



*Sue Nahmensen
Chief Executive
Officer*

Dear Ministry Partners,

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—" *Ephesians 2:8*. Lutheran schools provide an opportunity for students—and in many instances, their families—to receive this gift of the Holy Spirit and enter into or enrich their personal relationship with our Lord and Savior, grow in their faith, and receive the ultimate gift of salvation...for their tomorrows in eternity...for their life everlasting.



As LESA's eleventh year in ministry comes to a close, we are reminded of just how impactful Lutheran schools are to the present and future of the children who attend them. We are often overwhelmed by feelings of helplessness in the world in which we live today; recent events in our community make us long for peace and hope. The peace that transcends all understanding—and that hope—from God's plans to give hope and a future—may be found in the messages shared by our Lutheran schools, not only during chapel worship, but in each curricular area and the living witness of Master teachers. LESA is humbled to partner in ministry with each member school and agency in their mission to educate children in the Word of the Lord.

We are also humbled by your generous support of LESA. Through your gifts, LESA provides financial resources to families to make Lutheran education accessible to children from all walks of life and educational resources to support schools in fulfilling their mission to educate children...for eternity! Thank you for your partnership and support.



*John Diefenbach
LESA Board Chair*

Serving Him with you,

Sue Nahmensen

Sue Nahmensen
Chief Executive Officer

John A. Diefenbach

John Diefenbach
LESA Board Chair

Building Blocks Scholarships provide need-based financial assistance to families who cannot meet the cost of Lutheran elementary school education. To date, LESA's tuition assistance programs have collectively awarded 11,818 scholarship awards totaling over \$8.4 million. Praise be to God! This financial support gives children from all walks of life an opportunity to receive quality Lutheran education and the blessings of which are limitless and eternal!

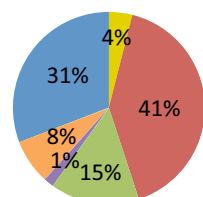


In 2013, LESA provided 306 Lutheran educators with 4,437 hours of professional development. More than 90% of these educators indicated an increase in knowledge and skills that would be helpful for them to apply to improve teaching.

LESA Revenue and Expenses 2013/2014 Fiscal Year

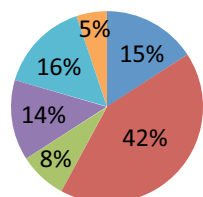
Revenue	Amount	% of Total Revenue
Individual & Business Contributions	\$79,819	4%
Grants & Foundations	830,991	41%
Fundraising	303,930	15%
Membership Dues	33,738	2%
Other Income	557	0%
Interest & Dividends	153,146	8%
Investment Income	624,366	30%
Total Revenue	\$2,026,547	100%

LESA
Revenue



Expenses	Amount	% of Total Expenses
Management & General	\$139,797	16%
Building Blocks Tuition Assistance	372,752	42%
Designated Tuition Assistance	71,275	8%
Educational Services	120,472	14%
Fundraising & Marketing	135,767	15%
Investment Fees	45,660	5%
Total Expenses	\$885,723	100%

LESA
Expenses



Who are the students served by LESA's Building Blocks Scholarship program?

Household Socioeconomic Status

Students in households with incomes below the federal poverty level	37%
Students in households with incomes above the federal poverty level	63%

Attend Lutheran Schools

Urban settings	19%
Suburban or rural settings	81%

Ethnicity

African American	41%
Asian	2%
Caucasian	53%
Eastern European or Middle Eastern	0%
Hispanic	2%
Native American	2%

Faith Affiliation

Lutheran	52%
Other faith denominations	36%
No faith home	12%

LESA Donors

We would like to acknowledge the 2013-2014 a lasting impact in the lives of children. If you

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Mission Statement

The Lutheran Elementary School Association (LESA) is a distinctively Lutheran, Christ-centered resource for those who teach and those who learn in Lutheran elementary schools in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

History

LESA was founded in 2004 and is a non-profit corporation and a public charity under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service. LESA has 30 member Lutheran elementary schools, four Lutheran high schools and three education related agencies serving 8,522 students.

Goals

- 1) Promote and develop financial resources for Lutheran schools in the St. Louis metro area.
- 2) Produce curriculum guides and professional development programs for principals and teachers.
- 3) Provide need-based financial aid for students to attend Lutheran elementary schools in the St. Louis metro area. To date, 10,000 awards totaling more than \$7 million in tuition assistance have been awarded through LESA programs.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you want to make a difference in the lives of children, we can use your help. Volunteers are needed for administrative support, special events, mentoring, and professional services. Your help will impact the lives of children through quality Lutheran education.



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Giving Opportunities

Your tax-deductible gift at any level stays right here in the St. Louis metropolitan area and helps provide a quality faith-based education benefiting children in PreK-8th. Every dollar raised will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis. Contact Katherine Auble at 314-268-1525 for more information.

- **Join the Founder's Society** by becoming an annual donor. You can make a gift online—by visiting www.LESAstl.org or by phone at 314-268-1525 or by mail at LESA, 3558 S. Jefferson, St. Louis, MO 63118.
- **Sponsor students** through need-based tuition assistance awards or a school with a cash gift to help offset operational expenses.
- **Support Fundraising** – LESA receives no state or federal funding, and thereby relies on fundraising to help make quality Lutheran education affordable for all families.
- **Corporate and Individual Sponsorships** are available for various programs, including Health and Wellness and STEM programming.
- **Leave a Legacy** - Membership in the **Heritage Club** is reserved for those who have included LESA in their will, trust, and/or estate plans.

Fundraising Activities



Give a card that gives back. Purchase your Christmas cards now through LESA. Artwork is designed by students of Lutheran elementary schools. Each pack of 10 cards with envelopes is \$10.



“A Night for Kids” Dinner Auction
April 18, 2015, St. Louis Marriott West.
Honoring Dr. Eugene W. (Gene) Lehr, a founding member of LESA. Tickets, tribute ads, and sponsorships available.



“Brew in the Lou... and Fine Wine Too”
October 17, 2015, Concordia Seminary.
Featuring tastings of St. Louis' best beer, wine, spirits, coffee, great food, live entertainment, craft vendors and exhibits. Sponsorships available.

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