

May 21, 2025

Dear MES Foundation Donors,

On behalf of the Morningside Elementary School Foundation, I want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support this school year. Together, we are fostering teaching excellence and enhancing student achievement, ensuring a brighter future for every child at MES.

This year, we raised over \$246k, an increase of over 10% from the previous school year! Over 220 MES families contributed to our cause, along with our generous corporate sponsors Phoenix Renovations and Engel & Volkers, and our in-kind donors Six Feet Under, Sushi Party Atlanta, and Savi Provisions that helped support our donor appreciation events.

Our mission is guided by four key pillars: technology, teacher training, curriculum, and facilities enhancements. We are proud to report that less than 6% of our donations are spent on administrative & fundraising costs. Thanks to your contributions, **we've invested back all the money we raised this year** and made incredible strides in each of these areas.

Here's how your support has made a tangible difference:



TEACHER TRAINING: This school year, 12 exceptional MES teachers and administrators attended impactful training, including Orton-Gillingham (OG) instruction workshops, PBIS conferences, and leadership development sessions. These experiences fuel classroom innovation and strengthen our learning community for all students.



CURRICULUM SUPPORT: By funding vital curriculum needs, including both digital and print materials (e.g., workbooks), we enabled the administration to allocate resources toward staffing and safety, directly enriching the student experience. We also piloted a program that provided 1:1 math and language arts tutoring to 15 students during the spring semester through a private organization, which helped grant our MES teachers the capacity to meet the needs of our broader student population. The students experienced growth in comparative MAP scores and earned MES praise from APS district leaders.



TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES: The Foundation's history is rooted in efficiently and effectively meeting the technology needs of our school. This year, we installed three new sign-in computers in the lobby to streamline visitor and volunteer check-ins, funded digital media software, and acted fast to provide microscopes to 5th grade classrooms so the science teachers could give students access to this equipment for their biology unit.



FACILITIES ENHANCEMENTS: From the new Raptor visitor check-in systems to the PikMyKid software that streamlines dismissal with safety and convenience in mind, your donations have had a profound impact. The Foundation recently funded the most comprehensive security audit since returning to the renovated campus, and the findings drove material investment in strategic updates to entry systems, campus visibility, and emergency preparedness - prioritizing the protection of our students and bolstering peace of mind for families and teachers. We are most excited and proud of our partnership with [MES parent and famous local artist Greg Mike who was able to bring his character "Loudmouf" to life](#) in our MES playground along with a bespoke art curriculum leading up to the big reveal.

...but wait, there's more!



The Foundation is thrilled to unveil our latest strategic investment: transforming the previously unusable outdoor space on the west side of campus into a vibrant area for our students. Together with the PTA and administration, we championed the need for necessary repair and safety requirements from the district. And now, **the MES Foundation will lay the foundation** by funding the installation of artificial turf, creating a flexible space for unstructured play. This marks the first step in a tiered rollout plan, with more exciting enhancements on the horizon. We can't wait to see the joy this brings to our MES students and teachers!

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to continue our strong collaboration with Principal Baron as he takes on his new role as the official MES principal. **Congratulations Principal Baron on this well-deserved achievement**—your leadership will undoubtedly guide us to even greater heights in the coming years!

We are proud of these accomplishments, and they would not have been possible without the unwavering generosity of our MES Foundation donors. Your dedication to our mission fuels impactful changes that **benefit every student, teacher, and family in our community**. Together, we are creating a legacy of excellence and opportunity.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Davis".

Michelle Davis
President, Morningside Elementary School Foundation