

Message from the Executive Director & Friends of NEC President

Dear Northshore Education Consortium Friends,

As we reflect on the 2023-2024 school year, we are grateful for your support and belief in the mission of the Friends of NEC. This year brought challenges—our member school districts continue to grapple with rising costs and limited budgets, while the needs of our students grow more complex than ever. Recruiting and retaining skilled staff in the face of a nationwide special education workforce crisis has tested us, as have the increasing costs of maintaining and improving our facilities.



And yet, because of you, we continue to rise above these challenges. With the steadfast dedication of our leadership team, the partnership of our member districts, and the generous contributions of our supporters, NEC has not only endured but thrived. Together, we are making an extraordinary difference in the lives of students with special needs.

This year was a testament to what we can achieve together. We launched a multi-year, multi-million-dollar capital improvement project at 112 Sohier Road, tackled other critical facility upgrades, and fully implemented new systems to strengthen our operations. We enhanced our emergency preparedness and elevated our hiring and onboarding processes—all with the goal of creating the best possible environment for our students and staff.

But the heart of our work lies with our students. We are pleased with the incredible experiences we've been able to provide this year. From boat building and culinary arts to animal science and recycling, our enrichment and vocational programs are opening doors and igniting passions. Thanks to your generosity, artists in residence inspired our students, musical programming filled our halls with joy, and intramural sports and drivers' education empowered our young learners.

We saw our students shine in the Special Olympics, express their creativity through Young Audiences and Express Yourself, and connect with their families during special events and family nights. Philanthropic support also brought cutting-edge technology into our classrooms—whether it's 3D printers and drones for our high schoolers or advanced communication devices for students who cannot speak, your contributions are opening new worlds of possibility.

Your support also made it possible for us to provide mental health first aid training for our districts and bring in expert consultations to empower our staff.

This is what community looks like—standing together, facing challenges, and building a brighter future for every child. We are profoundly grateful for your confidence and your commitment to NEC's mission. It is a privilege to partner with you in this vital work.

From all of us at NEC, thank you for believing in our students and helping us make a lasting difference in their lives.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Francine Rosenberg

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

Cynthia Johnson

Cynthia Johnson
President
Friends of NEC



Governance & Leadership 2023-2024

NORTHSHORE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

Francine Rosenberg | Executive Director
Larry Fleming | 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
Anne Noyes | Grants Coordinator
Heather Wolsey | Marketing & Communications

FRIENDS OF NEC BOARD MEMBERS

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Luisa Coppola, Vice President
Graham Bacheller
Alison Famico
Andrea Kantaros
Elma Mandzo-Jovanovic
Shannon Perry

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(EIN# 61-1479553)



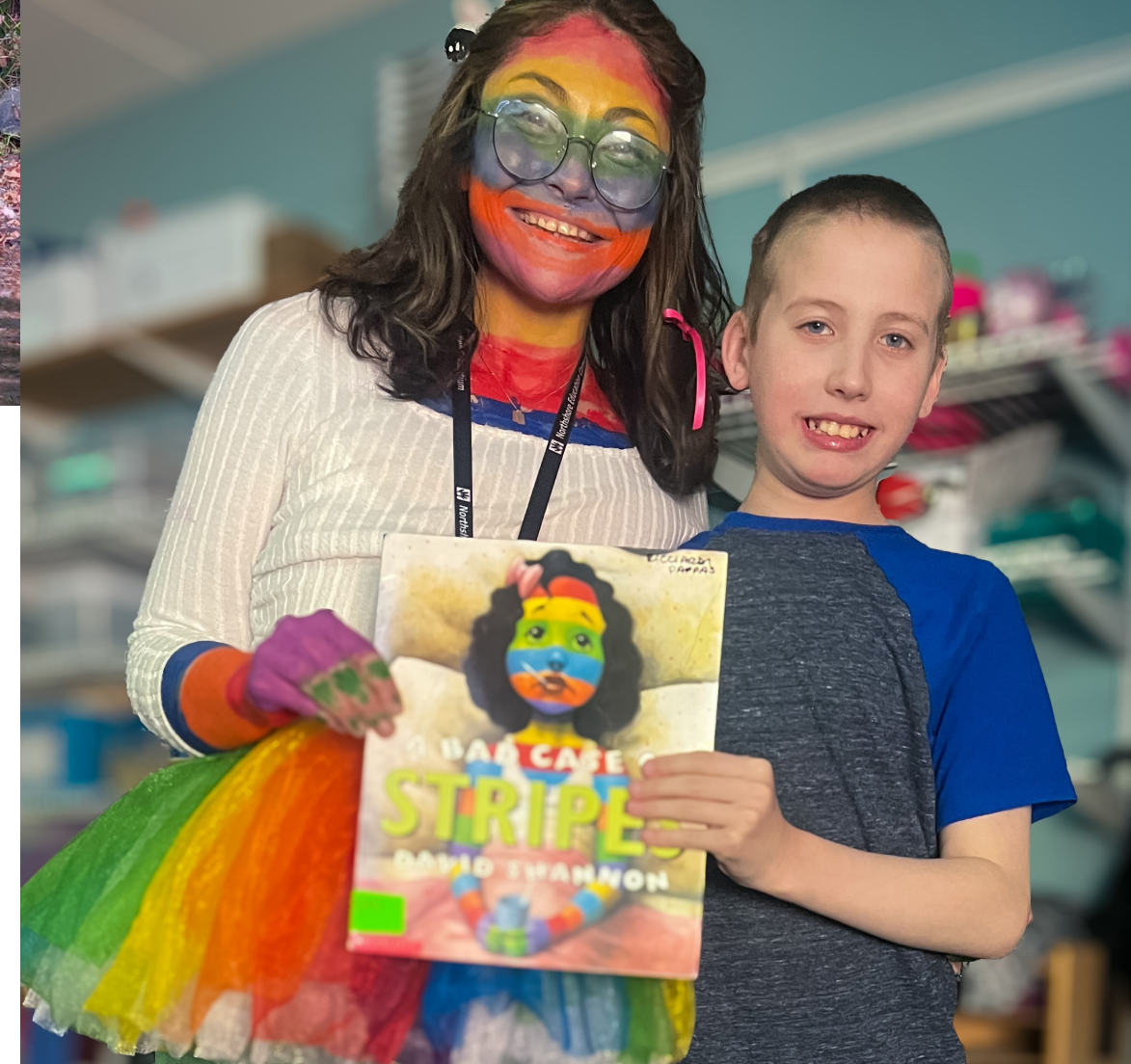
Northshore Education Consortium
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Learn more on
our website

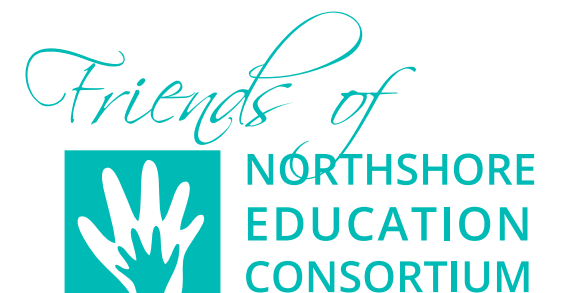


NEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Annual Report 2024



www.nsedu.org

2024 FAST FACTS

Nearly two decades ago, the Friends of the Northshore Education Consortium (NEC) was established with the sole purpose of supporting the Northshore Education Consortium. Over the years, this nonprofit fundraising arm of NEC has played a pivotal role in bolstering NEC's programs, becoming an integral part of its success. While NEC's mission focuses on providing cost-effective tuition to its member districts, the Friends of NEC works to bridge the financial gap between affordable tuition and the expenses of high-quality programming. In essence, the more philanthropic support the Friends of NEC secures, the lower NEC's tuition rates for member districts, allowing those districts to allocate more resources to their own elementary, middle, and high schools.

The Friends of NEC, a recognized 501(c)(3) organization, is led by a dedicated volunteer board made up of individuals and companies committed to NEC's success. Since NEC's founding in 1974 with a single program and five member districts, NEC has grown significantly, now serving nearly 500 students each year across its seven schools and programs.

FAST FACTS

- 49 years of service
- 32.2 million dollar operating budget
- 22 member districts (local cities and towns)
- 20 NEC Governing Board Members
- 357 NEC staff
- 7 NEC Schools/Programs served 498 students from over 60 districts (20 member and 46 non-member districts) In addition, NEC provided:
 - Vision, orientation and mobility services to 81 students from 20 districts
 - Mental health support services to 57 students from 13 districts through our Connections Wraparound Program
 - Free or grant subsidized district and community training and consultation
 - Free regional job-alike groups
 - Regional collaboration with the YMCA of the North Shore and Children's Friends and Family Services/JRI
 - NEC Family Center support and community engagement opportunities to families

The cost savings impact of NEC tuition vs. private school tuition:

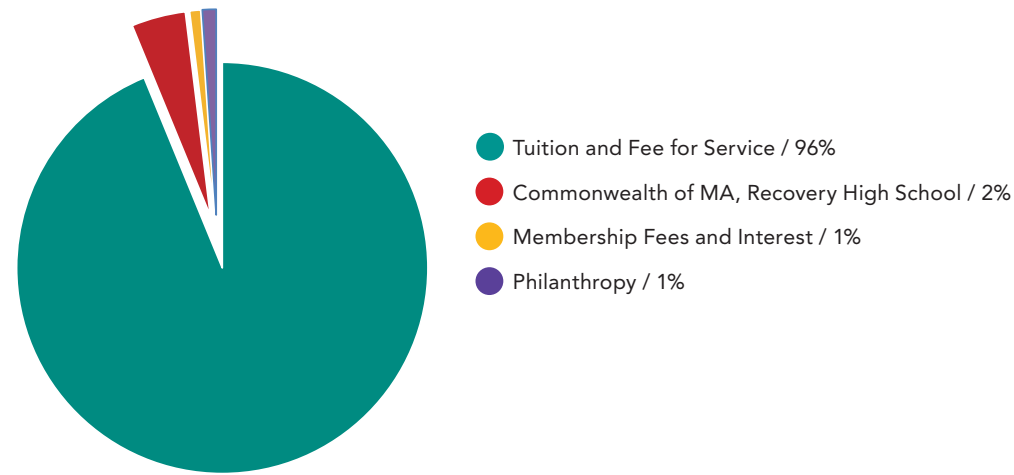
Based on an analysis of private schools serving similar populations, member districts can save over \$300 per day (over \$50,000 per year, not including transportation costs) by sending a student to an NEC program. NEC tuition rates include all therapy and nursing services.

To read NEC's FY 2024 Annual Report in full, please scan the QR code below.

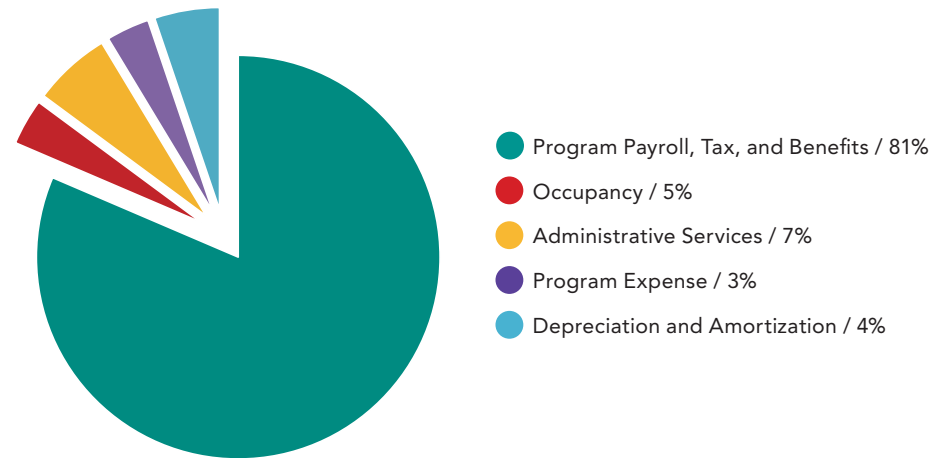
View NEC's FY24 Annual Report



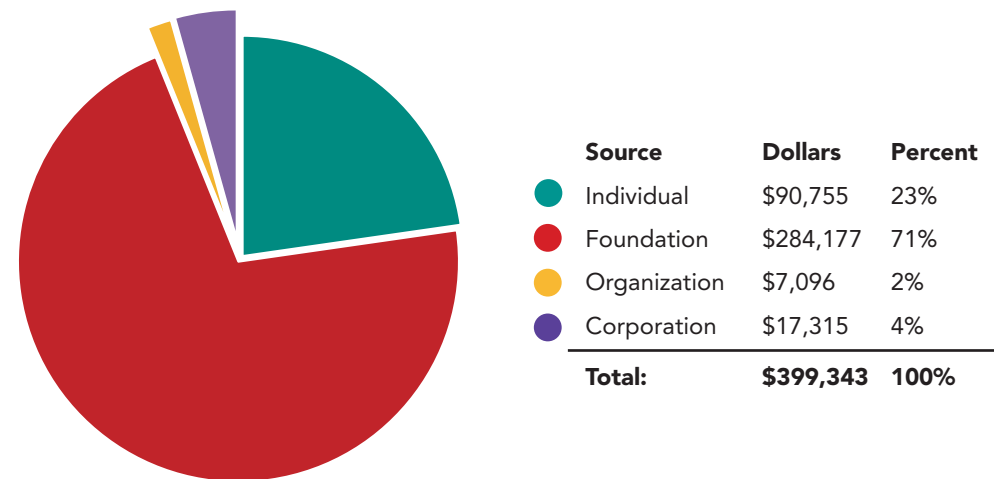
FY 2024 REVENUE \$ 32,288,840



FY 2024 EXPENSES \$ 29,755,498



FY 2024 PHILANTHROPY BREAKOUT



All data reflective of fiscal year 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024)

2024 HIGHLIGHTS



PHILANTHROPIC DEVELOPMENT

Philanthropy is an invaluable gift that transforms the lives of our NEC students with special needs by providing opportunities they might not otherwise have. Through the generosity of donors, NEC can deliver tailored educational programs, advanced therapeutic services, and essential resources that empower our students to reach their full potential. Charitable giving and grant support not only addresses immediate needs but also invests in a brighter future for every student served.

In FY 2024, NEC faced the significant financial challenge of undertaking a mission-critical \$14 million capital project. However, this year also served as a powerful reminder of the incredible support from foundations, companies, and individuals who stood by us, helping to alleviate the burden. Replacing the HVAC system and roof at 112 Sohier Road—home to the Kevin O'Grady School, Northshore Recovery High School, and our Administrative Offices—was an urgent necessity. Generous support from the Cummings Foundation and the Tower Foundation helped offset the project's cost. Grant funding from long-standing supporters, including the Rockland Charitable Trust Foundation, M&T Charitable Foundation, New England BioLabs, Bruce J. Anderson Foundation, van Otterloo Foundation, and the Flutie Foundation, ensured that our programming continued seamlessly, benefiting both NEC programs and our member districts' schools.

Every day it is clear to us that the impact of philanthropy extends beyond the classroom, fostering inclusion, resilience, and a sense of community, while inspiring hope in the hearts of students and their families. Each act of giving creates a ripple effect, changing lives and building a more compassionate, equitable world. **Thank you!**

- Revenue of \$399,343
- \$37,815 donated to our Tribute Program
- \$233,092 received from grants
- \$42,324 donated through our annual appeal
- \$28,812 in proceeds generated through the 12th running of our annual road race, the Festivus 5K for Autism, **our highest year ever**
- Kevin O' Grady School had another successful Walk & Roll Event, raising over \$8,000

PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTIONS

