

MPAEF Endowment Update

2014-2015



THE ENDOWMENT FOR
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
MENLO PARK-ATHERTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

In this newsletter:

Accomplishments
Performance Review
Asset Allocation
Planned Giving Program
Professional Development

+ Raised over \$150,000 in new assets from our 8th Grade Families

+ Started New Planned Giving Program

+ Total Endowment assets are \$2.9M as of 6/30/15

+ Parents with children from kindergarten through 8th grade all contributed to our Endowment -

Thank you!!!

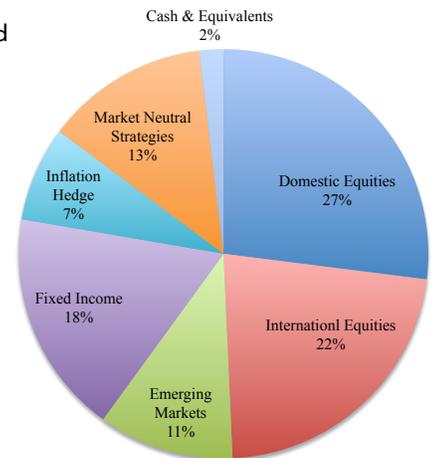
+ Endowment Donor Roll

Performance Review:

- US Equities outperformed in FY15, as turmoil in the Eurozone and China weighed on International Equity markets. Further, the strength of the US Dollar, particularly versus the Euro and Yen, weighed on non-USD returns.
- Fixed Income was slightly positive, while Natural Resource Equities were down approximately 25% with the sell-off in the price of oil and other commodities.
- The MPAEF Endowment returned -2.5% in the Fiscal Year 2015.

Portfolio Asset Allocation

The Endowment's portfolio remains diversified across asset classes and strategies, which did not serve it well in FY15, as exposure to any asset class other than U.S. Equities proved a drag on total performance. In line with the broader market, the Endowment's U.S. Equity allocation was the strongest absolute performer, while International Developed and Emerging Market Equities were negative and Fixed Income was modestly positive. The Endowment's return was weighed down most by its allocation to Natural Resource Equities, specifically Energy, which suffered due to falling oil prices.



What will your legacy be?

Consider including MPAEF in your estate and financial plans

Our Planned Giving program, along with the MPAEF Endowment, helps ensure that future students in our District will continue to receive a high-quality education. Planned Giving involves making charitable gifts through your estate plans and may result in favorable financial benefits for you or your estate. These plans can:

- Entitle you to gift or estate tax deductions;
- Enable you to leave a legacy for MPAEF and support the mission of MPAEF.

The most common type of planned gift is a bequest in your will or trust. The MPAEF Endowment also accepts assets including cash and securities. If you have decided to include the MPAEF in your estate plans, please let us know. We would like to thank you for your generosity, and include you as a member of the Menlo Park-Atherton Education Foundation Legacy Society. For more information about leaving your legacy, please contact the MPAEF Office.

<https://www.facebook.com/mpaef>

<http://www.mpaef.org/donate-to-endowment>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/menlo-park-atherton-education-foundation>

What do teachers and students have to say about our District's Professional Development?

Over the summer, teachers across the District were engaged in training in preparation for the 2015-2016 school year including; Readers Workshop through Teachers College, Ed Tech Teacher Workshops, Google Summit Conference, and Silicon Valley Math Initiative (SVMI) Coaching, in addition to our in-house professional development for all teachers in August.

"As a new teacher to the district this year, I was delighted to learn about so many professional development opportunities and am extremely appreciative of the opportunity to participate not only the summer before my first year, but throughout the school year as well. I was able to participate in variety of training opportunities varying in subject matter ranging from writing to technology in the classroom. The professional development I have received is truly one of many things that makes this one of the best districts to work in. Menlo Park City School District truly promotes life long learning for not only it's students, but staff as well."

Allison Ziff- 5th grade Encinal Teacher

"My students know my high standards for their learning. These high standards are constantly evaluated and redesigned, with the assistance from SVMI and Writer's Workshop, to match the students' needs. I rely on the MPEAF funding to fuel this evaluation process. Rich resources, provided by SVMI, Writer's Workshop, and the TLA could not exist for our students without the MPEAF as a funding source."

Sara Bartlett, Teacher at Oak Knoll

Music

"Music conferences are an invaluable resource. They have enabled me to interact and exchange ideas with other teachers as well as learn from the leading thinkers and innovators in the field of Orff music education. Over the years, music conferences have provided me with inspiration and ideas for student learning activities, concerts, and keeping the Orff curriculum at Oak Knoll School current with the latest trends and innovations."

Music Teacher-Oak Knoll

Reading Recovery

I have the pleasure of collaborating with first grade teachers and other Reading Recovery teachers locally and even outside of Menlo Park. The Ongoing Professional Development is really important since it keeps my teaching sharp and effective. Currently I am fulfilling requirements for RR in Spanish (DLL) Descubriendo La Lectura. I am truly excited to be a part of this amazing project and I thank the district for their sponsorship"

-Diana Torres- Reading Recovery Teacher Encinal

I feel that Lily is now a more dedicated student at school and she understands the importance of practicing reading and writing at home--which is something she never did before. I can only say, THANK YOU for your support of Lily's progress and Reading Recovery in our district."

-Nicole Jacobi-Parent

Writer's Workshop

"Parents are blown away by the thoughtfulness, the depth and rigor around writing using the Workshop Model. As their teacher, I'm always amazed at what the students are capable of and the stories they are creating."

-Heidi Yamada-teacher at Encinal

"Writers Workshop provides instruction that focuses on the goal of fostering life-long writers. Students learn to write in authentic and meaningful ways; which fosters independence. They write daily using a consistent writing process as they learn to express their ideas. Above all, it enhances teacher's ability and confidence when teaching writing."

-Kay Hatfield and Mary Ducharme, 2nd grade Teachers at Encinal

"Writer's Workshop helps me to express what I was feeling in my mind and made me realize how much I was capable of doing."

- 4th Grade Student Encinal

SVMI Training

SVMI training for (my) teacher has "...brought in a hands on and group work problems that make me feel like I was not doing math in a book. It is so much better because I can show and share my thinking with my classmates."

-4th Grade Student, on Model With Mathematics Real Life Pizza Problem

"SVMI, Writer's Workshop, and TLA function in the high level of Bloom's Taxonomy-analysis and evaluation. Passionate experts from various fields of expertise transfer highly effective techniques and lessons for my students to me, and then I create what works for my particular group of students."

Sara Bartlett, Teacher at Oak Knoll