



Dear Del Mar Union School District (DMUSD) community,

I would like to welcome all new and returning families, attending our schools in person or in the Launch program, to the 2020-2021 school year. I am proud to lead the Del Mar Schools Education Foundation (DMSEF) for another year. We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that raises funds for specialized, credentialed STEAM+ teachers across our school district. The DMSEF board includes parents from every DMUSD school and the Launch program.

We recognize that the end of last year was challenging and there is still much uncertainty in our lives. As DMSEF celebrates 20 years of raising funds for STEAM+, our founding mission and values are as important as ever:

- We believe that a prosperous society has its roots in a strong, well-funded public school system.
- We believe consistently well-funded schools are able to prepare our graduates to meet the challenges and opportunities of the world.
- We support our schools in their efforts to nourish our children's intellect, self-expression, social skills and engagement with the larger world.
- We support our STEAM+ program to help guide our students to realize their full potential. Through exploration, experimentation, and creativity, STEAM+ learning provides the hands-on experience that extends beyond the classroom and prepares tomorrow's leaders, innovators and global thinkers.

Last year, we were on track to have another record-breaking fundraising year until our schools were forced to close in March 2020. Even with these daunting circumstances, the majority of families in our community and many business partners supported our efforts. As a district, our community values our strong STEAM+ program and incredible teachers and we know this will continue through this year, when school is different, and into the next one.

We invite you, once again, to join us in funding an exceptional STEAM+ program by contributing the recommended amount of \$800/student during the course of this year. Your contribution will be allocated to your school of attendance (for both in person and Launch) for the next school year (2021 – 2022). For more information about our organization and fundraising campaigns, please visit our website at DMSEF.org and look for additional DMSEF communications in the next few weeks.

We wish you all a great first week of school!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phoebe Katsell".

Phoebe Katsell