



The Dunn Fund Frequently Asked Questions



Why is Dunn utilizing a direct donation program instead of fundraising?

This revised structure came to be as a result of parent and staff feedback, PTO discussions, A+ School Improvement Team input, and the insights of a fundraising subcommittee during the 2012-13 school year. By participating in our direct donation program, time, energy, and commitment can be refocused to supporting students rather than fundraising. The desired outcomes resulting from these discussions were as follows:

- Reduce, streamline, and prioritize the number of fundraisers being held at Dunn
- Improve communication on how fundraised monies are being used

What is the suggested donation amount?

The suggested donation amount is \$100.00 per family. A donation which exceeds the suggested amount is greatly appreciated and any amount will help us meet our financial needs. With 100% family participation, approximately \$30,500.00 will be collected!

Is the Dunn Fund a PTO organized and sponsored event?

No. Since Dunn's PTO is not a 501c3 designated organization any donations made to the PTO are not eligible for tax deductions to the extent allowable by the law. For this reason, the Dunn Fund is being managed by the school and all donations will be eligible for tax deductions to the extent allowable by law.

If PTO is not focused on fundraising, what will be their purpose?

Depending upon the outcome of the Dunn Fund, PTO may or may not need to organize and support additional fundraisers. PTO will be using their monthly meetings to discuss and plan community building events that support the mission and vision of Dunn. Please join us at our upcoming meeting to share your suggestions.

Who will know how much I donated?

All donations will be returned directly to the front office staff and will remain confidential.

How much did the Dunn Fund direct donation drive and fundraised dollars raise last year?

The 2019-20 Dunn Fund Direct Donation Drive raised \$24,038.00. This amount was combined with 2018-19 Spellathon monies of \$22,928.58 for a combined amount of \$46,966.58

How were the \$46,966.58 used?

Fund	Amount Allocated	Amount Spent	Difference
Instructional Resources (see Instructional Resources Breakdown table)	\$ 23,266.58	\$20,728.96	\$2,537.62*
Eco Week 2019	\$ 14,000.00	\$9,384.00	\$5,214.59
Field Trips	\$ 6,500.00	\$2,751.29	\$3,748.71
Assemblies	\$ 2,000.00	\$795.78	\$1,204.22
5 th Grade Continuation/Yearbook	\$ 1,200.00	\$1095.00	\$105.00
Summer			
Total	\$ 46,966.58	\$20,807.04	\$12,810.14

* Remaining funds are being spent on additional Instructional Resources for 20-21.

How much did the February 2020 PTO Spellathon raise that will be combined with this year's Dunn Fund?

\$21,148.89

How much must be raised through the Dunn Fund to reach a goal of raising \$40,000.00 by combining Spellathon and Dunn Fund?

Approximately \$18,851.11

How will the combined Spellathon and Dunn Fund monies be used?

Donations will be prioritized to fund the following:

- Instructional Resources \$16,300.00
- EcoWeek \$14,000.00
- Field Trips \$ 6,500.00
- Assemblies \$ 2,000.00
- 5th grade Continuation/Yearbook \$ 1,200.00

How will the use of funds this 2020-21 funds be decided?

Monies will be used to fund the above identified items. A mini-grant process will be utilized for staff to request funding for instructional resources that enhance student learning experiences. Building administration will seek input from Dunn's PTO for mini-grant process. Use of all funds will follow the Poudre School District spending policies for donated/fundraised monies.

How will the outcome and use of the Dunn Fund donations be communicated?

This information will be shared at PTO and A+ School Accountability Committee Meetings, in Dunn's Newsletter, through Thursday Folder communication, and updates on the parent section of Dunn's website.

What is EcoWeek?

EcoWeek is an educational opportunity offered to most 5th graders in the Poudre School District to enrich curriculum and support instruction of Colorado state standards. Guided by the 4th and 5th grade staff, Dunn students spend the spring of their 4th grade year and the fall of their 5th grade year preparing for this adventure both educationally and emotionally. While it can vary slightly from one year to the next, Dunn's EcoWeek adventure is typically scheduled for late fall and includes a two night stay at either the YMCA of the Rockies or CSU's Pingree Park. Under the guidance of Dunn staff who accompany the 5th graders on this trip, students spend their days in outdoor educational workshops, hiking in the mountains, and engaging in team building activities. Historically, EcoWeek is a highlight of most students' elementary experience.

Why is Dunn's general fund budget not used to pay for EcoWeek?

Dunn staff choose to have students participate in EcoWeek because it offers a unique opportunity to enhance 5th grade curriculum and the IB philosophy. However, it is not a requirement. Historically, 4th grade parents and students have fundraised the approximate \$14,000.00 cost of this event. Although funding for this activity could come from Dunn's general budget, it would result in the loss of a 20% staff member or a 4 hour para-professional.

What if the Dunn Fund doesn't bring in the amount identified on the flyer?

Items will be prioritized and funded as monies allow. PTO will then plan and support additional fundraisers.

Why is the Dunn Fund taking place during the designated time frame of September 27th through November 7th?

The time frame allowed for families to catch up from back-to-school expenses, ends prior to the start of the holiday season, and allows for planning time should additional fundraisers be needed.

I just received a note from my child's teacher explaining that her class is collecting money for a homeless shelter. I thought the Dunn Fund would be replacing all fundraising, yet I'm still being asked to make a donation. Why is that?

As described on the Dunn Fundraising Structure and Action Plan (on website and attached), Dunn has 3 types of structures: Student Action, Experience/Resource, and Community Partnership. Student initiated action is a major tenet of our IB philosophy and is encouraged, modeled, and supported. Sometimes student action is monetary focused, while at other times it is not. By utilizing a direct donation program to reduce fundraising, increased student action can be embraced!

How much did the Community Partnership dollars raise last year?

Community Partnership	Monies Received During 2019-20	Changes for 2020-21
Box Tops for Education	\$ 328.50	
Morning Fresh Dairy milk caps	\$ 130.85	
Book Fair	\$ 2,604.00	Two book fairs: Usborne in fall, Scholastic in spring
Rollerland Skating Center	\$ 350.00	

Can extended family members, friends, or employers make a donation?

Most definitely! All donations will be graciously accepted and will support Dunn in achieving its goal of 100% family participation.

I have a question about the Dunn Fund. Who do I ask?

Please email Lindsey Weatherby, Dunn's Office Manager (lweatherby@psdschools.org) or Abby Himlie, Principal (ahimlie@psdschools.org) or call 488-4829.

Can I make a donation through PSD's SchoolPay?

SchoolPay is a safe, secure way to make a donation with your credit card. Donate through your SchoolPay account or bring your credit card to the front office for processing.

* 3.35% service fee applies to all credit card payments/donations

