

HELIOS EDUCATION FOUNDATION – FACT SHEET

About Helios Education Foundation

- Helios Education Foundation is one of the largest nonprofit organizations focused exclusively on education within Arizona and Florida.
- The Foundation’s mission is: To enrich the lives of individuals in Arizona and Florida by creating opportunities for success in postsecondary education.
- Helios Education Foundation was established in 2004 following the sale of Southwest Student Services Corporation, a full-service student loan products and services company with affiliates in Arizona and Florida. The net proceeds from the sale were used to fund Helios Education Foundation’s endowment.

Helios Education Foundation’s Community Investment

- Since its inception, Helios Education Foundation has invested nearly \$44 million in education-related programs and initiatives.
- Helios is focused on enriching lives in three distinct areas within education:
 - Early Childhood Education – Ensuring children, ages 0-5, are prepared to enter school ready to succeed.
 - Improved Teacher Quality
 - Transition Years (Grades 5 – 12) – Helping youth stay in school, transition successfully between the various stages of education, and graduate academically prepared.
 - Improved Teacher Quality
 - Increased Curriculum Rigor and Student Readiness
 - Ongoing Personal Growth and Character Development
 - Fostering Parent and Community Engagement
 - Postsecondary Scholarships – Providing young adults with the opportunity to attend and the support to succeed in postsecondary education.
 - Increased Financial, Academic and Personal Support

Helios Education Foundation’s Leadership

- Vince Roig, Chairman of the Board
- Paul J. Luna, President and Chief Executive Officer
- Board - In addition to Mr. Roig and Mr. Luna, the Board includes: Don Aripoli, Vice President of Student Affairs at Missouri State University; Tom Herndon, retired Executive Director of the Florida State Board of Administration; William Jenkins, retired teacher; Dr. Ioanna Morfessis of IO.INC, and Camelback Community Bank Chairman, Barbara Ralston.
- Management - Barbara Ryan, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer; Michael Chesin, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; and Ian Smith, Senior Vice President and Chief Communications Officer; Karen Ortiz, Vice President and Director of Arizona Early Childhood Education; Tammi Crum, Executive Assistant to the President.