



Annual Report

2021 2022

A New Pathway Forward



Message From President Elaine Elefante-Leano

Today’s kids have more paths to success than ever, but they also have dealt with more challenges and more risks as they weathered the coronavirus pandemic, economic uncertainty, and racial injustice.

Our schools have worked diligently to help transition our students back to campus after a year of distance learning. As the entire world responded to the challenges and restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic, the EastLake Educational Foundation remained steadfast in our commitment to ensure we empower students to imagine and build great futures. Supporting the local school community remains at the center of everything we do. We continue to support the success of our students as they learn to navigate and build skills to sustain their journey long after graduating from high school in this technology-driven era. Using our strategic goals as our guidepost, we set off to design and deploy new initiatives – teacher mini-grants, EASTLAKE+ A Positive Podcast, establishing the EASTLAKE Alumni & Friends, and scholarships.

I am excited to see what the new year will bring us, especially with the added talents of new board members. With the support of generous individuals, businesses, and companies, together we are enacting a positive future for our students. We need your help in continuing to support our foundation. You are at the heart of our foundation and with your generosity EEF will be able to continue with our programs and provide much-needed resources to our schools.

Sincerely,

Elaine Elefante-Leano



Message From Executive Director Janet Francis

For all of us at the EastLake Educational Foundation, supporting the hopes and dreams of our neighborhood children is a privilege and awesome responsibility.

I’m constantly humbled by the skill and dedication of our teachers and school leaders we interact with regularly. Their exemplary work cannot be overstated. The remarkable job they do to educate our children and nurture young hearts and minds is truly inspiring. As a parent and grandparent, I know strong schools and teachers play a priceless role in our families, and our community, and give our youngest citizens the quality education they need to thrive in an increasingly complicated world.

I am inspired by our students and how they are using their education to build bright futures while navigating social change in a landscape that is unprecedented. Our schools and students deserve every bit of support we can muster.

The EEF is driven and motivated to strengthen our commitment to area youth and build upon our collaboration with the community. EEF helps schools in meeting their educational mission through our impactful, meaningful programs such as annual technology grants, teacher mini-grants, EASTLAKE Alumni & Friends, “STEAM AHEAD,” EASTLAKE+ A Positive Podcast, and scholarships.

Your help ensures the EEF will continue to provide valuable programs and resources to our local public schools. I invite you to join our mission by volunteering, donating, or sharing your support with others.

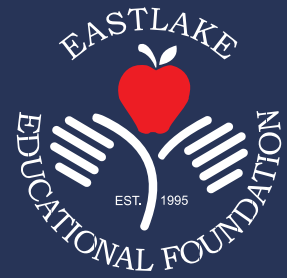
The EEF is blessed to have a depth of talent among the volunteer Board of Directors. Each one willingly gives of their time, talents, and finances to ensure the mission of the EastLake Educational Foundation is realized every year.

Best wishes,

Janet Francis



Long-time directors Natasha Martinez, Lynn Howell, (with Board President Elaine Elefante-Leano) and Patrice Milkovich will continue to lead as Advisory Committee members. Thank you for your vast contributions of time, talent, and treasure!



Background and Governance

The EastLake Educational Foundation (“EEF”) is a California non-profit corporation, founded by the EastLake Development Company in 1995 for the purpose of providing charitable support for public schools in the EastLake Community. EEF is governed by a Board of Directors, all of whom are volunteers as defined by the applicable provisions of the California Code of Civil Procedure and the California Corporations Code. Each year an annual report and the IRS 990 tax report are posted on the Foundation’s website (www.eefkids.org) for public review. These documents include a summary of non-profit activities and financial condition, including assets, liabilities, sources of income, and expenses.

The EEF is governed by an 11-member Board of Directors and is currently staffed by an Executive Director and a part-time Program and Development Specialist. The most recent strategic plan was completed in 2019 and is guided by the following:

Vision

The EEF believes that children, with equal access to technology today, will unleash the genius and innovation the world needs tomorrow.

Mission

The EEF works in collaboration with the community to provide educational resources for programs that support Eastlake public schools, ensuring students can succeed in a technology-driven world.

Values

The EEF values Education, Innovation, Partnerships, Diversity, and Trust.



Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Elaine Elefante-Leano, President
 Ian Burgar, Vice President
 Therese Caballes, Treasurer
 Rachel Garrett, Secretary

2020-21 Directors

Camille Bruno
 Debbie Fisher
 Victor Ibarra
 Gloria McKearney
 Michael Minjares
 Jesus “Leo” Ulloa-Higuera
 Jennifer Walker

Incoming New Directors (2022)

Salim French, Parent, Community Health Group
 Lillian Leopold, Parent, Southwestern College
 Brian Sinclair, Parent, US Navy Ret.

Staff

Janet Francis, Executive Director
 Maria Ortiz, Program and Development Specialist
 Barón Castañares, Student Intern

Advisory Committee

Patrice Milkovich
 Lynn Howell
 Natasha Martinez

Emeritus Members

Stan Canaris
 Susan Mahler
 Barbara Legg

Non-Profit Tax ID # 33-0678106
 Mail: PO Box #210004 Chula Vista, Ca 91921
 Office: Eastlake High School
 1120 EastLake Parkway, Chula Vista, Ca 91915
eefkids.org

Funding the Mission



Assets

Bank Accounts	\$105,220
Fixed Assets	\$0
JG Boswell Endowment	\$979,988
Total Assets	\$105,220



Liabilities & Equity

Unrealized Gain/Loss	\$304,647
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$732,725
Restricted Assets	\$3,330



Total Equity **\$1,085,671**

Total Liabilities & Equity **\$1,085,671**

The EEF is able to fund the mission by hosting fundraising events, earning investment income from assets such as the JG Boswell Endowment, business and private contributions, and transfer fees on home sales.

EEF's Impactful Programs

Annual Technology Grants

Annual *Technology Grants* are the EEF's longest standing program. In fact, technology grants have been supporting EastLake schools since before there were personal phones or social media. When these grants started, there was not a single computer in every classroom—much less a computer/device for every student. The *Technology Grants* have greatly helped schools to be future-forward and have helped prepare students for a technology-driven world.



The EEF actively creates, facilitates and supports programs that enable annual grant awards for the seven neighborhood public schools - Eastlake High, Eastlake Middle, Eastlake Elementary, Arroyo Vista K-8 public Charter, Olympic View Elementary, Thurgood Marshall Elementary, and Salt Creek Elementary schools. The *Technology Grant* program has continued for over 28 years, and provides schools with grants for future-forward endeavors and projects. The EEF has granted close to \$3,000,000 to the EastLake schools since 1995.

Each year, grant funding goals and reporting measures are established by the EEF Board of Directors after with consultation with school principals and staff.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) Engagement

In 2018, the EEF began providing STEAM enrichment programs around STEM/STEAM themes to engage families and the community in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.

STEAM AHEAD

The initial “25 Acts of STEAM” series was a success. Now titled “STEAM Ahead,” the program will provide students with diverse, hands-on opportunities and resources.

These programs help by engaging the community with students for real-world learning. Programs consist of STEAM events in school, out-of-school, and educational forums, to name a few examples.



“Our partnership with EEF is a key component to innovating instructional options for our school community.”

Juan Ricoy, Principal, Arroyo Vista K-8 Charter School

The EEF was also able to support the Chula Vista Elementary School District’s science initiative for all students in The District. The EEF worked with Marlys Williamson, CVESD Science Coordinator, to host a virtual in-class science experience called “STEM Spacesuit Design.”



Teacher Mini-Grants

Starting in 2021, the EEF began offering 30 Teacher mini-grants of up to \$5,000 to encourage teacher-initiated STEAM activities and programs in classrooms. This program was very effective and funded engaging programs like a virtual field trip to Costa Rica, student whiteboards, an iPad for storytelling, and an online math and science program called Generation Genius.

EASTLAKE Alumni & Friends (A&F)

Eastlake High School is at the heart of the community and EASTLAKE Alumni & Friends invites all alumni and the community-at-large to return “home” to be a part of the 30-year legacy. The goal of A&F is to support current students by offering engaging opportunities with past students. In 2021, students received support through Forums that focused on topics related to college and career, and funding to help with graduation festivities for the seniors.



Celebrating our rich history and building a positive culture at Eastlake High and the surrounding community is at the heart of EASTLAKE A&F.

The Steering Committee for EASTLAKE Alumni & Friends is led by long-time teacher Mariana Hughes. The Steering Committee meets once a month with work organized into four subcommittees: History & Culture led by Ann Stevens and Nancy Nieto; Events led by Vanessa Brinkman and Katia Callahan; Social Media communications led by Karen Graham and Connie Fife, and Mentorship & Engagement led by Gloria McKearney and Alex Conner. Many volunteers work on these committees and the team will lead the celebrations honoring the 30th anniversary of Eastlake High School. The first event was held on August 13, 2022, featured a Lu-Wow style community-wide event and was attended by hundreds of alumni, educators, and friends.

A new website eastlakealumni.org was launched in 2021 providing an option for former students and “friends of Eastlake High” to upload a profile, sign up to receive occasional email messages, and be informed of current activities and opportunities to support the school.

EASTLAKE+ A Positive Podcast

This new podcast series shines a spotlight on the people and organizations that are making a positive difference in the greater EastLake community. Each segment spotlights the people, programs, resources, and services that make EastLake a wonderful place to learn, live and work.

With the support of Emmy Award-winning producer Mario Sevilla, EASTLAKE+ records three locally curated episodes each month – Spotlight Education, Titan Talk, and Future in Focus. Episodes are filmed in the new professional studio inside the EastLake Educational Foundation office at Eastlake High School. The podcast can be found on all major audio streaming platforms, or can be viewed on our [Vimeo](https://vimeo.com/eefkids) channel at eefkids.org.

The first season included eight episodes! EASTLAKE+ continues recording with the assistance of our production crew made up of Eastlake High students. The lineup of hosts and guests varies with each episode.

Stay tuned for more episodes of EASTLAKE+!



Come Together Community Campaign

With the pandemic putting events on hold, the EastLake Educational Foundation shifted how fundraising was accomplished by creating the *Come Together Community Campaign*. The ask was simple, support the education and future dreams of neighborhood kids and the EEF will ensure 100% of all donations were spent on school-specific, future-forward needs.

What began in 2020, has steadily grown with the generosity of local businesses, nonprofits, and community members. We appreciate all the donors and invite the entire community to give what they can to help our schools and neighborhood children succeed.

Thank you to all the community who generously supported the campaign last year. The EEF was able to provide \$111,000 to seven EastLake schools.



“The EEF has been a great source of support and inspiration. We always look forward to our partnerships with the foundation and creating a stronger Eastlake community!”

Dr. Ricardo Cooke, Principal, Eastlake High School

Thank you to our 2020-2021 Community Campaign donors

North Island Credit Union
COX Communications
COX Foundation
Community Health Group
Pinnick, Inc
IRE Development, LLC
Sonnenberg Financial Solutions
Booz Allen Foundation
Adrian & Sarah Terrado
Bob Sutherland
Bill Ostrem
Elaine Elefante-Leano
Ian Burgar
Kara Peter
Franlein & William Bertucci
Thad Ryan

Camile Bruno
Michelle Crayton
Deb Fisher
Victor Ibarra
Karen Janney
Heather Rubio
Kron Littleton
Therese Caballes
Patrice Milkovich
Gloria McKearney
Rachel Garrett
Stan Canaris
Frank Tarantino
Jennifer Walker
Lalaine Perez
Marina Watanabe

Michael & Marietta Minjares
Denis Lainez
Steve Hahn
Nicole Sanchez
Rachel Belmonte
Idis Martinez
Raya Mahoney
Luis Generoso
Leo Ulloa-Higuera
Anthony Millican
Alayna Maldonado
Azucena Valladolid
Jen Julian
Marydolores Quenga
Peter Nelson
Rosanna Di Tucci



Be a part of our efforts to positively impact our EastLake community and local students. Donate, volunteer, tune in, and like and share our social media messaging. Together, we can create a new pathway forward for our community.

