



2019  
**IMPACT  
REPORT**  
& Ten-Year Review

# 2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Honorable Brian J. Davis,  
Chair**  
U.S. District Court Judge

**Kevin Hyde,  
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County Public Schools

**The Honorable Lori  
Hershey, ex-officio**  
Chair, Duval County  
School Board

**Sarah Pasion, ex-officio**  
2019 Florida Blue Duval  
County Teacher of the Year

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**Coretta K. Hill**  
Vice President

**Laura Alrutz, Esq.**  
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Advocacy

**Warren Buck**  
Director of Teacher  
Leadership

**Stephanie Garry Garfunkel**  
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**Maira Martelo, Ed. D**  
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Partnerships

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Senior Manager of Finance  
and Administration

**Jen Silva**  
Director of Fund  
Development

**Ashanta Williamson**  
Fund Development  
Associate and Executive  
Assistant

# CELEBRATING PROGRESS

Public schools in Duval County are better than they have ever been. Our graduation rate is 85 percent, and the school district has been ranked one of the top urban districts in the country by the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

## Core Capabilities

We leverage these strengths  
in all our work:

.....  
**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**  
.....

**DATA &  
RESEARCH**  
.....

**POLICY &  
ADVOCACY**  
.....

**EDUCATION  
EXPERTISE**  
.....

**STRATEGIC  
INVESTMENT**  
.....

# CLOSING THE GAP

Students living in poverty don't have the same chance to succeed as their peers — yet. We must close the opportunity gap by investing in education leaders.

## Leveraging Leadership for Public Schools

Our next chapter will focus on strengthening the leadership skills of the people closest to our students:

EFFECTIVE PRINCIPALS

TEACHER LEADERS

PARENT ADVOCATES

**In 2009, community leaders founded the Jacksonville Public Education Fund as a high-capacity independent organization that supports great public schools in Duval County.**

At the time, our graduation rate was 56 percent — and too many children were struggling to master grade-level math and reading skills. We needed our community to rally around the cause of public education and make our schools the foundation of a thriving city.

Ten years later, we've made tremendous progress. Our district is closer than it has ever been to an A grade, and our graduation rate is now soaring over 85 percent.

JPEF is proud to have played a part in this success story by putting the public back in public education. Our work on the ONE in THREE photography exhibit at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens raised awareness about our dropout crisis. Awareness turned into action through the groundbreaking ONE by ONE campaign, which identified community priorities for public schools and informed a new district-wide strategic plan. The Quality Education for All Fund, based at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida and administered by JPEF, helped move the needle in our lowest-performing schools and guided JPEF's focus on human capital in our next chapter.

On our 10th anniversary, we want to express our sincere gratitude for all you've done to support this progress. None of this would have been possible without you.

In the midst of great progress, we now have to double down on our efforts to close the opportunity gap for students who are still struggling. We are thrilled to launch a new School Leadership Initiative to help improve school quality in our low-income neighborhoods. We hope you will join us in this work.

Sincerely,



*Brian J. Davis*

**Judge Brian J. Davis**  
2019-2020 Chairman  
Board of Directors



*Rachael Tutwiler Fortune*

**Rachael Tutwiler Fortune**  
President

# 2009

## Jacksonville Public Education Fund established

Community leaders invested in improving public education identified the need for a high-capacity local education fund. One of the first initiatives was a year-long study by Education Resource Strategies that led to more efficient use of resources, co-funded with DCPS.

# 2011



## ONE by ONE became flagship initiative

In September 2011, the Jacksonville Public Education Fund launched its first major community mobilization initiative. The ONE in THREE art exhibit was seen by more than 75,000 viewers, and nearly 1,700 people participated in ONE by ONE community conversations.

# 2012

## Community played a leading role in selecting DCPS leadership

The Jacksonville Public Education Fund served as a strong advocate in informing and engaging the community around the 2012 school board elections, and around the school board's search for and selection of a new DCPS superintendent, Dr. Nikolai P. Vitti.

## School Facts Jax launched

Our new website made school performance data easily accessible to the community.



# 2013



## Quality Education for All Fund launched

Responding to the priorities identified in the ONE by ONE campaign, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida launched this \$38 million investment in human capital to improve teaching and leadership in historically low-performing schools. JPEF administered the fund.

Schools benefiting from these investments showed significant gains in student achievement and school culture, with higher graduation rates and higher school grades.

# 2016

## Educators and parents voiced support for rigorous instruction

Across the country, states considered adopting more rigorous standards for academic achievement in public schools to help students compete in a globalized economy. JPEF informed and engaged the community to advocate for the successful adoption of the Florida Standards.

# 2017



## New framework focused on developing people

JPEF adopted a new focused strategic framework to deepen our impact on school quality by investing in human capital to strengthen public schools.

## Teachers empowered as education leaders

JPEF expanded the EDDY Awards into a yearlong program for Teachers of the Year to build their capacity as practitioners and leaders in their schools.



## New system leaders arrived to build on progress

With the departure of Dr. Vitti as superintendent, JPEF hosted our first-ever School Board Candidate Academy and engaged the community as the school board launched a search and selection of a new DCPS superintendent, Dr. Diana Greene.



## Education pioneer spoke in Jacksonville

Geoffrey Canada, founder of the Harlem Children's Zone, inspired Jacksonville leaders to support students from low-income backgrounds, as part of JPEF's first EDTalks event.

# 2018

# 2019



## JPEF supported tax referendum for schools

Duval County Public Schools proposed a 15-year half-penny sales tax to pay for \$2 billion in improvements to public school buildings. JPEF called on City Council to put the matter to a vote and shared results from our annual community poll showing strong support for a small tax increase for schools.



## School Leadership Initiative launched in Title I schools

JPEF launched a School Leadership Initiative to provide professional learning and grants to school leaders in Title I elementary schools.

**Where are they now?** Many people touched by JPEF are paying it forward. Visit [jaxpef.org/annual-report](http://jaxpef.org/annual-report) to hear from them through our exclusive online videos.



## Parent leaders advocated for children

Building on a decade of impact through community engagement, JPEF graduated the first class of Parents Who Lead, an evidence-based parent leadership program, in partnership with Duval County Public Schools, the Jacksonville Public Library and Kids Hope Alliance. Parent advocates led projects on bullying, implicit bias in schools and traffic safety in school zones.

# EFFECTIVE PRINCIPALS



## Powering Potential THROUGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Research has shown school leaders have a critical impact on student learning. Newly launched in 2019, the School Leadership Initiative is designed to improve student learning in Title I elementary schools by developing phenomenal school leaders.

2,300



ESTIMATED STUDENTS  
IMPACTED BY THE  
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP  
INITIATIVE IN PILOT  
YEAR 2019-2020

Spotlight on:

# THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



*They may never grace the pages of The Wall Street Journal or Fortune magazine, but they might possibly be the most important CEOs in our country. They are elementary school principals....It's a tough job and the stakes are high.*



— Charlie Hollar, school turnaround expert

Public schools in Duval County have made great strides, but we have more work to do to close the opportunity gap for low-income students. For this reason, JPEF is launching the School Leadership Initiative.

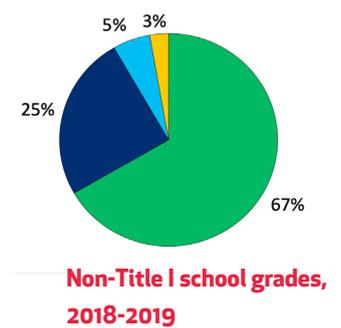
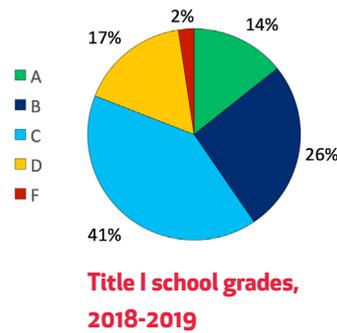
Great schools can only exist with great leaders. Effective principals are more likely to retain high-quality teachers, and they are also more likely to dismiss poorly performing teachers. According to a national study conducted by Stanford University, students in schools with high-performing principals will have

between **two to seven months of additional learning gains**. There are virtually no cases of a school turning around without a powerful leader.

The School Leadership Initiative provides professional learning

and grant funding to school leaders in Title I elementary schools in Duval County. It also provides national research to improve practices throughout the school system.

**Why Title I?** Schools serving low-income students face more barriers to achievement, as shown by differences in school grades between Title I and non-Title I elementary schools in Duval County.



## Four Founders Fellowships in the Pilot Year 2019-2020



### The Cindy Edelman Fellowship for Teacher Recruitment & Retention

At Ruth Upson Elementary, Principal Yvonne Spinner is creating opportunities to retain teachers to ensure every child has a great teacher.



### The Brian J. Davis Fellowship for School Climate & Culture

At Cedar Hills Elementary, Principal Marva Mckinney is improving discipline practices to ensure every child feels safe, welcome and ready to learn.



### The John Delaney Fellowship for Family & Community Engagement

At Don Brewer Elementary, Principal Jennifer Gray is developing trust between teachers and parents so that parents are active participants in their child's education.



### The Nina Waters Fellowship for Leadership & Management

At Brentwood Elementary, Principal Jacqueline Jones is developing a succession plan to ensure improvements continue when staff transition.

# TEACHER LEADERS

## Powering Potential THROUGH TEACHER LEADERSHIP

In Duval County, being teacher of the year means much more than a parking space. JPEF has built the EDDY Awards — an elegant celebration that helps retain teachers in the classroom by showing the community’s appreciation — into a yearlong professional learning experience. The goal of the EDDYs Experience is to empower every teacher of the year as a teacher leader who mentors other teachers, fosters a positive culture in the school and spreads best practices in instruction. Through the program, teachers learn from each other and from top local and national partners, and build advocacy skills to make their voices heard on issues like the Florida Standards and the sales tax referendum. They also receive grant funding to spend on strategic projects in the classroom and get connected to opportunities like the new Cindy Edelman Excellence in Teaching Fellowship. The crowning experience is the e-cubed summer fellowship, in which the top five finalists travel to a national conference, meet with the Duval County School Board and develop their skills as teacher leaders.

1,800



TEACHERS  
CELEBRATED AND  
EMPOWERED OVER  
10 YEARS

88%

OF TEACHERS SAID  
THEY'RE MORE  
LIKELY TO STAY IN  
THE CLASSROOM  
BECAUSE OF THE  
EDDY AWARDS



*“Last year, I was a classroom teacher wondering if I’m really making a difference. A year later, I know I made a difference to my students, my community and education in Florida.”*

— Stephanie Bellino, 2019 Duval County Teacher of the Year



Hear from teacher leaders and parent advocates themselves in our exclusive online videos. Visit [jaxpef.org/annual-report](http://jaxpef.org/annual-report).



# PARENT ADVOCATES

## Powering Potential THROUGH PARENT LEADERSHIP

70,000



CHILDREN POTENTIALLY REACHED THROUGH PARENT LEADERSHIP PROJECTS

A cornerstone of JPEF’s community engagement work is Parents Who Lead, an intensive program on civic leadership that teaches parents how to be effective advocates for children. Participants attend weekly three-hour classes for 20 weeks and complete a community project of their choosing with the strategic support of JPEF and partners, including Duval County Public Schools, the Jacksonville Public Library and Kids Hope Alliance. Earlier this year, eight parents graduated from the inaugural class, leading community projects such as: teaching parents how to advocate for children with special needs, hosting a workshop for teachers on implicit bias, developing an online portal for parents of gifted children and successfully advocating for traffic safety improvements outside First Coast High School. Parents Who Lead alumni have also played a major role in the community conversation around a tax referendum for Duval County Public Schools, appearing in the media and before City Council to advocate for letting the voters decide. This fall, 34 parents began the program in the second cohort.



*“This program took me from advocating for my children to learning how to advocate for all children in Jacksonville. I learned how I can use my voice to act and speak on behalf of our children and families.”*

— Tiffany Clark, Parents Who Lead graduate

# OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

## Powering Potential THROUGH HUMAN CAPITAL

The Jacksonville Public Education Fund aims to ensure every student has access to high-quality public schools. We've seen a lot of progress over the last 10 years, but inequities by race and income persist in our schools. We are focused on closing the opportunity gap for low-income students and students of color by investing in human capital in our public schools: effective principals, teacher leaders and parent advocates. Through our research and policy work, we also drive change in partnership with system leaders, amplifying our impact across the entirety of Duval County.

COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT

DATA &  
RESEARCH

POLICY &  
ADVOCACY

EDUCATION  
EXPERTISE

STRATEGIC  
INVESTMENT

EFFECTIVE **PRINCIPALS**

TEACHER **LEADERS**

PARENT **ADVOCATES**

# INVESTOR RECOGNITION

In 2009, a small group of community leaders founded the Jacksonville Public Education Fund. Ten years later, JPEF has played a pivotal role in the progress in our public schools, which now boast a graduation rate more than 85 percent and the distinction of being one of the top urban districts

according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as “the nation’s report card.” None of this would have been possible without the steadfast support of JPEF’s investors. We are honored to recognize our investors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

## Sustaining Investors

### Poppy and Rob Clements

### The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

### Consortium of Florida Education Foundations

### Cynthia G. Edelman Family Foundation

### Delores Barr Weaver

## Annual Investors

### \$50,000 and above

Deutsche Bank  
Rice Family Foundation

### \$10,000 - \$49,999

Baker Family Advised Fund  
Cady Studios  
Dubow Family Foundation  
Florida Blue  
The Hicks Charitable Foundation  
Publix Super Markets Charities  
Rotary Clubs International  
State of Florida DMV  
David Stein  
Anita and James Vining  
VyStar Credit Union  
Wells Fargo

### \$1,000 - \$9,999

ABM Services (Formerly GCA)  
Ashley and John Adams  
Susannah Albright  
Bank of America  
Marcela and Russell Beard  
Sel Buyuksarac  
Nancy and Gary Chartrand  
Chartwells  
Community First Credit Union  
Compass Group  
Arthur Vining Davis Foundation  
Judge Brian J. Davis  
John Dinneen  
Dream Finders Homes  
Ray Driver  
Duval Teachers United  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Holly Finchem  
First Coast YMCA  
The Florida Times-Union  
Rachael Tutwiler Fortune  
Stephanie Grant  
Rev. Mark Griffin  
Stephen Halverson  
Joan and Preston Haskell  
Janet Healy  
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville  
Kevin Hyde  
Jacksonville University  
Nicosia and Coley Jones  
Jostens  
Alexis and Matt Kane  
Joy and Howard Korman  
Helen Lane  
LenderLive  
Thad McNulty  
Museum of Science & History  
ReGina Newkirk  
News4Jax  
Joshua Nugent  
Donna Orender  
Lisa Page  
Dr. Davalu and John O. Parrish

Pam D. Paul  
Pam Y. Paul  
PRI Productions  
Deborah Quazzo  
Raymur Rachels  
Read USA  
Regions Bank  
Ryan Schwartz  
Scratchwerk  
Brooke and Hap Stein  
University of North Florida Foundation  
US Assure  
Terry and Lon Walton  
Eartha M.M. White Legacy Fund  
Wicked Barley  
Avery Williams  
Susannah and Buck Williams  
Jeanne and Jim Winston  
Ellen and Jim Wiss

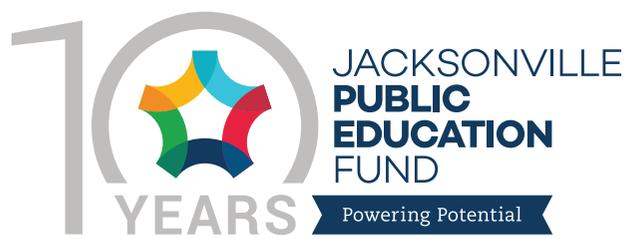
### \$100 - \$999

Agility Press  
Andy Allen  
Kimberly Allen  
Dr. Jordan Baker  
Ali Balfour  
Ricky Bedoya  
Benevity  
Liz Bobeck and Josh Nugent  
Clanzenetta M. Brown  
Diane Brunet  
Jason and Suzanne Burhyte  
Karen Buskirk  
Rita and Carl Cannon  
Jeffrey Chamberlain  
Corporate Medical Life  
Sunny Gettinger and Trey Csar  
Frank Denton  
Howard and June Entman Charitable Trust  
Ronnie Ferguson  
Deborah Gervin  
Margaret Gulliford

Elizabeth Head  
Coretta and Marcus Hill  
Lee and Laura Jones  
Heather Julin-Pittman  
Rosa Maria King  
Catherine and Christopher Kirkpatrick  
William Long  
Sharon Lucie  
Medtronic  
Melissa Nelson  
Network For Good  
Karla Newton  
Gregory Norgord  
Ranga Ocholi  
O'Steen Automotive Group  
Sharon Pentaleri  
Ceil Pillsbury  
Kenneth Reddick  
Root Realty  
Lauren Rueger  
Lindsay Runnels  
San Marco Bookstore  
John Sapora  
Ryan Sitnik  
Kathleen and Michael Stephens  
Sweet Pete's  
Tracy and Clay Tousey  
Felita Tutt  
Stephanie Verlander  
Robin Wahby  
Susanne Weisman  
Elizabeth and Patrick Williams  
Ashley Wotiz  
YourCause  
Kate Zarczynski

Make a commitment to the students of Duval County and the future of our city — become a sustaining investor.  
Contact Jen Silva at [jen@jaxpef.org](mailto:jen@jaxpef.org) or (904) 575-0447.

For financial reports, please visit [jaxpef.org](http://jaxpef.org).



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