

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



LA PAZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL DIRECTOR AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On September 15th, 1821 Costa Rica declared independence from Spain, paving the way for the formation of a new country, with a new blend of cultural traditions that continue to evolve to this day. At La Paz, this fusion of culture is a consistent part of the student learning experience as we honor the lessons learned from the past to build a sustainable future. The year 2020-2021 gave us an incredible opportunity to expand our impact for generations to come while building on our existing successes.

Thanks to the generosity of the **Pura Vida Education Fund**, the tireless efforts of faculty and staff and the trust of our surrounding communities, **La Paz completed what may have been perceived as an impossible task** of remodelling and equipping an abandoned hospital, enrolling and onboarding 180 new students in PreK-9 and hiring/"Lapazifying" new staff, all in a period of less than 5 months leading up to August, 2021. To open a new school during the height of a pandemic under such a short timeline was nothing short of a miracle but **WE DID IT** thanks to a community effort.

At La Paz Cabo Velas we learned to live with the Covid pandemic by creatively and safely welcoming students back to campus in a protocolized manner. Learning from the rapid transition to virtual learning in 2019-2020, our teachers created an engaging hybrid program that allowed students to actively participate in the La Paz experience whether they were on or off campus. Throughout the year, the board responsibly raised salaries to pre-pandemic amounts, thanks to the effective management of our budget as well as the generosity of our donors.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to our friends near and far who believe deeply in the mission of La Paz and have helped us work through the pandemic together.

In Peace,

The La Paz Board and General Director





LA PAZ BY THE NUMBERS

La Paz Community School serves a students population of **290 students** representing to **5 continents** and over **30 countries**

The **60%** of our students are **Costa Rican**

The **63%** of our students receive **financial aid or scholarship**

STAFF

39 Full Time **teaching** staff

8 **Assistant** teaching staff

19 **Admin and Support**



FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The La Paz Community School Scholarship Program is a donor-funded initiative that is aimed at identifying well supported children with less means in our communities and offering them a world-class bilingual education with the expressed intent of creating compassionate and informed leaders who will have the capacity and skills to serve their communities, nations, and the world. This program offers the opportunity to match donors directly to individual students to ensure the success of the student and to provide a tangible and direct connection between you, the donor, and the money you donate.

Total: \$259 000

RUTA LA PAZ XI

For the 2nd year in a row the Ruta La Paz 5km race was held virtually. Families joined us from all over the world to participate in this activity that promotes healthy living while actively supporting the La Paz Scholarship program. We hope to see everyone on the beach together in June, 2022 to return to the roots of the Ruta La Paz community event.

Total: \$10 000

THE ANNUAL FACULTY FUND

Empowering and Retaining World Class Educators is the key to our success. Since the inception of La Paz in 2007, the quality of the student learning experience is directly connected to the expertise and commitment of the teaching staff.

Quality educators require consistent coaching and professional development as well as a salary and benefits that compensate for their tireless commitment to the students. Beginning in 2019, the La Paz development team created the La Paz Faculty Fund to help empower and retain the best of the best teachers that we work hard to discover and cultivate. The La Paz Faculty Fund is donor sponsored and invested in teacher compensation packages and professional development.

Total: \$113 000

WORLD CHILDREN'S PROJECT ENDOWMENT FUND

This fund was created in 2015 as a sustainable opportunity to support youth from the Guanacaste region to pursue experiential, bilingual education at La Paz. The Fund is valued at \$500,000 and distributes its dividends each year to help support the La Paz Scholarship Program. To support the growth of the Fund, WCP was gifted 13 building lots in Pacific Heights in the community of Potrero in July, 2019. Proceeds from the sales go directly towards the Endowment Fund.

Total: \$8 000

THE KAISER BREITLANDER MEMORIAL FUND

On January 15, 2015 the lives of fellow community members, Sarah and Peter Breitlander were changed forever when they lost their first-born and only son, Kaiser James. Kaiser was a happy little boy who loved to laugh and make others smile. During the darkest days of their grief, family and friends helped Sarah and Pete establish the Kaiser Breitlander Memorial Fund to help support a wide variety of essential services for La Paz scholarship students including but not limited to special educational services, occupational therapy, educational psychology, and counseling. These special services are essential to ensuring an equitable and inclusive learning environment for children with less resources at La Paz.

Total: \$14 000



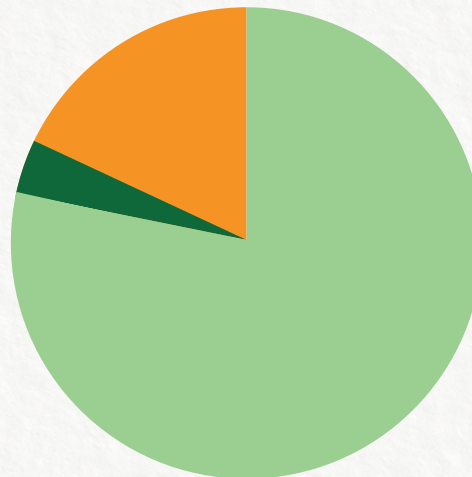
2020-2021 FINANCES

During the 2020-2021 school year, La Paz Community School earned a **gross revenue of \$3 222 322** with **expenses of \$3 211 471**. For the 2020-2021 school year we will continue our growth plans with the goal of improving our fundraising and the benefits of our staff to maintain and enhance the best educational experience for our community.

Below is a summary of La Paz Community School revenues and expenses for the School year ending August 31, 2021.

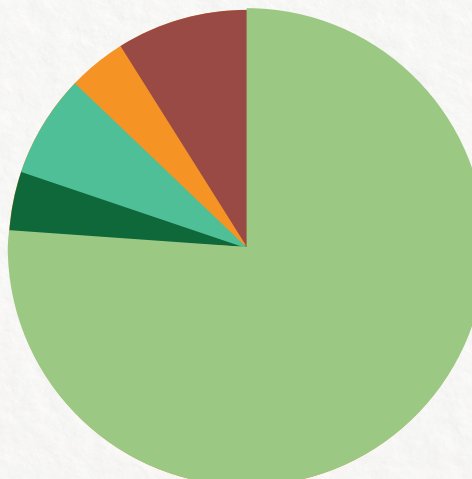
INCOMES

- Tuition Fees (with discounts)
- Donations
- Other income



EXPENSES

- Sales costs
- Building & Grounds
- Loan payment
- Generals costs
- Humans Resources



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President (2016-actual)	Gabriel Chaves
Vice president (2021)	Melissa Cerdas
Secretary (2021)	Tatiana Echeverría
Treasurer (2021)	René Zahr
Vocal 1 (2021)	Omar Sancho
Vocal 2 (2021)	Karol Trejos
Vocal 3 (2021)	Carlos Bolaños
Fiscal (2021)	Marcela Fernández





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LA PAZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL
ASOCIACIÓN ESCUELA COMUNAL LA PAZ
CÉDULA JURÍDICA 3-002-498041

CABO VELAS

400m Este de la entrada al Proyecto
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Cruz, Guanacaste, Costa Rica 50308

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TEMPISQUE

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