

A Scholarship for Highly Mobile Students

Greeley-Evans District 6

Greeley, CO



COLORADO
Department of Education



Born through a partnership between Greeley-Evans District 6 and the Weld Community Foundation, a scholarship—the Bill Winde Fund—was initiated to provide educational supports to students in need. The team at Weld Community Foundation approached the Greeley-Evans District 6 Family Center with a desire to award funds to students. Based on research showing that high mobility is a correlate with poor academic performance, the District 6 team identified highly mobile students as a potential pool for scholarship candidates, including McKinney-Vento identified and migrant students who presented the greatest need.

District 6 began the process by meeting in person with the team at the Weld Community Foundation, establishing goals, hearing donors communicate their vision for the project, and building a relationship between the two organizations and point persons who would coordinate



the logistics of the award. Throughout the school year, a student liaison with District 6 was tasked with identifying candidates for each grade level (7th, 8th, 10th, and 11th). Students asked to apply were highly mobile, had high GPAs, no serious behavior infractions, and good attendance. Candidates completed an application including an essay on how such a scholarship would help them. Finalists were interviewed by a panel of foundation and outside members and students were chosen based on their written applications and interview answers. The liaison assisted the students in making purchases with funds. Winners were allowed to make purchases which would support their education, including clothing, school supplies, technology, musical instruments, and similar items.

An unexpected result of this endeavor was the number of strong relationships built with families. The liaison accompanied families to make purchases at local stores and in the process learned more about their hopes and dreams. Several families allowed the liaison to make home visits in which great connections were made regarding the students' education; families shared their history which helped the liaison to get an intimate look into each family's backgrounds.

The scholarship was designed to be renewed for each student annually until graduation from a District 6 school, as long as they maintain good grades and behavior, to create stability in education for the students. The program's hope is that stability will be increased for the students and therefore increase academic performance. District 6 hopes to continue not only relationships with each family, but the partnership with the Weld Community Foundation. Their combined goal of long-term student stability for highly mobile students has motivated the partnership with a local foundation and families and they hope this contribution continues to support youth in need.

Essential Element 4—Dedicate Necessary Resources
Standard 6—Collaborating with the Community