16 Class Sections in All Academic Departments
- ✓ Department Grants
  - Technology and Software
  - Science and Engineering Equipment
  - Literature, Art Supplies, and Music
  - Video and Photography Equipment
  - Library Materials and Programming
- ✓ Student Support
  - Academic Counseling
  - College and Career Center
  - Wellness Center with Full-Time Counselor Coverage and Programming for Students and Families
- ✓ Professional Development for Staff in All Departments
  - Seminars, Conferences, Webinars, and Online Resources
  - Academic Intervention
  - Implementation of Next Generation Science Standards





"Thanks to MEF, students at Campolindo are able to discover their talents with the wide variety of courses offered. MEF allows me to foster a vibrant and cooperative community in the classroom to prepare our students for the modern world."

— Mr. Verbanszky,  
History Teacher &  
AUHS&D Educator of the Year



"MEF matters because we deeply value our children's education and the role of schools in our community. By funding excellent programs, we keep our students engaged in new ideas and prepared for their future. MEF matters because our children matter."

— Justin Seligman, Video Production Teacher

"I meet with students throughout their four years at Campo, so that they know they are not alone as they navigate the college admission and decision process. Our goal is to alleviate some of the stress in this journey, and to help them look within and find the environment where they will flourish."

— Joan Batcheller, College and Career Center Advisor

"Our goal is to provide a safe space where we can help students get the resources they need, no matter how small or large the issue."

— Yvonne Milham,  
Wellness Center Coordinator

WELLNESS  
CENTER



# Business & Civic Sponsors

In Moraga, we are collectively invested in the excellence of Moraga public schools. We thank these local businesses and civic organizations for their support of MEF and their dedication to our community.



"We know that our excellent schools drive demand for homes in Moraga, and MEF is a major factor in that. Every homeowner should support MEF because of the value that the foundation creates for our community and our kids."

— Ben Olsen, Moraga Parent and Realtor, The Olsen Team

## Foundation Champion

**\$20,000+**

The Olsen Team  
Anonymous

## Diamond Sponsors

**\$10,000 - \$19,999**

Fore Our Schools Foundation  
Mad Hedge Fund Trader,  
The Bronte Family

## Platinum Sponsors

**\$6,000 - \$9,999**

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## Silver Sponsors

**\$2,600-\$3,999**

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## Bronze Sponsors

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# MEF Honor Roll

## Foundation Champion

**\$20,000+**

Marc & Linda Carrasco

## Diamond

**\$10,000 - \$19,999**

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The Barlow Family Foundation  
Stephanie & Damon Becker  
The Collet Family  
Howie & Kristin Kennedy  
Judy Miles & Renata Sos  
Alex & Sara Mooradian  
The Stephens Family

## Platinum

**\$6,000 - \$9,999**

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Anonymous (4)

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"Donors who give \$4,000 or more to the Annual Campaign are recognized as Honor Roll Donors. These donors are the cornerstone of our foundation, and we thank them for their substantial commitment to the education of all Moraga students."

— Kim Matranga,  
MEF Executive Director



# Parent & Community Donors

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Please contact your employer's  
Human Resource Department  
directly to learn about their  
matching gift program, and  
increase the impact of  
your donation.

# thank you

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"I started as a teacher at Los Perales in 1969, and the classroom looked remarkably different. There were no reading or math tutors, PE or science teachers, art programs or classroom aides. MEF has grown into such a rich resource for our students!"

— Susan Sperry, Community Member  
(pictured here with her grandchildren)

“Our schools would not be as outstanding as they are without the help of MEF donors. Funding from the state alone would not allow for the excellence in education that Moraga students enjoy. Even though our children have graduated from high school, we remain committed to MEF and to public education in this community.”

— Renata Sos,  
Community Member

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"I would put Campo and the opportunities our students have up against any private school in the Bay Area. We know that this is not due to state funding; it is due to local support, including grants from MEF."

— John Nickerson,  
Superintendent of AUMHS D

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“When our oldest started kindergarten, we started making our MEF donations monthly by setting up a payment plan. It was very simple to do, and was much less than our monthly preschool payment had been!”

— Rheem Elementary Parent



“We have had three children attend Campolindo,  
and we recognize the essential role that MEF plays in supporting  
programs and staff on campus. So even though we live in Lafayette, we  
are happy to donate to MEF each year because it is the only education  
foundation that supports Campo.”

— Diana and Kevin Brown, Campolindo parents

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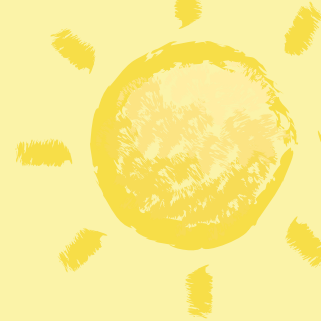
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 Rheem Teachers & Staff, *from Craig & Stacia Ruffolo*  
 Stacia Ruffolo, *from The Stephens Family*  
 Stephanie Becker, *from The Stephens Family*

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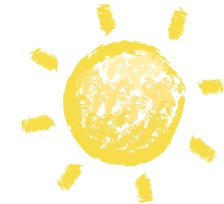
“MEF is able to maximize its grants to Moraga schools because of the generosity and hard work of all of our volunteers.”

— Kitty Stephens,  
MEF Co-President, 2018-2019

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A special thanks to Sara Cecchin and Jen Blau for their graphic design work on this and other MEF materials. Thank you to Shirley DeFrancisci, parent and owner of DeF-Stop Photography, for the beautiful photos in this annual report. Thank you to the school site PTAs, Campolindo Parents Club, and the administrators and staff at the Moraga School District, Campolindo High School, and the Acalanes Union High School District for their support.

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\*\* Fundraising Chair



# California's Lopsided Funding Reality

Despite having higher than average per capita personal income and having among the highest per capita gross state product in the US, California ranks among the bottom in terms of what percentage of its income or productivity is spent on education.\*

“While California is rich in economic resources, it continues to rank near the bottom in almost every measure of school funding and school staffing. Funding shortages are a long-term reality in the Moraga School District. Private funding, including the substantial grants from MEF, makes it possible for us to provide Moraga students with a well-rounded education.”

— Bruce Burns,  
Moraga School District Superintendent

**5th**

Largest Economy  
in the World

**LARGEST  
GDP**  
OF ANY STATE

**45th**

Nationwide in  
Percentage of Taxable  
Income Spent on  
Education

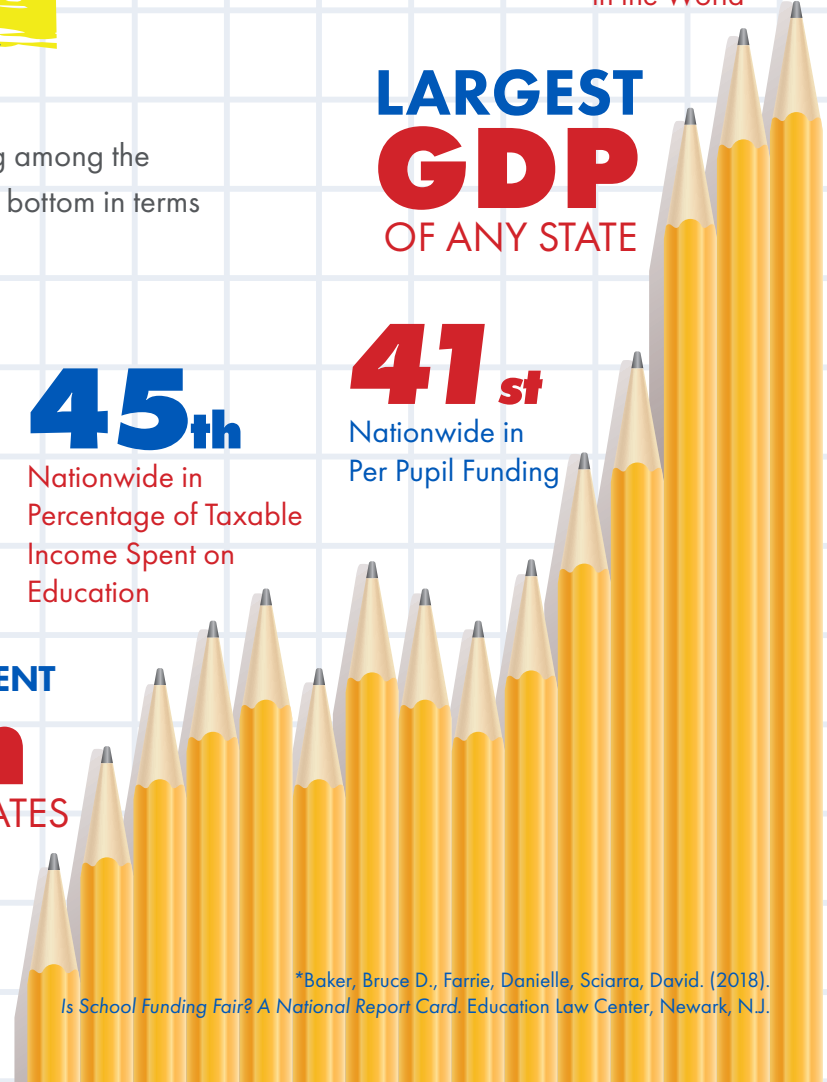
**41st**

Nationwide in  
Per Pupil Funding

**STAFF PER STUDENT**

**48th**

OUT OF 50 STATES



\*Baker, Bruce D., Farrie, Danielle, Sciarra, David. (2018).  
Is School Funding Fair? A National Report Card. Education Law Center, Newark, N.J.



# Local Support Earns Moraga an A+

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate was named a California Honor Roll School based on student achievement. +

Moraga Elementary Schools rank 2nd in state testing scores among similarly-sized districts that do not receive basic aid. ++

Campolindo High School is among the top 2% of public high schools in California. +++

+ Educational Results Partnership  
++ ed-data.org  
+++ US News and World Report



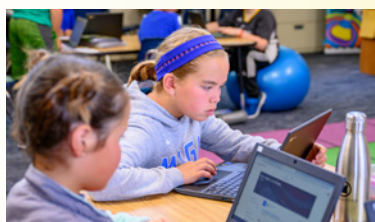
## 2019-2020 MEF Campaign

# MAKING MORAGA brighter

Let's do this again! The Moraga Education Foundation is coming off of a very successful 2018-2019 Annual Campaign, and our students are already experiencing the benefits of the resulting grants made for this academic year. Our 2019-2020 Annual Campaign is in full swing, and MEF hopes to raise \$2.75M this year to support every student, every day. The cost of educating our children continues to increase, and state funding isn't keeping pace. We all benefit when we invest in the education of our young people, and we hope that you will include an MEF donation in your annual budget this year.

Your 2019-2020 MEF Co-Presidents,  
Stephanie Becker & Lisa Brown

Please *donate today* at [moragaeducation.org](http://moragaeducation.org)



**MORAGA**  
**EDUCATION**  
**FOUND<sup>A</sup>TION**

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