

CHEROKEE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



Cherokee County Educational Foundation

P.O. Box 4754

Canton, GA 30169

Visit us on the web:

<https://www.cherokeecountyeducationalfoundation.org/>



2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT

A Letter From Our Board President

Billy Hayes

Colleagues and Friends,

The Cherokee County Education Foundation (CCEF) was established in 2012 to create a mechanism for individuals and organizations to show their support for the Cherokee County School District (CCSD). I believe that there is no better way to secure our future than to ensure that our children are getting a great education. I am committed to the mission of CCSD and ensuring that our future is secure!

All my children either attended or are currently attending public schools and today my daughter and son in law are both teachers in the Cherokee County School District.

CCEF has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years for grants to teachers to assist them with educating and growing our students. Thanks to many of you, CCSD had an outstanding 2018-19 school year and I would like to share with you just a few of our accomplishments. CCSD was named an Innovative District by The International Center for Leadership in Education and was one of only eleven school districts in the Nation to be recognized with this top award. CCSD ranks second among metro counties for average SAT Scores with the margin being 73 points higher than the National average and 68 points higher than the state average. CCSD also reached a new high in its graduation rate with 87.4% of the 2018 class earning their diploma within four years of entering high school and that is an improvement of almost 15 percentage points since 2012.

I promise you that every CCEF Board member is committed to ensuring that every child in Cherokee County gets the very best education possible, but we need everyone’s help in order for us to accomplish this goal. I am honored to have served on the Board of Directors since 2012 and thankful I work for Northside Hospital Cherokee, an organization that values education as much as I do.

Are you willing to work with CCEF in supporting CCSD to help secure our future? If so, please go to www.cherokeecountyeducationalfoundation.org for more information.

Many Thanks,
Billy Hayes, Chief Executive Officer, Northside Hospital
Cherokee, CCEF Board President



A Letter From Our Executive Director

Lisa-Marie Haygood

Dear Supporters,

Since its inception in 2012, CCEF has been guided by a commitment to ensure our students were given the greatest opportunity to learn and grow right here in Cherokee County. Our community continues to be a sought-after destination for business and families, due in large part to the incredible success of our award-winning school district. We were proud this year to launch our new website at www.cherokeecountyeducationalfoundation.org. We are excited that this site offers current, relevant information to donors, staff, and our community about our events and initiatives. It serves as our portal for our grant applications, and a great place to track our donations and impact.

CCEF seeks to raise funds to continue to support our Leadership Development and Training, District Wide Special Project Grants, High School Credit Recovery, CHOICE Program for Special Education students, Teacher, Volunteer, and Support Staff of the Year initiatives, and our Classroom Impact Grants. These initiatives have proven success in graduating students prepared to continue their education, or move into their chose career pathway upon completion of high school.

We are very fortunate to have such tremendous community-wide support for all of our initiatives and fundraising events. This was our most successful year yet for our Gala, our “Moove It” 5K Road Race, and our Annual Golf Classic. Our Board works hard to govern the funds we raise, ensuring maximum dollars go directly to our students and teachers. The results are visible in or classrooms, our test scores, and our accolades.

We invite you to join us in our efforts to ensure that Cherokee County is the best place to live, learn and grow!

Lisa-Marie Haygood, Executive Director





Individual Donors



Gala Apples (\$1,000.00+)

Board Chair Kyla Cromer
Norma Jean C. Jordan
Mark Harville



McIntosh Apples (\$750.00+)

Lisa-Marie Haygood



CCEF Red Apples (\$250.00+)

Candler Howell
Kelp Poole
Kevin Williams
Kenneth Owen
Mike McGowan
Kathy Strom
Arlene Dickerson
Dawn Stastny
Joe Brownlee
Dr. Ann Gazell
Brian Albrecht

Jerry Cooper
Mark Waterbury
Olga Spivey
Rebecca Johnston
Shuntel Beach
Tony Harrison
Sharon Booz
Steve Divine
Zach Blend
Michael Caldwell



Golden Apples (\$2,000.00+)

Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Mark and Peggy Moore
Billy Hayes, Board President



Granny Smith Apples (\$500.00+)

Senator Brandon Beach
Cindy and Scott Echols
State Representative Mandi Ballinger
State Representative Wes Cantrell

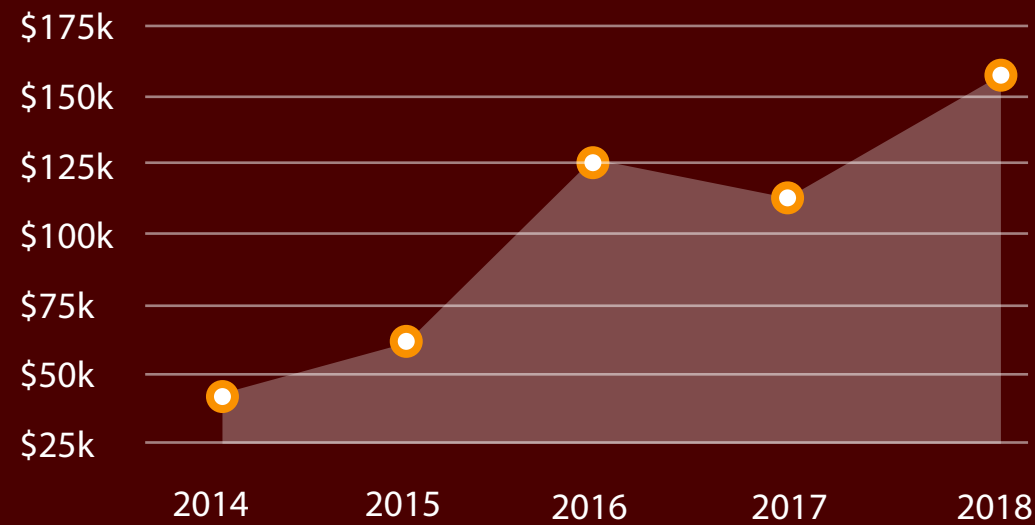


OUR MISSION

The Cherokee County Educational Foundation (CCEF) is dedicated to supporting the students and staff of Cherokee County School District (CCSD) by promoting teaching, learning and celebrating achievements. This organization was founded by a group of key CCSD leaders in conjunction with business and civic community leaders to ensure funds are made available for excellence and innovation in classrooms across the entire school district.

Our Impact Over The Years

Grants Awarded to Students and Staff



\$665,994

Awarded In Grants
Since 2014

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
\$59,101 In Grants	\$125,678 In Grants	\$112,963 In Grants	\$151,500 In Grants	\$186,909 In Grants
41,169 Student Enrollment	41,769 Student Enrollment	42,148 Student Enrollment	42,277 Student Enrollment	42,511 Student Enrollment
4,562 Staff	4,709 Staff	4,791 Staff	4,864 Staff	4,877 Staff

Our Board

Billy Hayes, Board President, Northside Hospital-Cherokee

Kevin Williams, Board Vice President, Chick-fil-A, Canton

Candler Howell, Board Treasurer, Retired, CCSD

Kathy Strom, Board Secretary, CCSD Parent

Brian Albrecht, President/Chief Executive Officer, Credit Union of GA

Shuntel Beach, Community Volunteer

Zach Blend, Goshen Valley Foundation

Sharon Booz, Community Volunteer

Jerry Cooper, County Manager, Cherokee County Board of Commissioners

Arlene Dickerson, Technical Resource Solutions

Steve Divine, Farmers Insurance

Kyla Cromer, Cherokee County School Board Chair

Dr. Ann Gazell, Retired, CCSD Principal

Tony Harrison, Cousins Maine Lobster

Dr. Brian V. Hightower, Superintendent of Schools, CCSD

Rebecca Johnston, Retired Editor, The Cherokee Tribune

Mike McGowan, Chief of Staff, Cherokee County School District

Peggy Moore, The McClure Family Foundation

Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer, Cherokee County School District

Kelly Poole, Vice Chair, Cherokee County School Board

Marla Prince, Waste Management

Debbie Rabjohn, Georgia PTA

Tom & Abby Roach, Roach, Caudill & Gunn, LLP

Dawn Stastny, Stellaris Group

Olga Spivey, Cherokee County Council PTA President

Mark Waterbury, Eloise K-12

Our Sponsors



A Letter From Our Superintendent Dr. Brian Hightower

Fellow Cherokee County Educational Foundation (CCEF) Supporters:

I have lived and worked in Cherokee County for over 30 years. It is no longer a sleepy rural community; rather, it has become a highly competitive hub for education and commerce. As Cherokee County continues to grow and diversity increases, we continue to add additional layers of services and goals for our growing and changing student population. I am extremely proud to be at the forefront of these initiatives and challenges as Cherokee County School District's (CCSD) Superintendent of Schools!

The CCEF is also growing in scope and in its outreach to our students, teachers and staff. The relationship between the CCSD and CCEF allows our local community business leaders to help raise funds that are greatly needed for our classrooms and programs when the traditional school budget does not meet all of our ever expanding needs. CCEF allows us to supplement the tax dollars which fund CCSD's programs and staffing.

Consequently, CCSD has been able to provide additional funding for our CHOICES and credit recovery programs, which have increased our graduation rate, and numerous employee recognition events through generous contributions from CCEF. Dozens of our classroom teachers have applied for and received special impact grants to supplement innovative educational initiatives in their classrooms as well.

Funds raised by CCEF benefit every school in CCSD, and its programs are an excellent way for companies and donors to engage with our award winning School District and to assist in achieving our ultimate goal of educating the emerging generation through learning environments designed to increase the performance of all students. Please consider a contribution to CCEF and thank you for your support of CCSD!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian V. Hightower
Dr. Brian V. Hightower



Our **FOOTPRINT** in the Community

Because of our generous donors and fundraising efforts, we were able to support the following CCSD District Initiatives this year:

- Credit Recovery and CHOICE Program
- Teacher of the Year Recognition Program
- Support Staff/Classified Employee Recognition Program
- CCSD Partner of the Year/Volunteer of the Year Recognition Program



CCEF
Cherokee County Educational Foundation
Empowering & Equipping Teachers & Students
of Cherokee County to Succeed

**2019-2020
PROUD SUPPORTERS**
of the
Cherokee County Education Foundation

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Technical Resource Solutions, LLC **Chick-fil-A** **NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL CHEROKEE**

GEORGIA POWER **CREDIT UNION OF GEORGIA** **Cobb EMC Community Foundation**
A SOUTHERN COMPANY

solutionbuilt® **STELLARIS GROUP**
MOBILE APPS, WEBSITES & DIGITAL MARKETING

SEN. BRANDON BEACH **KYLA CROMER, CHAIR BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Donate Today at
www.CherokeeCountyEducationFoundation.org

"Where Will You Go?" T-Shirt Campaign

In the fall, CCEF launches an enormous t-shirt sale for students, staff and supporters of the district. Every school or department that participates is eligible to receive a grant for a portion of the funds raised by t-shirt sales. This campaign also encourages buyers to take CCSD pride with them around school, the town and the world. We challenge t-shirt supporters to wear their shirt during travels and present an award to the campaign participant who travels the furthest distance. So far, CCSD has made it to every continent in the world!



Celebration of Education Gala

The CCEF Celebration of Education Annual Gala is a wonderful black-tie evening of fun in recognition of past and present staff and students. The Gala was held at the Northside-Cherokee Conference Center and presented by Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. The Gala raised more than \$100,000. All of the proceeds are returned to the students and staff of CCSD through our grant programs.



56

Grants awarded in 2019

Over
\$151,500

awarded to teachers, staff and students in 2019



Chick-fil-A Moo've It Road Race

Over the past five years, the Chick-fil-A Cherokee County Moo've It 5K has grown to become one of the largest road races in North Georgia. This race boasts a morning of fun, activities, and entertainment for the entire family! This year, over \$75,000 was raised to support the Cherokee County Educational Foundation and the Cherokee County Special Olympics



Annual Golf Classic

Each October the CCEF Golf Classic is a great chance for golfers to play an excellent course and network with other CCEF supporters. This year, the Annual Golf Classic was sponsored by ABM and held at the Bridgemill Athletic Club. The tournament raised over \$60,000 to support the students and staff of Cherokee County.

