

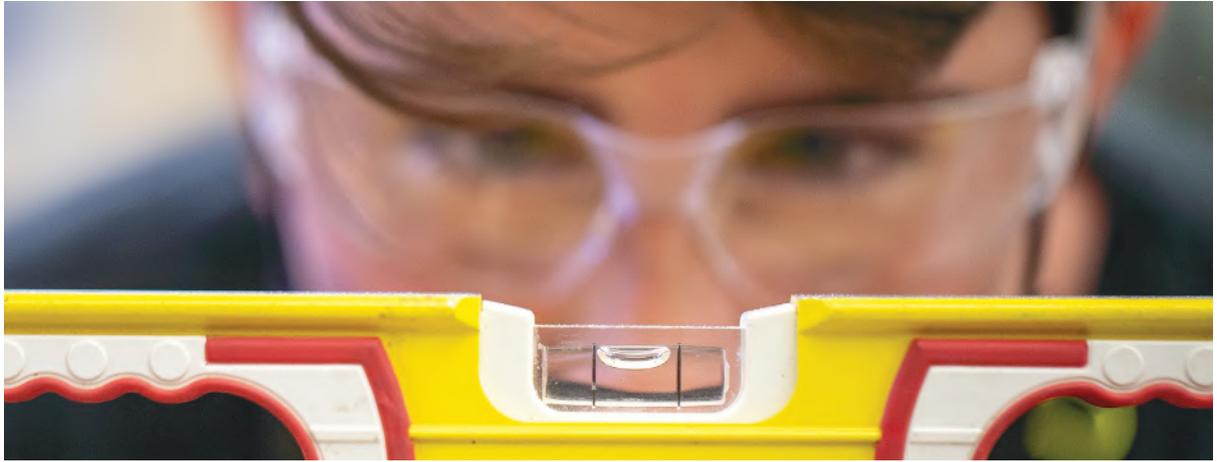
Clovis Unified School District

2021 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

BUILDING



WHAT MATTERS



A Message from the Superintendent

In Clovis Unified, we are building what matters — our community’s future — and our success is intrinsically connected to all of you.



Eimear O’Farrell, Ed.D.

The quality of a community’s schools is reflected in economic development, in home values, and in tourism. And, in Clovis Unified, **our responsibility to deliver quality education to support a vibrant community is never out of mind.**

We do so by focusing with laser intent on the well-being of our students, on building a team of exceptional people to support them, on committing to high standards, and on investing our resources with intentionality. Our kids deserve no less.

At the same time, we can’t do it alone. **We need you.** We need a community that is vested in its schools, that cares about our challenges and our successes, and that comes alongside us in difficult times. Difficult times, like those we have faced over the past year and a half, tend to hone our attention on those things that are critical — and for us, that is always our kids.

Just as we focus on the tiny details in every construction project to ensure that our school facilities (like the soon-to-be-constructed Terry Bradley Educational Center) are crafted with care and purpose, we focus education on the fine details that make the difference between mediocre and high-quality education. In the following pages, you will find stories about educators and students focused on excellence, and data to illustrate the return on your investment in Clovis Unified and in your local schools.

We are ready for today and its present challenges, and we are ready for all that tomorrow holds for our students. Thank you for joining us on the journey.

2020-21 Celebrations & Awards

- California Honor Roll District
- **31** California Honor Roll Schools
- **6** Bonner Character Awards
- **2** California Distinguished Schools
- **1** California League of Schools State Teacher of the Year
- **2** Fresno County Educator Award finalists
- **1** CMEA State Orchestra Educator of the Year
- **1** U.S. Western Region NFHS Golf Coach of the Year
- **21** CUSD athletic League titles; **13** Valley team titles; and **2** Regional titles
- **3** National student awards and several students/teams advancing to national/world competitions
- **1** CUSD alumni in Tokyo Summer Olympics in track



Clovis Unified at a Glance

Our Vision: To Be America's Benchmark for Excellence in Education



6
Areas



44
Comprehensive
Schools



9
Specialty
Schools



42,795*
Students

Students Say

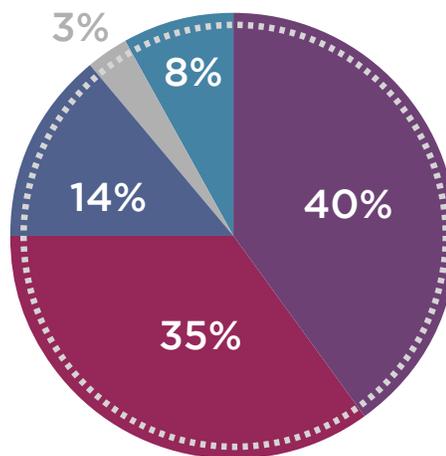
- 89%** Teachers want them to succeed.
- 84%** Schools are a safe place to learn.

Parents Say

- 92%** Schools provide a quality education that promotes academic student success.
- 90%** Buildings and grounds are well maintained.

Employees Say

- 93%** Schools are a safe and secure learning environment.
- 88%** Proud to work for Clovis Unified.



Student Demographics

- Hispanic
- Asian
- Other
- White
- Black

3

CLOVIS UNIFIED



\$18.8 Million in scholarships awarded to graduating Clovis Unified seniors in 2020-21

Reading Report Card

1st

CUSD was first of California districts serving more than 15,000 students on California Reading Coalitions' 2021 study.

“

The clear message is that it is not the students themselves, or the level of resources, that drive student reading achievement – the primary drivers are district focus on reading, management practices, and curriculum and instruction sciences.

Key Study Findings
careads.org/reportcards

”

95.8% Graduation Rate

14th Largest District in California

44.4% Students qualify as foster, English learner and/or socio-economically disadvantaged

\$620M General Fund includes \$91.7M from one-time CARES Fund

Sources for this publication: California Department of Education, 2020-21 SART Survey, 2020-21 Climate Survey, 2020-21 Student Survey, CUSD LCAP, California Reading Coalition, www.ed-data.org/. Photos taken are from before and during COVID-19 pandemic in accordance with public health guidance.

*From 2020-21 CUSD Information Systems; CDE enrollment data not available.





Our Mission:
To be a quality educational system providing the resources for ALL students to reach their potential in **Mind, Body & Spirit.**

MIND

- **95.8%** graduation rate
- Every elementary school library has a **reading room** and last year several school librarians created online story time and interactive story boards using QR codes and pictures spaced outside on the campus.
- Secondary campuses provide academic counselors, tutoring and college and career centers. Other **resources** are offered through Supplemental Services and Special Education departments.
- **26 Advanced Placement classes** are offered on our campuses providing students college-level instruction. 4,789 AP tests were taken by Clovis Unified students for college credit with a passage rate of 62%. Of AP tests taken by CUSD students, Spanish Literature had the highest passage rate at 90%; Physics C Mechanics 82%; and Calculus B/C 79%.
- **21 Career Technical Education (CTE)** pathways are offered, including video production, farming and construction.



89%

Students say their teachers care if they do well in school.

92%

Parents say their child's school provides a quality education.



BODY

- **Physical Education** is included in student class schedules every year through 12th grade. During remote learning last year, PE classes got students moving at home with fitness workouts and energizing cardio moves.
- Schools offer a wide range of sports, starting in fourth grade. While sports seasons were condensed this past year, **athletes had the opportunity to compete in the spring** during abbreviated seasons.
- At each high school, **Unified sports** are back in session where general and special ed athletes compete together in league play.
- Clovis Unified's Campus Catering plans and prepares **nutritious meals**, has its own bread kitchen, uses fresh farm-grown local produce and recently won two spots on the Restaurant and Food Group's Food Management Top 10 Best Sandwiches for its Korean Steak Sandwich and Steak Al Pastor with Citrus Slaw.
- **Keeping our students safe** is a priority, and Clovis Unified has 16 sworn police officers who are POST - Police Officer Standards and Training - certified. Each secondary campus has a dedicated officer, and a team of officers serve elementary schools.

87%

Students say they feel like they are a part of their school.



SPIRIT



- 87% of parents say schools have a **positive environment**.
- Clovis Unified has a proactive **Wellness Support System** that includes Clovis Support and Intervention (CSI), Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS), Behavior Consultation Team (BCT), Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, Suicide Prevention and Social-Emotional Support Providers.
- **Diversity** is celebrated at each campus through classroom lessons, multi-cultural festivals and heritage clubs. The district holds annual leadership conferences spotlighting African-American, Asian and Latino mentors.
- 51 Class of 2021 seniors made the decision to **serve their country** by joining the military, with three attending West Point and one the Naval Academy. They were honored in ceremonies at their schools.
- 270 students filled up the district's first **CTE Summer Academy program** in 2021, voluntary summer sessions allowing kids to explore Career Technical Education pathways such as game coding, construction and health care.

2 out of 3

Students say they are involved in extra school activities such as drama, art, music and dance; sports; curriculars such as robotics, History Day, science fair and spelling bee; or clubs.

State of Our Facilities

The passage of Measure A in November 2020 allows Clovis Unified to carry on standards of excellence for our students as our community grows.

Ready for Today, Planning for Tomorrow



- This spring, design began on plans for the **Terry Bradley Educational Center**, which will be home to Clovis Unified's sixth high school and sixth intermediate school in the southeast area of our boundary. Nearby Clovis East High has reached capacity, and growth in this dynamic region is only projected to continue. The intermediate school is planned to open for students in 2025, and the high school in 2027. The Center will feature 21st Century learning design and collaborative spaces for engaging lesson experiences.

The academic areas will have a collegiate and career environment, with large interior corridors and places for interaction. A student activities center will be located on the campus that will be used by all of the district. It will offer space and seating of up to 5,500 and flexible arrangements for everything from student leadership conferences, career fairs, performing arts events, large-scale curricular competitions like robotics or science fair, and athletics.

- Design is underway for Clovis Unified's **35th elementary school** for the growing southeast region of the district. Cutting-edge technology, team environments, touch boards and outdoor learning spaces will offer students hands-on, engaging opportunities.

CTE Under Construction

Clovis Unified has 21 Career Technical Education pathways available for high school students. There are 12 dedicated facilities and two more currently under construction:

- Video Production Lab at Buchanan High that will include editing bays, green rooms and learning spaces
- Farm & Food Product Facility at Clovis East High that will include a farmers market facility, walk-in refrigerator and classrooms for floral labs and food processing from the farm



More Hard Hat Areas in 2020-21

- 3,300 Bipolar Ionization devices installed to improve indoor air quality.
- 2,200 Free-standing HEPA air filtration systems in every classroom, library and cafeteria to help mitigate allergens, airborne viruses including COVID-19 and flu, and particulates and smoke from wildfires.
- Construction is underway at Dry Creek Elementary for a new classroom wing and administration office.
- 6 additional solar installations.
- Numerous painting and paving projects throughout the district.



Embracing Change with Innovation

Our theme this year is "Mission: Possible." Difficult circumstances will come our way, but CUSD's culture is to lean into challenges and find the opportunities. We are steadfast in our commitment to succeed and will stay the course to provide quality education and wellness to our students. In Clovis Unified, we will accept our mission and make what may seem impossible, possible.



Field trips became possible with students using Virtual Reality Headsets, funded by a Foundation for Clovis Schools grant, to explore the Great Wall of China, visit the International Space Station and spot giraffes in Africa, just to name a few.



Social distancing guidelines for orchestra, band and choirs did not stop the music from playing, with many teachers making space by taking their classes outside.



Teachers found creative ways to make learning — whether online or in-person — interesting, keeping students' success as their top goal.



More than 100 senior athletes signed to play their sport at colleges across the nation. Ceremonies honoring their achievement looked a little different, but the enthusiasm remained sky high!



While Clovis Unified's Sierra Outdoor School was not able to receive campers, that didn't stop instructors there from holding interactive sessions with sixth-graders. Several schools also provided "camp gear" to enhance the experience.

When approval was given by state and county health authorities late in the school year for full-gathering graduations that included strict health and safety requirements, Clovis Unified's team moved quickly to do whatever was needed to make ceremonies happen. Graduates' seats were spread on football fields and new stages built to provide well-deserved celebrations of this milestone moment. We are so proud of all of our graduates! CUSD had a graduation rate of 95.8%.

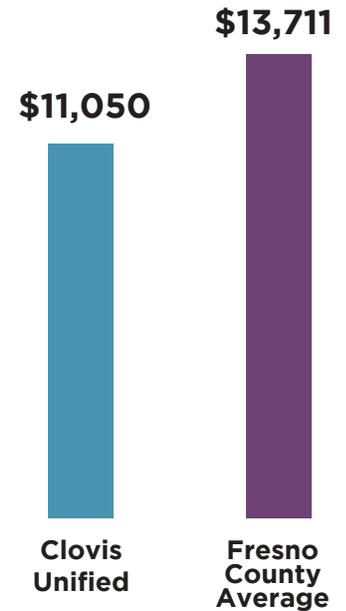


Why a Foundation for Clovis Schools?



One of the greatest challenges facing Clovis Unified is overcoming the perception it has ample resources to meet student needs. The reality is, Clovis Unified receives less funding than other unified school districts. In fact, if Clovis Unified received just the average per pupil funding of other Fresno County districts, it would have an additional \$110 million annually to operate schools. This gap in funding forces CUSD classrooms to go without some of the resources available in other districts. The work of the Foundation for Clovis Schools to mobilize community donors is integral to closing that gap.

Funding Per Student



About 45% of CUSD students are low income, English learners and/or foster youth – a very high number – but the state only provides extra concentration dollars to districts when their qualifying students exceed 55%. This means that, while the student population has a significant need, CUSD receives about \$2,600 less per student than the Fresno County average.

\$110 Million

additional amount CUSD would receive if provided the county average per pupil funding.

Building What Matters: 2020-21 Foundation Highlights

Thanks to the generosity of our donors:

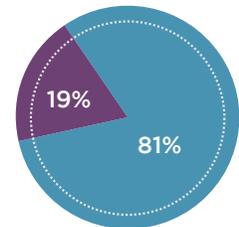
18 Classroom, School and Emotional Wellness Grants

provided \$129,730 **to support projects** that help teachers innovate in classrooms. These funds introduced students to new technology, helped build community among students, purchased literacy intervention curriculum, and much more.

128 New Teacher Grants were given to new 2020-21 teachers. The Foundation for Clovis Schools awarded \$25,480 to help teachers **prepare their classrooms** to be vibrant learning environments for CUSD kids.

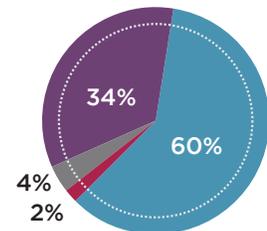
16 Students of Promise Scholarships totaling \$32,000 encouraged remarkable 11th graders to **pursue their goals** with a scholarship upon enrollment into post-secondary education.

Support and Revenue



Contributions
Special Events

Expenses



Educational Programs
Designated Gifts & Scholarships
General & Administrative
Donor Cultivation

Donor Impact

Our steadfast community of donors help make the Foundation's work possible. During the 2020-21 school year:

- More than \$220,000 was invested in students, teachers and classes across the district through the Foundation.
- 294 businesses, individuals, foundations, community groups and CUSD employees contributed to the Foundation for Clovis Schools.
- The Foundation managed \$97,113 in funds for other programs within Clovis Unified, supporting developmental programs and student transportation.

New Teacher Grants: Continuing a Legacy at Clovis High

Ron Webb Jr. did not plan on being a teacher, but he found his way into education because of his father's passion and stories about teaching.

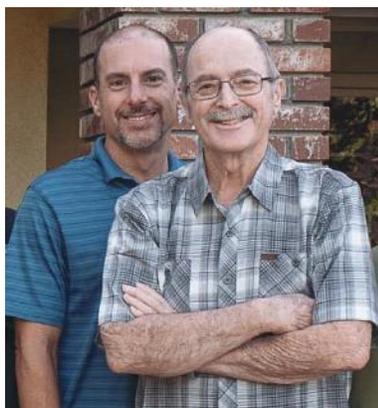
Ron Webb Sr. spent more than 30 years at Clovis High as the photography teacher and golf coach.

"It was his love and care for his students, more than even the career itself, that really drove my dad," Webb Jr. said of his father's joy of being in a classroom. And so, when the younger Webb began looking for a new career path after working in both architecture and ministry, his father pointed him to teaching as a way to bring all of his experiences together.

Webb Jr. was hired this year to teach Building Information Modeling at his dad's beloved Cougar campus and his own alma mater. "I'm thrilled for the opportunity," he said.

Webb Jr. is one of 159 new teachers hired for 2021-22 in Clovis Unified to be presented a New Teacher Grant

by the Foundation, made possible by donations from local business partners. The grant is given to every new teacher to help with setting up a classroom for the very first time.



"To know you have support from the community, it's uplifting," Webb Jr. said of receiving the grant. "It strengthens our ability to teach. It's a joint venture."

For Webb Jr., the grant is also a chance for him to carry on a family legacy, the timing of which was particularly poignant. He got the phone call about being hired for the job shortly before his father's recent passing from cancer.

"Dad was really excited. When I told him that I got the teaching position, he lit up like he was in the classroom again," Webb Jr. said. The father shared with his son pointers about being a teacher, connecting with students and mastering his subject.

"I'm so glad he heard I got the job," Webb Jr. said, noting he plans to honor his dad by being the best teacher he can.

Classroom and School Grants

Each year, the Foundation invites educators across the district to submit proposals for projects that enhance learning in a creative and motivational way.

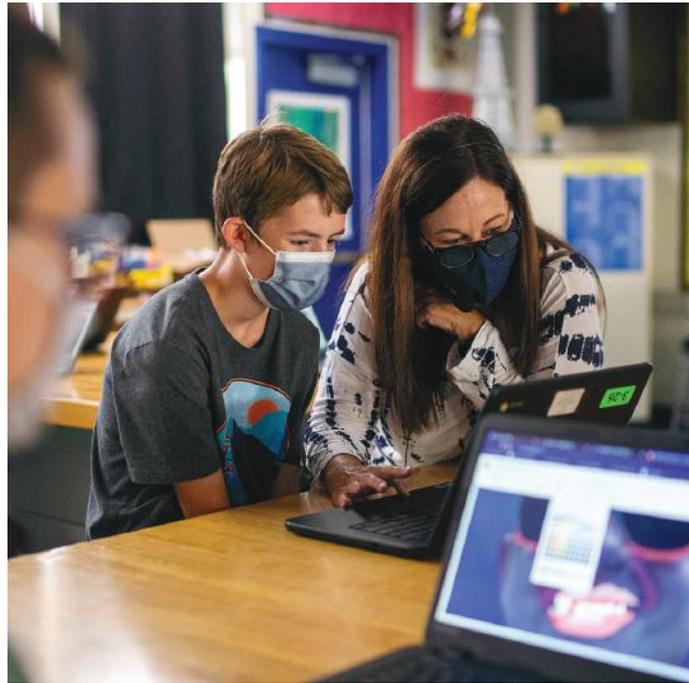
When in-person instruction was temporarily suspended in March 2020, Clark Intermediate art teacher Melissa Fritsch wondered how she might continue providing a quality art experience to her students. Delivering art supplies to each of her students' homes for individual projects was incredibly time consuming and she was beginning to sense that her middle schoolers might not be as engaged with her traditional art projects when away from the classroom.

That's when Fritsch realized she had a new tool at her disposal. Her students - who by March were used to working with materials like oil pastels, charcoal and clay to create their own works of art - were all now digitally connected. Fritsch decided to take advantage of the newfound access to technology in her art class and introduced a new medium to her students: Google Drawing - a free computer graphics program offered through Google.

Fritsch's students quickly learned to create digital collages, landscapes, portraits and still lifes to supplement the traditional art curriculum. But when it was time to return to campus for in-person instruction, she knew that her art students would no longer have their very own set of Chromebooks to use in class. She submitted a proposal for a Foundation classroom grant to provide a set of Chromebooks specifically for the art classes at Clark. Her proposal was awarded in June 2021 and Chromebooks were soon ordered for the class.

"Going back to in-person instruction without computers would have felt like a step backwards," Fritsch said. **"We are so excited to receive new laptops for the art room from the Foundation so that we may continue bringing technology to art."**

Students at Clark Intermediate will continue experiencing digital art instruction, and foundational graphics skills that will prepare them to explore the possibility of entering a related career path later in life.



10

FOUNDATION



By: Marcus Franz



By: Nadine Bartolome

2020-21 Grants in Action

\$130,000
Infused into the district for the benefit of CUSD students

12,600
Students directly impacted by classroom and school grants

18
Grants awarded to CUSD school sites and programs

Student-created Google Drawing artwork at Clark Intermediate.

Students of Promise

“ He’s really excited about one day being the first in his family to graduate high school *and* college. ”

Daniel Felix
Buchanan High Guidance
and Learning Specialist,
Student of Promise nominator



A signature program of the Foundation for Clovis Schools, Students of Promise scholarships are awarded each spring to **16 extraordinary high school juniors** who have shown incredible perseverance in extremely challenging situations. They are encouraged to continue on their path toward graduation with the award of a **\$2,000 scholarship** from the Foundation upon enrollment into post-secondary education.

“Our Students of Promise are dear to our hearts at the Foundation for Clovis Schools,” said Mike Fennacy, Foundation chairperson. “So, we were intent on continuing to honor them for 2021, despite the COVID-19 pandemic preventing us from coming together for our normal in-person celebration.”

In non-COVID times, the Foundation for Clovis Schools honors recipients at an Academy Awards-style celebration. While this year’s event was put on hold due to COVID restrictions, scholarship recipients were surprised at their homes or via Zoom with the news of their awards, had portrait sessions with a professional photographer and received certificates from elected officials acknowledging their hard work. Additionally, a brief video was produced showcasing some of the admiration and words of encouragement from the educators who nominated them. Students will also be receiving in-person accolades during their senior year, together with the 2022 Students of Promise.

“We’re so grateful for our community partners who have helped to make the awards possible for our 2021 recipients,” Fennacy said.

Students of Promise
See the 2021 trailer

<https://www.foundation-forclovischools.com/SOP>



\$32,000 Students of Promise scholarships
309 Students of Promise recipients since 2002
16 2020-21 Students of Promise scholarships

NEW THIS YEAR!



The Doc Buchanan Leadership Academy

The challenges CUSD staff and students have overcome since March 2020 have cemented the vital importance of founding Superintendent Floyd "Doc" Buchanan, Ed.D.'s leadership tenets, and the critical need to continue **investing in leaders** who are committed to nurturing the mind, body and spirit of every child.

Accordingly, the Foundation for Clovis Schools board voted in June 2021 to allocate undesignated reserve funds to establish the Doc Buchanan Leadership Academy - a leadership development program that will **maintain the long-standing and unique philosophies that have supported the district's success** over time. Under the direction and supervision of the Superintendent's Office, the Academy will give Clovis Unified a permanent venue in which its leaders are trained and mentored in Doc Buchanan's leadership tenets. And, as a result, teachers, students and the community flourish.

August 2021 saw the official launch of the Academy, with



approximately 130 district leaders meeting offsite for a leadership retreat. District leaders engaged in intentional leadership training and relationship building surrounding CUSD's leadership tenets and core values.

The Foundation has also contracted with a curriculum development expert to develop leadership training materials and modules for the Academy, in addition to establishing a formal mentoring program for new leaders in the district, which is planned to launch later in the 2021-22 school year.



BUILDING WHAT MATTERS

Thank you to the friends who helped support the Foundation for Clovis Schools with gifts made between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. These gifts make it possible for the Foundation to continue to bring innovative classroom ideas and educational programs to students across Clovis Unified.



A special recognition to donors who, with their 2020-21 contributions, advanced into a new category on our Donor Recognition Wall located in the district's Professional Development Building. The wall recognizes donors' cumulative giving:

4 Stars \$150,000 to \$299,999
Spencer Family

2 Stars \$30,000 to \$74,999
Elite Team Offices

1 Star \$15,000 to \$29,999
Clovis Exchange Club
Mohan L. Sethi & Sushila Sethi

Visionary

\$25,000+

Franklin Antonio
Granville Homes, Inc.
Kaiser Permanente
Mohan L. & Sushila Sethi
Todd & Sara Cook

Legacy

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Clovis Exchange Club

5-Star

\$5,000-\$9,999

Assemi Group, Inc.
Bernards
Blair, Church & Flynn
CenCal Demolition
Clovis Community Medical Center
Educational Employees Credit Union
Elite Team Offices
Fresno First Bank
Golden State Steel

Harris Construction

Jim Van Volkinburg
K Coe Isom
Mark Wilson Construction
Ricchiuti Family
Spencer Enterprises Inc.
TETER Architects

Platinum

\$2,500-\$4,999

California Health Sciences University
Copeland Medical Healthcare Partners
Doug Benik
Durham Construction Company, Inc.
Goode Ol' Days Antiques
Larson Brothers Photography
McFarlane and McFarlane
MUGF Union Bank
Paul Halajian Architects
Poochigian for Assessor-Recorder 2022
Westech Systems Inc.

Gold

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Allstate Foundation
Anonymous Donor
Bruce Droz
Dalena, Benik & Associates
Danny Tovar
Elaine Lynn
Grundfos Pumps
Hoffman Security
Janet Young
Jared & Janelle Martin
Jeff & Michele Markaria
Keith Wallace & Judy Davis
Lingenfelter Land Communications, LLC
Mirelitz Revitalize Dental Implant Center
SIM-PBK Architects
SmartCare Medical Group
PG&E Matching Gift Fund
Wm. B Saleh Co.

Silver

\$500 to \$999

Antonio & Louise Petrosino

Boman & Associates
Brian Serimian LLP
Brooks Ransom Associates
Christopher Edmonson
C.P. Pearson LLC
Christine Lingenfelter
DeMera DeMera Cameron LLP
Eimear O'Farrell
Hugh Awtrey III
J- I.T. Outsource
Ken & Susan Engle
M. Benik
Marty Cohan
Melisha Ford
Rain and Hail Insurance
Ronald Cortopassi
Tosh & Brittany Cook
Walter & Susan Buster

Bronze

\$250 to \$499

Allison Hernandez
Ashley Lake
Bauer Real Estate
Bob Fishman
Charlene Kiyuna
Dale & Deborah Ikeda

Daniel Bishop
Danielle Cantu
Darin Tockey
Deborah Tockey
Debra Bolls
Don & Cindy Ulrich
Jamie Swisegood
Janet Samuelian
Kathleen Zamora
Kelly Avants
Kevin Kerney
Mee Yang Vu
Stacey Tafoya
John Smith
Jordan Roach
Neil Koenig
Patricia Gilbert
Patrick & Lorie Ruth
Phuong Nguyen
Ronald Treptow
Sampson, Sampson & Patterson, LLP

Thank you also to the **187 Clovis Unified employees** who supported the Foundation through automatic payroll deduction during the 2020-21 school year. The complete list of names can be found on [FoundationForClovisSchools.com](https://www.FoundationForClovisSchools.com).