



2026 Endowment Campaign FAQs

Q: What is the purpose of this campaign?

A: We are growing a permanent endowment that generates reliable, annual funding to support our schools—forever. Instead of one-time fundraising, we're creating a sustainable source of support for students, teachers and programs.

Q: What will my money actually support?

A: Annual earnings from the endowment will support priorities such as teacher innovation grants, student opportunities, and strategic needs that fall outside the school district's budget. A few examples could be STEM equipment, AI programs, classroom library expansions, field trips, arts equipment, mental health and resilience programs, student scholarships and educational/leadership conferences.

Q: What is endowment?

A: An endowment is a permanently invested fund. The principal is never spent. Instead, the investment income is distributed each year to support the mission.

Q: Why give to the Ashland City Schools Foundation instead of directly to the Community Foundation?

A: The schools foundation is an affiliate of the community foundation, meaning funds are professionally managed and invested by the community foundation, while the schools foundation provides leadership on how funds support the district. The schools foundation is specifically focused on the needs, priorities, and opportunities within our school district.

Q: What if I want to give over time?

A: Multi-year pledges and planned gifts are welcome.

Q: Can I leave a legacy with my gift?

A: Yes. Donors can establish named funds for the benefit of ACSF or include the endowment in estate plans to create lasting impact.

Q: I pay taxes for the school district. How is this different?

A: Public funding covers core operations. The ACSF endowment provides flexible funding for innovation, enrichment, and opportunities beyond what tax dollars can support. Donations have allowed us to fund recent projects like Archer Auditorium, the Keith Wygant Memorial Field House, Project Pavise and Leader in Me.

Q: With Ohio's public school funding facing future uncertainties and potential budget cuts, why should local donors step up to support the foundation's endowment?

State tax dollars are unpredictable and cover only the basics. Your donation is a permanent investment that helps shield our students from state-level budget volatility and supports the specialized programs that define a top-tier education.