

Scholarship Committee

May 2025

LPSD School Board member, Amber Christensen-Fox, is the only board member on the committee and is informed by LPSD Accountant, Valerie Heinrichs who manages the distribution of scholarship monies.

The main oversight of scholarship monies focuses on the Linda Johnson Memorial Fund.

Linda Johnson Memorial Scholarship History

We did some digging to ensure an understanding of the history of the Linda Johnson Memorial Scholarship and the Borough's contributions. The Borough gave 5% of the ending market value of the fund until 7/1/2018.

The reason it was given to the Borough to manage was that we used to have a more robust investment plan than the School District's investment Policy. As our policy changed to more conservative, our returns were no better than theirs. The Assembly approved passing this back over to the School District.

Annual distribution of monies from the Borough to LPSD:

FY 2014	\$12,212.00
FY 2015	\$11,715.00
FY 2016	\$11,762.00
FY 2017	\$11,806.00
FY 2018	Turned the entire Scholarship Fund over to the School District (\$209,187.87)

The balance of the Scholarship Fund that is in a CD. It has been treated as unspendable permanent fund and as of March 31, 2025: \$244,423.79. Earnings in the money market fund of \$16,389.04.

The bylaws adopted in 2020 needed some updates and draft updated bylaws are included for discussion. The board will need to adopt the bylaws. The changes update to current practice and take advantage of BBRCTE career counselor work with tracking alumni.

Scholarship Data

Investment income timing delayed potential transfer of earnings to scholarship payment account.

	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21 **	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Beginning Fund Balance	\$23,605.37	\$50,482.37	\$40,942.37	\$26,085.37	\$12,544.88	\$3,616.77	\$1,484.09	\$13,484.09
Donations	\$4,594.00	\$3,710.00	\$893.00	\$1,022.00	\$2,571.89	\$399.14	\$0.00	\$900.00
Contributions	\$35,283.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,536.40
Refunds	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$750.00	\$982.46	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scholarship Payments	\$13,000.00	\$14,250.00	\$16,500.00	\$15,544.95	\$12,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$12,000.00	\$6,000.00
	\$50,482.37	\$40,942.37	\$26,085.37	\$12,544.88	\$3,616.77	\$1,484.09	\$13,484.09	\$7,047.69

** Foreign University payment with exchange rate increase and transaction fees, subsequently refunded.

Future Funding Structure

In FY25 the Pcard rebate was donated to the scholarship fund to resolve the deficit. The Pcard rebate typically is general fund local revenue to offset the staff costs for managing the program.

- Designate an amount LPSD will contribute toward scholarships annually - 5% of the LJMSF Principal balance on June 30 annually - FY25 would be estimate \$12,221.19
- Outreach fundraising drives - highlight one month
- Designate interest revenue on principal to fund scholarships, amount will vary by year and market conditions
- Designate a portion of interest revenue annually and add a portion to principal to grow the fund for long-term sustainability
- Consider reducing from 5 year to 4 for scholarships
- Consider revising scholarship amounts annually based on investment income