



**IMPACT REPORT**

Gratitude is the word that comes to mind when I think about the 2021-22 school year. I am thankful for our teachers and staff and their commitment to our students. In a time of complex challenges affecting public education in a post-pandemic environment, our staff prioritized students and meeting both their educational, social, and emotional needs. As a Board, we are also immensely grateful for the legacy of our Founder Chris Gibbons, the network of schools he built over 16 years, and the opportunity we have to build upon that success with our new leader in the years to come.

*Kayla Tibbals*

*2022-23 Board of Trustees Chair*



## 2021-2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Made up of parents and community and business leaders, the board helps maintain accountability to students, families and the community by holding public meetings every month to review school progress. STRIVE Prep is grateful for their dedication and commitment to serve.

### **Amber Valdez**

Valdez Public Affairs  
*Board Chair*

### **Helem Aranguti**

STRIVE Prep - Ruby Hill  
*Parent Representative*

### **John Dietz Fry, Dietz Fry**

Endeavour Capital  
*Treasurer*

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Nexus Policy Group  
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MCG2 Consulting

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### **Josh Rael**

Alliance Colorado

### **Caleb Fields**

Crocs

### **Toni Salais-Alvarado**

STRIVE Prep; Lennar  
Colorado LLC  
*Far Northeast Parent  
Representative*

# CORE BELIEFS

## ACHIEVEMENT

\$5.5

MILLION

in scholarship  
funds awarded to  
STRIVE Prep  
2022 graduates

## JUSTICE

STRIVE Prep students  
and teachers led by  
example when it came  
to seeking justice, with  
students organizing a  
walkout in protest of gun  
violence, Intersession  
focused on unhoused  
people, and a trailblazing  
educator teaching  
LGBTQ History.

## PERSEVERANCE

100%

of STRIVE Prep schools  
have Social-Emotional  
Learning (SEL) Programs  
and an accompanying  
SEL specialist, with

60%

of schools participating  
in Valor Compass.

10 SCHOOLS



3,339  
STUDENTS

97%

OF STUDENTS  
IDENTIFY AS  
PEOPLE OF  
COLOR



478 STAFF

83%

OF STUDENTS  
QUALIFY FOR  
**FREE AND  
REDUCED  
LUNCH**



42%  
OF  
STUDENTS ARE  
MULTILINGUAL  
LEARNERS

MORE THAN

85%



ARE  
FIRST-GENERATION  
COLLEGE STUDENTS

# SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

**TWO STRIVE PREP - RISE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE AWARDED THE PRESTIGIOUS DANIELS FUND SCHOLARSHIP.** Elisa Cardona Lamas, a first-generation college student, plans to study Education at CU Boulder and Daniel Hernandez Lopez plans to study Civil Engineering, also at CU Boulder.

## 18-21 PROGRAM HAPPY HOUSEPLANT BUSINESS

The STRIVE Prep - SMART 18-21 Program started their "Happy Houseplant" business, featuring hand-painted pots and a variety of plants.



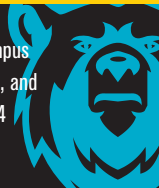
## SPED DATA COMPARATIVE TO STATE

Network-wide, special education programming underwent a comprehensive, participant-centered evaluation and made transformative changes in areas of teaching, coaching, and targeted mental health support for students with disabilities. STRIVE was even recognized in a Chalkbeat article for its exemplary support of students with disabilities.



## OPENING OF NOEL

STRIVE Prep - Montbello is now STRIVE Prep - Noel! A new campus means new opportunities like 4 science labs, free transportation, and athletic space that includes a soccer field, a baseball field, and 4 basketball courts. opportunities



## RUBY HILL FOUNDING CLASS

STRIVE Prep - Ruby Hill's founding class of elementary elephants is headed off to high school! This marked an eight year legacy of STRIVE Prep's prodigious pachyderms.



# STAFF

## TEACHER APPRECIATION

STRIVE Prep underwent a comprehensive and community-centered process to increase compensation equity for its teachers, mental health professionals, and office staff, resulting in increased base pay and three new salary calculator tools.



## DEI WORK

**DEI:** We held monthly “VOICES” sessions to enact anti-racist work, launched four staff affinity groups - Black, Latinx, AAPI, and LGBTQ+, the IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accountability and Support) Council planned thoughtful programming with representation from each campus, and students explored DEI topics and themes through Community Days.

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## TRANSITIONING TO STRIVE PREP'S NEXT LEADER

Sixteen years after founding the STRIVE Prep network, Chris Gibbons bid the network a bittersweet farewell. In his farewell address, he

**THE STORY OF STRIVE PREP IS ONE OF REINVENTION, ADAPTABILITY, AND RISING UP TO MEET THE MOMENT**



recalled, “The story of STRIVE Prep is one of reinvention, adaptability, and rising up to meet the moment,” and invited STRIVE Prep to continue this legacy and “do it with dignity, with the care and love deserved for one another, and with our scholars at the center.”

# EXTRACURRICULAR

## SPEECH AND DEBATE

STRIVE Prep - SMART sent 4 students to Speech and Debate Nationals, with two students placing in the top 2% and two in the top 15% at the event.

Nine total STRIVE Prep students competed at Speech and Debate Nationals, 4 from STRIVE Prep - SMART, 5 from STRIVE Prep - RISE.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPANSION

Speech and debate programs were not only established at all middle schools, but flourished, with students participating in both during-school electives, and after school programs.



## BOCCE

STRIVE Prep - SMART student Jose Serna was not only the first U.S. Latino to compete in the 2021 Challenge International Denis Ravera Bocce tournament, but the

**FIRST TO BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION WHEN HE PLACED FOURTH IN THE "PRECISION THROW" EVENT.**

## RUBY HILL AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Thanks to a generous grant from the Colorado Health Foundation, the Ruby Hill Afterschool Program celebrated its inaugural year with great successes.

139

TOTAL ATTENDEES



We started hearing complaints from parents... that they were having a hard time convincing kids to go home!

- Tessa Fredricks, Program Lead

## FINANCIALS

STRIVE Prep received \$43 million\* in local, state and federal funding to support the operations of our 10 schools.

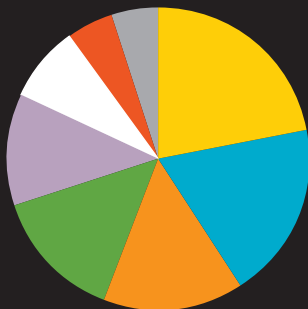
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# YOUR SUPPORT ENSURED \$2.1 MILLION\*

WAS RAISED FOR PROGRAMS NOT SUPPORTED BY STATE AND  
FEDERAL FUNDS.

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### PROGRAMS SUPPORTED



**\$2.1 MIL**

22% Special education

19% After-school activities

15% General Operating

14% College Access

12% Mental Health/SEL

8% Advocacy/family engagement

5% Speech & Debate

5% School projects

Many thanks to our supporters and their generous gifts! Your donations ensure the success of programs not supported by state and federal funding. Programs such as: Athletics & Activities, College & Career Access, ACCESSAbility (18-21 year-old program), and so much more!

## DONOR LIST + SPECIAL THANKS

### \$100,000 - \$499,999

Sturm Family Foundation  
Caring for Denver Foundation  
RootED  
I.A. O'Shaughnessy Foundation  
Colorado Health Foundation  
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

### \$25,000 - \$99,999

Daniel Carroll  
Healthy Food for Denver Kids  
CDE Concurrent Enrollment Program  
The Anschutz Foundation

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Valdez International Corporation  
Vela Education Fund  
John G. Searle Family Trust  
The Columbus Foundation  
James Kelley  
Denver Public Schools Foundation  
Kaiser Permanente

### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Alpine Bank  
Valdez Public Affairs  
MBHE Holdings  
Christine Valdez  
John Dietz Fry  
LONG Building Technologies  
Andy Peterson  
Piton Foundation  
Kayla Tibbals  
Hal Morris Jr.  
Kathryn & Tim Ryan

### \$1,000 - \$4,999

Catherine Huber  
MDC Richmond American Homes Foundation

UnitedHealthcare  
Google  
Kit Smith  
Amber Valdez  
Keith Trammell  
Elizabeth A. Peterson  
Jason Long  
Angie McPhaul  
Simon Tafoya  
USI Insurance Services  
Rushi Sheth  
Emily Richardson  
Big Green Jumpstart  
Cassie Boggs  
BuildStrong Education  
Comcast  
Colorado Advocates  
David Gibbons  
Jeff and Kim Long  
Abi Fadeyi  
Mark Scheel  
John Chris Henderson

### \$250 - \$999

Lexi Alford and Chad Merrick  
Erik Jacobson  
Monica Santistevan  
Kat & Sarah Ling - Lynch  
Kellie Shores  
Roberto Montoya  
Caleb Fields  
Alyssia Fotenos  
Anne Goff  
Daniel Kos  
Mark V. Smith  
Clarence Burton  
Suzanne Rizzo  
Anonymous N/A  
Nifoghale Ovuworie  
McKinstry

Lindsay Neil  
Zachary Dance  
Mary Haynes  
Aly Schmidt  
Ray Rivera  
Elisa Overall  
Rachel Garcia  
James White  
Twilio  
Stacia Pepper  
Thomas A. Gougeon  
Ian Lummis  
Susan Halstedt  
Josh Devon  
Gayle Berry  
Lety Leyva  
Marcia Fulton  
Christopher Eaton  
Giana Mazza  
Mike Johnston  
Ashley Weatherspoon  
Trish Valdez  
IBM  
Martha Records  
Leticia Leyva  
Kim Knous Dolan  
Brandy Valdez Murphy  
Gretchen Bortek  
Peter C. Groff  
Victoria Scott-Haynes  
Ulysses Estrada  
American Furniture Warehouse  
Antonia Salais-Alvarado  
David McGlade  
National Speech & Debate Association  
Joshua Rael  
April Valdez Villa

### < 250.00

Christy Gardner  
Brewster Boyd  
Cameron Hill  
Samuel Battan  
Alexandra Springer  
Alyson Gunn  
Carol Zak-Dance  
Julia Virstein  
Andie Kuczkowski  
Anna Jo Haynes  
Desirea' Thames  
Gary Hay  
Donald Valdez  
Tim Murphy  
Kayla Garcia  
Crestina Martinez  
Mary Seawell  
Montserrat Alatorre  
Mae Saas  
Carly Winner  
Peggy Valdez  
Nicolas Iverson  
Janiece Montoya  
Helem Aranguti  
Jordan Sauers  
Andrew Huber  
Stacey Matsuda  
Abencia Rael  
Daniel Morris  
Ariel Smith  
Cesar Ricardo Trujillo  
Joe Klingman  
Elizabeth Huidekoper  
Laura Chandhok  
Ann P Wilson  
Merck  
Alexandra Hilker  
Katie Wolf Perkins  
Angela Cobian

Reilly Carter  
Jason Castro  
Dan Schaller  
Mika Krause  
Patricia Long  
Lisa Vega- Fields  
Amanda Reyes  
Christina Castro  
Tom Kaesemeyer  
Susan Morris Ovuworie  
Shane Smith and Maireny Medina

### In-Kind Gifts & Special Thanks

Denver Museum of Nature and Science  
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Abi Fadeyi  
Four Seasons Resort, Neviss West Indies  
Queen City Collective Coffee  
Somm Says  
Capitol Hill Mansion Bed and Breakfast  
Candlelight Dinner Playhouse  
History Colorado  
Denver Art Museum  
The Kitchen American Bistro  
Frasca Food and Wine  
Daniella Morello  
Colorado Symphony Orchestra  
Green Valley Ranch Golf Club  
The Ridge at Castle Pines  
CommonGround Golf Course  
Kroenke Sports & Entertainment  
Rich Billings

\*For questions or inquiries, or if we recognized your name incorrectly, please contact [development@striveprep.org](mailto:development@striveprep.org).