



SPARK<sup>★</sup>  
SFUSD

ANNUAL  
REPORT

2017-2018

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

# Dear Friends:

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Evelyn & Walter Haas Jr. Fund

When Spark\* SF Public Schools was created three years ago, our purpose was to help SFUSD make Vision 2025 a reality. We focus on what all young people need to discover their spark and reach their full potential: 21st century teaching and learning that is personalized and infused with real-life tasks. As our young people graduate and move into the next phase of their lives, we want each student in every school to be ready to succeed. With your investment, we're starting to make great strides that wouldn't have been possible with public funding alone.

Three years ago, only 4,365 students took a computer science course and the students did not fully reflect SFUSD's student demographics. Now there are over 25,000 students enrolled in computer science courses and the composition of classes reflects the diversity of the district as a whole.

Three years ago, school-wide project based learning was rare in SFUSD. Now three middle schools are doing project based learning each and every day for over 1,000 students.

Three years ago, our schools opened short staffed in hard-to-fill subject areas. Today there are 77 teachers enrolled in an SFUSD credentialing program preparing to teach Special Education, Bilingual Spanish elementary and more.

These are just a few examples of how we are redefining school for our students. We have a long way to go to truly transform SFUSD into one that reflects our collective aspirations. But we know if it's possible anywhere, it's possible right here in San Francisco – home of the forward-thinking, community-minded, entrepreneurial, and social impact-driven. When public education is thriving in our city, it's good for families, it's good for our community, and most importantly, it's good for our future.

Thank you for your ongoing support,



Iris Hu, Chair



Gentle Blythe, President



# SPARK\* SF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Spark\* SF Public Schools is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to fundraising and building partnerships for the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD). Spark\* was born out of a desire to connect passionate Bay Area business and community leaders to our local public schools. We ignite every student's potential by directing resources to support the strategic priorities of the district in six key areas: Learning, Equity, Innovation, Creativity, Wellness, and Talent. From investments in technology to new schools models, to targeted interventions to close the achievement gap, Spark\* is setting our students up for success—in school and out in the real world.



**TRANSPARENT FUNDRAISING:** Spark\* partners with private foundations and corporations in support of SFUSD. More than 95% of all investments go directly to support district programs.



**ACCOUNTABILITY:** Spark\* is governed by a board of directors that partners with the SF Board of Education to monitor how the district is using its investments and to ensure a high degree of accountability.

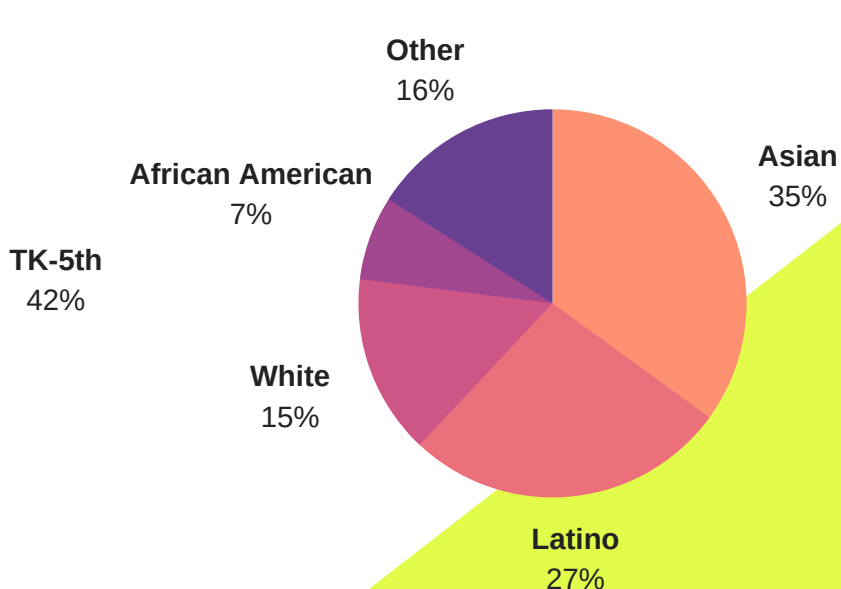
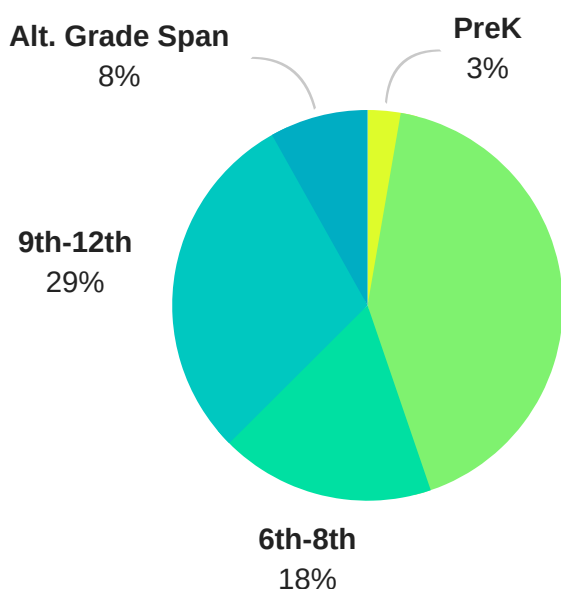


**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:** Spark\* initiatives are strategically aligned with the district's long-term goals, including Vision 2025, its strategic plan and the Superintendent's priority areas.



**IMPACT:** Spark\* applies resources in targeted ways to address the inequitable student outcomes across the district and to create immediate and long-term impact.

## SFUSD STUDENT ENROLLMENT: 54,063 AS OF OCTOBER 2017



# 2017-2018 SPARK\* INVESTMENTS

## SPARK\* LEARNING

### EARLY EDUCATION

- **GGG Foundation:** Expanded the use of Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) in Pre-K classrooms and helped students strengthen language and literacy skills by building connections to art.
- **Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund:** Supported coherency and alignment across the early grades (PreK-3rd) and helped to build a robust professional development and coaching infrastructure that improves children's preparedness for Kindergarten.



### LITERACY

- **Lois Lenski Covey Foundation and the Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund:** Scaled a 5-week summer program to 8 high-need schools offering students and families daily reading instruction, weekly family workshops, and end-of-summer celebrations with tablet, backpack and book giveaways.
- **Trammell Crow Residential:** Funded Bessie Carmichael School to purchase instructional materials for their Comprehensive Approach to Literacy and the implementation of Readers' and Writer's Workshops.
- **Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation:** Supported the *Books for Kids!* Initiative to bring culturally relevant books to students participating in the Out-of-School Time (OST) program in the Bayview.
- **Warriors Community Foundation:** Provided funding for the Making Connections program at Gordon J. Lau Elementary School, an initiative to foster literacy development by leveraging technology at home and school.



### STEM

- **Hellman Foundation:** Enabled SFUSD to hire a science coach for middle school teachers in high-needs schools as they implemented the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Core Curriculum.
- **Salesforce.org:** Continued to support the Mayor's STEM Initiative designed to accelerate student learning in the STEM fields, with a focus on building capacity in math instruction and implementing a PreK-12 Computer Science curriculum.



### COLLEGE & CAREER

- **The Battery Foundation:** Seed funded the GOAT 23 program, a 6-month paid fellowship opportunity for underrepresented entrepreneurs to develop and pitch their business plans.
- **Hellman Foundation:** Extended support for the African American Postsecondary Pathway program, which offers individualized case management and academic supports to boost on-track to graduation rates.
- **LinkedIn:** Sponsored the 6th Annual Career Technical Education (CTE) Showcase celebrating students, teachers, and industry partners in SFUSD's 40+ career pathways.



## SPARK\*EQUITY

- **Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund:** Strengthened African American family and community engagement and accountability structures, and invested in an English Language Development (ELD) coach to better support English Learners.
- **Google.org:** Enabled SFUSD to partner with uAspire to provide college affordability advising to high school seniors in an effort to eliminate racial disparities in postsecondary degree attainment.
- **LinkedIn:** Empowered African American student leadership by supporting 25 Black Student Unions (BSUs) across the district and increasing exposure to postsecondary and STEM-related events.



## SPARK\* INNOVATION

- **Michael and Susan Dell Foundation:** Launched the three-year Unified Data Ecosystem Acceleration Project to transform the district's current data systems and give educators access to real-time student data.
- **Salesforce.org:** Granted \$100,000 to 21 middle grades schools through the Principal's Innovation Fund, supporting each site's unique efforts to advance student achievement and improve school culture and climate.
- **Webb Family Foundation:** Furnished and equipped the Maker's Garage at Willie Brown Jr. Middle School to increase project-based learning.
- **Youth Empowerment Fund:** Supported Independence High School's Makerspace Program, specifically for 3D printing and CAD software.



## SPARK\*CREATIVITY

- **Walter and Elise Haas, Sr. Fund, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the San Francisco Arts Commission:** Funded the Arts Education Master Plan (AEMP) Refresh, a 10-year plan that will focus on increasing arts access and equity and strengthening alignment with after-school and summer programs.
- **Gerald B. Rosenstein Trust:** Created the Jerry Rosenstein Arts Project for middle school students and teachers in San Francisco's eastside neighborhoods to get increased access to performing arts instruction.



## SPARK\* WELLNESS

- **Pinterest:** Funded a full-time Social Worker position at Bessie Carmichael School to support the Families and Youth in Transition Program serving students and families experiencing housing instability.
- **Ross Stores Foundation:** Supported the Mentoring for Success program to connect students with caring adults at school to increase their sense of belonging and improve academic performance.



## SPARK\* TALENT

- **Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund:** Increased Central Office capacity through support of its performance evaluation systems and professional development.
- **Intrepid Philanthropy Foundation:** Funded professional development for teachers at John O'Connell High School and Cesar Chavez Elementary School to integrate more project-based learning opportunities for students.
- **LinkedIn:** Assisted the district with teacher recruitment efforts to meet its goal of hiring and retaining a more diverse and well-qualified workforce.
- **Salesforce.org:** Supported the teacher residency program that recruits SFUSD educators as they earn their credential from New York University (NYU), and expanded the district's teacher pipeline.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Students and families hit the books together in summer reading program

Visitacion Valley Elementary School first-grader Assassin is reading for 15 minutes at home every day, and she's spending much more time in her own personal library at night.

"She's pointing out words because she actually knows what they are, and she's excited to know," Assassin's mother Ashley said. "She has a library at home and she just picks up books all the time."

Ashley credits her daughter's surge in reading with an SFUSD summer program that coaches teachers and family members on ways to cultivate reading habits at home. The program, in partnership with Springboard Collaborative, was first offered at Bret Harte Elementary School last summer as a pilot, and this summer expanded to include nearly 700 kindergarten through fourth grade students at eight SFUSD schools.

**The program offers families a double dose of support, both at home and in the classroom. The students who participated last summer replaced an average of a three-month reading loss with a more than three-month reading gain.**

On a recent Wednesday morning in July, in a classroom at Visitacion Valley Elementary -- one of around a half-dozen classrooms filled with students and their families, and teachers, that day -- Ashley and Assassin sat at a table to participate in the fifth workshop of the summer, "Re-Reading for Fluency." The workshop calls on family members to check in with teachers about their child's reading progress at home, learn tips for best reading practices, and reflect on what has already been taught and how well it is being implemented at home. Weekly family workshops average more than 80 percent attendance, and include more than just parents -- siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents and even great-grandparents have participated.

The summer program has a multi-pronged approach to closing the literacy gap: it develops children to become readers, it develops parents to become teachers and it develops teachers to become reading instructors.

Like many other school districts across the nation, SFUSD has long faced a persistent gap in student performance between demographic subgroups, and eliminating that gap is a top priority for the district. The program offers families a double dose of support, both at home and in the classroom. The students who participated last summer replaced an average of a three-month reading loss with a more than three-month reading gain.

"Learning doesn't stop just because it's summer," Principal April Scott said with a smile. "We really want to encourage families to support reading habits at home, even during summer recess."





## New class encourages girls to learn computer science

On a recent morning, 14 students crouched on the floor of a computer science classroom disassembling desktop computers. The students in this particular class are the tech support for the entire school. They change toner in printers, fix projector connection issues, and understand why computer programs crash and what to do when that happens.

The group is called “Tech Chicxs,” and this is their inaugural semester. Each student identifies as female, and most are students of color.

“Buena Vista Horace Mann is a K-8 Spanish immersion community school that offers robust academic programs to serve all students,” says Ms. Laura Ramirez. “However, I’ve noticed that boys tend to enroll more in our tech programs after school.”

To address what Ms. Ramirez observed as a lack of space for girls to learn computer science skills and take learning risks, she created the Tech Chicxs group, which started as a club but was officially designated a class this fall.

“Tech Chicxs is my mechanism for addressing society’s underrepresentation of women in tech, with the purpose to empower young girls with tech tools,” Ms. Ramirez says. “This is my attempt to address the lack of diversity in the tech industry, and break the structural barriers that perpetuate feelings of inadequacy among young girls that deter them from considering career pathways into STEM fields.”

**With support from the tech sector, SFUSD is answering the call to prepare our graduates to live and work in the city they call home, and we’re excited to continue creating life-changing opportunities and outcomes for our students.**

Students in the class learn to program and troubleshoot computers, develop websites for small businesses in the community, and build partnerships with women in the tech industry. Students say they are grateful to have the time and space to learn about technology with their peers.

“I used to not really like technology, but when I joined this club and learned how to do things like fix projectors, and fix browsers, I started having a lot more fun with all things tech,” says 7th-grade student Maria.

Over the past several years, San Francisco has become the school district in the United States to have a computer science curriculum for every grade. Enrollment of African American and Latino students has increased from less than 100 to more than 3,800, and girls taking computer science has increased in similar proportions. In fact, today, females and underrepresented groups make up nearly half of overall computer science enrollment.

With support from the tech sector, SFUSD is answering the call to prepare our graduates to live and work in the city they call home, and we’re excited to continue creating life-changing opportunities and outcomes for our students.

# 2018 SUPERINTENDENT'S 21ST CENTURY AWARD WINNERS

SPONSORED BY GOOGLE



In May, SFUSD Superintendent Dr. Vincent Matthews awarded \$2,000 scholarships to six seniors who exemplified the characteristics of the district's Vision 2025 Graduate Profile. They are shining examples of what is possible when we prompt students to think critically, inspire and build their creativity, foster teamwork and collaboration, cultivate their curiosities, and encourage them to pursue their passions. *Congratulations, graduates!*



**Nayla Belayadi**  
*Ready for career and life*

"Early Saturday mornings, most teenagers are asleep in their beds, but I'm wide awake surrounded by 4-year-olds at an Islamic Saturday school. Even though I was intimidated when I began, my choice to teach has become one of the best decisions I've ever made, and my mentors from the San Francisco Unified School District have been the biggest influence on my career decision."

Nayla graduated from Galileo Academy of Science and Technology and is attending Sonoma State University.



**Marvin Pusung Zita**  
*Ready to lead*

"As the captain of Mission High School's varsity football team for two years, my leadership ability has translated both on and off of the playing field. Under the leadership of my fellow captains and I, we dropped to a single knee during the playing of the National Anthem, in protest to the injustices we witnessed in our own city. At school, I've coordinated and led multiple workshops to underclassmen with the intent to educate my peers on sexual harassment."

Marvin graduated from Mission High School and is attending Lewis and Clark College.





**Toddiana Jasper**  
*Ready to be your best*

"I never saw college as a reality because I knew my parents didn't have the money to make it real. But what I had failed to see, others had never failed to see in me. Now, because others have cared for me, because others have believed in me, because others have taught me, because others have challenged me, because others have supported me, I am on the threshold of college and refuse to turn back."

Toddiana graduated from Lowell High School and is attending UC Berkeley.



**Alya Truong**  
*Ready to think, learn and grow*

"Taking responsibility to be my mom's caretaker made me realize that if I could overcome an obstacle as strenuous as this, that I am more than capable of overcoming the curve balls that life is likely to throw at me and rise to my potential. That is the person I've become, one dedicated to work, one who strives to make the best out of any situation."

Alya graduated from Balboa High School and is attending UC San Diego.



**Melina Diaz**  
*Ready to create*

"My passion is to combine graphic design and psychology. Therefore, I've made it my goal to research color theory and typography to gain insight on how they are used to persuade in marketing. I'm grateful for the participation I've had in Digital Media Design Academy, because without it, I wouldn't have access to all these amazing opportunities."

Melina graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School and is attending UCLA.



**Jason Ng**  
*Ready to tackle a changing world*

"Through my involvement in the Student Advisory Council, I was introduced to the SFUSD Legal Department. Together, we hammered out all the specific details that would enable SFUSD schools to legally use drones for educational purposes."

Jason graduated from Galileo Academy of Science and Technology and is attending UCLA.

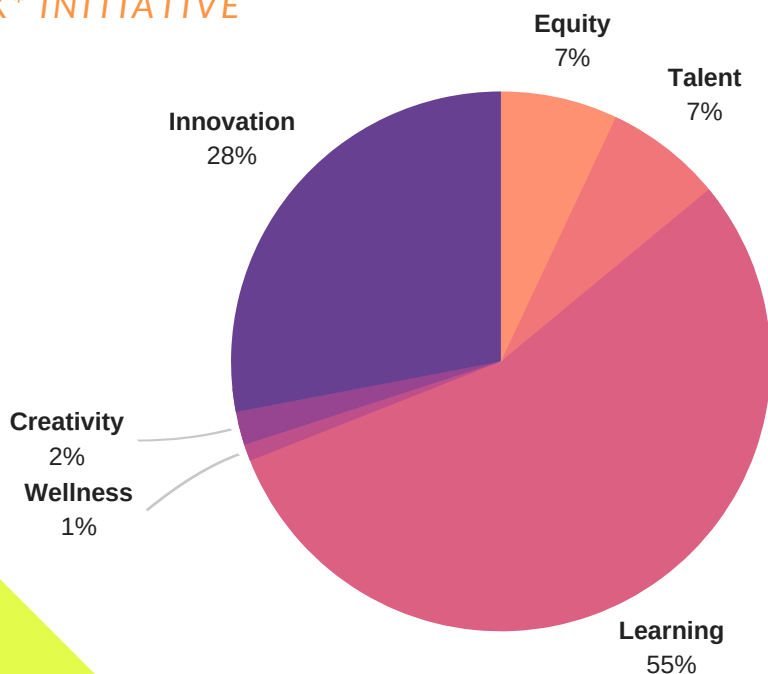
# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018 (UNAUDITED)

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	
Grants	\$17,062,439
Donations	338,378
Administrative fees revenue	45,413
Total grants, donations, administrative fees	17,446,230
Special events revenue, net:	
Sponsorship and participants	-
Less: direct benefit costs	(4,793)
Total special events revenue, net	(4,793)
Net assets released from donor restrictions	-
Total revenue, gains, and other support	17,441,437
EXPENSES	
Program services: grants distribution	8,882,188
Supporting services:	
Management and general	113,610
Fundraising	129,914
Total expenses	9,125,712
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	8,315,725
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	580,702
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$8,896,427

## SFUSD PROGRAM SUPPORT

BY SPARK\* INITIATIVE



# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

List reflects donors who made gifts between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

## \$5,000,000+

Salesforce.org

## \$500,000+

The Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund

## \$100,000+

The Battery Foundation\*

Michael and Susan Dell Foundation\*

Google, Inc.\*

LinkedIn

## \$50,000+

Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund

Hellman Foundation

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation\*

Pinterest

Gerald B. Rosenstein Irrevocable Trust\*

Salesforce.com

Warriors Community Foundation

The Webb Family Foundation

## \$25,000+

Alsop Louie Partners

GGF Foundation

Andrew Grimstad

Walter and Elise Haas, Sr. Fund

Marco and Sabrina Hellman

Intrepid Philanthropy Foundation\*

Kaiser Permanente

San Francisco Arts Commission

## \$10,000+

Alaska Airlines

Arntz Builders Inc.

Bank of the West

Cloud 9 Family Foundation

Ronald C. Conway

Latham & Watkins LLP

Room to Breathe Project

Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Stupski Foundation

Target Corporation

Trammell Crow Residential

Diane B. Wilsey

*\*Represents a multi-year contribution, with giving level reflecting the amount received in FY18*

*"Every day we provide each and every student the quality instruction and equitable support required to thrive in the 21st century. We need your support in order for us to create the conditions for our students to thrive."*

*-Dr. Vincent Matthews  
SFUSD Superintendent*





*"We support Spark\* because of their commitment to ensuring that every child has a fair chance to learn and succeed. From the classroom to the district's central office, we see people working intently at every level to improve the lives and life chances of students and their families. We are honored to partner with Spark\* in the urgent work of making education equity a reality for low-income students and students of color in San Francisco's public schools."*

*-Raquiba LaBrie, Program Director  
The Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund*

**\$5,000+**

Capitol Advisors  
Steve Carnevale  
Kitchell  
Learning Ally  
Recology  
Silver Giving Foundation  
Swinerton Management and Consulting  
United Way Bay Area  
Youth Empowerment Fund

**\$1,000+**

Anonymous  
The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation  
Debra Hemmeter  
Anna Nordberg  
Esther Stearns  
Ross Stores Foundation  
Sutter Health - CPMC  
Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation

**\$100+**

Anonymous (18)  
Apple, Inc.  
Autodesk Foundation  
Costco Wholesale  
Michael Dalrymple  
Casey Johnson  
San Francisco Federal Credit Union  
Adam Tom (*in memory of Benjamin Tom, former President of SF Board of Education*)

**\$10+**

Nancy Ching  
Brandon Gordon  
Jay Ann Leyson  
Kathleen Liu  
Susan Solomon

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S F U S D

[sparksfpublicschools.com](http://sparksfpublicschools.com)

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