



## NEWS For Immediate Release

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### **Carroll Education Foundation earns Candid (formerly Guidestar) 2022 Platinum Seal of Transparency**

*Platinum Seal allows donors to focus on progress and results*

(Southlake, TX...) Kathy Lanier, Executive Director at Carroll Education Foundation, Inc. (CEF), announced that for the third year in a row CEF has earned the 2022 Platinum Seal of Transparency, the highest level of recognition offered by Candid, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formerly known as Guidestar, that provides a database of charities across the United States.

CEF earned its Platinum Seal by sharing metrics that highlight progress CEF is making in fulfilling its mission: building financial support from the community and corporate partners to ensure excellence in education for all students in Carroll Independent School District (CISD).

“We raise funds from generous Dragon families and businesses that help to fund the salaries of teachers and other educators whose positions aren’t required or fully funded by the State of Texas. These teacher positions are key to providing a superior education for our children,” explains Kali Sommer, current CEF board chair. “CEF is the only group that our school district allows to fund teachers and staff at our school campuses. The Candid recognition emphasizes our commitment to excellence as we work fulfill our mission.”

Candid is helping donors move beyond simplistic ways of nonprofit evaluation, such as overhead ratios.

“It’s so important to be transparent about our work. Through the Candid Platinum Level, we can easily share up-to-date organizational metrics with our supporters and with Candid’s online audience which includes donors, grant makers, our peers, and the media,” said Ms. Sommer.

To reach the Platinum Level, CEF, founded in 1996, has been adding extensive information to its Nonprofit Profile on GuideStar. As GuideStar/Candid explains, by taking the time to provide this information, CEF demonstrates its commitment to transparency and to giving donors and funders meaningful data to evaluate nonprofit performance.

"I encourage the public to visit our profile on GuideStar to see what we're all about," added Ms. Sommer. "We're thrilled to receive this honor for the third year in a row. It will help us better communicate CEF's exciting initiatives, transparency, and the contributions of our generous community."

### **About Carroll Education Foundation**

Founded in 1996, Carroll Education Foundation, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. CEF works to build financial support by fundraising in the community and through corporate partners to provide private resources to help ensure an exceptional education for Carroll Independent School District students, now and for future generations. Over the years, millions of dollars in contributions have provided supplemental funding for teachers and other educators whose positions the state of Texas does not require but that the Southlake community considers necessary for a superior education. CEF is the only outside group CISD allows to fund teachers and staff at district campuses. With a 20-member board of directors led this year by Kali Sommer, CEF has offices at 2400 North Carroll Avenue in Southlake. Executive director is Kathy Lanier. They are on the web at <https://carrolleducationfoundation.org/>.

### **About GuideStar Nonprofit Profiles**

In February 2019, GuideStar joined forces with Foundation Center to form Candid, a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Today, GuideStar is a service of Candid. The GuideStar database contains a profile for every tax-exempt nonprofit registered with the IRS. The profiles are populated with information directly from nonprofits, the IRS, and other partners in the nonprofit sector. Candid encourages every nonprofit to claim and update its profile at no cost to the organization. Updating allows nonprofits to share a wealth of up-to-date information with the more than 13 million people who visit [guidestar.org](http://guidestar.org) to learn more about nonprofit organizations each year. Updating also allows nonprofits to share information with the more than 200 philanthropic websites and applications that are powered by GuideStar data, such as AmazonSmile, Facebook, and Network for Good. To reach a given participation level, organizations must complete all required fields for that level. The GuideStar participation levels, acknowledged as symbols of transparency in the nonprofit sector, are displayed on all updated participants' profiles in the GuideStar database.

### **About Candid**

Every year, millions of nonprofits spend trillions of dollars around the world. Candid finds out where that money comes from, where it goes, and why it matters. Through research, collaboration, and training, Candid connects people who want to change the world to the resources they need to do it. Candid's data tools on nonprofits, foundations, and grants are the most comprehensive in the world. Find out more at [candid.org](http://candid.org) and on Twitter @CandidDotOrg.

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