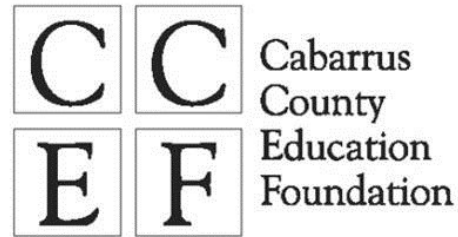


# CCEF ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

2015—2016



## HISTORY

The brainchild of Grace Mynatt and the late Roy Davis of S&D Coffee and Tea, the Cabarrus County Education Foundation (CCEF) was established to connect students, teachers and the Cabarrus County community. As Ben Franklin stated, “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.” And that is what CCEF does—invests in providing extraordinary opportunities for CCS students to gain knowledge and experiences that would not be funded through normal funding sources.

In the beginning, CCEF funded the Direct Instruction Reading Program which targeted students who were non-readers or below level readers in the primary grades, as well as the school district’s Spelling Bee, the Superintendent’s Choice Art Awards and a spring luncheon celebrating first year teachers in Cabarrus County public schools. CCEF hired its first Executive Director, Rachel Wilkes in 2014 to expand CCEF’s impact on students by providing resources to teachers. During this time, CCEF’s classroom grant program doubled in size and the First Generation College Scholarship Program was started.

Upon Rachel’s resignation in early 2016, the CCEF sought a new Executive Director and selected Amy Gough to fill this role. With her extensive experience in marketing and nonprofit leadership, CCEF is seeking to put in place the organizational structures and new programs needed to exponentially increase our impact on CCS students and staff.

## Mission

Providing resources for educators while fostering student excellence in Cabarrus County Schools.

"I support the Foundation because I believe strongly in public education in Cabarrus County. I received a superb education in our public schools as did our sons, and we have grandchildren in the school system. My challenge to all of us who know the value of an educated mind is to support the foundation."

**Roy Davis Jr. (1933-2011)**  
*S&D Coffee and Tea*

"The world our children live in demands the highest quality education we can provide. I hope you will join me in making the Foundation's dreams come true."  
**Grace Mynatt - Commissioner,**  
**Cabarrus County**  
*CCEF Immediate Past President*

## THE YEAR MADE POSSIBLE BY YOU

Dear Friends,

This past year has visibly shown that you are who make the Cabarrus County Education Foundation! With Rachel's departure to Sara serving as interim Executive Director to my hiring and start in May, one thing has remained constant—you!

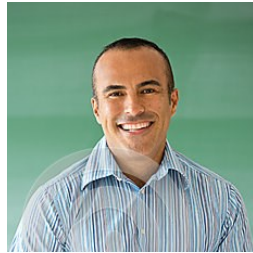
Many may not realize that CCEF is celebrating its 15th year of partnering with businesses and individuals in Cabarrus County to invest and impact the students and staff of Cabarrus County Schools.

### 1—15 YEARS OF SUCCESS



STUDENTS  
IMPACTED

50,000



TEACHERS  
ENCOURAGED

25,000



DOLLARS  
INVESTED

\$100,000

But we won't be stopping there—growth is on the horizon. We are dreaming of new ways to impact even more students, new ways to encourage the growing CCS staff, and new ways to build our community support. To make these dreams come true, we will need even more support from our community—volunteers. Make sure you are connected to one of our communication methods—newsletter, website, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn—to keep up -to-date on the latest happenings. We will need you to make this future happen!

Thank you for partnering with CCEF!

*Amy Gough*

## READY, SET & LEARN

### Classroom Grants Supported by You

#### PORTRAITS OF HOPE



Portraits of Hope provides a loving one-of-a-kind gift for a child in a Peruvian orphanage.

Students in Ms. Gaimari's class at Cox Mill High School were given the opportunity to give back to others through the use of their talents. Visual Arts II students created portraits for children living in an orphanage in Peru! Funds from the CCEF classroom grant purchased supplies for creating the portraits and postage to send the art pieces to the orphanages.

First, students learned about the country of Peru creating poster boards to share their new found knowledge. Then they received a picture of a child in the orphanage.

As students went through the various steps to create the portrait, they became more

attached to their subject. Eliza Johnson shared, "The Portraits of Hope project gave me a new perspective on how people in other countries live. Through the project, I was able to give back to a child who I never met; however, I felt a connection to Eliza, my subject. Though we live very different lives and live many miles apart, I won't ever forget Eliza and the opportunity I had to create an artwork that would make her happy."

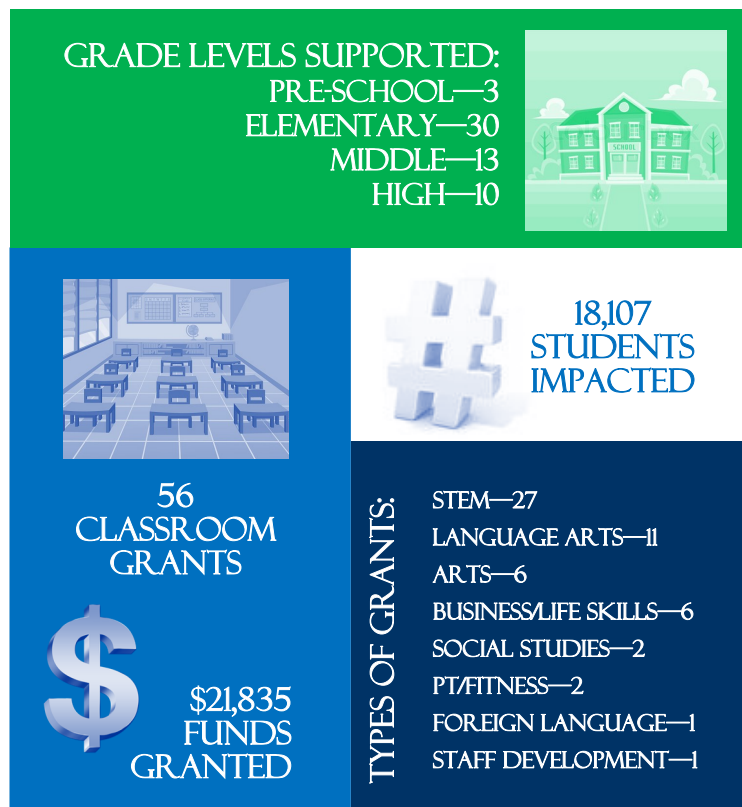
Ms. Gaimari wrapped up the project by saying, "This grant provided a once in a life time experience for my students! They are still talking about it today."

#### CREATING LOVERS OF READING

Often times, it can be difficult to inspire students to read. But in April 2016, this all changed at Charles E. Boger Elementary School when Margaret Cuthbertson, a second grade teacher and reading specialist, opened Cabarrus County School's first free "little library". She wanted to provide students with 365/24/7 access to books.

To bring her idea to life, she applied to the CCEF classroom grant program to purchase supplies, paint, books and register the charter for the library. First grade student Peyton Brozowski submitted the winning design, a smiling lighthouse, in the school-wide competition to be painted on the library. A parent volunteer and several local boy scouts constructed the library. The students are excited for their new Little Library and can't wait to get their next book!

#### GRANTS AT A GLANCE





## 2015-2016 CLASSROOM GRANT RECIPIENTS

Recipient	Grant Topic
Mayra Acevedo—Winecoff Elementary	Spanish Alphabet/Number
Teresa Aldridge—Lockhart	Getting a Head Start on Handwriting
Howard Blackwelder—Wolf Meadow Elementary	Butterfly Garden
Melissa Brantley—WM Irvin Elementary	Resources for Readers
Tami Brantley—CC Griffin Middle	Economic Systems
Bryan Brashear—CC Griffin Middle	Outdoor Learning Lab Part 2
Connie Brittain—Harrisburg Elementary	Move-It While Reading
Jonathan Caskey—CC Griffin Middle	Space in the Room
Jonathan Caskey—CC Griffin Middle	Outdoor Learning Lab Part 1
Mary Christ - Jay M Robinson High	The Breakfast Club
Katherine Clymer - Harold Winkler Middle	Engaging Reluctant Readers with Graphic Novels
Kate Culbreth - WM Irvin Elementary	Mad About Meteorology
Margaret Cuthbertson - Charles E Boger Elementary	Little Libraries
Stephanie Davis—CC Griffin Middle	We Are Conquerors!
Debra Diegmann—Harrisburg Elementary	Exploration in Chinese Paper Cutting
Julie Doby—Long School	Handwriting without Tears
Gaye Durham—Jay M. Robinson High	Redesign, Recreate, Reconnect, Part 2
Emily Francis—WM Irvin Elementary	We Both Read!
Bethany Graham-Franklin—Wolf Meadow Elementary	Supporting Behavioral Interventions
Susan Frazier—Winecoff Elementary	Future Scientists
Danielle Gaimari—Cox Mill High	Portraits of Hope
Angela Gardner—Harrisburg Elementary	Going Gardening
Mark Girona—Northwest Cabarrus High	Modeling Chemical Equations
Nicole Harwood—Mount Pleasant Elementary	Let's Get Charged Up!
Jessica Hendley & Melanie Fortner—Mary Frances Wall Center	How to Make Chaos Stop: Strategies for Preschool Classrooms
Sara Hicks—Wolf Meadow Elementary	Force & Motion Exploration at Charlotte Motor Speedway
Kate Honan—Opportunity School	Investigating Tiny Organisms through Photography
Joe Hudson—Harold Winkler Middle	Horticulture Club Habitat Restoration
Julie Johnson—Beverly Hills Elementary	NC Time Travel
Julie Johnson—Beverly Hills Elementary	Little People Big World
Garrett Jordan—CC Griffin Middle	At Home Meteorology
Lindsay Landers—Central Cabarrus High	Raku Firings
Jessica MacNair—CC Griffin Middle	Orchestrating Outreach
Lauren McCaskill—Pitts School Road Elementary	Making 21st Century Learners in the Maker Space
Christine Nelson—Carl A. Furr Elementary	Science for All
Elaine O'Connor—WM Irvin Elementary	Learn to Read, Read to Learn
Julie Phillips—Patriots STEM Elementary	Bouncing Our Way to Brilliance
Christy Pieper—Central Cabarrus High	Expanding Engineering
Dana Ramseur—Central Cabarrus High	Heroes Hangout @ Viking Media Center
Ashley Rapier—Rocky River Elementary	Robot Invasion
Jessica Reid—WR Odell Elementary	Innovation Station in your Media Center
Jessica Reid—WR Odell Elementary	WROD Breaking News!
Paul Satenstein—Concord High	Drafting 1 Robot/Architecture 2 Design
Elizabeth Schriver—WR Odell Elementary	Show and Share with PBLs
Laura Shepherd—Harris Road Middle	Jazzed Up
Paula Shrum—Wolf Meadow Elementary	Robotics Club
Martha Smith—Coltrane-Webb STEM Elementary	Dash and Dot—Create and Succeed in the Digital World
Samuel Smithson—Jay M. Robinson High	Jay M. Robinson's Resume Day
Susann Spinell—Patriots STEM Elementary	Wonderific Coding
Jenna Threatt—Central Cabarrus High	Don't Forget to Clock In
Nicole Titley—Wolf Meadow Elementary	Science Inquiry Lab
Laura Turner—Cox Mill Elementary	Rhythmtastic
Virginia Velez—Harris Road Middle	Sport Stacking
Freddy Wang—Harris Road Middle	Major's Monarch Meadow
Trina Wenzel—Carl A. Furr Elementary	Create, Climb and Crawl: Gross Motor Play
Tami Young—Rocky River Elementary	Microscopes for 3rd Grade Exploration and Implementation

## SUPERINTENDENT CHOICE ART AWARDS

April, youth art month, concluded with Superintendent Chris Lowder recognizing three students' art work. These pieces were placed in the Superintendent Permanent Art Collection located at the Education Center.



**"Spring in Bloom"**  
Aren Bergeron  
Harold Winkler Middle School  
8th Grade



**"Keven"**  
Isabel Lu  
Hickory Ridge High School  
12th Grade



**"Birch Trees"**  
Sebastian Castillo  
Winecoff Elementary  
5th Grade

## FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Forty-nine percent of first generation college students delay entry into post-secondary education after completing high school. Many factors play into the decision to delay, but a common one is financial need. To help these students succeed in attending college, the Cabarrus County Education Foundation (CCEF) developed its First Generation College program to provide financial assistance to those who will be the first in their family to pursue an education beyond a high school diploma.

This year, CCEF awarded seven Cabarrus County students with scholarships to defray their first year college expenses.

These students were recipients because they demonstrate a go-getter attitude, a deep appreciation for learning and a strong work ethic. They all aspire to change the world by entering careers such as optometry and medical and scientific research.

"Being able to assist these students overcome a major hurdle for attending college and achieving their aspirations is just such a great way for CCEF to continue investing in the students of Cabarrus County," says Amy Gough, CCEF Executive Director.

**Makaila Garcia** (Cox Mill) - UNC Greensboro

**Kristina Jones** (Mt. Pleasant) - Drexel University

**Greyson Rowlands** (Cabarrus-Kannapolis Early College) - Western Carolina University

**Kathya Segovia** (Central Cabarrus) - Central Piedmont Community College

**Shea Starnes** (Mt. Pleasant) - Rowan Cabarrus Community College

**Hannah Sullivan** (Northwest Cabarrus) - University of Kentucky

**Kayla Whitley** (Central Cabarrus) - UNC Chapel Hill

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2016-2017



Inspired by her own story, Emily Francis strives to help her students overcome cultural barriers and become successful. When she arrived in the United States at the age of fifteen, she did not speak a word of English and had only completed the sixth grade in Guatemala. Education was free here and she embraced the opportunity. By the age of seventeen, Emily had completed almost every credit she needed to graduate high school but did not receive her diploma because she could not pass the American History test.

Emily dreamed of becoming a teacher, but that path seemed to be put on hold when she started working as a cashier to help her single mom with five children meet the bills. In 2001, she moved to Cabarrus County and began working at Bass Pro Shops. Although she was progressing in the company, she wanted to be a teacher.

Emily continued her studies at Rowan Cabarrus Community College (RCCC) earning her high school diploma. Shortly

afterwards she submitted an application with Cabarrus County Schools for a custodian, cafeteria worker or teacher assistant position. Corey Cochran, the Principal of Mt. Pleasant Elementary School, called and asked her to interview for a teacher assistant position. On the way to the interview, she was so nervous thinking she had nothing to offer – limited English and no experience with children. The interview was awful! By As luck would have it, the next day she ran into the teacher who needed the teacher assistant position for which she had just interviewed. They were so excited to see each other that the teacher went home and called Mr. Cochran and shared with him how impressed she was with Emily.

This was the beginning of Emily's career with Cabarrus County Schools in 2004 as a first-grade teacher assistant. She leveraged this experience to learn a lot of foundational English working beside the students in her classroom. Sitting in the back of the classroom, she would take notes on everything. She also enrolled at RCCC and earned her associate's degree. She still wanted to be a teacher, but hit another roadblock when she could not pass the Praxis (teacher certification test).

Emily persisted and took a longer path to meet her dream. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, as well as a graduate certificate in teaching ESL (English as a Second Language). Finally, Emily's dream came true in 2012 when she became an ESL teacher at W. M. Irvin Elementary School.

Emily Francis works on a daily basis with approximately 71 students as well as assisting teachers in the classroom. She is bridging the language and cultural gaps with her students, their parents and the staff. She teaches Hispanic parents about how the school system works. For many of her parents, their focus is on teaching their children manners, cooking, ironing and babysitting--not on reading and math, which they leave to the experts. Emily brings the parents into the school to cook for teachers on Cinco de Mayo and sit with their students during tutoring sessions. Principal Drew Fitzgerald said, "I've never seen a connection between families in the community and school like I've seen here at Irvin." Emily is the 2016 Teacher of the Year for Cabarrus County Schools—a long journey from Guatemala to fulfilling her dream of becoming a teacher!



## THE INTIMIDATORS—IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY

4900 people joined together to experience an out-of-galaxy night at The Intimidators baseball game. With character appearances, themed uniforms and Star Wars related giveaways, the force was with the sellout crowd as they cheered the team to victory. The players' Star Wars jerseys were auctioned off to benefit CCEF resulting in \$3,000.

CCEF made a splash with the crowd at our marketing table. Kids could stop by to earn their "Jedi Training Certificate". Kids worked in teams to "Use the Force" to keep a balloon in the air for 1 minute using light sabers made from pool noodles. Successful Jedis earned a coupon for Extreme Ice Center or Pappa Robb's Paradise Ice. In



The Intimidators presented a check for \$3,000 to CCEF Board member, David Harrison.

addition, kids could color a Star Wars ID Badge at the table.

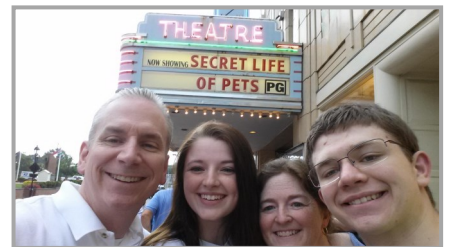
The highlight of the table was the free drawing for prizes including 4 day passes to Great Wolf Lodge, a Party Pack for 4 to GEM Theater, and gift cards to Sweet Frog Frozen Yogurt! Over 500 people stopped by the

table and 150 registered for the drawing!



^ Jeremiah Martinez, a Jay M. Robinson student, celebrates his Star Wars jersey with Intimidators player

The Cavanaugh Family celebrates their raffle winning by visiting the GEM Theatre.



## CORPORATE LUNCHEON



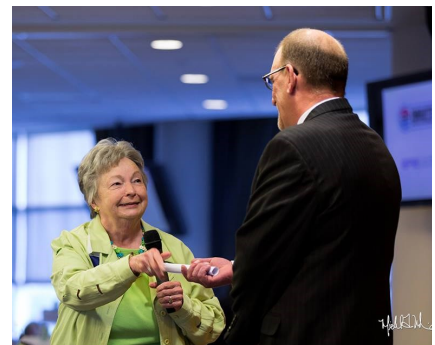
CCS Leadership Team enjoying the Annual Luncheon at the Speedway Club.

Each year, CCEF supporters gather at the Annual Corporate Luncheon. The 2015 Luncheon was at official capacity with 250 attendees and resulted in over \$36,500 being raised for CCEF programs. A great gathering of leaders and CCEF supporters to celebrate all that was accomplished in Cabarrus County Schools through our incredible partnerships!



Founding President Grace Mynatt hands off the baton to new President Merl Hamilton >

< Central Cabarrus High School Orchestra performed at the luncheon.





## 2015—2016 DONORS

**Summa Cum Laude**

Ben Mynatt Family of Dealerships  
S&D Coffee and Tea

**Magna Cum Laude**

Ben Mynatt Children's Foundation  
Doug Donia, Commercial Real Estate  
Duke Energy Foundation  
Miriam and Robert Hayes Charitable Trust

**Cum Laude**

Don and Sara Heiser  
Perry Productions  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Younce & Co. CPA

**Dean's List**

ACN  
Allen Tate Realty Company  
Cabarrus County Community Foundation  
Anna Dollar  
Extreme Ice Center  
Great Wolf Lodge  
Dr. Jeffrey and Mary Phillips  
Rotary Club of Cabarrus County  
SunTrust Foundation  
Sysco Foods  
Vulcan Materials Company  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Company

**Honor Roll**

Chick-fil-A Concord Commons  
Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)  
Hartsell & Williams, P.A.  
Hendrick Automall Concord Malls  
Hillbush Ford  
King Financial Corporation  
Motor Racing Network  
Ritchie Engineering  
Wayne and Libby Williams

**Academic Letter**

Alevo  
BB&T  
Blacker Orthodontics  
Blythe Construction  
Christopher Borrás  
Connect Christian Church  
F&M Bank  
Kit and Amy Borrás  
Mark Henriques and Anna Guyton  
KSQ Designs

**Academic Letter**

Potter & Company  
QuikTrip  
Sam and Shannon Leder  
WM Irvin Elementary PTO

**Valedictorian**

Ronald and Tanya Barnes  
George and Mona Barnhardt  
Beatty Enterprises, Jan Beatty  
Reagan Brogdon  
Al Brown  
Angie Brown  
Jane Biggers Brown  
Peter and Stephanie Bynum  
Michael Carlisto  
Carolyn Carpenter  
Donna Carpenter  
Mike Chisholm  
Marie Corrin, LTD  
Margaret Cox  
Linda and Peter Davis  
Troy and Paula Dibley  
DeAnna and Jeremy Ford  
Tom Foster Jr.  
GEM Theatre  
Helen Griffin  
Nancy Griffin  
Susan Hannah  
Joe and Pat Horton  
It's All About You Salon  
Dakeita and Steve Johnson  
Glenda and Thomas Jones  
Blake and Nancy Kiger  
John and Rachel Mann  
Cheryl Milam  
Steve Morris  
Brian and Jennifer Parsley  
Sarah Porter  
Connie and Scot Rheinecker  
Tom and Sarah Sambor  
Barry and Christine Shoemaker  
Ella Mae Small  
Sarah Stone  
Kathy and Kenneth Taylor  
Glenda and Elbert Thomas  
Jennie Tomlin  
Jason Van Heukelum  
William Van Wieren  
Rob Walter  
Keith and Stephanie Wilkes  
Diane Young  
Dave Zablotny

**Salutatorian**

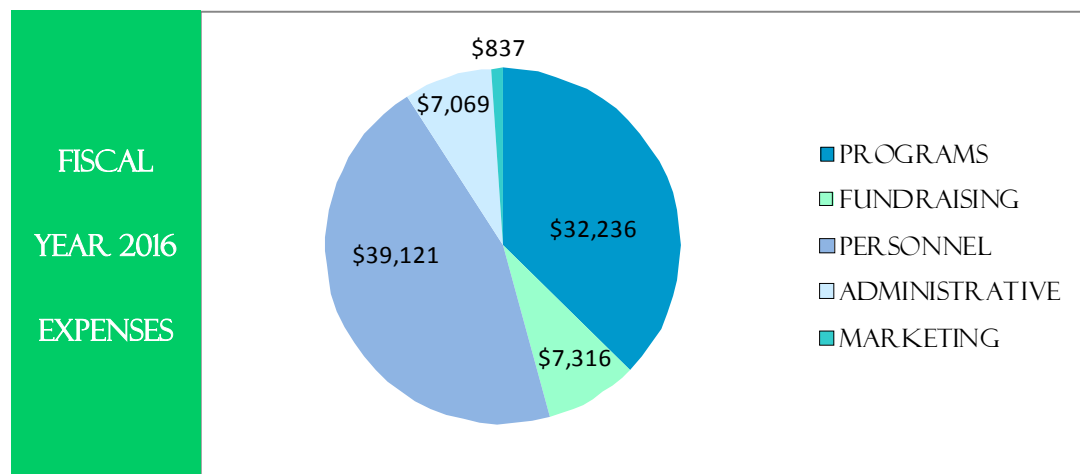
Ben Allred  
Ronnye Boone  
David and Rebecca Cherry  
Wayne and Margaret Dabbs  
Chantel and Kristopher Daia  
Randy Danison  
Marie and J. Kim Dockery  
Kenni and Michael Doyle  
Elizabeth Edwards  
Cynthia Fertenbaugh  
Cary Gluf  
Linda Grist  
Sweet Frog  
Cornelia Kerr  
Robert Kirk  
Dr. Chris Lowder  
Brenda and Tim Lowder  
Grace Mynatt  
Katie Page  
Papa Robb's Paradise Ice  
Elizabeth Phillips  
Lynn Rhymer  
Jeffrey and Michelle Riley  
Irene Sacks  
Lynn and Libbie Shealy  
David and Megan Smit  
Donna Smith  
Jeff and Lucinda Stewart  
James and Kimberly Strong  
Sweet Frog Frozen Yogurt  
Will Swink  
Angel and M. Rhett Teems  
Jeanette Trexler  
Scott and Anna Wilson  
Steven Winecoff  
Len Witke

## 2015-2016 FINANCIALS

In fiscal year 2014, the CCEF Board of Directors made a bold decision to grow the organization and increase our impact. With the \$100,000 seed money given to the foundation at its initiation by Roy Davis, the decision was made to utilize reserves to hire a dedicated full-time staff person. This push to grow the foundation into an active organization has resulted in a 550% increase in income and a 150% increase in the number of students impacted. For the first two years, reserves have covered any short falls in operating expenses. During fiscal year 2017, CCEF is striving to cover all operating expenses with donations received. We invite you to partner with us to make this happen and increase the impact CCEF is making on the students and staff of Cabarrus County Schools.

### SUMMARY PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

Fiscal Year	2014	2015	2016
Total Income	\$ 26,624	\$ 101,309	\$ 61,561
Total Expenses	\$ 34,306	\$ 76,092	\$ 85,633
Net Income	\$ (7,682)	\$ 25,217	\$ (24,058)



## CABARRUS COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Merl Hamilton, President**

Deputy City Manager, City of Concord

**Grace Mynatt, Past President**

Commissioner, Cabarrus County

**Michael Burgner, Vice President**

Attorney, Hartsell & Williams, P.A.

**Ladoska Keeter, Treasurer**

Accountant, Gordon & Keeter & Company

**Jeanette Trexler, Secretary**

Retired Liaison, Cabarrus County Schools

**Amy Gough, Executive Director**

Cabarrus County Education Foundation

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Kelly Bumgardner**

Educator, Northwest Cabarrus High School

**Margaret Cox**

Retired Counselor, Cooperative Christian Ministries

**Anna Dollar**

Parent, Cabarrus County Schools

**Linda Grist**

Retired Director, Cabarrus County Board of Elections

**David Harrison**

Member, CCS Board of Education

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President & CEO, Affinity Benefits Group

**Sara Heiser**

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**Cornelia Kerr**

Retired Director of Membership Services, Cabarrus  
Regional Chamber of Commerce

**Robert Kirk**

Chief of Staff, Cabarrus County Schools

**Dr. Chris Lowder**

Superintendent, Cabarrus County Schools

**Lisa Perry**

Co-Owner, President, Perry Productions

**Connie Mueller Rheinecker**

Cabarrus County Area Director, Big Brothers  
Big Sisters

**Alice Steele-Robinson**

Retired Administrator, Cabarrus County Schools

**Barry Shoemaker**

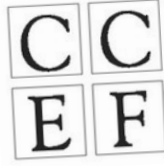
Board Chair, CCS Board of Education

**Glenda Thomas**

Retired Educator, Cabarrus County Schools

**Wayne Williams**

Retired Educator, Cabarrus County Schools



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## CABARRUS COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

*Investing and Impacting the Students  
and Staff of Cabarrus County Schools*

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
CCEF.NC.ORG

## CONNECT WITH US!



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Cabarrus County Education Foundation