

Steve Sisolak
Governor

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*Superintendent of
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Consent Agenda Item Title: State Education Gift Fund Report - Fiscal Year 2021

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 2021 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) 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021), by each donor.

Summary of Donors and Gifts

In FY21, 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 is to support K-12 students from all backgrounds to consider and pursue careers in areas such as robotics, sustainability, and STEM by supporting related education programs in order to develop the future engineers of Nevada. 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 FY21, NDE received donations from Governor Steve Sisolak in the amount of \$107,806.52. 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.

NDE also received a donation in FY21 from the IKEA US Community Foundation in the amount of \$858,387.90. As described in the award letter to NDE, IKEA provided the funds for general and unrestricted use for educational and/or charitable purposes consistent with the mission of the Nevada Department of Education. As described in NRS 385.083(d) and to the awareness of NDE, IKEA 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 2021	Sum of Year to Date Actual
Beginning Cash	\$5,227,676.00
Educational Supplies Donations	\$107,806.52
Gifts And Donations	\$8,358,387.90
Prior Year Refunds	\$81.39
Balance Forward to FY22	\$(3,335,549.00)
Treasurer's Interest Distribution	\$10,294.58
Grand Total	\$10,368,697.39

Summary of Gift Allocations

In FY21, the following allocations were made, as requested by Tesla, using Tesla's gift funds:

Tesla Donation Transactions

Organization	Allocation
Teacher Externship Program	\$5,316.82
Carson City School District	\$246,500.00
Clark County School District	\$125,000.00
Code.org	\$401,440.00
Communities In Schools	\$209,360.00
Desert Research Institute	\$481,769.00
Energetics Education	\$175,000.00
The Envirolution	\$1,006,691.00
First Nevada	\$1,090,600.00
Green Our Planet	\$178,775.00
Jobs For Nevada Graduates	\$559,852.25
Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful	\$80,000.00
The Nevada Discovery Museum	\$695,774.00
Nevada Museum of Art	\$312,520.00
Roadtrip Nation	\$153,800.00
Robotics Education	\$3,125,000.00
SAE International	\$312,500.00
Sierra Nevada Journeys	\$482,539.00
Truckee Meadows Community College	\$324,176.00
Washoe County School District	\$295,084.00
Grand Total	\$10,261,697.07

In FY21, 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
Clark County School District	\$75,000.00
Humboldt County School	\$2,000.00
Lyon County School District	\$7,000.00
Nye County School District	\$4,000.00
Washoe County School District	\$19,000.00
Grand Total	\$107,000.00

In FY21, no IKEA allocations were made. A portion of these funds have been allocated to the cost of building upgrades to the Carson City NDE building.

Conclusion

In total, the Education Gift Fund received \$8,466,194.42 new dollars in FY21 and distributed a total of \$10,368,697.39 to school districts, nonprofit organizations, and individuals via the Teacher Externship Program. The remainder of the donations, as well as any previous balances, were carried forward to FY22.

Please note that due to rapid changes in staff, NDE fell out of compliance with the submission of this report for FY21. 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.