



ANNUAL REPORT

Chancey Bush/The Gazette

YEAR IN REVIEW

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OUR MISSION

Atlas prepares and empowers all students for success on their post-graduate paths through educational excellence, character development, and community engagement.

THE ATLAS PILLARS

Character

Every child has the right to be successful. We refuse to have anything less than a rigorous academic program that sharpens their ability to think, understand, and communicate.

Education

Students who study academics without also building character is like producing a car without an engine—on the surface it appears to have everything it needs to move forward, but will stop far short of its destination. We pair our academics with a focused character program designed to strengthen the grit and resolve our scholars need to make it.

Community

Education happens beyond school, to the home, on the field, in everyday life. Atlas builds a team of teachers—our skilled staff, to parents, coaches, families and neighbors—and actively brings them together to educate students.

THE ATLAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stuart Coppedge,
Board Chair

Lance Bolton

Killjan Anderson

Carlos Jimenez

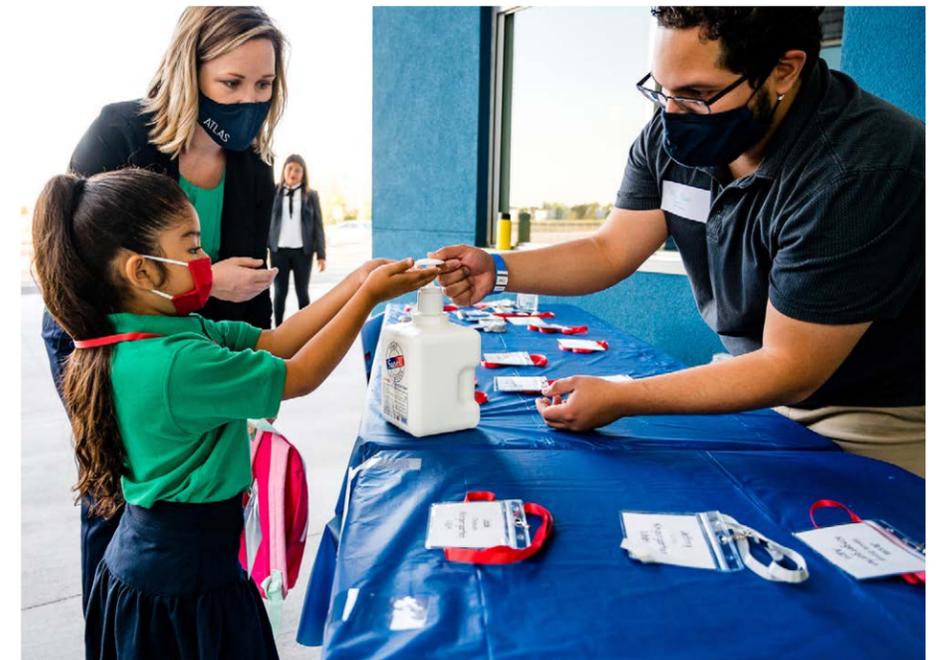
Chris Bender

Traci Marques

Adrienne Tuck

YEAR IN REVIEW

Each year Atlas strives to build on successes of the previous year. In 2020, we continued to see growth in areas upheld by Atlas' three pillars: education, character, and community.



REACH VALUES

RESPECT

EXCELLENCE

AUTHENTICITY

CURIOSITY

HARD WORK

REACHING FOR OUR FUTURE

Carlos Buendia Sevilla



Seven years after I joined Atlas Preparatory in fifth grade, I proudly walked the stage as a member of Atlas' 2018 graduating class, and in 2020 I am thankful for the opportunity to join the team as Atlas' Community Team Fellow. Currently, I am on a leave of absence for the academic year from Georgetown University, during which I will be studying for the LSAT, working at Atlas, and enjoying Colorado's awe striking landscapes before returning to college next fall.

My time at Atlas prepared me not just for Georgetown's rigorous academics, but it also enabled me to adapt as COVID-19 has and continues to bring new challenges. This could be seen as early lessons on computer literacy, an essential skill in the new normal, as well as simply life skills such as effective communication, which I use as I maintain close contact with my professors and advisors during my leave of absence.

Atlas has invested in my community by providing access to a top education that goes beyond the classroom. I know that my three younger siblings Bryan, Ian, and Dante (respectively in Atlas' high, middle, and elementary schools) are receiving the support that they need to be successful during and after COVID-19. Atlas creates a growth environment, one from which I could not be happier for my siblings to benefit. They interact with teachers who have also had an impact on my life and a school that enabled me to fulfill my dream as a first generation college student at Georgetown University.



POST-SECONDARY SUCCESS

Atlas' Post-Secondary Success Team provides students with the support and resources to choose the right post-graduation pathway for themselves – be that an apprenticeship program, college, the military, or the workforce.

Atlas High School graduated its first class of seniors in 2017. Since then, our alumni continue to stay connected with Atlas. Graduates continue to reach out to staff for college and career counseling. Some alumni have returned to Atlas as employees. Others have even become donors.

Angela Peña de Niz, Class of 2020 Valedictorian

CLASS OF 2020

86 Total seniors

97% Maintain contact with Atlas staff

95% Graduation rate



- Workforce 40.7%
- University 23.3%
- Community / Jr College 29.1%
- Didn't Graduate 4.7%
- Military 2.3%

2020 IN REVIEW

90%+ Student Retention Rate

94% Of Students at Atlas Receive Free or Reduced Lunch

Student Demographics

- Hispanic 83%
- Black 9%
- Caucasian 6%
- Other 2%

31,425 Meals Distributed

Atlas distributed 31,425 meals between March and October 2020 (during remote learning)

Atlas Achievements

In 2019, the CDE named both Atlas Middle School and Atlas High School Centers of Excellence. This was the second year in a row that Atlas High School received this designation. Also in 2019, Atlas High School received the ELPA Excellence award for demonstrating the highest growth and proficiency for English Language Learners in the state of Colorado.

No. 1 In Growth

In 2019, Atlas' middle and high schools ranked #1 in growth metrics on the CDE's School Performance Framework for similar schools in Colorado with high free and reduced lunch rates. This means on state testing assessments, including CMAS, PSAT and SAT, our students demonstrated significant levels of growth and achievement compared to peers.

91% Daily Engagement

Only 14.5% of school districts nationwide with demographics similar to Atlas are providing live instruction to remote learning students in grades K-12. Atlas is included in this group and has succeeded in engaging 91% of our students daily.

600 Hours of Service

Our mental health team provided over 600 hours of services between March and October 2020

Alumni Engagement

Our alumni know they can rely on us for support. Our post-secondary success team provides counseling for students and alumni, and are committed to maintaining contact at least once per quarter as for as long as our alumni seek support.

FREE MATERIALS PROVIDED BY ATLAS TO STUDENTS

2,995 Notebooks	4,850 Pencils
985 White Boards and Markers	1,970 Novels

Supplies Provided For Remote Learning

 1145 Laptops	 260 Hot Spots
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96%

Would Recommend

When surveyed, 96% of families would recommend Atlas to another family/student.

ENGAGEMENT RATES FOR LAST 3 YEARS

Class of 2018	80%
Class of 2019	81%
Class of 2020	96%



ATLAS' MASTER PLAN EXPANSION PROJECT

Data demonstrated that Atlas' incoming fifth grade students were performing below the national average on nationally normed exams measuring academic progress. Atlas' board of directors and school leadership knew that, in order to narrow the opportunity gap in Colorado Springs, we needed to reach students sooner than fifth grade. Therefore, in December of 2018, a campaign began to support the launch of Atlas Elementary School.

The campaign supports Atlas' Master Plan Expansion Project which includes the new construction of Atlas Elementary School, a multi-purpose gymnasium, track and field, a playground for elementary-age students, a playground for preschool-age students, bus loop, and renovated breezeway between Atlas Middle School buildings. This expansion has allowed for the successful August 2020 launch of Atlas Elementary School. Atlas welcomed 124 new elementary students this year in kindergarten through second grades. Third and fourth grades will be added over the next two years. At capacity, Atlas will serve 1,500 students at three separate schools.

Atlas is grateful to donors who have generously provided philanthropic support to Atlas. This project was completed by iiCon Construction and designed by FBT Architects. We are very close to meeting our \$13,500,000 fundraising goal and are accepting capital donations through the end of the year.

Gifts made to Atlas' campaign may be eligible for Colorado's Child Care Contribution Tax Credit which provides a state income tax credit equal to 50% of the amount of the contribution. Contact EDean@AtlasPrep.org for more information.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS

Atlas wishes to express gratitude to funders and donors who supported Atlas' Master Plan Expansion Project.

- Anschutz Foundation
- Blue Star Recyclers
- Shelley & Chris Bender
- Bloom Foundation
- Lisa Desrochers Bolton & Lance Bolton
- Louis Calder Foundation
- Debbie & Dean Carlson
- Chapman Foundation
- Charter School Growth Fund
- Colorado Health Foundation
- Colorado Springs Health Foundation
- Daniels Fund
- Ann & Frederick Dean
- Betsy & Warren Dean
- Joseph Henry Edmondson Foundation
- El Pomar Foundation
- Ent Credit Union YES Grant
- Adriana Wood & Arlen Feldman
- Gates Family Foundation
- The Hester and Edwin Giddings Foundation
- Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO)
- The Wes & Charlotte Howard Fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation
- Inasmuch Foundation
- Emily & Stephen Kim
- John and Margot Lane Foundation
- Traci Marques
- Nikki & Zachary McComsey
- Rick Mueller
- Susan & Thomas Neill
- Eileen Martin & Greer Rising
- Brittney & Christopher Stroh
- Oakwood Homes
- The Strub Heer Fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation
- Walton Family Foundation



Donor Spotlight **TOM & SUE NEILL**

"Life's been good, and it is time to give back. I am a results oriented, kick the tires kind of a person. I want to see what we are giving money to. I need to understand the people involved and the programs. I see that Atlas is making a positive difference. I think once people come to Atlas, meet the staff, students and see the programs - they are blown away." - Tom Neill

Atlas donors are conscientious, dedicated individuals who invest in opportunities for our students. They care about results and are committed to having an impact on our local community.

Tom and Sue Neill are friends of Atlas who retired to Colorado Springs from the Midwest. The Neills' philanthropic relationship with Atlas began with a \$100 gift in 2016. "We were new in town, and when you move to a town you have no history with, you have to try to figure out what activities you want to get involved with. Kids were always high on our list." Their donation came after hearing Atlas staff make a pitch for support to a philanthropic group to which they belong. Following that initial gift, Tom attended Breakfast & Beyond, one of Atlas' signature events.

There, he met one of Atlas' many energetic and passionate students. Tom noticed that Atlas teachers are also ardent – they have a deep desire to help students succeed.

"Teachers show students how to look people in the eye, shake hands, and communicate with adults and each other." Sue says, "The kids at Atlas are always so outgoing. The passion shows. Atlas staff does a good job of making sure the students know what opportunities are available and helps them prepare for those opportunities."

Tom says, "One of our big interests is to make sure our money is actually going to support Colorado Springs." Sue adds, "This is a big city and there are so many kids that are left behind who will never catch up. That's why we have buy-in to the elementary school – if you can get those kids in kindergarten it has to make an amazing difference."

Tom added, "Atlas gets high marks and only seems to get better. The performance of the kids, not just academically but socially - they feel so good about themselves. You can tell

students know that people care about them and are interested in helping them create their future."

This year, the Neills have committed up to \$10,000 specifically to provide a 1:1 match for all capital campaign gifts ranging from \$1 - \$2,000. As founding major gift donors of Atlas Elementary School, Tom and Sue wish to inspire new donors to join the community of supporters that promote the success of Atlas Elementary students.

DONATE

You may donate by visiting AtlasPrep.org/Donors to make your gift online or by mailing a check to:

Atlas Preparatory School
1602 South Murray Blvd,
Colorado Springs, CO 80916

Please contact Emily Dean at EDean@AtlasPrep.org to inquire about gifts of stock.

HONOR ROLL

Atlas wishes to thank donors who provided support to Atlas' Annual Fund during FY20 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)

FOUNDATIONS

Beanstalk Foundation
Louis Calder Foundation
The Colorado Health Foundation
The Colorado Trust
Dean Foundation, Inc.
Joseph Henry Edmondson Foundation
The Hester and Edwin Giddings Foundation
The Legacy Institute
Luther T. McCauley Trust
Myron Stratton Home
The North Colorado Springs Rotary Club Foundation
Nutrition Camp School Foundation
Pikes Peak Community Foundation
Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
Walton Family Foundation
Woodford Foundation for Limited Government

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Blue Star Recyclers
El Paso County Contractors Association
Eye Associates of Colorado Springs
Great Western Bank
Housing and Building Association of Colorado Springs
Prontocom

FRIENDS OF ATLAS

We recognize those in our circle of support who have donated \$2,020 or more during the past fiscal year.

Debbie & Dean Carlson
Tracy Coleman & Pat Hayward
Ann & Frederick Dean
The Wes and Charlotte Howard Fund of Pikes Peak Community Foundation
Nikki & Zachary McComsey
Susan & Thomas Neill
Cathy Robbins
The Strub Heer Fund of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation
Walton Family Foundation
Adriana Wood & Arlen Feldman

