





Argyle Education Foundation (AEF)

Mission & Purpose

Investing in educational excellence – the Argyle ISD Education Foundation is an independent non-profit organization that was created to solicit, manage and distribute funds that will be used to enhance the educational experience of the students in Argyle ISD.

Argyle Education Foundation - Vision & Goals



- Create perpetual source of funds while maintaining fiscal responsibility
- Provide funds for programs and activities to broaden student educational development and enrichment
- Promote innovative and creative learning by providing grants and incentives to benefit Argyle ISD
- Provide an avenue for business and community involvement in the educational needs of Argyle ISD

Argyle Education Foundation - History



- Established in February 2003, the Argyle ISD Education Foundation has provided almost 20 years of service to AISD and the Argyle community
- Since AEF's inception, over \$2,300,000* has been distributed to AISD through teacher innovation, programming, grants, scholarships, STEM funding and recognition

2025-2026 ARGYLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Committee:

Hannah Robinson- President

Ron Schmidt-Treasurer

Ashley Cooley (non-voting)-VP, Staff Programs

Frank Dixon-Secretary

Directors:

Ashley Cooley (non-voting)

Hannah Robinson

Ty Rakestraw

Ron Schmidt

Lisa Washer

Frank Dixon

Joe Valdez

Craig Laughlin

Sean Scoville

Greg Sawko

Laura Truebenbach

Whitney Sterling



Nonvoting Members:

Dr. Dawn Jordan, AISD Assistant Superintendent of
Curriculum & Instruction

STAFF:

Director: Cara Armstrong

Investments

- AEF investments funds managed by  CFO4LIFE
- Within the endowment there are four distinct “buckets”
 - General - \$733,740.00 – establishing a perpetual income stream that we began drawing upon in 2014
 - Liza M-Z Restricted - \$29,723.00 – provides funding for the \$1,000 Annual Golden Eagle Teacher Excellence Award
 - Cantrell Restricted - \$10,496.00 – provides funding for annual health sciences student scholarship
 - CoServ Electric Teacher Assistance - \$155,500.00 – provides additional funding for the teacher grants

* Dollar amounts as of August 2025



Programs

2025 Teacher of the Year (partnered with AISD)

***Funded by the Lisa MZ Teacher Excellence Endowment.**

Provided cash prizes for each campus winner as well as an additional cash prize for the overall winners.



Marliyn Mykel- Argyle West Elementary School
Neal Karpienski - Argyle South Elementary School
Jordan Johnson - Hilltop Elementary School
Noel Nightingale
Karen Rast- Sixth Grade Center
Erin Turek- AMS
Steven Orlowski- AHS

Neal Karpienski– Elementary Teacher of the Year

Steven Orlowski– Secondary Teacher of the Year



Programs (continued)

2025 Student Scholarship Awards (\$1,000.00 each)

- The AEF CoServ Charitable Foundation Scholarship Award: **Pascal Omotayo**
- The AEF Deborah T. Combs-Cantrell Health Science Scholarship Award: **Bella Jefferys**
- The AEF Rudy Menn Community Service Scholarship Award: **Bella Jefferys**

Staff Appreciation

- \$2,000 of Gift Cards were given to AISD staff at the end of the year staff luncheon!



Development



- The 2025 Gala raised over \$150,000 to allow us to jumpstart our new mission...BONUSES! For our first year we are excited to provide bonuses for teachers, nurses, counselors and librarians. Our goal is to extend this to other student services next year and then eventually to all staff.
- We were proud to partner with the CoServ Foundation to provide an additional \$3,428.00 in teacher grants in 2024 for each campus to enhance learning at their school. AEF surprised the teachers in their classrooms last fall!
- AEF Employee giving program at AISD in 2024-2025
 - Staff participation for a total of nearly \$20,000!



AEF – What's Next?

- Continue to work closely with AISD Administration to fund teacher bonuses for the 25/26 school year.
- SAVE THE DATE!
 - Gala April 25, 2026
 - Car Raffle COMING SOON...
- Work in subcommittees to further foundation and district goals
- Endowments: We are working on funding new endowments for the coming year!
- Improve continuity within the Board to increase organizational continuity transitional efficiency



Questions / Comments

Thank you for your time



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Learn more at www.supportargyleisd.org

Argyle Education Foundation
Funding AISD today for a better tomorrow!