

Steve Sisolak
Governor

Jhone M. Ebert
*Superintendent of
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Consent Agenda Item Title: State Education Gift Fund Report - Fiscal Year 2020

Office Submitting Agenda Item: Student Investment Division

Summary of the Document:

Summary of the donations, wishes, and allocations of funds within the State Education Gift Fund

Purpose/Impact of the Document:

This document is drafted for transparency's sake regarding the receipt and spending of donated funds.

Stakeholder Engagement to Inform Item:

This did not include stakeholder engagement, barring the engagement that led to the donations.

Contact Person for any Questions:

Deputy Superintendent: Heidi Haartz

Email: hhartz@doe.nv.gov

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Felicia Ortiz, President
Nevada State Board of Education

FROM: Heidi Haartz, Deputy Superintendent, Student Investment Division

DATE: February 28, 2022

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2020 Education Gift Fund Report

Introduction

Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 385.083 requires that all eligible gifts of money deposited in the Education Gift Fund be reported by the State Board of Education (SBE), including:

- The amount of the gift;
- The name of the donor;
- Instructions provided by the donor regarding the use of the gift;
- Any potential connections or conflicts of interest between the donor and the State Board of Education, State Public Charter School Authority, and/or Nevada Department of Education; and,
- The transactions involving the gift.

Additionally, statute requires that SBE review and approve this report during a regular meeting of the Board and submit a copy of the report for the preceding fiscal year annually on or before February 1 of each year to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau in odd-numbered years, and to the Legislative Committee on Education in even-numbered years. This report reviews the donations and allocations made during fiscal year (FY) 2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) by each donor.

Summary of Gifts

In FY20, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) received a donation from Tesla in the amount of \$7,500,000. In 2018, Tesla committed to investing a total of \$37.5 million in Nevada's K-12 education system as part of the 2014 agreement to locate Tesla's Gigafactory in Nevada. Tesla stated that their goal was to encourage students of all backgrounds to explore careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and sustainability by investing in four categories: innovative programs, teacher development, infrastructure, and pathways to employment. They were further exploring investments in robotics program development, statewide training to empower K-12 teachers, new equipment and classroom infrastructure to support hands-on learning, and workforce development pipelines to support pathways to industries after graduation. As described in NRS 385.083(d) and to the awareness of NDE, Tesla has no relevant connections with the State Board and/or administration of the Nevada system of public education.

In FY20, NDE also received donations from Governor Steve Sisolak in the amount of \$83,821.73. Governor Sisolak pledged to donate his salary as Governor to NDE for distribution by formula to all Title I schools for educational teaching supplies. These donations occur on a quarterly basis and are anticipated to continue through his term as Governor. As described in NRS 385.083(d) and to the awareness of NDE, Governor Sisolak has no relevant connections with the State Board and/or administration of the Nevada system of public education.

Summary of Funding in Budget Account 2701

| Fiscal Year 2020 | Sum of Year to Date Actual |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Beginning Cash | \$2,548,106.00 |
| Educational Supplies Donations | \$83,821.73 |
| Gifts And Donations | \$7,500,000.00 |
| Balance Forward | \$(5,227,675.00) |
| Treasurer's Interest Distribution | \$19,015.83 |
| Total | \$4,923,268.56 |

Summary of Gift Allocations

In FY20, the following allocations were made, as requested by Tesla, using Tesla's gift funds:

Tesla Donation Transactions

| Organization | Allocation |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Carson City School District | \$266,250.00 |
| Clark County School District | \$100,000.00 |
| Code.org | \$360,100.00 |
| Desert Research Institute | \$400,000.00 |
| Energetics Education | \$188,550.00 |
| The Envirolution | \$524,399.00 |
| First Nevada | \$468,700.00 |
| Girls Who Code | \$200,000.00 |
| The Great Reno Balloon Race | \$5,000.00 |
| Green Our Planet | \$41,000.00 |
| Jobs For Nevada Graduates | \$300,000.00 |
| The Nevada Discovery Museum | \$50,000.00 |
| Nevada Museum of Art | \$312,520.00 |
| Outside Las Vegas Foundation | \$68,500.00 |
| Robotics Education | \$400,000.00 |
| SAE International | \$312,500.00 |
| Sierra Nevada Journeys | \$278,772.00 |
| Truckee Meadows Community College | \$270,000.00 |
| Urban Roots Garden Classroom | \$40,000.00 |
| Washoe County School District | \$103,800.00 |
| Western Nevada College | \$150,177.00 |
| Teacher Externship Program | \$1,000.00 |
| Total | \$4,841,268.00 |

In FY20, the following allocations were made through the Governor's donations to eligible Title I schools in the following districts; the remaining balance will be applied to the next quarterly distribution:

Governor's Donation Transactions

| School/District | Allocation |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 100 Academy of Excellence | \$1,000.00 |
| Carson City School District | \$3,000.00 |
| Churchill County School | \$3,000.00 |
| Clark County School District | \$15,000.00 |
| Democracy Prep Nevada | \$1,000.00 |
| Douglas County School District | \$3,000.00 |
| Elko County School District | \$6,000.00 |
| Equipo Academy | \$1,000.00 |
| Esmeralda County School | \$1,000.00 |
| Futuro Academy Incorporated | \$1,000.00 |
| Humboldt County School | \$5,000.00 |
| Lander County School District | \$1,000.00 |
| Las Vegas Preparatory | \$1,000.00 |
| Lincoln County School District | \$3,000.00 |
| Lyon County School District | \$8,000.00 |
| Mariposa Language and Learning | \$1,000.00 |
| Mineral County School District | \$1,000.00 |
| Nevada Rise Academy | \$1,000.00 |
| Nye County School District | \$8,000.00 |
| Pershing County School | \$1,000.00 |
| Quest Academy Charter School | \$1,000.00 |
| Rainbow Dreams Academy | \$1,000.00 |
| Washoe County School District | \$14,000.00 |
| White Pine County School District | \$1,000.00 |
| Total | \$82,000.00 |

Conclusion

In total, the Education Gift Fund received \$7,583,821.73 in FY20, and distributed \$4,923,268.00 to school districts, charter schools, and nonprofit organizations. The remainder of the donations, as well as any previous balances, were carried forward to FY21.

Please note that due to rapid changes in staff, NDE fell out of compliance with the submission of this report for FY20. NDE has since rectified reporting systems to support sustainability and respectfully submits this report retroactively.

If you have any questions, please contact Celeste Arnold, Director of the Office of Department Support Services, via email at celeste.arnold@doe.nv.gov or phone at 775-687-9169, or Amelia Thibault, Director of the Office of Division Compliance, via email at acthibault@doe.nv.gov or phone at 775-687-2451.