



Dear Ross Valley School District Community,

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! We are excited to start a new school year and continue to support valued arts programs for our TK-8th grade children. Our arts education programs are in full swing and we are now able to fund new books for the five Ross Valley District schools.

Why do we have to pay for arts education? Over the past 40 years, California fiscal policies and Proposition 13 have decimated state educational funding, specifically art and music. The YES Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)3 fundraising organization, has been raising funds for RVSD arts programs since 1980, while also operating a theater production program for District students. Arts education in the RVSD is available to our children because of your support!

Providing a robust arts program alongside math, language arts, science and social studies, gives our children an invaluable, well-rounded education. Research shows arts education positively impacts students' academic, social and emotional outcomes ([Brookings.edu](https://www.brookings.edu/)). Our RVSD arts programs provide a channel for children to express themselves and create.

The YES Foundation raises money in real time. This year the YES Foundation will support:

- Weekly art & music classes for TK-5th grade
- Salaries & benefits for TK-5th grade art & music teachers
- Salaries & benefits for 6-8th grade music teachers
- Partial salaries & benefits for zero period White Hill art class
- Supplies for all art & music classes
- New books for all five RVSD schools
- After school YES Theater tuitioned programs for 3rd-8th grade

If every family donates to the YES Foundation this year and annually, our programs will thrive for years to come! Whether you're donating for your own child/ren or another child in our community, **we are all in this together, and any and all support is deeply appreciated.**

Thank you for being part of our close-knit, compassionate community that is the heart and soul of the Ross Valley School District. www.yestokids.org/donate

With gratitude,

Chelsea Donovan
Executive Director