



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission

The mission of The Foundation @ FCOE is to ensure students reach their full potential by supporting exemplary educational programs and services through a shared community responsibility.

Our Belief

Guided by the belief that education is preparation for life, The Foundation @ FCOE pledges to promote excellence, access and innovation in education for all students.

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Advancing and Safeguarding Educational Opportunities



Dr. Michele Cantwell-CopherFresno County Superintendent of Schools

Celebrating 15 Years!

This year's annual report comes with momentous celebration and overwhelming gratitude to our education partners. It was 15 years ago that The Foundation @ FCOE was established to ensure Fresno County students reach their full potential by supporting exemplary educational programs and services through a shared community responsibility. This mission stands as strong today as it did in 2009,

and as we reflect on our progress there is deep appreciation for our education partners. Our partners have provided over \$25.5 million to help sustain, enhance, and advance academic programs and essential services to help support the success and well-being of Fresno County students.

Our 15th year underscored the importance of partnerships to advance public education as we concluded the projects funded through the Kaiser Permanente: Economic Opportunity Grant. This grant funded projects in the rural school districts of Coalinga-Huron Unified, Mendota Unified, Parlier Unified, and Washington Unified. Each district was granted over \$45,000 and outcomes included:

- an enhanced learning experience with new technology equipment in Coalinga High School's computer lab;
- a new livestock trailer for the Mendota High School FFA Program;
- the development of video resources for students and parents that explained the requirements for graduation and A-G completion; and
- the Live Skills class at Washington Union High School was transformed with a fully operational kitchen to better impact students with disabilities gaining essential job skills for life after high school.

Remaining funds helped expand the CPR First Aid certification process with an emphasis on life-saving skills through the FCSS CTE/ROP Department. The goal of the Economic Opportunity Grant was to support programs that help students excel in school and become equipped to pursue careers and quality jobs.

The Foundation's first 15 years have been dedicated to building awareness of the critical need for private funding to benefit public education, and we will continue nurturing those collaborative efforts – because it is making a difference. By leveraging resources, we catapult the opportunities available to Fresno County students to ensure they are equipped for college, career, or service. We are committed to improving the educational journey of Fresno County students, and we are grateful to our partners who have been dedicated to this common goal – THANK YOU!

MaryEllen Galvan
Executive Director
The Foundation @ FCOE



2024 Impact by the Numbers

	\$1, 057,001	\$ 226,500		^{\$} 656,720
Fundraising & Grants	Issued to FCSS Programs	Secured in Grant Funds C		Raised through Corporate Sponsorships
71=	\$170,250	6,251*		13
FCSS Student Events	Student Event Sponsorships	Students Impacted		Events Supported by Sponsorships
	\$ 23,229	3,364*	136	29
Innovation Fund	Raised by FCSS Employees	Students Impacted	FCSS Employee Contributed	s Innovation Grants Awarded
Countywide	50	15		9
	Education Matters TV Segments	FCSS Departments		District Grants for FFA Programs

*Reflects the estimated number of students impacted.

Grant funding, individual donations, corporate sponsorships, and endowed funds have grown over time, which has allowed for the continued success and expansion of programs and services coordinated by the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) and throughout Fresno County's 31 school districts. The Innovation Fund, supported by FCSS employees through payroll deduction, continues to issue grants of

up to \$1,000 to each school district every year, and the 13th round will be issued in the fall of 2024. These grants help foster innovation in the classroom and help give teachers the opportunity to offer creative projects to their students that otherwise would not be possible. Over the course of the fund's establishment, more than \$370,000 has been raised and approximately 350 projects have been funded throughout the County.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Revenue Cash In-Kind Total Revenue	\$1,432,670 <u>\$ 236,553</u> \$1,669,223
Expense Cash In-Kind Total Expense	\$1,403,548 <u>\$ 236,553</u> \$1,640,101
Change in Net Assets	\$ 29,122
Net Assets – July 1, 2023 Net Assets – June 30, 2024	\$1,476,458 \$1,505,580

For a copy of the most recent audited financials, go to www.fcoefoundation.org

FCSS Sponsored Events

Academic Decathlon Career Skills Challenge Fresno Area College Night History Day Mock Trial Science Olympiad African American Student Leadership Conference Fresno County Spell Off FCSS Kids Day Picture the Valley STEM for Girls Conference All Staff Day
Career Tech Expo
Health Youth Corps
Martin Luther King, Jr. Contests
Science Fair
Young Authors' Faire

FCSS Department Grantees

Alternative Education
Cradle to Career Caree
CTEC High School
Early Care and Education
Foster and Homeless Youth Education Services
Inclusive Practices
Scout Island Outdoor Educational Center
Special Projects

Communications, Strategy & Outreach
Career Technical Education/Regional Occupational Program
Curriculum and Instruction
Educational Innovation and Support
vices Health Services
Safe and Healthy Kids
ter Special Education

Funding Fresno County's academic student events continues to be a fundamental priority. Events such as the Science Fair, Young Authors' Faire, Academic Decathlon, Mock Trial, and Career Skills Challenge provide opportunities for students with a wide range of interests. These student events help develop critical thinking skills, leadership abilities, reinforce classroom learning, and support positive social-emotional development. Every year, Fresno County is represented at local, state, national, and even international levels of competition by dedicated and ambitious students. In the 2023-2024 school

year, the first-place winner of the Fresno County Spell Off, Aarav Mann from Sanger Unified's Washington Academic Middle School, advanced to the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The local Science Fair saw Pauline Estrada of Clovis North win first place in Plant Sciences, and she advanced to the International Science and Engineering Fair. Another exhilarating competition winner was the Academic Decathlon team from University High, who took top honors at the State Academic Decathlon. These are just a few of Fresno County's top competitors and academic events, there are many!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Brady Matoian OK Produce



The Matoian family has been rooted in the communities of Fresno County for generations after immigrating to America from Armenia. Matty Matoian grew up on the West Side of Fresno and in 1950 his parents, Charles and Anne, started OK Produce out of a small, cold box as a wholesale produce company in Downtown Fresno. In 1979, Matty took over the company's leadership and in 1986 he led OK Produce through an expansion to a new facility. The company has grown into one of the distributors of affordable produce in Central and Northern California. Matty's sons, Chad and Brady, joined the company in 1998 and 2000, respectively, with Matty retiring from OK Produce in 2008. Chad and Brady led the company into the 21st century with a state-of-the-art distribution center built in 2015. Brady is proud of the company's extensive sustainability program to help combat air pollution with just under five megawatts of solar and the conversion to electric semi-trucks, yard trucks and sales rep vehicles. Today, they are continuing the tradition of giving back to the communities of Fresno, and living out what their grandfather once said, "When you make money, you always give back to your community."

Brady and the OK Produce team demonstrate a deep commitment to the people of Fresno, including Fresno's most valuable resource - children. "When children eat better, they feel better, and feeling better means students are ready to learn. We know that families in Fresno need more resources and access to quality, fresh foods and healthier options, and that is why we do what we do," says Brady. They believe that healthier eating starts with the entire family and reaching children in their younger years by supporting schools is an effective way to introduce healthy options. Their generous contributions to local schools and their support to the programs and services of the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) are fostering goodwill in communities throughout Fresno.

As a partner of the FCSS Safe and Healthy Kids Department, Brady and the OK Produce team hosted the annual FCSS You Matter Day. You Matter Day evolved from the ideas and actions of students to engage their fellow peers in service learning. The event brings together expanded learning programs, students, educators, friends, families, non-profit organizations, and local businesses. They participate in a

variety of community service projects, such as assembling food bags for families in need, art kits for foster youth and bags with essential items for local farmworkers and to celebrate the gift of service to our most vulnerable and under-resourced populations.

Brady is also a generous supporter of the FCSS Special Education Kids Day, where over 1,500 students with special needs delight in fresh produce and healthy snacks during a day of outdoor activities designed just for them. Also, together with Matty, they touch the lives of individual students through the Superintendent's Superstar recognition. This program highlights one student every month for their outstanding academic achievements and community service. The Matoians' commitment to aiving back in support of Fresno County students through the schools they attend and the communities they live in will have a longstanding impact. The Matoians' hope that their efforts will inspire others to make charitable giving a priority to bridge the gap that ensures every student has opportunities to reach their full potential in school and in life.

"When children eat better, they feel better, and feeling better means students are ready to learn."

Brady Matoian, OK Produce





List of Contributors

Superintendent Michele Cantwell-Copher, Ed.D. and the Board of Directors wish to thank the many sponsors and contributors who believe in providing excellence, access, and innovation for the students of Fresno County.

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