# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from CEO &amp; Board Chair</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year Highlights</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Assistance Programs: Filling Shelves and Hungry Stomachs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Staff: “Wow You’ve Grown!”</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Application Fee Program: Funding Brighter Futures</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Spotlight: Granite Credit Union</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 By The Numbers</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finances</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission &amp; Board of Directors</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank You</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
While the Foundation has always represented great work and increased opportunities for students and teachers within Granite School District, 2018 saw the most growth since its creation. Whether it was expanding the team, creating new programs, or building new relationships with community leaders and businesses, thanks to each of you, Granite Education Foundation has grown greater this year.

As evidence of that growth, Caruthers Institute ranked Granite Education Foundation 15th in the nation in their annual study of education foundations across America. Foundations are ranked according to revenue, grant and program expenses, investment income and number of volunteers. This honor represents the hard work of individuals, businesses, community members, educators, students and the amazing district we are all a part of. Here's to another year of growing even greater, together.
Dear Friends,

This has been a pivotal year for Granite Education Foundation and the Granite community as a whole – one of coming together with individual organizations, corporations, business enterprises, faith-based organizations, and individuals working toward a common goal. Through collaboration, we’re strengthening the community and helping students achieve lasting success. As an organization, we are growing greater.

Granite Education Foundation has experienced sustainable growth since its inception. In the last five years as needs within Granite School District continue to increase significantly, the organization has been pivotal in securing support and partnerships from a variety of sources. By working closely with schools and the school district, and in connecting with community leaders, other nonprofit organizations, local businesses and parents, we’ve developed significant opportunities and support structures to benefit everyone involved — most of all, our students and educators.

Although Granite Education Foundation’s success in helping kids succeed has always been closely linked to others who share our vision, last year, more than ever, we made unprecedented progress in growing our staff and in turn, increasing our impact thanks to support from Granite Education Foundation’s Board of Directors, Granite Board of Education, District Administration, increased donors, collaborative efforts, and key partnerships.

These relationships have never been more important than now, when so many of our schools are expected to do more and yet struggle with fewer resources. At the same time, the majority of our students face their own struggles at home. It takes the collaborative efforts of everyone in the community to effectively overcome such challenges.

While we are making positive steps in the right direction, we still have a long way to go. However, we can’t do it alone.

YOU have the power to do more, to help us grow greater in meeting the needs and challenges before us. The support YOU provide the Foundation makes a critical difference – not just in the lives of our kids, but in our community as a whole.

With gratitude,

RANDY WOODBURY
Interim Board Chair

BRENT SEVERE
Chief Executive Officer
Green beans and tuna. That was about the only food available for hungry students when the Foundation began helping at Granite Park Junior High’s food pantry three years ago, remembers Brody Mangum, the pantry coordinator. Located in a converted custodial closet, in those early days most students were too embarrassed to ask for food even when they truly needed it. Then, just an average of 15 students were served per month.

Unfortunately, this story is not unique. Across Granite School District, students and their families face inadequate access to food. In fact, 65% of Granite’s 68,000 students qualify for free and reduced school lunch. This overwhelming hunger crisis is, out of necessity, a primary focus of the Foundation. As a result of a concerned and involved community, and a caring sense of responsibility from generous businesses, the Foundation’s food programs have grown tremendously over the past year.

In the 2017–2018 school year, the number of in–school food pantries grew from five to 13. This number included a groundbreaking pantry opening at David Gourley Elementary in partnership with Smith’s Food & Drug Stores to provide fresh produce and refrigerated goods in addition to other foods.

This school year also included a weekly donation of 5,000 loaves of bread to schools throughout the district thanks to the generosity of Harper’s Bread. One young Granite student, Isaac, shared his simple and genuine gratitude by saying,

“Thanks for baking these breads for us and giving them to us. These breads did help my family a lot.”

A new mobile food pantry truck sponsored by the Foundation and Granite Credit Union in partnership with the Utah Food Bank transformed the mobile food pantry stops program. In a single school year, the stops increased from 18 to 33, providing food to over 70,000 students.
And finally, the food program expanded as individuals and families from all stretches of the Wasatch Front put together food kits to stock school pantry shelves. The Foundation has become a revolving door as a constant stream of completed kits came in and were sent right back out to schools.

“You can tell the difference,” Mangum says. “Families come in here and they’re able to get a stable meal and foods they genuinely need. I can’t say thank you enough to the people that are making these snack packs for us.”

The pantry’s growth is something Mangum says has helped him realize what a force for good the community can be when united for a good cause.

“It feels like we aren’t just doing a little project as much as we are actually helping people,” Mangum says. “What Granite Education Foundation has done is turn the pantry into that, completely. Without that support we’d still just have tuna and green beans for a lot of it.”

So, how is Granite Park Junior High’s pantry today? It now serves nearly 200 students — and that’s during a slow month. During peak times, over 400 students receive food, a stark difference from only 15 monthly three years ago. The pantry has moved on from its custodial closet days. It is now equipped with a refrigerator, rows of shelves, and a large variety of healthy and high-demand foods.
Is a near–daily exclamation from donors and friends walking in the doors of Granite Education Foundation — and they aren’t wrong.

The 2017–18 school year saw the Foundation grow from four capable and exhausted employees, to ten members of a passionate team that couldn’t do what they do without the help of community, donors and district.

“The addition of dedicated and talented staff has had a significant impact on revenue, advocacy, outreach, relationships, and program stability,” explains Brent Severe, CEO of the Foundation. “It isn’t the same organization it was. We’re making a lasting impact.”

To put a name to all the new faces, each member of the team explains why they joined the Foundation. However, the team extends far beyond these ten individuals. It includes caring community members giving time to volunteer, dedicated board members who passionately champion the cause, proactive and generous businesses, fearless teachers, eager students and a supportive district. Thank you to every member of the widespread Foundation team; it is a force for good, growing ever greater. ◆

BRENT SEVERE
Chief Executive Officer
I enjoy leading and working with staff willing to adapt to growing needs. It’s rewarding to know that through so many, we support educators and give kids a reason to hope.

AUDREY PRICE
Finance
I love working for the Foundation! It is rewarding to know that I make a difference in children’s lives.

BROOKE PORTER
Communications & Marketing Director
Working at the Foundation gives me the opportunity to work in an industry I love and go home each day knowing I’ve played a small part in making a real difference.

ERIN WOODLIEF
Events & Volunteer Director
It’s incredible to work on a team that builds each other up through the common bond of helping our students and educators succeed.

JEANNA ELLIS
Programs Coordinator
The Foundation gives me the opportunity to support the amazing Granite community. By supporting them, I’m able to make a positive impact on a child’s life.

JENNIE JENTZSCH
Administrative Support Coordinator
Being at the Foundation is the best because we get the chance to work with people who really care and want to make a difference in our community.

MARIA SWEETEN
Development Director
I love that everything we do helps students and educators; we live our mission of improving educational outcomes by strengthening the Granite community.

MERCEDES YUSCHAK
Graphic Designer
Working at the Foundation allows me to use design to help people. It’s a rewarding feeling to know I’m working to make a difference.

NOEL APPLEBAUM
Grants & Allocations
Granite is so big, and has so much need. The board and staff of the Foundation are committed to expanding services to help meet student needs, and I want to be a part of it.

STORMY GOECKERITZ
Administrative Assistant
Seeing tearful eyes and thankful smiles from students and teachers as their needs are met makes me so happy. I’m grateful for an organization that fills so many hopes and dreams!
Five years ago, a college application fee program started with an idea and no way to fund it.

“Then, it just hit us, why don't we ask the Foundation?” remembers Judy Petersen, Granite's College and Career Readiness director. “We pitched it to them and within that same day Brent got back to us and said we had the funding.”

Each year since its creation, the program has grown. Thanks to the help of new partners, like the Haloti Ngata Family Foundation which provides funding for ACT prep classes, more students attend college every year. In 2017–2018, nearly 300 students received application fee waivers and 89% of those students were accepted and will attend their chosen school.

“We're one of the top three diverse districts in the state,” Petersen explains. “We have all kinds of needs and what the foundation has helped us to do is address the barriers and obstacles that get in the way of kids’ success. Because our students don't have family members who have gone to college, it's not something tangible. This program makes higher education a reality for them.”

Each year, notes flood the Foundation office from students expressing their gratitude for being given the opportunity to grow greater as they reach for a future many never thought possible.

Thank you for paying for my college application. I really appreciate it and won’t let the money go to waste.

MARTIN S.

Thank you so very much. College is a huge opportunity and will change my life. You have changed and affected so many people and we thank you.

JOUZEY D.

Thank you for paying for my college application. I wouldn’t be able to go to college without this.

JUAN R.
Thank you for encouraging me to apply to college. Before today, I was not sure college was in my future due to financial circumstances. Today I learned there are ways to make it possible. Thank you for paying one of my applications, I had no idea that there were so many people trying to help us get into college. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to succeed.

MARIBEL H.

Thank you very much for the funds necessary to apply for college. Without your help, I wouldn’t have had the chance to be the first of my family to earn a college degree. Much love.

AUSTIN S.

Thank you for paying for my college application. Because you did that I applied and really hope to get in, so I can get my social workers degree and help anyone and everyone that I can! So, thank you!!

ARIEL H.

Thank you for paying for my college application. Because you did that I applied and really hope to get in, so I can get my social workers degree and help anyone and everyone that I can! So, thank you!!

VICTOR J.

Thank you for your donation you are one of the reasons I will have a brighter future. Thank you.

VALERIE M.

Thank you a ton for making it possible for me to have a chance at going to college. If it wasn’t for you guys I would have no chance at going to college and achieving my future dreams. You guys are helping my dreams come true. When I get accepted I won’t let you guys down.

KAYDEN T.
The Foundation’s mission is more than addressing the needs of Granite’s students and teachers. It’s about creating a community — a place where businesses, volunteers, and the Granite family can work together to give, receive, and excel. With a history of supporting educators, Granite Credit Union continues to give back to the district whose teachers and employees created it in 1935.

We sat down with Granite Credit Union’s CEO and President, Lynn Kuehne, to talk about why they support the Foundation and what helping the Granite community means to them.

Q: Why does GCU choose to give back?
A: Lynn: “It’s a commitment and obligation that we have to be a part of the community. We don’t want to be standing here doing what we do as a credit union without being involved in the community — those are our members. We feel a responsibility.”

Q: Why does GCU continue to work with GEF?
A: Lynn: “These kids are the future. We felt this was a place where we could have a more direct impact and where we could see what was going on. That’s been the fun thing — we’ve been more directly involved with the schools in helping with Santa Sacks and the food pantries. Our staff are genuinely excited about that.”
The more we become involved with the Foundation, the greater need we’ve seen, and so we really feel proud to be involved. We feel a responsibility to make sure that the education community feels supported and can grow and prosper, and we’re very happy to be a part of it.”

Q: What’s the best part of giving to the Granite community?
A: Lynn: “I think I’d have to go back to the times where we’re with the kids and in the schools seeing their excitement. We’ve met some really great people and teachers. They really have a story to tell and a dedication to what they’re doing. All of them are inspiring.”

Q: How has being involved made a difference for GCU?
A: Lynn: “I believe it’s helped every one of us to better understand the needs of the kids in Salt Lake, and that’s our community. There’s not one of our employees that doesn’t come back either teary-eyed or inspired by what they see.”
2018 BY THE NUMBERS

DISTRICT FACTS

92 SCHOOLS
65% OF STUDENTS LIVE AT OR BELOW THE POVERTY LINE
3.25/5 STUDENTS ARE FOOD INSECURE
68,000 STUDENTS
OVER 1,400 HOMELESS STUDENTS
70% 106 OF UTAH’S REFUGEE POPULATION & DIALECTS SPOKEN

TOTAL CASH & IN-KIND FOOD $1,829,962

$319,693 cash/credit/check
$208,255 in-kind donations
$550,000 Harper’s Bread
$360,000 Arby’s
$245,000 Burger King
$115,000 LDS Commodities
$32,014 Souper Bowl of Caring

1,709 INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AID REQUESTS COMPLETED (VALUING $103,605)

AVERAGE 10 STUDENT AID REQUESTS ARE FILLED DAILY

3,345 BACKPACKS WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED

$924,652 WORTH OF IN-KIND DONATIONS RECEIVED (SUCH AS CLOTHES, HYGIENE ITEMS, ETC.)

136 STUDENTS GIVEN EYE EXAMS/GLASSES & DENTAL EXAMS (VALUING $7,102)
GRANITE EDUCATION FOUNDATION IMPACT REPORT 2018

FINANCIALS

Fiscal Year Ending June 30 2018  2017

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

Contributions $903,074  $399,615
Donated Goods/Services $3,363,353  $2,900,834
Government Grants & Other Grants $134,800  $87,546
Investment Income/Losses $174,158  $248,843
Total Public Support & Revenue $4,575,385  $3,636,838

PROGRAM SERVICES & EXPENSES

Program Services $3,276,934  $3,086,863
Management & General $427,634  $232,756
Development/Fundraising $466,126  $126,678
Total Program Services & Expenses $4,170,694  $3,446,297

NON-AGENT ACCOUNTS

Elementary Schools $260,650  $284,294
Secondary Schools $53,862  $64,051
Scholarships $143,151  $135,275
Other Accounts $37,738  $50,031
Total $495,401  $533,651

REVENUE BY SOURCE (INCLUDING IN-KIND) 2018

SERVICES PROVIDED 2018
Governed by a volunteer board of directors, dedicated individuals give of their time in assuring that the organization fulfills its mission. Through philanthropic contributions, strategic advocacy, and personal networks, the Granite Education Foundation Board of Directors drives the strategic vision of the Granite Education Foundation and furthers the organization’s mission as a catalyst and change agent for innovation, educational advancement, and community support within Salt Lake County communities and the state of Utah.

MISSION
To improve educational outcomes by strengthening the Granite School District community.

This is accomplished through the engagement of business and community partners in the support of Granite School District and the academic achievement of all its students.

VISION
To help prepare Granite District students with opportunities to succeed in higher education, career, and life.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Randy Woodbury — Interim Board Chair
Woodbury Corporation — President

Jose Enriquez
Latinos In Action — CEO

Cindy Formeller
Granite Education Association — Associate Director

Stephanie Gallegos
Dominion Energy — Sr. Account & Community Relations Mgr.

Peter Hoj
Hoj Innovations — President

David James
KUTV 2 News — Sports Anchor

Garrett Laws
Granite Credit Union — Marketing Director

Richard Madsen II
Ray Quinney & Nebeker P.C. — Attorney, Shareholder

Elissa McConkie
LDS Community Resource Services — Sr. Program Specialist

Katharine Newton
Education Advocate

Terri Smith
University Federal Credit Union — Vice President

Paul Terry
O.C. Tanner — Vice President

Jon D. Tingey
Tingey Advisors — Principal
As another year comes to a close, we reflect on the impact made and unimagined growth seen because of each of you. Not to be said lightly; lives were changed. Students were given the resources they desperately need, and teachers the support and praise that all too often goes unsaid. However, there is much more to be done and more growth before us.

As Granite Education Foundation celebrates its 30th anniversary in the 2018–2019 school year, we look forward to the continued growth that will take place, together — because each of you is what makes Granite great.
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Salt Lake City, UT 84115
385.646.KIDS (5437)
To make a donation online
or to get involved visit:
granitekids.org