

PEACE COMMUNITY CENTER



IMPACT REPORT 2018-2019



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2018–2019

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OUR MISSION

Rooted in faith and the Hilltop neighborhood, Peace Community Center believes education is an integral part of a strong community.

We support and encourage youth historically underrepresented in college to cultivate their academic and leadership talents so that they can gain full access to potential opportunities and reach their full potential.

Dear Peace Families, Partners and Supporters,

As the new Executive Director of Peace Community Center, I want to thank each of you for your outstanding support of me and the Center at-large. I have been impressed, inspired and motivated by the exceptional pride taken by the Hilltop community to collectively meet the needs of our students, families and the neighborhood. ***Our community is truly amazing!***

Peace Community Center is an organization committed to the academic development and social-emotional growth of our students. We believe that ***every child has the potential to achieve their post-secondary goals*** whether it be attending college, learning a trade, joining the military or earning a self-sufficient wage directly out of high school.

Because of the generous support of our inspired donors; tutoring from caring volunteers and leadership provided by professional staff members, we achieved the following outcomes this past academic year and have directly impacted our students' goals of achieving their full potential:

- 1122 hours of after school programming
- 346 students served
- 57% of students rising from below standard

Looking ahead, ***I am excited to launch the development of a robust 5-year strategic plan.*** This plan will reflect community members' voice; feedback from educational leaders and a shared vision for our commitment to being a skilled and adaptable service provider.

The 5-year strategic plan will also reflect our commitment to 4 main focus areas as an organization:

- **Academics and Leadership:** Invest in self-directed learning where scholars grow in their academic skills for continued leadership in their communities;
- **Continual Improvement:** Consistently evaluate best practices to be skilled and adaptable service providers;
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:** Be an anti-racist organization that addresses systemic oppression and empowers our community and
- **Partnership:** Build professional relationships that drive innovation in shared outcomes.

As we move forward in partnership with collaborative investment in the Hilltop community, I thank each of you for your passion, financial contributions, prayers, volunteer service and overall support of Peace Community Center. Tomorrow's leaders are shaped by our collective impact today!

Sincerely,

L. Denice Randle
Executive Director
Peace Community Center

MCCARVER SCHOLARS ELEMENTARY



Zayden is an active 4th grader who loves to play soccer, run around the field, and spend time with friends. Zayden has always enjoyed school, and joining McCarver Scholars in 2nd grade was a way for him to have more fun while getting extra support with tough subjects.

“I used to get lost doing homework by myself at home, but at Scholars we learn different ways of doing math problems that make more sense to me. When I’m working on a tough problem, they say ‘You’re so close, keep trying’ so I know I can do it if I keep trying”.

Now Zayden gets support with math everyday after school. He has plenty of time to practice reading too and works with staff to expand his vocabulary.

“They always challenge us to read harder books. It feels really good to pick up a hard book and know that I will be able to work through it. Even when there’s new words I haven’t seen before, I can look for clues around it to know what it means. The staff here help me and my friends find the meanings of new words.”

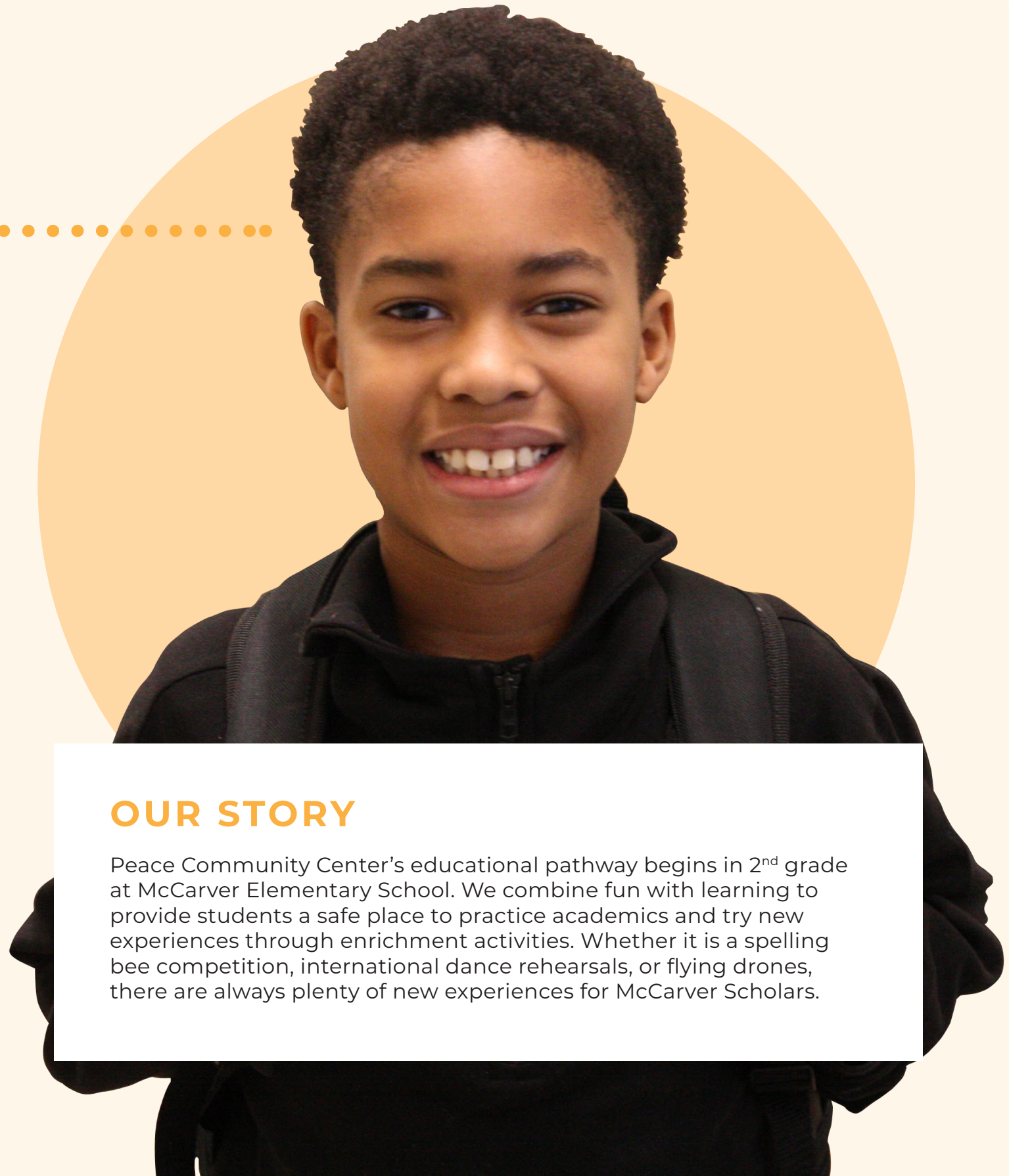
While Zayden is learning, he also gets to explore new experiences in our enrichment activities. Each month, he gets to pick new projects to try so he constantly learns about new subjects and fields.

“One time we did a circus enrichment where we learned to juggle and balanced feathers on our finger. Another time I got to learn drumming and we made music. I even got to be in the newspaper recently for our gardening enrichment, and I was really proud.”

Between practicing schoolwork and trying new enrichments, Zayden also enjoys multiple field trips throughout the school year and the summer.

“We went to the University of Washington and I met people there who made video games for us! It was really cool, and made me want to go to college so that I can continue to learn.”

Zayden works hard in school to reach his future goals and to always do his best in school and one day go to college.



OUR STORY

Peace Community Center’s educational pathway begins in 2nd grade at McCarver Elementary School. We combine fun with learning to provide students a safe place to practice academics and try new experiences through enrichment activities. Whether it is a spelling bee competition, international dance rehearsals, or flying drones, there are always plenty of new experiences for McCarver Scholars.

HILLTOP SCHOLARS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Lamin is a hardworking 8th grader who cares about the people around him and is passionate about his community. Before Lamin joined Hilltop Scholars in 4th grade, there was nothing exciting to him at school.

“School is more fun because of Hilltop Scholars. We do cool things afterschool like make our own pizza, practice basketball, and sometimes we go on field trips. My favorite was when we went camping for a weekend and the staff set up competitions.”

Hilltop Scholars also means Lamin gets extra support in the classroom. When he first came to middle school, it took time for him to adjust to more homework and different classes. He worked hard with Peace’s tutors and academic coaches to raise his grades.

“This is the first year I have had B’s on my report card! The tutors help me focus on my work and narrow down the subjects. They have me practice giving presentations and give me strategies for guiding a group discussion in class. It feels amazing to see how much I have grown because now I always get my work done and

my grades are better.”

Lamin is working hard to reach his goals. He wants to go to college in either Washington or Oregon to stay close to his roots, and then be a professional basketball player. He knows that grades and school are important for professional sports.

“I want to be someone that the younger kids in Tacoma look up to. I want to go to college and then play in the NBA so I can represent the place where I’m from and be an example for future students, just like Isaiah Thomas. School is a big part of being an athlete, because even if you’re good at the sport you still need to represent the school well.”

Lamin is excited to go into high school next year and see what the future holds. He will continue to do his best in school to reach his future goals.



OUR STORY

Our educational pathway continues to Jason Lee Middle School. At this level, students begin meeting weekly with an Academic Coach to get individualized support. Students also stay after school and in the summer to strengthen academic skills, gain new experiences, and begin to develop healthy homework habits to prepare for high school.

HILLTOP SCHOLARS HIGH SCHOOL

Isis is a spunky, artistic senior with a great sense of humor. When she joined Hilltop Scholars in 6th grade, enjoying school was not easy for her and she didn't always see the purpose of her assignments.

"Sometimes I felt like I was wasting time trying in math or writing, because even when I tried I wouldn't do well. When I came to Hilltop Scholars though, there was always a fun tutor to talk to and would encourage me to keep trying. Now I am getting all A's and B's."

Isis was also supported in understanding her feelings and learning to de-escalate built up emotions. She would spend time with staff at Hilltop Scholars unpacking different situations.

"The staff could always see when I would be building up anger inside. They would help me calm down and let it out before it would get too far, but in a fun way. I always feel supported in that way."

Isis has a strong relationship with her academic coach. In meetings they talk about everything from funny

Youtube videos to opportunities for the future and ways to push Isis out of her comfort zone. Isis is passionate about art, and her academic coach helps find ways to explore this interest.

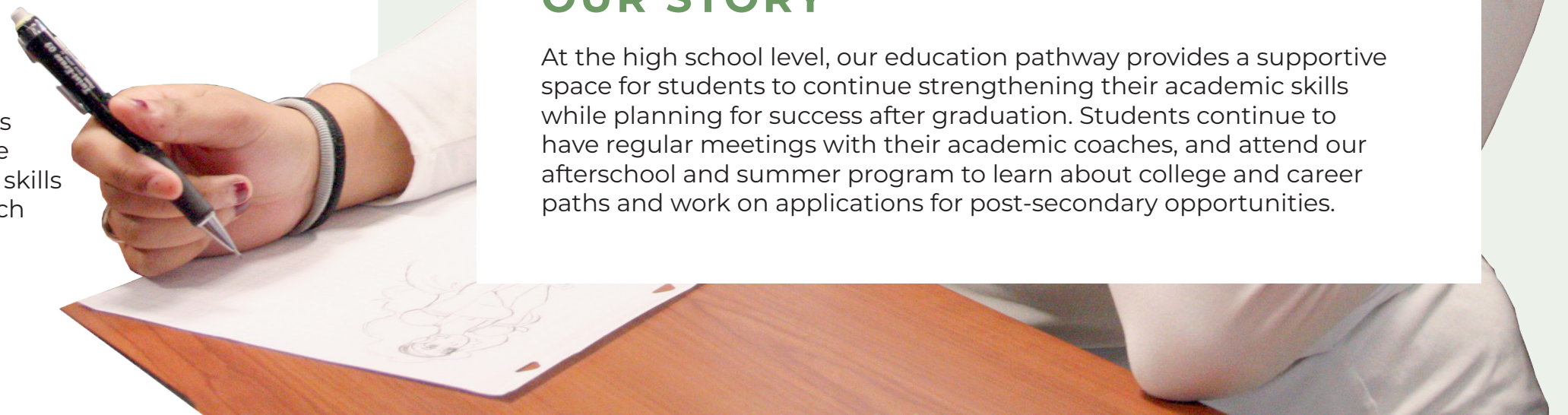
"My academic coach connected me to a local artist, Jason Sobottka, who came to program one day to talk about art. He encouraged me to go to college because it will open up more opportunities to share my art as a career. I continue to work on my art, and I was recently published in the Tacoma Weekly for a piece that I drew."

One day, Isis hopes to be an animator and create her own television cartoon. She enjoys creating characters and giving them their own personalities, and wants to be able to make her own decisions for the story of the show.

For now, Isis is considering different art and animation majors at colleges where she can gain the skills she needs to reach this goal.

OUR STORY

At the high school level, our education pathway provides a supportive space for students to continue strengthening their academic skills while planning for success after graduation. Students continue to have regular meetings with their academic coaches, and attend our afterschool and summer program to learn about college and career paths and work on applications for post-secondary opportunities.



COLLEGE & CAREER POST-SECONDARY

Ayiana is a thoughtful, conscientious student in her first year at Western Washington University. She has been a Hilltop Scholar since 5th grade. While she has always been a strong student, over the years Peace has supported her social and personal growth.

“Hilltop Scholars has been there supporting me longer than any one individual ever. My friends were pretty limited when I was younger, but I gradually became better at making new friends. When I was in middle school, I considered my academic coach one of my closest friends. She helped me work through my strong perfectionism when I wasn’t turning in assignments for my art class because I didn’t think they were good enough.”

Hilltop Scholars stood by Ayiana as she navigated attending Annie Wright High School, a private school in Tacoma where she received a scholarship. Her grades dropped in her transition to private school, but her academic coach encouraged her to study more and stay caught up.

“When I was first applying to Annie Wright, my academic coach helped me fill out my application, took me to my interview, and Peace even helped with tuition payments. Then once classes started, I really came to appreciate the diverse community at Hilltop Scholars. It was nice to connect with people from a similar socio-economic status, which was sometimes difficult to find at the private school.”

Now that Ayiana is in college, she still has a coach to support her with finding resources on campus and filling out financial aid forms.

“Earlier this year my coach helped me fill out the FASFA a certain way, and it saved me \$4,500 toward tuition! He also helps as I try to make new friends by suggesting I get involved with clubs that I am interested in. It’s nice to feel that support, especially being away from my friends from high school.”

Ayiana’s goal is to graduate college with a double major in Marine Biology and Chinese. She hopes to one day work for an international nonprofit helping animals abroad and contribute to conservation efforts.



OUR STORY

Our pathway of support continues past high school graduation. In our College & Career program, we help students transition to post-secondary opportunities, whether they are interested in attending college or finding meaningful careers. Coaches help students fill out financial aid applications, connect with resources on college campuses, and fill out job applications. No matter where students choose to go after high school, we remind them they will always have a community of care at Peace.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2018-2019

Thank you to the
40 VOLUNTEERS
who made our work
possible in 2018!



OPERATING SUPPORT & REVENUE

Individuals	\$ 376,850
Businesses	\$ 44,796
Churches	\$ 57,054
Other Revenue*	\$ 237,404
Government	\$ 14,660
Foundations	\$ 561,474
Total Operating Support and Revenue	\$ 1,292,474

* Other revenue includes interest income, rental income (net), reimbursements, and miscellaneous income

OPERATING EXPENSES

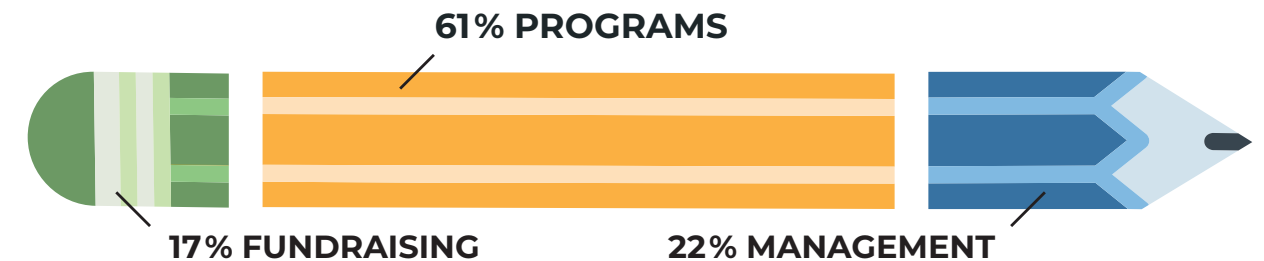
Elementary Program	\$ 197,973
Middle School Program	\$ 151,950
High School Program	\$ 209,338
College & Career Program	\$ 54,289
Other Programs**	\$ 125,510
Rentals	\$ 42,048
Management & General	\$ 263,201
Fundraising	\$ 206,062
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,250,371
Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$ 41,867

** Other programs includes Vibrant Schools Tacoma Coalition, community meals program, and other support services of the Center. The Center is the fiscal agent for Vibrant Schools.

STATEMENT OF POSITION

Assets	
Current	\$ 1,119,863
Property & Equipment, Net	\$ 2,735,073
Long Term Pledges Receivable	\$ 38,108
Total Assets	\$ 3,893,044

BREAKDOWN OF OPERATING EXPENSES



LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	\$ 257,213
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$ 2,299,150
Designated	\$ 1,142,468
Temporary Restricted	\$ 194,213
Total Net Assets	\$ 3,635,831
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 3,893,044

HILLTOP: WHERE SCHOLARS GROW CAMPAIGN

Beginning Balance	\$ x
2018-2019 Contributions	\$ 581,305
2018-2019 Expenses	\$ 55,808
Total Nonoperating Activity	\$ 525,497

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

WHERE SCHOLARS GROW

THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN

It is with profound gratitude that we successfully conclude the campaign to expand and strengthen Peace Community Center's physical space and programs. *Hilltop: Where Scholars Grow* wrapped up five vital and interconnected projects that saw the addition of a new classroom for students, a program sustainability fund at the Elementary level, new office space for an expanded permanent staff and much-needed renovations.



Highlights of the campaign include:

- **Construction of a new, 1,100 sq. ft. classroom** equipped with new projector, screen, whiteboards and movable tables. The space comfortably accommodates 25–30 of our high school students who have already made the room their own.
- **A renovated Multipurpose Room** adding valuable storage and student spaces akin to college study environments. This includes an expanded computer lab and technology center.
- **1,454 sq. ft. of new office space** for staff and AmeriCorps.
- **A renovated, professional kitchen** with commercial-grade appliances.
- The addition of **a sustainability fund for our Elementary McCarver Scholars** program and the **hiring of three Academic Coaches** to provide Scholars with one-on-one assistance and support.

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Vernon Chalberg
Victoria Clark
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Wandaya Terry
Wilhelmina Cromartie
Willie and Faye Stewart

THANK YOU



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Dimmer Family Foundation
Discuren Foundation
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
Forest Foundation
Foundation for Tacoma Students
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
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Lucky Seven Foundation
MDRT Foundation
Medina Foundation
Neeb Family Foundation
Oscar T. and Olivann Hokold Foundation
Rotary Club of Tacoma #8
Safeco Insurance Fund
Sequoia Foundation
Stewardship Foundation
The Baker Foundation
The Bamford Foundation
The Mannix Canby Foundation
United Way of Pierce County
Washington State Combined Fund Drive
William Kilworth Foundation

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Bethany Presbyterian Church
Christ Lutheran Church of Federal Way
Christ the King Lutheran Church
ELCA SWWA Synod Region 1
Faith Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church of Christ the King
Mount Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mountain View Lutheran Church
Peace Lutheran Church
Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church
St. Mark's Lutheran Church by the Narrows
Trinity Lutheran Church

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City of Tacoma

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