

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Santa Monica Education Foundation Kicks Off Calendar Year-End Campaign with \$50,000 Match

Through December 31, donors can double their impact for Santa Monica students

Santa Monica, Calif., December 17, 2021 – Thanks to an anonymous donor who has offered a \$50,000 matching gift, parents and community members can now double their support for Santa Monica schools. This generous community member is offering a dollar-for-dollar match for all donations to the Ed Foundation up to \$50,000 through Friday, December 31.

"We are honored that a member of our community has come forward with such a generous gift, and I hope it inspires others to give," said Alison Havel, President of the Ed Foundation Board of Directors. "Donations help fund important social-emotional programs for students, along with arts programs and instructional assistants. During this season of giving, I hope many people will take advantage of this matching gift to help our students and schools."

Donations to the Ed Foundation support a variety of programs and additional staff at each public school in Santa Monica. This includes elementary instructional aides, who work with students in small groups, elementary arts programs, and a stretch grant for each school. In addition to using stretch grants for STEM and other enriching programs, many schools are using their stretch grants this year to bring in social-emotional programs to support students, from elementary school through high school. These social-emotional programs help students reduce stress, and develop social and academic skills so they have a better sense of themselves and are ready to learn.

For more information, go to <u>smedfoundation.org</u>. Donations can be made at <u>smedfoundation.org/donate</u>.

About the Santa Monica Education Foundation

Contributions to the Santa Monica Education Foundation fund excellent programs at every Santa Monica public school – from arts to STEM to wellness – that shape our future problem solvers, visionaries, and global citizens.

Established in 1982 by a dedicated group of parents, community leaders, and local business owners, the Ed Foundation raises funds to enhance and supplement the curriculum of the Santa Monica schools. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all public-school students in Santa Monica.

To learn more about the Ed Foundation, visit <u>smedfoundation.org</u>.