



MANHATTAN BEACH EDUCATION FOUNDATION
2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT & HONOR ROLL





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Dear Friends of MBEF –

On behalf of the Manhattan Beach Education Foundation, we are delighted to present MBEF's 2023-2024 Annual Report and Honor Roll – a testament to the incredible support and dedication of our community. It is with deep gratitude that we extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your unwavering commitment to the success and excellence of Manhattan Beach public schools.

Over the past year, the incredible generosity of the community has enabled us to continue our mission of enhancing the educational experience for every student in our district. Your contributions will support a wide array of programs and initiatives that foster academic achievement, creativity, and personal growth. From advanced STEAM curriculum and arts education to early literacy programs and social emotional learning activities, your support will make a tangible difference in the lives of our students. We are proud to share the stories of innovation, collaboration, and success that will define the coming year and serve as a testament to what we can achieve together.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to our vision of providing exceptional educational opportunities for all students. With your ongoing support, we are confident that we will overcome challenges and seize new opportunities for continued growth and excellence in our Manhattan Beach schools.

Thank you for your steadfast support and for being an integral part of our success. Together, we are shaping the future, one student at a time.

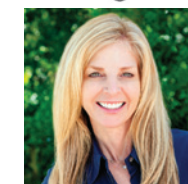
With great appreciation,



Mike Brunick
President, MBEF



Roger Spencer
President, MBEF Endowment



Hilary Mahan
Executive Director, MBEF



The Vision



Sammy
Class of 2031

“ I am so thankful for the STEAM classes and the teachers for helping me find my passion and creative spark. Science is interesting and fun!”

The Manhattan Beach Education Foundation is a community driven fundraising organization, which supplements state funding for programs that inspire learning, enrich teaching, and promote innovation and academic excellence in the public schools of Manhattan Beach.



Great Schools Start with a Strong Foundation

MBEF was founded in 1983 by a small group of parents committed to strengthening Manhattan Beach public schools. School funding was at an all-time low in the state and MBEF became the mechanism for families to direct funding to programs that were threatened by the changes. Since then, MBEF has continued to provide a means for the Manhattan Beach community to invest in superior

public education for all students. The decades of support from MBEF equates to over \$100 Million in directed funding to build a foundation of excellence in our Manhattan Beach schools. The support has evolved over the years into programs that meet the highest standards in visual and performing arts, science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM), literacy and writing, and many more disciplines. Our high-quality schools in Manhattan Beach are the direct result.

Today, our strong public schools are an integral part of our vibrant and dynamic community, but the need for local support to supplement state funding is just as critical as ever. Highly dependent upon volatile state income and sales tax, our public schools still do not receive the consistent level of funding required to provide an exceptional, well-rounded

education that meets the needs of our students.

Donations to MBEF continue to be a significant part of supporting — in small or large part — nearly every academic pursuit and enrichment opportunity across all campuses.



Building a Foundation of Excellence

1980's

THE BEGINNING

The Manhattan Beach Education Foundation (MBEF) is established with \$20,000 in 1983 by parents determined to strengthen school funding after the passage of Proposition 13.

The Endowment Fund is initiated in 1986, spearheaded by forward-thinking families with just \$10,000.

MBEF commits to fund programs that were previously funded by the state, namely music, technology and libraries.

1990's

STEADY GROWTH

The local K-8 school district is unified in 1993, creating the K-12 Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD).

The first-ever Manhattan Wine Auction is introduced as a fundraiser in 1995.

MBEF is one of the first organizations to support Class Size Reduction in a school district with a grant of \$64,000.

2000's

PARADIGM SHIFT

Clear distinctions between MBEF and the school site PTAs are established — MBEF is the only organization to fund educator positions.

The formal concept of the Annual Appeal is introduced with an initial ASK of \$150 per student.

State funding cuts prompt significant layoffs and MBEF initiates a second Appeal, nearly doubling fundraising revenue in 2009.

2010's

STABILITY

Endowment hits \$10 Million and provides the first disbursement of \$116K to supplement the annual grants to MBUSD.

Manhattan Beach voters approve Measure MB, the first parcel tax to directly support community schools with an additional source of local funding.

Later that same decade, the Endowment hits \$20 Million and disburses nearly \$1 Million to support MBEF annual grants.

2020's

MOVING FORWARD

The global pandemic impacts in-person learning across the country and shifts a portion of MBEF funding to support online learning.

MBEF celebrates 40 years and \$100 Million in directed funding to MBUSD for educational positions and programs.

The Seeds of Knowledge Community Recognition Project is unveiled, honoring the vast community support of Manhattan Beach public schools.



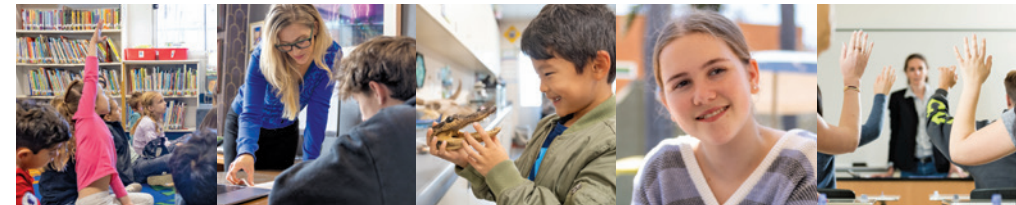
The Need



Niel Leonard
MBMS Science Teacher

“MBEF gives us the opportunity to have smaller class sizes and engage with students in a more individualized manner. This creates enhanced learning opportunities, increased student confidence, and greater academic success overall.”

Our Manhattan Beach schools rank among the best in the state and the country. However, despite high property taxes, our per pupil funding for education is significantly lower than other top-performing districts. Annual donations to MBEF are essential to ensure the enriched education that our parents expect and our students need to succeed.



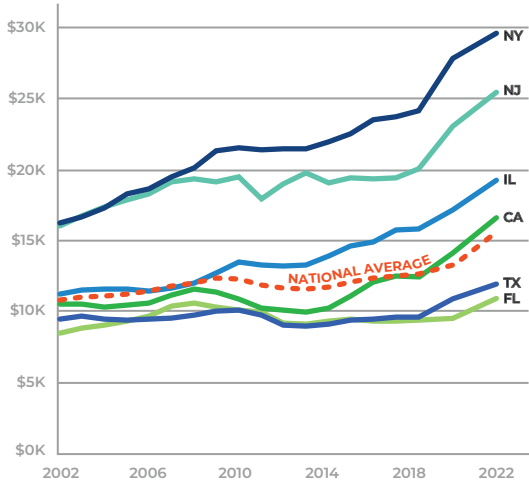
Without additional support from MBEF, many of the robust learning programs and specialized educator positions that contribute to our District’s exceptional education system would be eliminated. These unique opportunities foster 21st-century teaching and learning and challenge our students to think critically.

Decades of Inadequate State Funding
Funding for California public schools has been insufficient for decades, covering only the basics and not the enriched educational opportunities we expect in our community. Once ranked 5th in the nation for per pupil funding, California’s position dramatically declined following

the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978. Proposition 13 restructured education funding by moving the oversight to the state level and introducing income and sales tax as major contributors to the state education budget. At its lowest point, California ranked 48th in per pupil funding in the state.

Over the years, California has gradually increased funding for education, recently surpassing the national average. Depending on the report, California’s per pupil funding now ranks between 19th and 35th, when adjusted for the high cost of living. Due to its heavy reliance on state tax revenue, California’s education funding

HISTORY OF STATE EDUCATION PER PUPIL FUNDING



Data from 2002 to 2022 Public Elementary - Secondary Education Finance Data by U.S. Census Bureau

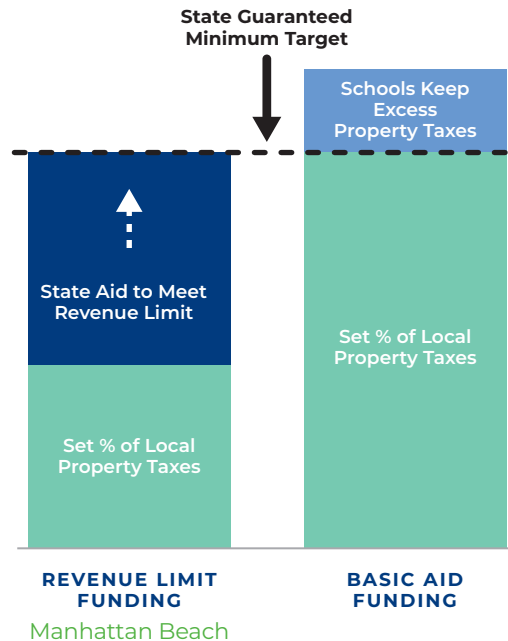
is more volatile than other states – dropping abruptly during recessions and rising fleetingly during economic recoveries. Local funding sources, such as parcel taxes and education foundations, have been crucial to maintaining the consistency and quality of our public schools.

Our Funding Limitations in Manhattan Beach

Despite advancements in California's education funding levels, Manhattan Beach continues to struggle, receiving over \$5,000 below the statewide average before local support. The assumption that our local tax dollars adequately fund public education is woefully inaccurate. Less than 20% of property taxes raised in Manhattan Beach are allocated to fund our local schools, making MBUSD a Revenue Limit district and dependent on state funding to reach the set target.

Basic Aid districts, such as Palo Alto, funded education at a higher level when Proposition 13 was enacted, and therefore receive a larger portion of their local tax dollars. Basic Aid districts retain the excess property tax dollars, resulting in significantly higher per pupil funding. Converting to Basic Aid is a possibility for any district and occurs when the percentage of property tax dollars allocated to education exceeds the per pupil target from the state. In the case of Manhattan Beach, this will likely happen in the next 7-10 years, when local property tax revenues increase to a point where 20% is well above the state distribution, or when more pre-1978 homes change ownership.

REVENUE LIMIT VS. BASIC AID FUNDING



Local Control Funding Formula Supports Equity, Not Adequacy

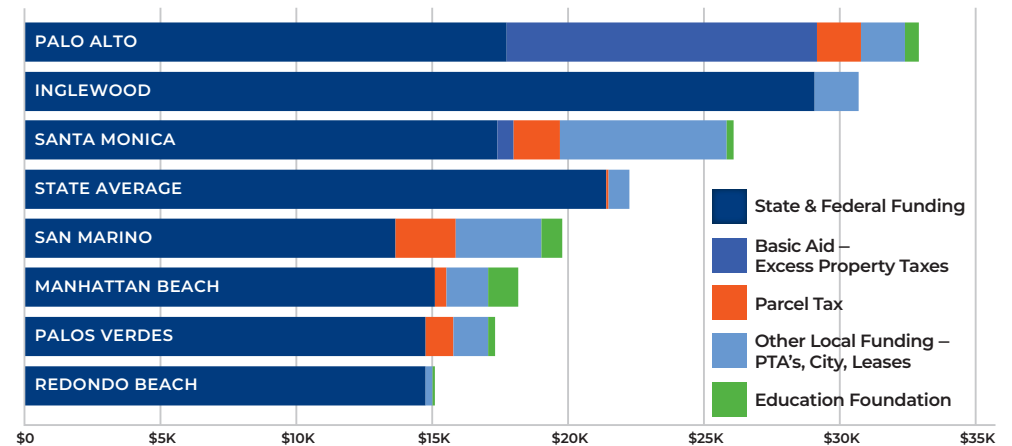
The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), adopted in 2013, aims to provide supplemental support to public school districts with greater numbers of high-need students. These districts require additional funding for programs like Free and Reduced Lunch and English Language Learning. However, in Manhattan Beach and other neighboring districts, very few students qualify for these programs, resulting in minimal supplemental funding. While promoting equity among California students is crucial, the base level of education funding remains inadequate for all students. The chart below illustrates the significant variation in funding among districts and highlights the substantial impact of local support on education funding.

Budget Challenges Remain

Our community has supplemented state funding for over four decades, and still the

need for local support remains constant. Much of the one-time state and federal assistance to overcome learning loss from the COVID-19 pandemic phased out this year, dramatically reducing the per pupil funding. Additionally, California's K-12 student enrollment, already declining due to falling birth rates and net migration, has been further impacted. Since the state funding public schools receive is largely based on attendance and enrollment, districts, including Manhattan Beach, are facing the difficult challenges associated with downsizing. Moreover, the local burden to cover the rising costs of pensions, healthcare, and other mandated services is outpacing state-provided school funding. Parcel taxes, such as the recently passed Measure MB, are helpful, but do not generate enough revenue to bridge the gap. Local support through voluntary donations to MBEF remain critical to meet the needs of our Manhattan Beach students.

CALIFORNIA DISTRICT PER PUPIL FUNDING SOURCE COMPARISON



Data from Ed-Data 22-23 School District Financial Reports



The Impact



Ava
Class of 2026

“Band is so important to me because I am part of a community that shares a love for music, and it is rewarding to contribute to the amazing sounds we make as a team.”

Each year, the results of MBEF’s fundraising success help to maintain reasonable class sizes, rigorous academics, and a breadth of educational experiences to inspire a love of learning from transitional kindergarten through high school.

There are a number of ways MBEF raises funding to support its mission of providing more educational opportunities in our schools. The combination of this support has grown into a multi-million-dollar commitment that has an impressive impact on student learning.

MBEF Funding

- Annual Appeal Campaign
- Endowment Fund Disbursement
- Community Partner Program
- Manhattan Wine Auction and Community Events
- Corporate and Foundation Grants
- Interest Income and Investment Gains

As a community-driven organization, MBEF strives to ensure our grants are reflective of parent and teacher priorities. Each year the MBEF Grants Committee, which includes Board Members representing all school sites, works with district and school leadership, educators, parents and students to identify priorities that are most aligned with MBEF’s mission and grant guidelines for investing in educator positions and programs.

MBEF Grant Guidelines

- Strengthen schools from transitional kindergarten to graduation

- Support academic excellence and personal growth
- Reach as many students as possible
- Achieve parity among all elementary schools
- Promote innovation in teaching and learning
- Align with the priorities of parents and teachers, as well as District goals

We welcome feedback and regularly survey our stakeholders to help determine our strategic direction and funding priorities. While the vast majority of MBEF funding is committed to continuing successful long-term grants and teaching positions, MBEF considers the possibility of expanding or adding new programs if funding allows.

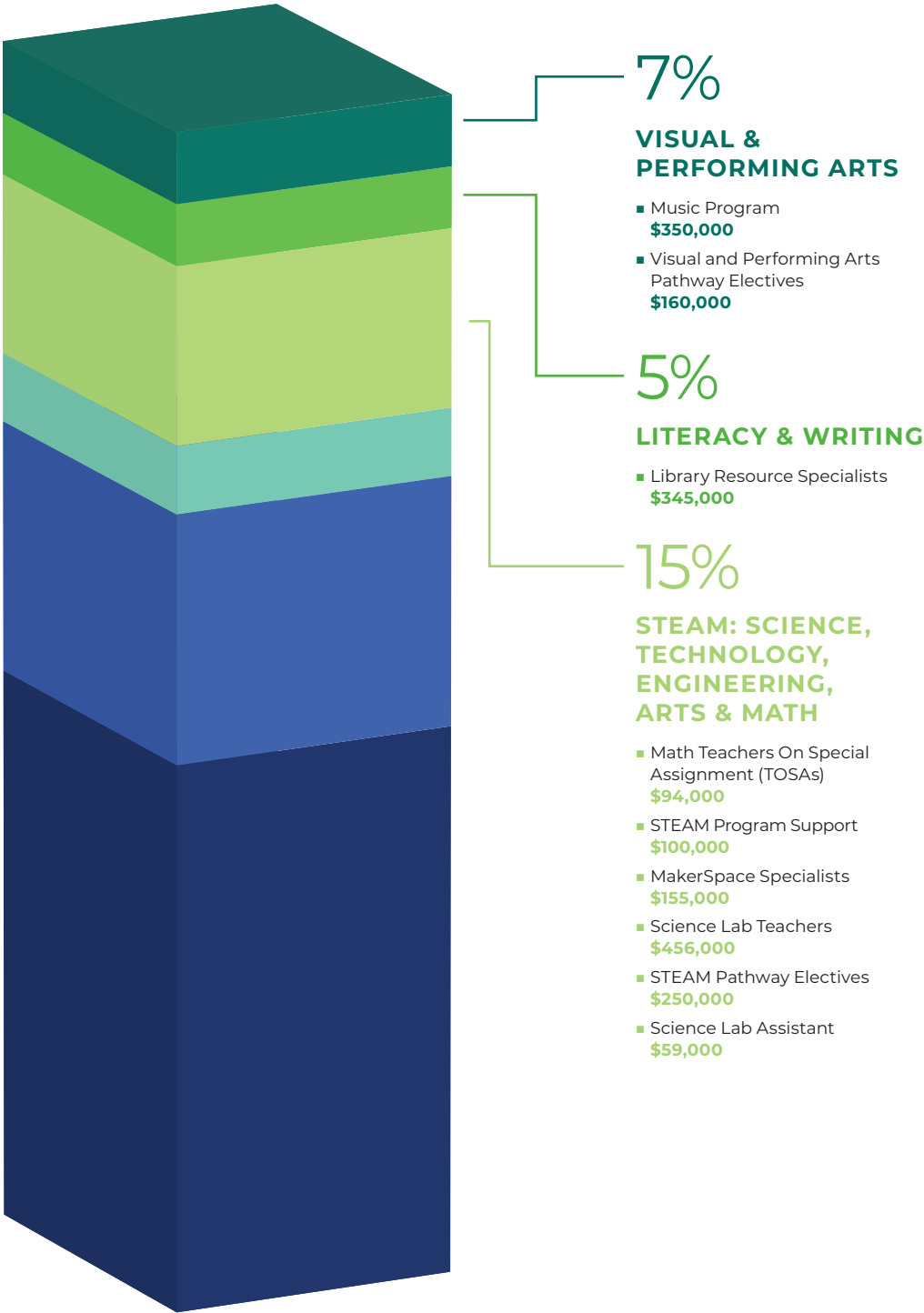
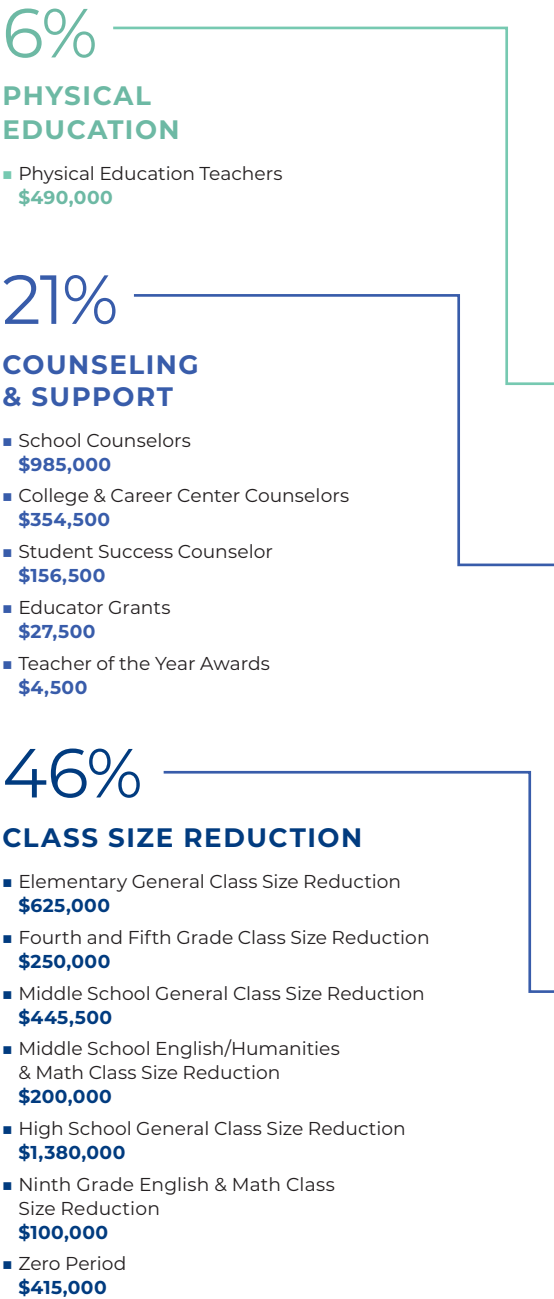
Earlier this year, a bleak state budget threatened many educator positions and enrichment programs for the coming school year. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, MBEF was able to grant \$7.4 Million to sustain programs and maintain excellence in our schools. The 20% increase in grant funding over the prior year preserves our stakeholders’ priorities to maintain reasonable class sizes, rigorous academics, and a breadth of enrichment opportunities as reflected in the 2024-25 grant allocation.

2024-2025

MBEF Grants to Our Schools

\$7.4+ Million

Invested in Educator Positions and Programs





Grants to Our Schools

MBEF's commitment – and 20% increase in funding over the prior year – ensures our students continue to have access to a strong, well-rounded academic program and an array of enrichment opportunities as reflected in the 2024-25 grant programs.

46% Class Size Reduction \$3,415,500

Few educational practices have the potential for greater impact than learning in a classroom with fewer students. Both parents and teachers consistently prioritize the importance of Class Size Reduction (CSR) as instrumental in a student's educational experience. MBEF supports smaller class sizes in general, and allocates significant funding to ensure that the number of students is lower in specific core classes in critical grade levels. With severely diminished state funding this year, MBEF directed more funds to secure reasonable class sizes for all grade levels.

Elementary General Class Size Reduction – \$625,000

State guidelines provide for a maximum of 24 students per class in grades TK-3, but there are no class size guidelines for grades 4-5. MBEF support of CSR in our elementary schools ensures that students are receiving access to differentiated learning in the classroom.

Fourth and Fifth Grade Class Size Reduction – \$250,000

In addition to the Elementary General CSR, MBEF provides funding that ensures an average maximum of 30 students per class in grades 4-5. Students at this age are beginning to identify their strengths, as well as their challenge areas. Keeping class sizes smaller allows teachers to personalize their support of each student to advance their growth and achievement.

Middle School General Class Size Reduction – \$445,500

There are no state guidelines for class size in sixth, seventh or eighth grade, making support from MBEF imperative to ensure

class sizes are below what the limited state funding provides. Without this directed grant from MBEF, all core classes at MBMS would have approximately three more students in each class.

Middle School English/Humanities & Math Class Size Reduction – \$200,000

MBEF directs CSR funding specifically to English/Humanities and Math in grades 6-8 to ensure that the average class size is 30 students or below. The transition to middle school can be challenging, and providing more space for differentiated learning in core subjects ensures our students have the support they need.

High School General Class Size Reduction – \$1,380,000

When there are limited resources to fund teacher positions and no specific state maximums, class sizes increase dramatically in high school. This significant funding directed towards class size at Mira Costa High School reduces the average number of students per class by seven.

Ninth Grade English & Math Class Size Reduction – \$100,000

Ninth grade is a critical juncture as students transition into high school and level up their skills. Accordingly, MBEF directs CSR funding toward reducing class size specifically in English and Math in 9th grade to ensure the average number of students is 30 or below. This provides more individual attention in these critical core subjects to better equip

them with a solid foundation as they progress toward graduation.

Zero Period – \$415,000

This grant provides all high school students with the option to add an extra period to their schedule to fulfill course requirements and benefit from the array of additional elective course options. More than 30% of MCHS students take advantage of the additional period each day.

Counseling & Support

\$1,528,000

Levels of stress, anxiety and depression in students throughout the country are at historic highs. It is more important than ever to provide our students with both the advocates and tools to help recognize and cope with their emotional wellness and academic success. In the 2021 California Healthy Kids Survey, a confidential survey of school climate and safety, student wellness, and youth resiliency, 29% of MBUSD students in grades 7, 9 and 11 had experienced chronic sadness in the past twelve months. A robust school counseling program provides critical social-emotional and academic support to set students on a path for postsecondary success.

School Counselors – \$985,000

Counselors foster a sense of connection on campus, create a positive learning environment, and play an essential role in guiding students in their planning. Research shows that smaller student to counselor ratios support increases in standardized test performance, attendance, GPA and graduation rates, as well as decreased disciplinary infractions. The average student-to-counselor ratio in California schools is exceptionally high at 527:1, well above the American School Counselor Association's recommendation of 250:1. MBEF's growing investment in counseling has played a critical role in adequately supporting the needs of students.

- Three Additional School Counselors at MBMS – 300:1 Student-to-Counselor Ratio
- Four Additional School Counselors at MCHS – 312:1 Student-to-Counselor Ratio



Our counselors have more time to help students set important goals, mentor them on time management and organization, reduce and resolve conflicts, and monitor academic progress.





College & Career Center Counselors – \$354,500

MBEF funds the experts in the MCHS College & Career Center (CCC) who are devoted to helping our high school students navigate the college application process and define post-graduation pathways. From individual counseling and application assessment, to hosting college admission visits and other events on campus, to an abundance of resources and materials on hand at the CCC, this program is an essential part of setting students on a path for postsecondary success. Parents are welcome to take advantage of the extensive CCC services as well, with both day and evening appointments available.

Middle School Student Success Counselor On Special Assignment (COSA) – \$156,500

Middle school is a challenging time that requires significant mentoring and support as students explore their interests

and focus on development. This COSA works on building academic success and a climate of care to better meet the diverse needs of our students at a critical transition in their lives. The Student Success COSA leads programs such as the nationally recognized mentoring program, Where Everybody Belongs (WEB), coordinates professional development for staff, develops learning experiences for all students, and strengthens parent partnerships.

Educator Grants – \$27,500

The MBEF Educator Grant Program supports excellence in our schools by empowering MBUSD educators to implement projects that will enhance teaching and learning throughout the district. The gap from state funding this year forced MBEF to divert the majority of this funding to the highest stakeholder priority of class size reduction. A directed grant from the Siddhartha Family has ensured that all elementary students at each of the five school sites will participate in two cultural arts experiences each year to share in our diverse global cultures. The Educator Grants Program will also continue to fund the districtwide Literacy Bowl at every elementary school and the annual International Day each spring.

Teacher of the Year Awards – \$4,500

Each year, MBUSD recognizes one teacher from each school as the Teacher of the Year, one of whom is selected as the Districtwide Teacher of the Year. All MBUSD Teachers of the Year receive a small monetary award made possible by an endowment fund sponsored by the Nickell Family.

Physical Education

\$490,000

6%

While the state mandates students receive 100 minutes per week of PE, it does not provide funding for physical education teachers. MBEF is proud to support credentialed physical education teachers at our elementary schools to provide high-quality physical education and sportsmanship instruction each week. In addition to the health benefits, research shows that physical activity can help improve concentration, memory, and behavior in the classroom. Funding for certificated PE teachers also ensures that MBUSD classroom teachers can utilize the time each week as lesson preparation time rather than teaching PE themselves.



Literacy & Writing

\$345,000

5%

Literacy is the foundation of all other academic knowledge and skills. Our educators have prioritized personalized literacy support at every level. In addition to the curriculum in the classroom, our students have access to a dedicated campus library with resources to focus on developing this key tenet of learning.



Library Resource Specialists – \$345,000

Having access to a school library and knowing how to use technology to access credible sources provides endless discoveries for students. MBEF supports Library Resource Specialists at the elementary and middle school grade levels to help develop research and media

literacy skills, as well as foster a passion for reading and learning that will serve them throughout their lives. The libraries have become a hub of information on each campus, providing students with a quiet place to read during recess and lunch, and a vibrant center of activity at other times.

STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math

\$1,114,000

15%

Project-based learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) for students at the elementary, middle and high school levels has been a significant priority for our community. The important foundational concepts learned in STEAM-based classrooms and programs promote strategic critical thinking and innovative problem-solving to ensure our students can navigate and engage in a 21st century global society.

Secondary Math Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA) – \$94,000

Our educators are tasked with the challenge of prioritizing student-centered learning, experiential learning and conceptual understanding over the traditional algorithmic set of mathematic principles. MBEF funds a classroom educator to serve as a part-time Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) to collaborate on best practices in instructional design and methods with teachers across the mathematics departments at the middle and high school to foster student success in math districtwide.

STEAM Program Support – \$100,000

Directed funding from Chevron to support curriculum, materials and collaboration related to the implementation of districtwide STEAM programs.

MakerSpace Specialists – \$155,000

The unique MakerSpace environments throughout our elementary schools provide innovative lab experiences for our students in grades TK-5. Empowering students to learn problem-solving skills through trial and error, helps develop their ability to think creatively and visualize solutions. MBEF funds MakerSpace Specialists who support program implementation by preparing materials, facilitating lessons, and organizing the Maker Labs.

Science Lab Teachers – \$456,000

This grant supports credentialed science teachers to provide all elementary students with hands-on lab experiences and project-based learning opportunities that strengthen the passion for science. Trained in nationally recognized Project Lead the Way (PLTW), the specialists engage students in real-world learning

that connects science curriculum with engaging, hands-on activities, projects and problems.

STEAM Pathway Electives – \$250,000

MBEF has been at the forefront of pioneering programs that challenge even our youngest students with hands-on learning in MakerSpace and Science Lab. As students progress to middle school, their passion for STEAM can continue to flourish with new and exciting pathways that will bridge into advanced high school programs. MBEF supports a year-long

STEAM elective for students in grades 7-8 partially funded by Northrop Grumman, as well as a STEAM wheel option with a focus on FabLab, Marine Biology and advanced STEAM specific unit. The options expand into a variety of advanced courses in high school.

Science Lab Assistant – \$59,000

The Science Lab Assistant at MCHS provides critical support for our advanced lab science teachers by preparing materials and resources to make lab instruction organized, efficient and innovative.

70% Visual & Performing Arts \$510,000

A quality visual and performing arts education is an essential part of a comprehensive academic program. Art education fosters lifelong learning skills — creativity, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving — and improves the psychological and creative aptitude of all students. Our students have the option to participate in sequential and comprehensive arts education programs that encourage active learning and a deeper appreciation of the arts. This year, additional funding from California's Proposition 28 will support additional courses and experiences for our students.



Music Program – \$350,000

The District's nationally recognized music program begins in grades 1-5 when students are introduced to a comprehensive music program with instruction in vocal, wind and string instruments. Taught by certificated music instructors, the program fosters a love of music and serves as the foundation for our award-winning middle and high school programs. At the secondary level, students can specialize in the instrument of their choice and participate in a variety of programs.

Visual and Performing Arts Pathway Electives – \$160,000

The enhanced elective program in middle and high school offers students a wide range of options in visual and performing arts. Specialized courses that celebrate the arts, such as Advanced Film, Band, Ceramics, Choir, Cinematic Arts, Drama, Graphic Design, Orchestra, Printmaking, Technical Theater, and Yearbook, are offered to encourage further exploration or proficiency.



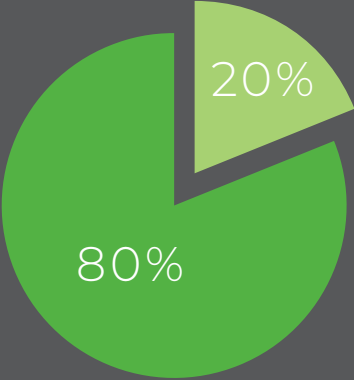
The Endowment

The MBEF Endowment provides MBEF with a continuing and sustainable funding source that will expand and enhance the quality of public education in Manhattan Beach, now and for generations to come.

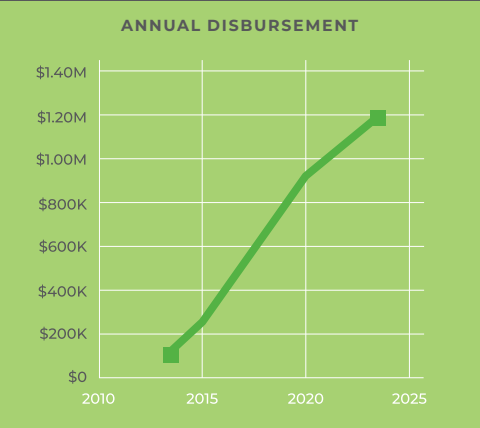
Sustainable Source

Early in its development, the MBEF Board of Directors established the MBEF Endowment Fund as a stable, secure and self-sustaining source of funding. Modeled after university endowments, the goal of MBEF’s Endowment is to serve as a permanent fund to enhance and stabilize the long-term growth of MBEF’s annual contribution to the Manhattan Beach Unified School District. Initiated in 1986 with just \$10,000, it took nearly three

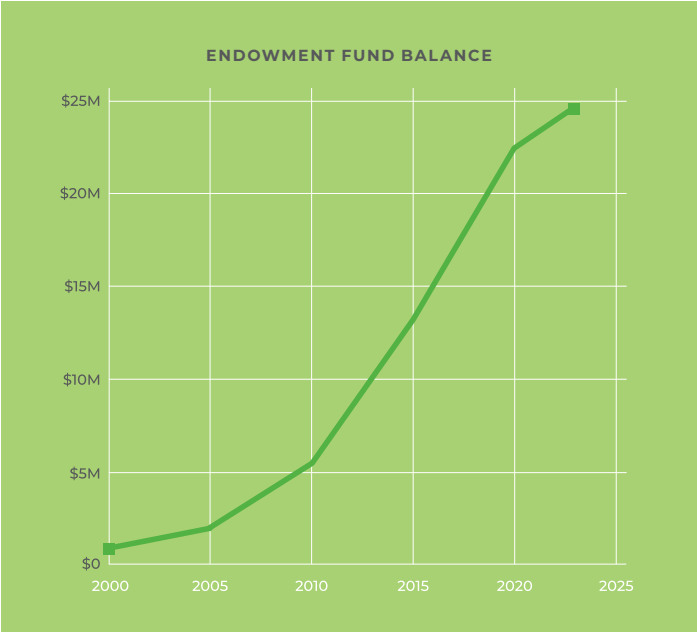
decades before the Endowment crossed the \$10M mark and made its first disbursement of \$116K. Since 2021, the Endowment has disbursed over \$1 Million annually, nearly 20% of the total grant to our schools each year, regardless of fluctuations in the economy or priorities at the state level. As a myriad of challenges continue to face public education in California, the MBEF Endowment will continue to strengthen our schools for years to come.



IMPACT ON ANNUAL GRANT TO MANHATTAN BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



OVER 10X GROWTH IN DISTRIBUTION SINCE THE FIRST IN 2014



GROWTH IN THE ENDOWMENT MEANS GROWTH IN DISBURSEMENT WHILE PROTECTING THE PRINCIPAL



The Successes



Anthony
Class of 2025

“ My counselor has been invaluable in finding my footing at Mira Costa. Her guidance in putting together a rigorous courseload with the right extracurricular activities has been instrumental to my success.”

The Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) prepares students to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing, highly complex, technology-rich, global society. Each school community strives to maximize the unique potential of each student and cultivate the skills essential for lifelong learning. In any given year, our schools are nationally recognized for their successes in academic, programmatic or extracurricular initiatives.

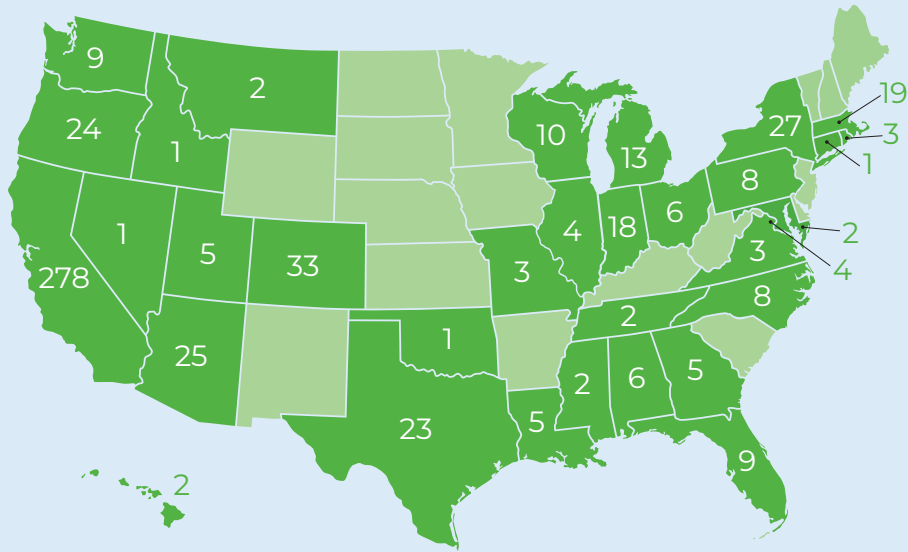


MBUSD hosts LA County and California Teachers of the Year, award-winning Model UN, Music, Robotics and Theater programs, California Distinguished, Gold, Blue, and Green Ribbon schools, highly competitive academic and athletic programs...the list goes on.

MBUSD also takes pride in its commitment to creating safe and welcoming campuses that are reflective of the diverse cultures, as well as responsive to the social and emotional needs of our children. Our students excel because we have an engaged community that is willing to invest in our children's education and future.



Mira Costa High School Class of 2024



ALABAMA (6)

Auburn University / 3
University of Alabama / 3

ARIZONA (25)

Arizona State University / 2
University of Arizona / 23

CALIFORNIA (278)

Academy of the Arts San Francisco / 1
Art Center College of Design / 1
Biola University / 1
Cal Maritime / 1
California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt / 1
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona / 1
California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo / 20
California State University, Bakersfield / 1
California State University, Chico / 3
California State University, Dominguez Hills / 1

California State University, Fresno / 1
California State University, Fullerton / 3
California State University, Long Beach / 2
California State University, Northridge / 3
California State University, San Marcos / 2
Chapman University / 5
Claremont McKenna / 2
Cuesta Community College / 1
Fullerton College / 1
Golden West College / 1
Harvey Mudd College / 1
Loyola Marymount University / 8
Otis College of Art and Design / 1
Pepperdine University / 2
Point Loma Nazarene University / 1
San Diego Miramar

Community College / 1
San Diego State University / 12
San Francisco State University / 1
Santa Barbara City College / 17
Santa Monica City College / 10
Sling Pilot Academy / 1
Southern California Regional Occupational Center / 1
Stanford University / 5
University of California, Berkeley / 18
University of California, Davis / 9
University of California, Irvine / 14
University of California, Los Angeles / 22
University of California, Merced / 2
University of California, Riverside / 2
University of California, San Diego / 3
University of California, Santa Barbara / 24
University of California, Santa Cruz / 6

University of Redlands / 1
University of Southern California / 21
University of The Pacific / 1

COLORADO (33)

Colorado Mesa University / 1
Colorado State University, Fort Collins / 4
Regis University / 1
University of Colorado Boulder / 26
University of Denver / 1

CONNECTICUT (1)

University of Connecticut / 1

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (4)

American University / 1
Georgetown University / 3

FLORIDA (9)

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University / 1
Florida State University / 1
University of Miami / 7

GEORGIA (5)

Savannah College of Art and Design / 1
Spellman College / 2
University of Georgia / 2

HAWAII (2)

Hawai'i Community College / 1
Honolulu Community College / 1

IDAHO (1)

Boise State University / 1

ILLINOIS (4)

DePaul University / 1
Loyola University Chicago / 2
Northwestern University / 1

INDIANA (18)

Indiana University / 16
Purdue University / 2

LOUISIANA (5)

Louisiana State University / 1
Tulane University / 4

MARYLAND (2)

Johns Hopkins University / 1
University of Maryland College Park / 1

MASSACHUSETTS (19)

Berklee College of Music / 1
Boston College / 1
Boston University / 3
College of the Holy Cross / 2
Dean College / 1
Merrimack College / 1
New England Conservatory / 1
Northeastern University / 7

Tufts University / 1
Williams College / 1

MICHIGAN (13)

Michigan State University / 3
Northern Michigan University / 1
University of Michigan / 8
Western Michigan University / 1

MISSISSIPPI (2)

University of Mississippi / 2

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University of Missouri Columbia / 2
Washington University in St. Louis / 1

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Montana State University / 2

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University of Nevada, Reno / 1

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Columbia University / 1
Cornell University / 2
Fashion Institute of Technology / 1
Fordham University / 2
New York University / 4
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Pratt Institute / 1
Rochester Institute of Technology / 1
Sarah Lawrence College / 1
School of Visual Arts / 2
St. Lawrence University / 1
Syracuse University / 6
United States Military Academy at West Point / 1

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University of North Carolina, Asheville / 1
Wake Forest University / 4

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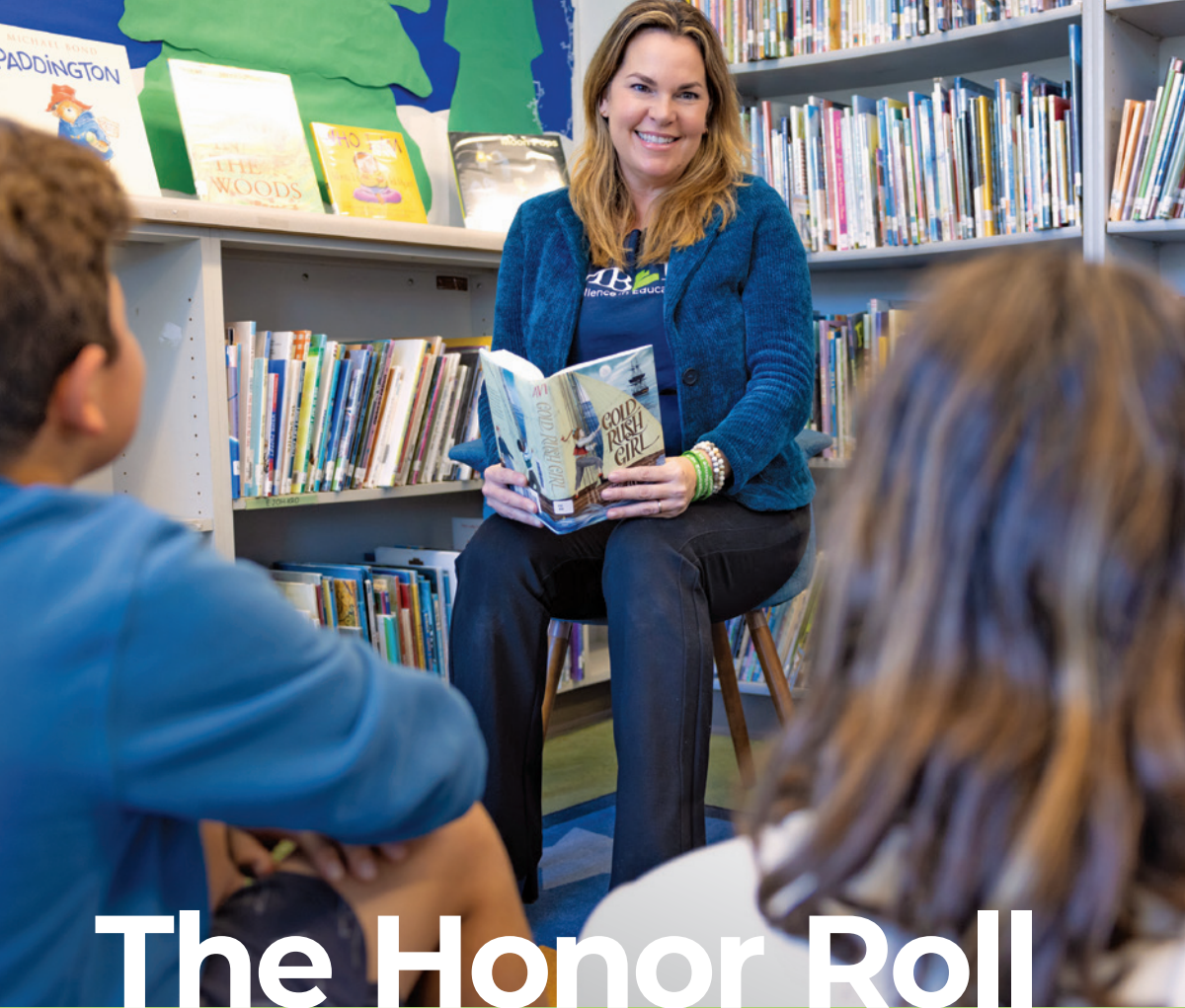
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The American University of Paris / 1

SPAIN (1)

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus / 1

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MCHS Counselor

“With our counseling team fully staffed and our caseloads lowered, we have been able to provide a more personalized approach and build stronger connections with our students and their families.”

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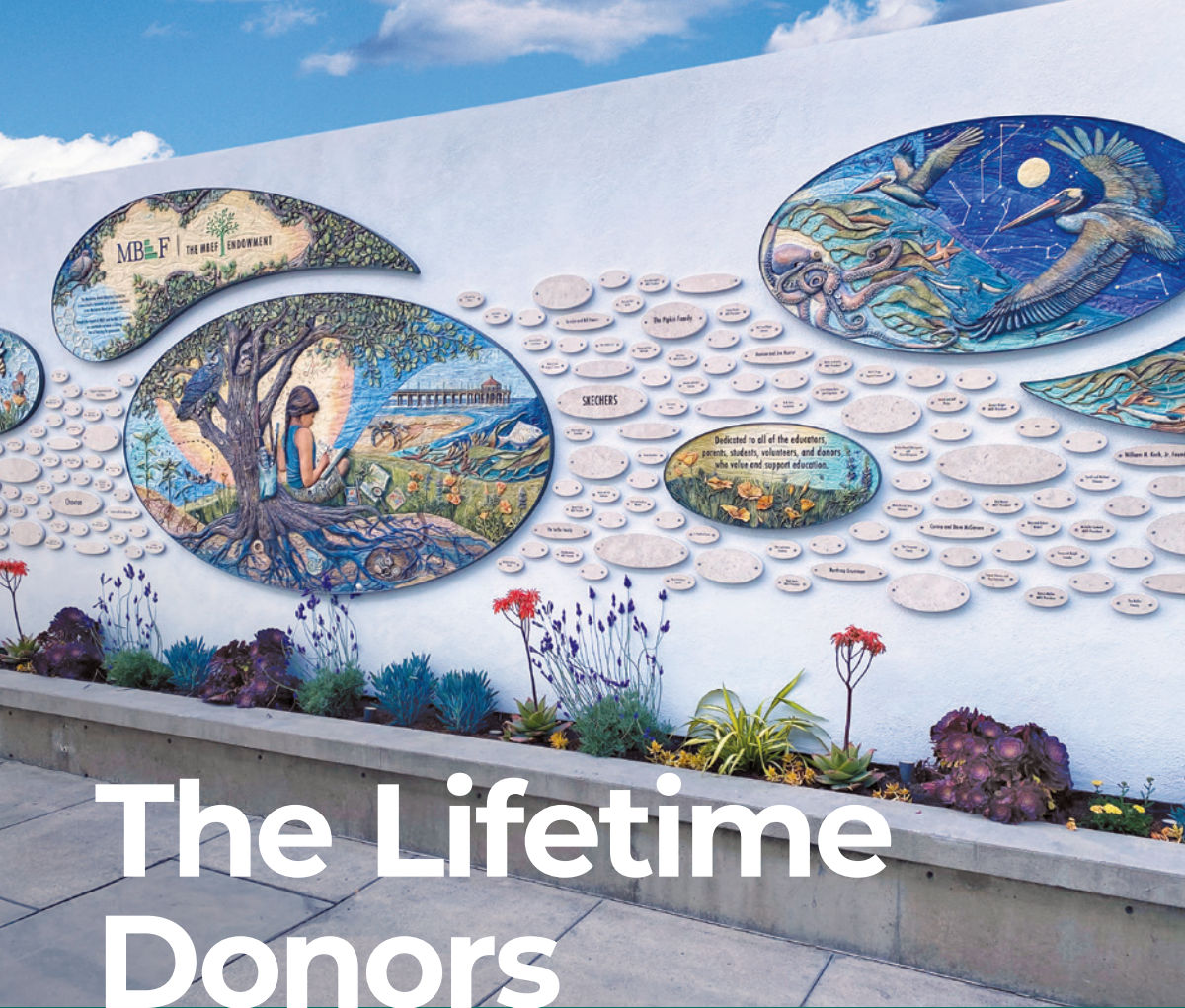
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“ Art class is the peak of my day, letting me express my thoughts and ideas with color.”

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- Wine Storage Management



Community Events



Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair

MBEF participated in the 51st Annual Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair on October 7-8, 2023 to share information on MBEF's impact on teaching and learning through our grants to Manhattan Beach schools. Passersby were invited to meet the educators who help strengthen the educational journey for students — Library Resource Specialists read books aloud and MakerSpace Specialists built paper circuits with visitors.



Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk

The 15th Annual SKECHERS Pier to Pier Friendship Walk presented by Kinecta Federal Credit Union took place on October 29, 2023, bringing together families and friends from the community to walk from pier to pier in support of our local schools and children with special needs. The event has raised over \$24 Million since its inception, with over \$3 Million dedicated to local education foundations in 2023, including \$245,000 for MBEF.



POWERED BY EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



TEDx Manhattan Beach

x = independently
organized TED event

TEDx Manhattan Beach

The 13th Annual TEDxManhattanBeach held on November 4, 2023 captured the attention of over 1,000 members of the South Bay community. As a founding partner, MBEF has helped TEDx bring inspirational and innovative talks to the entire community. This year, MBEF Student Ambassadors were on-hand in the EXPO to share how they are powered by excellence in education and the impact MBEF funded programs has on them personally during their educational journey.

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS

All Seasons Skincare
The Arthur J
Beach by Everything
But Water
Beach Cities Optometry,
Inc.
Beehive
Bella Beach Kids
Bespoke by Chase
Blue Diamond Jeweler
Bo Bridges Gallery
Culture Brewing Co
The Downtown
Manhattan Beach
Farmers' Market
El Sombrero #1
Esperanza
Fishing With Dynamite
Gelato and Angels
Go Gently Nation
Growing Wild
Gum Tree Manhattan
Beach
Hammitt
Health Nut
Hennessey's Tavern
the Hook & Plow
John Post Gallery
Katwalk
Laird
Look Optometry
Love & Salt
Mangiamo
Manhattan Denim
Margaret O'Leary
MB Post
Nando
Nati Boutique
Noelle Interiors
(pages) a bookstore
Paradise Bowls
Pasha Fine Jewelry
Petros
Presotea
Rock'N Fish
Salt & Straw
Simmzy's
Skechers
Slay Italian Kitchen
Slay Steak & Fish House
Spyder Surf MB
The Strand House
Tabula Rasa Essentials
Uncorked
Waterleaf
Waverly
Wrights
zinc@shade



Support Our Schools Day

MBEF's annual Support Our Schools Day, in partnership with the Downtown Manhattan Beach Business and Professional Association, took place March 20, 2024 with over 50 businesses in downtown Manhattan Beach offering a portion of their sales to support our schools through MBEF. Community members dined and shopped to support our local businesses, MBEF and our schools, raising over \$15,000.



Rock the ASK

The inaugural Rock the ASK celebration, a complimentary donor appreciation event for volunteers and select Annual Appeal contributors, was hosted by MBEF partner, Kinecta, on March 16, 2024 with over 500 guests in attendance. Donors who committed to support the 2023-2024 Annual Appeal with a donation that met the ASK of \$2,000 per student enjoyed an outdoor concert event with live music from the Spazmatics presented by Saint Rocke and a selection of food and beverages from our partners.

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS

Saint Rocke

kinecta 
banking done different

Buzzrock Brewing Co.
Colin Cowherd's The Herd Beers
El Segundo Brewing Company
Fresh Brothers
Gray Whale Gin
The Habit Burger Grill
Hermosa Brewing Company
The Hidden Sea
Lazy Acres Natural Market
Nosotros Tequila & Mezcal
Raising Cane's El Segundo
Tito's Handmade Vodka



Gator Run

The 27th Annual Exer Urgent Care Grand View Gator Run benefitting MBEF took place on June 2, 2024 with over 500 participants districtwide enjoying a new route through the streets of Manhattan Beach. The annual event has evolved into a wonderful tradition that has unified our school community for over two decades. Thank you to the Grand View Elementary PTA for their generosity in donating the sponsorship proceeds of over \$25,000 to support all of the Manhattan Beach public schools.

MANHATTAN



20
24

30TH ANNUAL

SATURDAY JUNE 8

The 30th Annual Manhattan Wine Auction — one of the most prestigious fundraising events in southern California — was a tremendous success raising **\$1.4 Million net for our schools.**

A sold-out crowd of 2,250 guests sampled provisions from over 50 South Bay restaurants and sipped wines, spirits and beer from over 80 wineries, distilleries and breweries from throughout the state. We are incredibly grateful for the community's continued investment in education and dedication to the success of this iconic event that has grown tremendously over the past three decades.

LEGACY AWARD

The Manhattan Beach Education Foundation Legacy Award celebrates individuals who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to leadership, philanthropy, and the MBEF mission. First introduced in 2020, the Legacy Award honors those who have had an immeasurable impact on our public schools and our community.



This year, the MBEF Board of Directors was pleased to honor John Oshiro as the recipient of the 2024 MBEF Legacy Award. Since his initial involvement in the 1990's, John has led by example serving in various capacities as an MBEF Board Member, a member of the Wine Advisory Board, and three-time Wine Auction Chair. In addition to generously giving of his time and talents, he and his wife Jeanne have donated over 850 bottles of wine to the Manhattan Wine Auction over the past 25 years. MBEF and the Manhattan Beach school community would not be where we are today without his immense commitment and dedication.

WINE AUCTION COMMITTEE

Jake Dax, Event Chair
Ralph Canada
Tammy Choy
Kathy Clarke
Michael Cohen
Adam Craun
Rachel Disser
Bill Dramis
Melissa Eyer
Rachel Ezra
Mike Fach
George Fansmith
Garret Giglia
Michele Graeler
Dee Hamby
Jeanna Harkenrider
Dana Hartmann
Heather Interian
Rich Janson
Kristal Lane, Restaurant Chair
Jen Linney, Auction Co-Chair
Dana Lupton
Mark Maruyama
Ashley McCarthy
Cas Milewski
Kelly Moyzes
Wimberly Myers
Amy Pearce
Lisa Peña
Kate Pennino
Adam Quarello, Wine Chair
Lisa Quarello, Auction Co-Chair
Alison Quinn
Matt Riley
Nathalie Rosen
Jennifer Shniderson
Justin Solomon
Roger Spencer
Brent Sprenkle
Praveen Thadhani
Liz Tyndorf
Karen Van Cleave
Alex Yoffe



EVENT HOST



FOUNDING SPONSOR



ESTATE SPONSORS



THE WITCOMBE FAMILY



VISTA SPONSORS



J.P.Morgan

KIRKLAND & ELLIS

CELLAR SPONSORS



THE HOTT FAMILY



CABERNET/ FAMILY TABLE SPONSORS

1st Century Bank

Abbracci Med Spa

AdMax Local

Arneson, Balagia, Beregovsky,
Weitzman and Wood Families

Balfour Beatty and DLR Group

Barker, Cunningham, DeRenzis,
MacDonald, Megaw and
Quarello Families

Beale Lauridsen Family

Beatty, Hawkins, Jones, Lohrey, and
Zorb Families

Boros, Congdon, Holzman, Lahoud
and Slagle Families

Burrin, Gale, Kralis, Lupton and
Schwartz Families

City of Manhattan Beach

Doherty, Fouladgar, Fundingsland,
Smith, and Weinstein Families

Dust Liesy Family

Eclipse Recreational Vehicles, Inc.

LAcarGUY

LA Chargers

Michail, Norville, Parkes,
Roshan-Zamir and Sung Families

The Nickerson and Pennino Families

Spectrum Capital, LLC

MAJOR IN-KIND SPONSORS



IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

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westdrift Manhattan Beach

Ken Pagliaro Photography



COMMUNITY WINE DONORS

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Kaliee and Terence Balagia
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Chris and Geoffrey Bremer
Tanja and Ralph Canada
Steve Danziger
Angela and Jake Dax
Faith and Tom Derbyshire
Courtney and William Dramis
Annie and Amir Fouladgar

Kim and John Friedman
Rita Moorman and Adam Goldston
Courtney and Barry Hill
Justine and Andrew Hunter
Gretchen and Rich Janson
Wanda and Chuck Kaminski
Pat and Richard Lucy
Ashley and Brian Magovern
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Valerie and Paul Mellinger
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Jeanne and John Oshiro
Sally and Jason Peel

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April and Roger Spencer
Brent Sprenkle
Hansni and Praveen Thadhani
Sheryl Rooker and Jeff Thaler
Virginia Sogomonian and Rich Weiss
Kristen and Alex Yoffe

LIVE AUCTION DONORS

Advanced Air
Aperture Wines
Ashley McCarthy and Bret Barker
The Bay Club – Fairbanks Ranch
Bespoke by Chase
Blue Diamond Jeweler
Chris and Geoffrey Bremer
Tanja and Ralph Canada
Chateau de Pommard
Chevron
Comstock Wines
Angela and Jake Dax

Diamond Creek Vineyards
El Negocio
Epoch Estate Wines
Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa
Fe Wines
Four Seasons Resort and Residences Cabo San Lucas at Cabo Del Sol
Kim and Jon Friedman
Gestalt Wine Company
Hotel Britomart
Justine and Andrew Hunter
Hyde de Villaine
Gretchen and Rich Janson

Melissa and Jackson Kalb, Jemma di Mare
Wanda and Chuck Kaminski
La Cienega Vineyard
The Landing
The Landing Wines
Chef David LeFevre
Lido Bakery
Los Angeles Kings
Pat and Richard Lucy
Ashley and Brian Magovern
Debbi Tippet and Tom Mahr
Chef Alice Hua Mai
MB Fireworks Association

Medlock Ames
Valerie & Paul Mellinger
Memento Mori
Montage Healdsburg
The Honorable Richard Montgomery
Morlet Family Vineyards
Kelly and Edward Moyzes
Nando Trattoria
Jeanne and John Oshiro
OUTFRONT
Tiffany and David Quick
Michelle and Greg Rosen
Simms Restaurant Group
Simon Family Wines

Gale and David Slay
SoFi Stadium
Sojourn Cellars
South Bay Ford
April and Roger Spencer
Brent Sprenkle
Stanly Ranch Auberge Resort
Sheryl Rooker and Jeff Thaler
Vega Sicilia
Vineyard 7 & 8
Virginia Sogomonian and Rich Weiss



RAISE YOUR PADDLE IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATORS

Our Manhattan Beach schools are known for being exceptional — not only because of the opportunities and classes that are offered, but because of the people who teach them. These are the role models who dedicate themselves to inspire and empower our children to learn.

Recent cuts forced by the limited state budget threatened to impact the experiences our students have in school for the coming year. Together, our community raised an additional \$315,000 for the Annual Appeal to ensure that dozens of educators remained in the classroom, helping all students to reach their full potential and achieve their dreams.

\$100,000+

Chevron

\$50,000+

ABAR Foundation

\$5,000+

Lisa Bennet
Meghan and Grover Geiselman
Audra and Mike Hatch
Dana and Keith Lupton
Colleen and CJ Pipkin
Susan and Todd Purdy
Tiffany and Dave Quick
Donna and Gary Rosenthal
Lan and Desmond Shirazi
Ronnie and Adam Sullins
Kathryn and Scott Withycombe

\$2,500+

Ashley McCarthy and Bret Barker
Dr. Alice Kuo and Dr. John Chang
Angela and Malcolm Davies
Courtney and Bill Dramis
Nadine and Gary Flam
Kimberly and Matthew Friesl
Jennifer Pham-Hott and Douglas Hott
Kelly and Scott Irwin
Stephanie and Mark Maruyama
Kristin and Nathan Megaw
Lisa and Adam Quarello
Leah and Greg Rodgers
Alison and Scott Rosenthal
April and Roger Spencer

\$1,000+

Liz Gallucci Bird
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Emily and Mike Brunick
Lorelei and Jason Chao

Jennifer and John Cochran
Maribeth and Ben Cunningham
Angela and Jacob Dax
Heather and Dirk de Roos
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Michelle and Alan Franz
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Cathey and Tim Graves
Marian Guirguis and Emad Georgy
Leena Rao and Suneel Gupta
Shannon Ward and Cameron Hull
Trisha and Michael Husson
Caroline and Douglas Johnson
Kimberly and Christopher Jones
Kate and Britt Joyce
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Emily and Ryan Kaplan
Pinky and Jim Kottoor
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Romina and Jeffrey Manson
Valerie and Paul Mellinger
Marissa and Ben Messer
Lauren and Scott Moffat
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Sally and Jason Peel
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Tara and Matthew Riley
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Melissa and Rod Spiegel
Kathy and Chris Stahl
Wesley Steffens, Vineyard 7 & 8
Sheryl and Jeff Thaler

Elisabeth and Michael Unton
Wysh and Dan Weinstein

\$500+

Kerry Riccio Agüero
Shannon and Terry Boyle
Vanessa Beer and Gabriel Brakin
Irene Gonzalez-Castillo and John Castillo
Christine and Harrison Clay
Stacey and Bill Corvalan
Jennifer and Bryan Croft
Lana Choi and Kurt Decko
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Stephanie and Rupert Parkes
Nathalie and Jim Rosen
Lisa and Afshin Safa
Jean Slater
Lisa and Tom Stekol
Varona Nikore and Bhavik Thakkar
Janet Ray and Geoffrey Wells

Emily and Michael Wells
Shannon and Michael Williams
Bea and Larry Zimbalist

\$499 AND UNDER

Lauren and Erik Benny
Lauren and Kasey Burke
Diana and Radu Coman
Brenda and Chris Diep
Stephanie and Ori Dugary
Claire and Juan Carlos Durand
Anna and Darrin Frankel
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Jennifer Huynh
Melissa and Sal Iacono
Lauren and Michael Johnson
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Christy and Andy Kubitz
Jessica and Bryan LaCour
Lemonade Stand Kids / Pacific 4th Graders
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Ellen and Alex Lubman
Kristen Lukas
Hava and Jason Manasse
Lauren and Ryan Miller
Diane and Richard Montgomery
Jennifer and Alejandro Otero
Bonnie and David Schwartz
Diana and David Skaar
Liz and Tim Tyndorf
Lena and Bryan Vann

SAVE THE DATE



Manhattan
Wine Auction

SATURDAY
MAY 31, 2025

BENEFITTING THE
MANHATTAN BEACH EDUCATION FOUNDATION
ENDOWMENT

The Results

MBEF undergoes a comprehensive audit each year and maintains an Audit Committee comprised of MBEF Board Members and independent finance professionals.

For effective planning, the results of fundraising efforts in any year fund the grants of the following year — meaning that the donations raised from the 2023-24 Annual Appeal will fund the programs in the upcoming 2024-25 school year.

All donations to MBEF and the MBEF Endowment are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Below is a detailed account of the 2023-2024 unaudited financials. Audited financial statements from previous years are available on the MBEF website at www.mbef.org.

MBEF's strong financial health, accountability and transparency has earned the highest honors from both Charity Navigator and Candid.

FUNDING SOURCES RAISED IN THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR*

Individual Contributions	\$ 3,940,895
Corporate and Foundation Grants	\$ 660,704
Corporate Matching Gifts	\$ 422,019
Community Partners & Sponsorships	\$ 352,818
MBEF Endowment Annual Disbursement	\$ 1,202,161
Manhattan Wine Auction & Events**	\$ 317,443
Interest, Investment Gains & Other	\$ 468,150
Total Funding	\$ 7,364,190

2022-23 EXPENSES*

Fundraising	\$ 550,892
Management & General	\$ 244,769
Total Expenses	\$ 795,661

GRANTS DISTRIBUTED FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR FROM 2022-23 FUNDING SOURCES*

Grants & Program Services	\$ 6,087,500
Classroom Educator Material Grants	\$ 22,939
PTA Program Grants	\$ 27,405
Total Grants	\$ 6,137,844

*Unaudited Results **Majority of MWA Proceeds Benefit the MBEF Endowment



All donations to MBEF and the MBEF Endowment are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The 2024-2025 Leadership

The MBEF and Endowment Boards of Directors consist of community leaders, PTA Presidents, local entrepreneurs, educational leaders and parents who are dedicated to the MBEF mission and support the foundation’s fundraising, stewardship and grant management efforts. Site and Student Ambassadors build important awareness and support of MBEF’s Annual Appeal campaign at each school.

MBEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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Vice President

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Treasurer

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MBEF AND ENDOWMENT STAFF

Hilary Mahan
Executive Director

David Brennan
Development Director
Anna Frankel
Donor Relations Coordinator
Marian Guirguis
Community Relations Director
Kathleen Hughes
Communications Manager
Joni Ramallo
Financial Consultant

SITE AMBASSADORS

Grand View Elementary School
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Chase Cairncross

Meadows Elementary School
Kat Harwood
Emily Mitchell

Pacific Elementary School
Kirsten Chen
Maribeth Cunningham

Pennekamp Elementary School
Emily Arneson
Chelsea Weitzman

Robinson Elementary School
Tracie Lundie
Lisa Quarello

Manhattan Beach Middle School
Michele Graeler
Kate Pennino

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Anthony Padnos
Lead Ambassador
Spencer Stone
Lead Ambassador
Hudson Sagadevan

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

We would like to thank the following MBEF and Endowment Board Members who have reached the end of their term for their service and dedication to the MBEF vision of excellence in our schools.

Tisha Anderson
Ankur Batheja
Patricia Doumeng
Kelly Gordan
Cindy Marian
Keith Lupton
Pennie Stepczyk

Join The Effort

Ask

For general information regarding MBEF and its mission to impact Manhattan Beach public schools, contact MBEF at communications@mbef.org.

Donate

Visit www.MBEF.org for more information on how to donate to MBEF's Annual Appeal or the Endowment.

Partner

For information on partnering with MBEF as a Community Partner, contact Development Director David Brennan at david@mbef.org.

Volunteer

For information on volunteering for MBEF, contact Community Relations Director Marian Guirguis at marian@mbef.org.

Serve

For information on serving on the MBEF Board of Directors, contact Executive Director Hilary Mahan at hilary@mbef.org.

Follow Us





Manhattan Beach Education Foundation
P.O. Box 1110, Manhattan Beach, CA 90267-1110

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