



# Annual Report 2020

*Friends of*  
 NORTHSHORE  
EDUCATION  
CONSORTIUM

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

## Message from the Executive Director & Friends of NEC President

Dear Northshore Education Consortium Friends;

This past year was an interesting one for our Collaborative, as we, like everyone else, needed to quickly adapt to the realities of a worldwide pandemic. Philanthropic support was pivotal in terms of what we could provide our students and their families when, in March, we shifted to fully remote learning for the remainder of the school year. Initially, we focused on safety and basic needs, making sure all of our students and their families had food and necessities. We then began to distribute Chromebooks, iPads, and school supplies to students who needed them for remote learning. This seamless distribution was the direct result of private individual and foundation support. Simultaneously, our staff was working to develop individualized remote learning plans, and to rapidly educate themselves about available on-line curriculum resources. Behind the scenes, our business office team figured out how to maintain all essential functions from their homes. We were incredibly proud of the way in which our teams pulled together, shifting gears practically overnight to make sure our students were safe, cared for, and educated. And, although graduations had to be held remotely and /or through video production, 55 students received their diplomas in June.



*During the remote learning last spring, NEC staff reached out to students in many ways. (above) Kevin O'Grady staff cheered on their students during a car parade!*

As previously noted, much of our success during this period of crisis was due to the strong support of our philanthropic Friends community. Thanks to our Technology Campaign, we were able to provide a device to every student and staff member who needed one in order to work remotely. Thanks to generous donors we were able to continue with mental health training, consultation and outreach, at a time when it was more urgently needed than ever. And, thanks to the special friends and foundations who allowed us to use their gifts without restriction, we were able to deploy thousands of dollars to purchase specialized PPE, including a variety of different types of masks, face shields and goggles for staff who work with our most high-risk students, and air purifiers for classrooms where children were unable to wear masks.

Although the crisis of the pandemic has overshadowed almost everything else, we continued to meet our core mission. During the 2019-2020 school year, Northshore Education Consortium's approved day schools served 476 students from 21 member and 34 non-member districts, and we continued to provide training, consultation, and specialized support services to our member districts. Thanks to ongoing support from the Tower Foundation, we continued to provide wraparound services through the Connections program. And, we continued to partner with JRI and the Northshore YMCA to run the PASS program. In addition, we have continued our work on Cultural Proficiency, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion by offering a number of staff training opportunities and discussion groups.

Whether "in-person" or remote, we pride ourselves on building strong connections with students and their families, providing creative and individualized academic learning opportunities, and offering students a wide range of therapeutic supports, arts, and enrichment opportunities.

It is a privilege to work with such talented colleagues, students, and families. They share our appreciation for all of our donors and the ongoing support of our north shore community.

With thanks and appreciation,

Francine Rosenberg  
Executive Director

Graham Bacheller, President  
Friends of NEC

# 2020 FAST FACTS

45 years of service

25.3 million dollar operating budget (NEC and Friends)

21 member districts (local cities and towns)

19 NEC Governing Board Members

8 Friends of NEC Board Members; non-profit board

306 NEC staff

8 NEC Schools/Programs served close to 500 students from over 50 districts (21 member and 34 non-member districts):

**Kevin O'Grady School** served 115 students from 35 districts

**Northshore Academy Upper School** served 128 students from 34 districts with 25 graduates

**Northshore Academy Lower School** served 45 students from 18 districts; 9 students returned to a public school setting, and 10 additional students completed the sixth grade

**Recovery High School** served 64 students from 27 districts with 12 graduates

**Embark** served 21 students from 7 districts with 6 graduates

**SOAR** served 29 students from 20 districts with 9 graduates

**Topsfield Vocational Academy** served 66 students from 28 districts with an additional 13 students enrolled in the STEP program; 19 graduated

**Professional Development:** Prior to the pandemic, NEC was able to offer several sessions of Youth Mental Health First Aid to regional organizations thanks to funding support from private foundations. Unfortunately, several of the scheduled spring conferences and workshops were cancelled due to the pandemic.

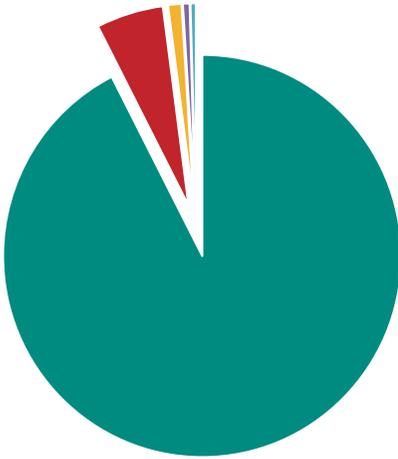
**Cost/Benefit Analysis:** Based on an analysis of private schools serving similar populations, member districts can save up to \$300/day (over \$50,000/year, not including transportation costs) by sending a student to an NEC program.

**In addition,** NEC provided vision, orientation and mobility services to 55 students who attend schools in member districts and educated 3 students who required home-bound instruction.



## FY 2020 REVENUE

\$ 25,372,378



- Tuition and Fee for Service / 96%
- Commonwealth of MA, Recovery High School / 3%
- Membership Fees and Interest / 1%
- Philanthropy / <1%
- Professional Development / <1%

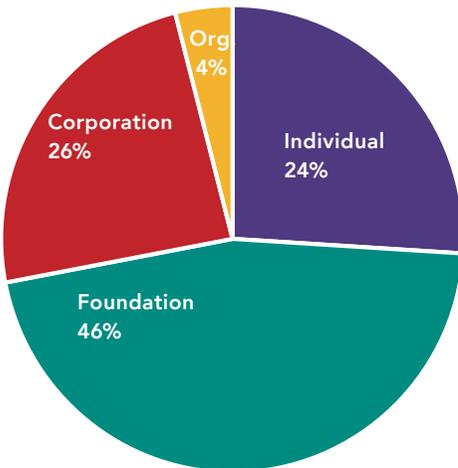
## FY 2020 EXPENSES

\$ 25,177,782



- Program Payroll, Tax, and Benefits / 81%
- Occupancy / 9%
- Administrative Services / 5%
- Program Expense / 3%
- Depreciation and Amortization / 2%

## FY 2020 PHILANTHROPY BREAKOUT



Source	Dollars	Percent
Individual	54,973	24%
Foundation	105,381	46%
Corporation	58,592	26%
Organization	8,950	4%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$228,896</b>	<b>100%</b>

All data reflective of fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020).

# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

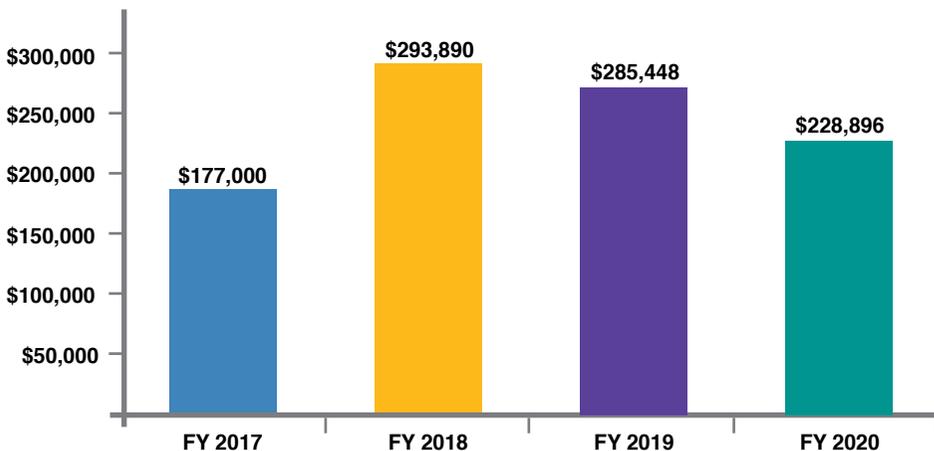


## PHILANTHROPIC DEVELOPMENT

In a year where normalcy seemed to escape us, the support of our Friends community enabled us to creatively continue the vital services and programming necessary to educate and enrich our diverse body of students. The years of collaborative efforts shared between individuals, foundations and local businesses provided essential equipment, technology, mental health services, and the professional development trainings needed to sustain us during the crisis of a pandemic. These gifted dollars coupled with strong financial leadership within NEC and its Board of Directors paved the way through FY 2020 and into what will be a very unique but impactful FY 2021.

- Revenue of \$228,896
- \$44,240 donated to our Tribute Program
- \$69,116 received from grants (supporting technology, staff training, much needed equipment for our vocational programming, and outdoor programming including both day and overnight expeditions)
- \$45,130 donated through our annual appeal; our highest year ever
- \$20,000 in proceeds generated through the running of our annual road race, the Festivus 5K for Autism went to support educational and enrichment opportunities for our students

## PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTIONS





## Governance & Leadership 2019-2020

### NEC

Francine Rosenberg | Executive Director  
Glenn Bergevin | Chief Financial Officer

### FRIENDS OF NEC

Sarah Seiler | Director of Development  
Alison Cody | Grants Management  
Deborah Walker | Grants Management

### SCHOOL & PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Martha Krol | Kevin O'Grady School  
Stephanie Couillard | Kevin O'Grady School  
Andrea Holt | Kevin O'Grady School  
Kenneth Letzring | Northshore Academy Upper  
Tracy Farraher | Northshore Academy Lower  
Michelle Lipinski | Northshore Recovery HS  
Ellen Heald | Transition Programs (Embark & SOAR)  
Charles LeBuff | Topsfield Vocational Acad. & STEP

### FRIENDS OF NEC BOARD MEMBERS

Graham Bacheller, President  
Cynthia Johnson, Vice President  
Margot Abels  
Andrea Kantaros  
Deb Margolis  
Bridget McGuinness  
Elma Mandzo-Jovanovic  
Luisa Coppola



**NORTHSHORE  
EDUCATION  
CONSORTIUM**

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### NEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Suzanne Charochak  
Beverly Public Schools

Dr. Lisa Dana  
Danvers Public Schools

Dr. Richard Safier  
Gloucester Public Schools

Dr. Julie Kukenberger  
Hamilton-Wenham Public Schools

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Ipswich Public Schools

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Lynnfield Public Schools

Ms. Pamela Beaudoin  
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Dr. Michael Harvey  
Masconomet Regional

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Nahant Public Schools

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Reading Public Schools

Mr. Robert Liebow  
Rockport Public Schools

Ms. Kathleen Smith  
Salem Public Schools

Ms. Pamela Angelakis  
Swampscott Public Schools

Dr. Scott Morrison  
Tri-Town School Union

Mr. Brian Forget  
Triton Regional School District