



WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CAMPAIGN?

The **Community Investment Campaign** helps to buffer our school from the reality of public funding.

CHARITABLE GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CAMPAIGN:

- Help to cover the gap between what we receive from public funding and the actual cost to provide our students with a Great Hearts education.
- Allow us to offer our students a tuition-free, private school-caliber education in a public school setting.
- Keep our class sizes smaller for individualized attention.
- Enable us to offer programs such as art, music and foreign language on a daily basis.
- Support our excellent and dedicated faculty and facilities.

100% of **Community Investment campaign** gifts made to the school stay at the school and directly support our operating budget. In fact, the **Community Investment campaign** makes up a portion of our overall school budget.

CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE FUNDING GAP?

Charter and traditional public schools receive what is called a “base per pupil” amount. For a charter school, this amount comes only from the state’s general fund (and some federal grants). For a traditional public school, the majority of this amount comes from local property taxes. However, a traditional public school’s base per pupil amount is often increased from sources that are not provided to charter schools like local bonds, voter-approved budget overrides, and facilities funding received from the state’s school facilities board.

When all sources are totaled, district schools receive significantly more in public funding than not-for-profit charter schools. Depending on the district it resides in, a charter school can receive approximately **\$1,500 less per student** than the public district school next door.

WHY DOES OUR SCHOOL FUNDRAISE?

We fundraise not only because of the low per-pupil investments we receive from the state, we also do more inside our classrooms than you will find at many traditional public schools: smaller class sizes, lower student-to-teacher ratios, and daily core curricular programs like **art, music, foreign language, drama and poetry**. These benefits add to the richness of the student experience, but they do create expense. Our children deserve the best educational experience available. We rely on our partnership with families to help provide their children with this unique and worthwhile education.

WHAT CAN I GIVE?

The approximate gap between what we receive from public funding and the cost to provide the education our students deserve is \$1,500 per student. **Gifts of all sizes** are needed to bridge this gap, and we ask each family to contribute in a way that is meaningful to them.

Would you like to make your gift online? Please visit montevista.greatheartsamerica.org/support.

