



# Annual Report 2023



[www.nsedu.org](http://www.nsedu.org)

# Message from the Executive Director & Friends of NEC President

Dear Northshore Education Consortium Friends,

As we reflect on the 2022-2023 school year, we are grateful for another successful year. It was and continues to be a challenging time in public education and like most public schools and educational collaboratives, NEC works with students and families whose needs are greater than ever before. We are doing this at a time when budgets are increasingly stressed by workforce shortages and escalating expenses. But hard times don't stop us... they only serve to reinforce our commitment to our students, our pride in the amazing people who work for NEC, and our gratitude for our many friends and supporters.



Thanks to NEC's strong leadership team, the ongoing support of our member districts, and the philanthropic support we receive from Friends of NEC, we have continued to move forward with programmatic and operational goals to continuously improve the quality of our programs and services. A major focus this year has been building our infrastructure to support our programs. Without safe, functional, and attractive buildings, state-of-the-art technology and business operations, and a strong structure for workforce development, we cannot meet our goals. Over the past year, we started to work on a multi-year, multi-million-dollar project for upgrading HVAC and related systems at our 112 Sohler Road property, implemented new accounting and HR software, invested in safety planning, and settled a three-year collective bargaining agreement which provided substantial salary increases for our staff. We continued to invest in professional development for our employees with a focus on curriculum, positive behavioral support, and equity.

Philanthropic support helped to ensure that when budgets got tight, we didn't have to cut back on important initiatives related to curriculum development, expanding our vocational programming, and offering music, art, and extracurricular activities for students and families. Philanthropic dollars helped us continue to invest in updated technology and bring outstanding professional development to our staff and those in our member districts.

The strong support from our community is deeply valued and appreciated. It is a privilege to have your confidence and support for the work that we do. Thank you, once again, for your trust and your partnership.

With deep appreciation,

Francine Rosenberg, M.Ed.  
Executive Director  
Northshore Education Consortium

Cynthia Johnson  
President  
Friends of NEC

# 2023 FAST FACTS

48 years of service

28.3 million dollar operating budget (Northshore Education Consortium and Friends of NEC)

22 member districts (local cities and towns)

20 Northshore Education Consortium governing board members

8 Friends of Northshore Education Consortium board members; nonprofit 501(c)(3) board

380 Northshore Education Consortium staff

7 Northshore Education Consortium Schools/Programs served 477 students from over 60 districts (20 member and 44 non-member districts):

- Kevin O'Grady School 127 students from 33 districts.
- Northshore Academy Upper School served 135 students from 40 districts with 16 graduates; 15 students participated in work opportunities to learn job skills within the school and 3 students participated in dual enrollment classes through North Shore Community College.
- Northshore Academy Lower School served 43 students from 26 districts. 10 students successfully returned to their in-district setting and 9 students moved onto Northshore Academy Upper School.
- Northshore Recovery High School served 41 students from 23 districts with 7 graduates
- Embark & SOAR served 71 students from 27 districts with 15 graduates. 8 students received diplomas and 7 students received certificates of completion.
- Topsfield Vocational Academy served 60 students from 26 districts with 10 graduates. One graduate received an \$84,000 scholarship to Montserrat College of Art.
- In addition, NEC provided vision, orientation and mobility services to 89 students from 23 districts, and 60 students from 11 districts received services through our or our Connections Wraparound Program.

## Regional Professional Development & Job-Alike Groups

NEC continued to provide grant supported Youth Mental Health First Aid training to our districts and surrounding communities. In addition, NEC provided clinical supervision and consultation to local districts and hosted a variety of job-alike groups providing valued collegial support.

## Regional Collaboration

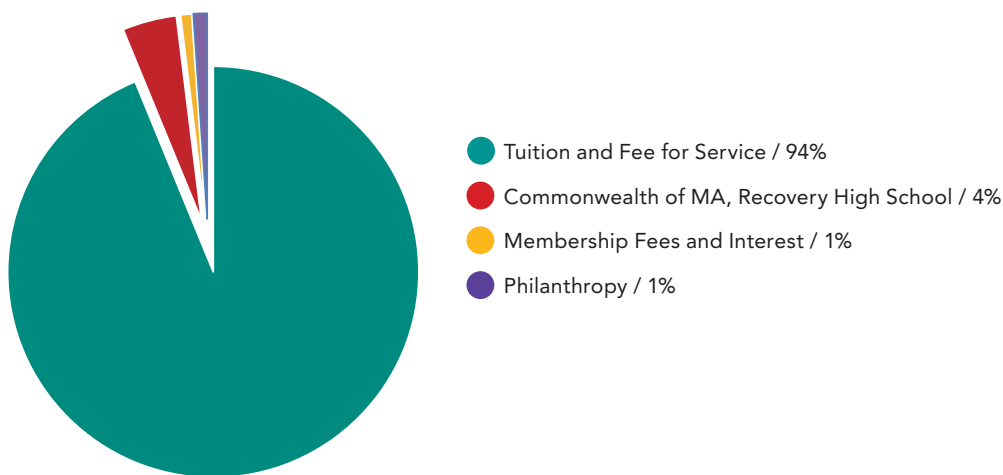
NEC continued its collaboration with the YMCA of the North Shore and Children's Friend and Family Services/JRI to run the very successful Positive Alternatives to Student Support Program, providing alternatives to long-term suspension for youth in local public schools experiencing behavioral health challenges.

## Cost/Benefit Analysis

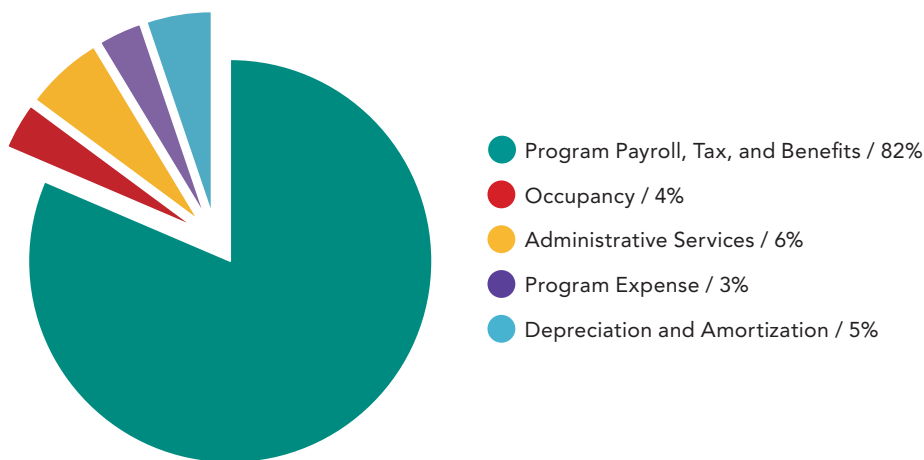
Based on an analysis of private schools serving similar populations, member districts can save over \$300 per day (over \$50,000 per year, not including transportation costs) by sending a student to an NEC program. NEC tuition rates include all therapy and nursing services.



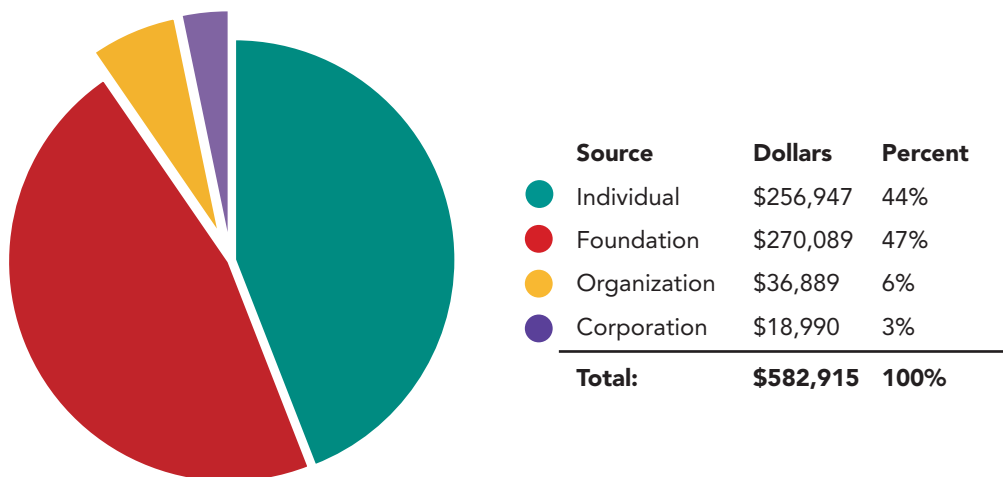
FY 2023 REVENUE  
\$ 28,329,244



FY 2023 EXPENSES  
\$ 27,765,155



FY 2023 PHILANTHROPY BREAKOUT



All data reflective of fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023)



# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



## PHILANTHROPIC DEVELOPMENT

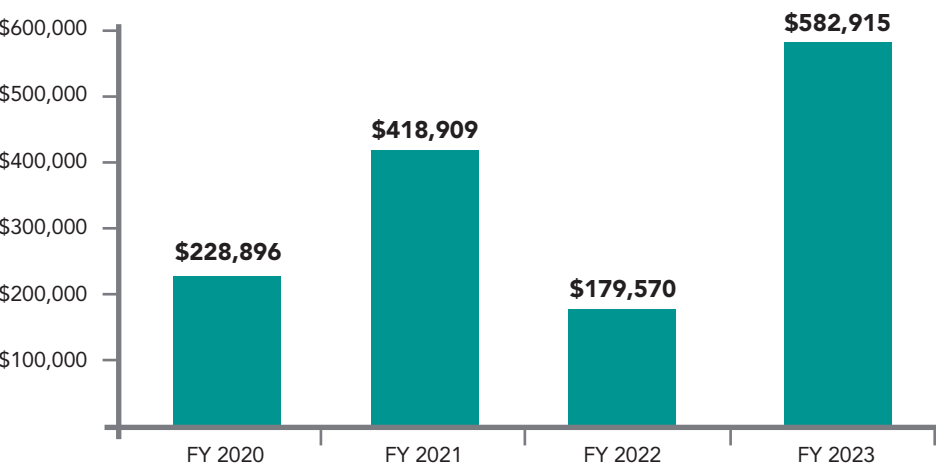
Philanthropic giving heavily influences NEC programming. Thanks to the continued and highly impactful support of Linzee Coolidge and John and Mollie Byrnes, FY 2023 started off with upgrades to our Topsfield Vocational Academy kitchen expanding their Culinary Program; the purchase of a much needed van; additions to the Northshore Academy Upper School's Media Program; and the expansion of our Transitions Program Vocational Laboratory. With grant funding from longtime supporters, New England BioLabs, M&T Charitable Foundation, Rockland Trust Foundation, and the Bruce J. Anderson Foundation, our students benefited from upgraded Chromebooks, communication and sensory devices, and numerous enrichment opportunities from hiking, canoeing, and rock climbing to classes in "the arts", cosmetology, woodworking, and more.

NEC's commitment to remain a vital resource to our member districts as they navigate the surge in student mental health challenges relies significantly on grant funding. In FY 2023, additional grant support from local foundations provided essential professional development training and conferences for both NEC staff and community colleagues. It also provided additional clinical support to our Connections Wraparound Program, which afforded more students in our communities with access to essential mental health services.

The fiscal year ended with a celebration! NEC was a proud recipient of a Cummings Foundation grant in support of the mission critical HVAC/roof project for our 112 Sohier Road property, home to our more medically fragile and physically disabled students. Year after year, our gratitude grows for those who commit their time, energy and resources to supporting our NEC community. You make our work sustainable and you fill our hearts with joy. **Thank you!**

- Revenue of \$582,915
- \$34,602 donated to our Tribute Program
- \$274,600 received in grant support from local foundations and businesses
- \$67,438 donated through our annual appeal; **our highest year ever**
- \$27,466 in proceeds from our 11<sup>th</sup> annual road race, the Festivus 5K for Autism, to support educational and enrichment opportunities for students; **our highest year ever**
- Kevin O'Grady School had another successful Walk & Roll which raised over \$7,000

## PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTIONS





## Governance & Leadership 2022-2023

### **NORTHSHORE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM**

Francine Rosenberg | Executive Director

Glenn Bergevin | Chief Financial Officer

### **SCHOOL & PROGRAM DIRECTORS**

Martha Krol | Kevin O'Grady School

David Mercier | Northshore Academy Upper

Tracy Farraher | Northshore Academy Lower

Michelle Lipinski | Northshore Recovery High School

Ellen Heald | Transition Programs (Embark & SOAR)

Lynsey Page | Topsfield Vocational Academy

### **FRIENDS OF NEC**

Sarah Seiler | Director of Development

Alison Cody, Anne Noyes | Grants Coordinator

Heather Wolsey | Marketing & Communications

### **FRIENDS OF NEC BOARD MEMBERS**

Cynthia Johnson, President

Luisa Coppola, Vice President

Graham Bacheller

Alison Famico

Andrea Kantaros

Elma Mandzo-Jovanovic

Shannon Perry

Carmen Posteraro

Friends of the Northshore Education Consortium  
is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization  
(EIN# 61-1479553)



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### **NEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Beverly Public Schools

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Danvers Public Schools

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Gloucester Public Schools

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Ipswich Public Schools

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