sbef our schools. our community.
san bruno education foundation

2019–2020
annual report

About the San Bruno Education Foundation

The San Bruno Education Foundation (SBEF) is an independent, volunteer-run, 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to providing enrichment programs for every child in the San Bruno Park School District. Learn more at sbefkids.org.

Dear friends and supporters,

It is safe to say that 2020 was a memorable year for all of us as we've navigated these uncertain times. We draw inspiration from the resiliency and strength demonstrated by our teachers, our students, our families, and our community in the face of unprecedented challenges. As the COVID-19 pandemic forced a dramatic paradigm shift to remote learning, our teachers and schools began to rapidly adapt to new technologies and innovative strategies for virtual classrooms. Many of our families experienced lost jobs and food insecurity. We are proud that the SBEF quickly recognized the enormous impact this shift would have on our most vulnerable students, further exacerbating barriers to achievement. We are humbled and inspired by the outpouring of support from our many community partners described below in this report to raise over $350,000 in less than three weeks to support our students, families, and teachers with home computer and internet support, as well as food assistance. And all of this generous giving came on top of the ever-growing base of donations toward our schools and the enrichment programs we strive to provide to every student in San Bruno Park. We look forward to the time when our students can gather together in their classes and playgrounds. Until then, we take comfort knowing that the City with a Heart will remain a community of deep caring and a generous spirit. Thank you for inspiring us.

Sincerely,

Scott Curtner, President
and Bryan Vander Lugt, Vice President

Our Programs

Music Education Strategic Initiative

SBEF is proud of our continued progress toward sustainable, equitable access to high-quality music education for every student in San Bruno public schools. This year SBEF was able to support music education for 1,679 elementary students in the San Bruno Park School District, including 661 students at our Title I schools that would not otherwise have access to music education. In addition, 49 fourth and fifth grade students throughout the District participated in after-school band and orchestra instrumental music instruction. At Parkside Intermediate School, 131 students participated in the orchestra groups and 155 students participated in the band program.

While we are excited about the amount of participation this year, the unexpected switch to remote learning in early March in response to the coronavirus pandemic presented a significant challenge to our music program. Our elementary music education partner, Music for Minors, adapted by preparing elementary music education online video lessons; however, our after-school programs were unable to operate under the remote learning format. Parkside's music program was curtailed during the spring as well. We were unable to showcase these wonderful music programs because we had to cancel our annual Music in the Air event this year.

Despite these setbacks, there are reasons to be optimistic. This was the third year of the three-year Music Education Strategic Initiative, supported by a $495,000 grant from the San Bruno Community Foundation (SBCF). SBCF has generously extended funding for the Music Education Initiative for an additional year as our donor base to support these programs recovers financially from the pandemic. We are continuing to work with the District and our partners to explore alternative programming formats for music education in the 2020-21 school year. We look forward to the time when students can gather to make music together again!

Remote Learning

In response to COVID-19 issues, our schools quickly transitioned to an all-remote-learning environment in early March. The sudden switch to remote learning highlighted the need for every school family to have internet access and a device at home to connect with teachers and to access online learning materials.

The San Bruno Education Foundation is proud to have partnered with the City of San Bruno, San Bruno Park School District, YouTube, San Bruno Community Foundation, San Bruno Lions, San Bruno Rotary, San Bruno Police Association and San Bruno Fire Association to quickly raise $100,000 for equipment and internet service for these vulnerable students.

SBEF also received a $240,000 grant from the San Bruno Community Foundation, which will allow the District to invest in new computers for all of our teachers and staff and to provide professional development to make best use of the available resources. SBEF is very thankful for our San Bruno teachers and staff that worked so hard to suddenly adapt in response to an unprecedented circumstance to ensure that learning continued for our students.

SBEF would also like to acknowledge the individuals who have contributed to support the remote learning initiative to help some of the most vulnerable students in our community. While the immediate need this spring was to ensure that all public school students in San Bruno were able to continue on with their education, we are more aware that this will need to be an ongoing effort. We are counting on our community's unwavering commitment to close the digital divide moving forward.

Special Highlights

Gift Cards to Mexicana Produce

The Covid-19 crisis has reminded us all of the central role schools play in our community – not just as educational institutions but as centers of connection to critical resources that include meal support for our families.

During the school closures, the schools in San Bruno Park School District (SBPSD) have been serving about 375 meals twice each day, representing about 250-275 families.

One grandparent of a SBPSD student made a generous donation to SBEF to purchase gift cards to grocery stores to help families in need buy extra groceries during these challenging times. In early April, SBEF Board members delivered 300 $25 vouchers for local grocery store Mexicana Produce Market to all six school sites. The gift cards were given to families picking up lunches for their kids.

Thanks to our concerned citizen for the generous donation, Mexicana Produce for printing 300 vouchers on short notice, and staff at our schools for distributing the gift cards and serving meals every day. This is another example of how our schools and our community are inextricably linked.

Photo Shoot in February

Portola parent and professional photographer Lorin Lee volunteered her time and talent for our Student Photo Shoot in February. Students who participated received a mini-photo shoot, and we were able to collect many high-quality photos for our promotional materials (including this Annual Report). We truly appreciate Lorin's contribution and are grateful for all of the students who participated in our photo shoot!

Pinot's Palette's Fundraiser

Pinot's Palette in downtown San Bruno generously hosted a fundraiser for SBEF in November. It was a lovely evening of art and tasty beverages! We raised approximately $600, and 30% of the proceeds were donated to SBEF to support enrichment programs at our San Bruno public schools. We truly appreciate Pinot's Palette's generosity and look forward to having more opportunities for the community to get together to support our schools.

Thank you for your contributions this year

Our Partners

The SBEF is sincerely grateful to our many supporters. But we would like to particularly recognize a few supporters that have been contributing at an extraordinary level to change lives for students in our district.

The San Bruno Community Foundation has been such a critical partner through their numerous Strategic and Community Grants that have allowed SBEF and the District to transform the way that we are able to provide music, remote learning, and other supplemental programming opportunities to all of our San Bruno public school students. We are incredibly grateful that the SBCF has made such a deep commitment to our schools and recognizes the deep impact of public education in our community.

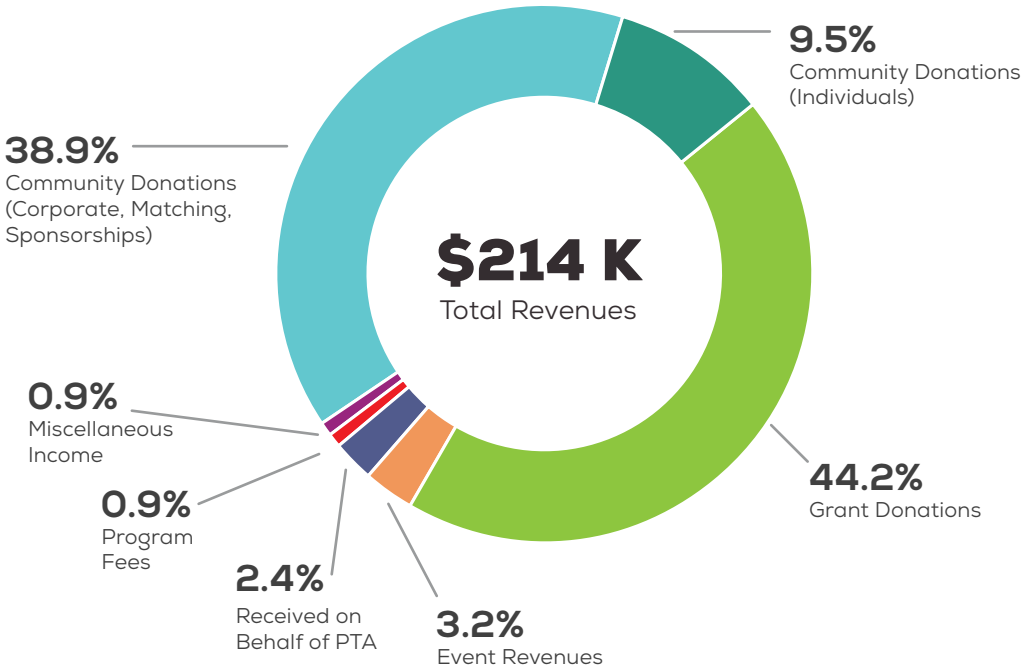
YouTube has once again demonstrated their strong commitment to the San Bruno community through their extremely generous grants and sponsorship of our school programs. This year they have provided grants to support our music and remote learning initiatives for which we are very grateful.

The Welch Family Foundation has continued their long-standing commitment to invest in our kids and our community through their generous sponsorship of our music programs again this year. Without their support, we would not be able to offer the power of music education to every student.

Sammut Family Foundation has continued their generous support for San Bruno schools by sponsoring our music education programs, as well as supporting S.T.E.M. classrooms at Parkside. We're deeply grateful for their commitment to our students.

Source of Funds

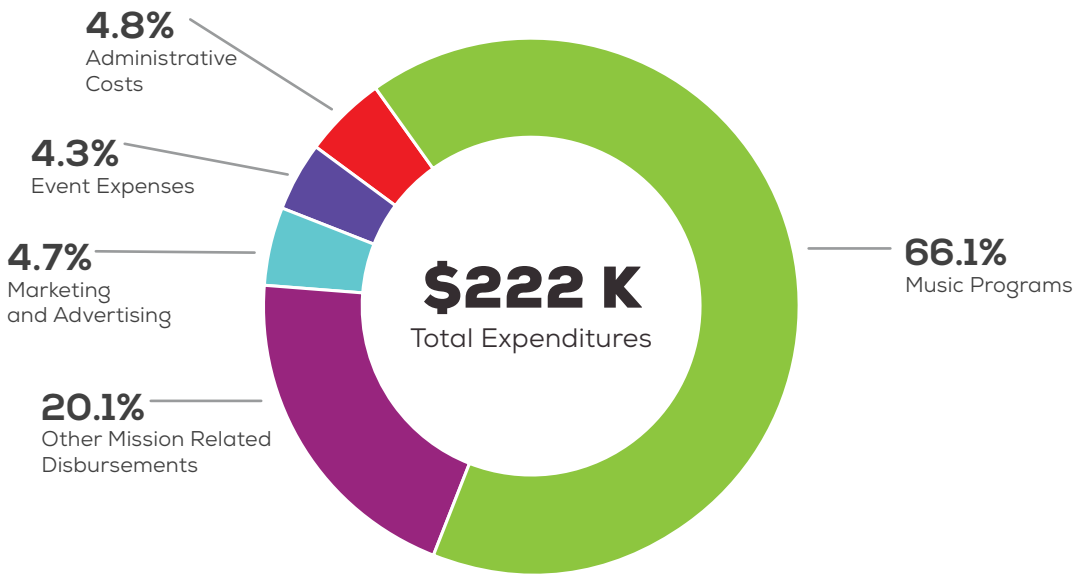
Funds Breakdown (July 2019 to June 2020)



*Excludes $300,000 grant from the San Bruno Community Foundation, which was received on June 30 but is attributable to the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Expenditures

Expenditure Breakdown (July 2019 to June 2020)



Other News

GOLD Seal of Transparency

We are proud to have received the 2019 GOLD Seal of Transparency on GuideStar. We were able to receive this distinction by sharing qualitative information about our goals, strategies, and vision, in addition to our basic and financial information. Our SBEF board firmly believes in the value of transparency for all of our San Bruno public and community organizations. The GOLD Seal of Transparency on GuideStar is one way we are able to demonstrate our commitment by making information readily available to donors and the community.

San Bruno Parents Night Out Holiday Event

In December, the fabulous San Bruno Parent Night Out group organized a holiday party for our community! It was a night filled with great music, delicious food and wonderful company. Parents Night Out generously donated $4,680 from the event to SBEF, and we divided this donation equally among each of our PTA/PTOs.

Annual Gala

The SBEF was planning to host its first-ever annual gala this past April. Due to the global pandemic, the gala was postponed and then cancelled. We keep our fingers crossed that we might be able to host a gala at the end of the school year in 2021. It would be wonderful for our community to be able to gather together to support our schools, celebrate our achievements, and recognize our donors and partners!

In Appreciation of Bryan Vander Lugt

Recently, Dr. Bryan Vander Lugt has stepped down from his position as Vice President of the San Bruno Education Foundation Board to pursue other volunteer opportunities in the community.

Bryan served on the SBEF Board for three years and made significant contributions to SBEF. When Bryan first joined, he partnered with SBEF treasurer at the time, Renee Callantine, to lead our national award-winning Music Education Strategic Initiative across all San Bruno schools, resulting in equitable access to high-quality music education for every San Bruno student.

He was also able to build strong partnerships with civic organizations, foundations and community groups and expand the foundation of support for our schools. These relationships allowed SBEF to quickly mobilize support to generate over $300,000 in emergency funding for internet access and technology for students and teachers when our schools switched to remote learning in the spring.

While we will miss Bryan, we are honored to maintain his knowledge and skill in SBEF as a key contributor going forward, and we are excited to see what the future holds for him in our school community.

Thank you for all you've done for SBEF and our schools, Bryan!

SBEF Board of Directors

President
Scott Curtner

Vice President
Bryan Vander Lugt

Secretary
Steven Rose

Treasurer
Makiko Sato

Board Member
Renee Callantine

Board Member
Andriana Shea

Board Member
Alexis Petru