

Form **990**
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)
Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public
Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990

OMB No 1545-0047
2017
Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2017, and ending 12-31-2017

- B** Check if applicable
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Final return/terminated
 Amended return
 Application pending

C Name of organization
The Students First Foundation

Doing business as

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
325 Sharon Park Drive 521

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
Menlo Park, CA 94025

D Employer identification number
27-3816952

E Telephone number
(323) 892-2080

G Gross receipts \$ 1,617,640

F Name and address of principal officer
David Welch
325 Sharon Park Drive 521
Menlo Park, CA 94025

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes No
H(b) Are all subordinates included? Yes No
If "No," attach a list (see instructions)
H(c) Group exemption number ▶

I Tax-exempt status 501(c)(3) 501(c) () ◀ (insert no) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ studentsmatter.org

K Form of organization Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation 2010

M State of legal domicile CA

Part I Summary

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities
Students Matter promotes access to quality public education through impact litigation, communications and advocacy Students Matter fights for education equality in the court of law and in the court of public opinion, where students rights and voices matter most

2 Check this box if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets

3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	2
4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	2
5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2017 (Part V, line 2a)	0
6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6
7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	0
7b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	

	Prior Year	Current Year
	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	2,374,924
9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)		0
10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	3,123	7,700
11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)		0
12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	2,378,047	1,617,640

13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)		0
14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		0
15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)		0
16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	90,058	60,512
b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶60,512		
17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	2,704,055	1,110,497
18 Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2,794,113	1,171,009
19 Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	-416,066	446,631

	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	401,698
21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	2,912,970	2,284,074
22 Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	-2,511,272	-2,064,641

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

Sign Here
Signature of officer: _____ Date: 2018-10-05
David Welch President
Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only
Print/Type preparer's name: Iryna Oreshkova CPA
Preparer's signature: Iryna Oreshkova CPA
Date: _____
Check if self-employed PTIN: P00842984
Firm's name: IRYNA AC Firm's EIN: 20-4994635
Firm's address: 1000 Broadway 200-G Phone no: (510) 467-9506
Oakland, CA 94607

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission

Students Matter promotes access to quality public education through impact litigation, communications and advocacy Students Matter fights for education equality in the court of law and in the court of public opinion, where students rights and voices matter most

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

4a (Code) (Expenses \$ 1,016,435 including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
See Additional Data

4b (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c (Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses ▶ 1,016,435

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	Yes	
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)?	Yes	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	Yes	
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		No
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I		No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II		No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III		No
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV		No
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V		No
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI		No
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII		No
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII		No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX		No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X		No
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X		No
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII		No
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional		No
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?		No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV		No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV		No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV		No
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)	Yes	
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II		No
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III		No

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

	Yes	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>		No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		
21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>		No
22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>		No
23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>		No
24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i>		No
b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		No
c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?		No
d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		No
25a Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>		No
b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>		No
26 Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>		No
27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>		No
28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)		
a A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	Yes	
b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>		No
c An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>		No
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	Yes	
30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>		No
31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i>		No
32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>		No
33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>		No
34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>		No
35a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		No
b If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>		
36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>		No
37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i>		No
38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	Yes	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

Table with columns for question ID, question text, and Yes/No response boxes. Includes sections for backup withholding, employee reporting, foreign accounts, prohibited tax shelter transactions, deductible contributions, and 501(c)(7), (12), and (29) organizations.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O See instructions

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI [X]

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year; 1b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent; 2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?; 3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?; 4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?; 5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?; 6 Did the organization have members or stockholders?; 7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?; 7b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?; 8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following; 8a The governing body?; 8b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?; 9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O.

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?; 10b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?; 11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?; 11b Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990; 12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13; 12b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?; 12c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done; 13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?; 14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?; 15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?; 15a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official; 15b Other officers or key employees of the organization; 16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?; 16b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 17 List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed; 18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply; 19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year; 20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records.

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a Federated campaigns . . .	1a					
	b Membership dues . . .	1b					
	c Fundraising events . . .	1c					
	d Related organizations	1d					
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	1,609,940				
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$ _____		1,350,535				
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f		1,609,940				
Program Service Revenue	2a _____	Business Code					
	b _____						
	c _____						
	d _____						
	e _____						
	f All other program service revenue		0				
	g Total. Add lines 2a-2f		0				
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		7,700			7,700	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds		0				
	5 Royalties		0				
	6a Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
		b Less rental expenses					
		c Rental income or (loss)					
		d Net rental income or (loss)		0			
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
		b Less cost or other basis and sales expenses					
		c Gain or (loss)					
		d Net gain or (loss)		0			
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18	a					
		b Less direct expenses	b				
		c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events		0			
	9a Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19	a					
b Less direct expenses		b					
c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities			0				
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a						
	b Less cost of goods sold	b					
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory		0				
11a Miscellaneous Revenue	Business Code						
	b _____						
	c _____						
	d All other revenue						
	e Total. Add lines 11a-11d		0				
12 Total revenue. See Instructions		1,617,640			7,700		

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21.	0			
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22.	0			
3 Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, line 15 and 16.	0			
4 Benefits paid to or for members.	0			
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.	0			
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B).	0			
7 Other salaries and wages.	0			
8 Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401 (k) and 403(b) employer contributions).	0			
9 Other employee benefits.	0			
10 Payroll taxes.	0			
11 Fees for services (non-employees)				
a Management.	0			
b Legal.	130,377	130,377		
c Accounting.	8,500		8,500	
d Lobbying.	108,317	108,317		
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17.	60,512			60,512
f Investment management fees.	0			
g Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O).	41,379	41,379		
12 Advertising and promotion.	0			
13 Office expenses.	0			
14 Information technology.	0			
15 Royalties.	0			
16 Occupancy.	0			
17 Travel.	4,642	4,642		
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials.	0			
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings.	0			
20 Interest.	84,242		84,242	
21 Payments to affiliates.	0			
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization.	0			
23 Insurance.	0			
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a Public relations.	523,835	523,835		
b Community Outreach.	207,885	207,885		
c Dues, Fees & Other Charges.	1,320		1,320	
d				
e All other expenses.	0			
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e.	1,171,009	1,016,435	94,062	60,512
26 Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash—non-interest-bearing	142,699	1	14
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	250,000	2	219,419
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net		3	0
	4 Accounts receivable, net		4	0
	5 Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L		5	0
	6 Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L		6	0
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	0
	8 Inventories for sale or use		8	0
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	8,999	9	0
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a		
	b Less accumulated depreciation	10b		10c 0
	11 Investments—publicly traded securities		11	0
	12 Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11		12	0
	13 Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11		13	0
	14 Intangible assets		14	0
	15 Other assets See Part IV, line 11		15	0
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	401,698	16	219,433	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	64,765	17	92,476
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue		19	
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	2,848,205	23	2,191,598
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties		24	
25 Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24) Complete Part X of Schedule D		25		
26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	2,912,970	26	2,284,074	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.			
	27 Unrestricted net assets	-2,761,272	27	-2,064,641
	28 Temporarily restricted net assets	250,000	28	
	29 Permanently restricted net assets		29	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.			
	30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30	
	31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund		31	
	32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		32	
33 Total net assets or fund balances	-2,511,272	33	-2,064,641	
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	401,698	34	219,433	

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	1,617,640
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	1,171,009
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	446,631
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	-2,511,272
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	-2,064,641

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

	Yes	No
<p>1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O</p>		
<p>2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis</p>	2a	No
<p>b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis</p>	2b	No
<p>c If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O</p>	2c	
<p>3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?</p>	3a	No
<p>b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits</p>	3b	

Additional Data

Software ID: 17005038

Software Version: 2017v2.2

EIN: 27-3816952

Name: The Students First Foundation

Form 990 (2017)

Form 990, Part III, Line 4a:

Students Matter is continuing the effort to reform broken teacher tenure, dismissal, layoff, and evaluation laws. After stewarding the landmark Vergara v. California case through the courts, the organization is leading the effort to craft new teacher workforce policies that prioritize quality teaching for all students. Students Matter launched Martinez v. Malloy, an education equality case in federal court. Based in Connecticut, a state with one of the largest achievement gaps in the nation, the case seeks to eliminate barriers for students to attend high-quality magnet, charter, and traditional schools, and aims to expand protection for children in all schools.

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
The Students First Foundation

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Employer identification number

27-3816952

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 12, check only one box.)

- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ))
- 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state _____
- 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II)
- 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II)
- 8 A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9 An agricultural research organization described in **170(b)(1)(A)(ix)** operated in conjunction with a land-grant college or university or a non-land grant college of agriculture See instructions Enter the name, city, and state of the college or university _____
- 10 An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III)
- 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 12 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 12a through 12d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 12e, 12f, and 12g
 - a **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
 - b **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
 - c **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
 - d **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
 - e Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization
 - f Enter the number of supported organizations _____
 - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 10 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
Total						

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv), 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), and 170(b)(1)(A)(ix)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, 8, or 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support

	Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
1	Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grant.")	2,752,797	6,441,690	5,165,108	2,374,924	1,609,940	18,344,459
2	Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						0
3	The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						0
4	Total. Add lines 1 through 3	2,752,797	6,441,690	5,165,108	2,374,924	1,609,940	18,344,459
5	The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						6,081,586
6	Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						12,262,873

Section B. Total Support

	Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
7	Amounts from line 4	2,752,797	6,441,690	5,165,108	2,374,924	1,609,940	18,344,459
8	Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	27	48	-1,895	3,123	7,700	9,003
9	Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						0
10	Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						0
11	Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						18,353,462

12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) **12**

13 **First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here**

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14	Public support percentage for 2017 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	66.820 %
15	Public support percentage for 2016 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	68.800 %

16a **33 1/3% support test—2017.** If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶

b **33 1/3% support test—2016.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶

17a **10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2017.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶

b **10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2016.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and **stop here.** Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶

18 **Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions ▶

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►		(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
1	Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2	Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3	Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4	Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5	The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6	Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a	Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b	Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c	Add lines 7a and 7b						
8	Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►		(a) 2013	(b) 2014	(c) 2015	(d) 2016	(e) 2017	(f) Total
9	Amounts from line 6						
10a	Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b	Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c	Add lines 10a and 10b						
11	Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12	Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						
13	Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						

14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** ►

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15	Public support percentage for 2017 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	
16	Public support percentage from 2016 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17	Investment income percentage for 2017 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	
18	Investment income percentage from 2016 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	

19a 33 1/3% support tests—2017. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ►

b 33 1/3% support tests—2016. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here.** The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ►

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ►

Part IV Supporting Organizations

(Complete only if you checked a box on line 12 of Part I. If you checked 12a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 12b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 12c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 12d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

Section A. All Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.		
	1		
2	Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).		
	2		
3a	Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.		
	3a		
b	Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? If "Yes," describe in Part VI when and how the organization made the determination.		
	3b		
c	Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.		
	3c		
4a	Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? If "Yes" and if you checked 12a or 12b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.		
	4a		
b	Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.		
	4b		
c	Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.		
	4c		
5a	Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI , including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed, (ii) the reasons for each such action, (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action, and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).		
	5a		
b	Type I or Type II only. Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?		
	5b		
c	Substitutions only. Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
	5c		
6	Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (i) its supported organizations, (ii) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (iii) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
	6		
7	Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in section 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35% controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).		
	7		
8	Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ).		
	8		
9a	Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
	9a		
b	Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9a) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
	9b		
c	Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9a) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in Part VI .		
	9c		
10a	Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of section 4943 because of section 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? If "Yes," answer line 10b below.		
	10a		
b	Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings.)		
	10b		

Part IV Supporting Organizations (continued)

		Yes	No
11	Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?		
a	A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization?		
b	A family member of a person described in (a) above?		
c	A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? <i>If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI</i>		

Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.</i>		
2	Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised or controlled the supporting organization.</i>		

Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? <i>If "No," describe in Part VI how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).</i>		

Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations

		Yes	No
1	Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (i) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (ii) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (iii) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?		
2	Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization (s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? <i>If "No," explain in Part VI how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).</i>		
3	By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.</i>		

Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations

1	Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (see instructions)		
a	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete line 2 below.		
b	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete line 3 below.		
c	<input type="checkbox"/> The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions).		
2	Activities Test Answer (a) and (b) below.		
a	Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? <i>If "Yes," then in Part VI identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.</i>		
b	Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? <i>If "Yes," explain in Part VI the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.</i>		
3	Parent of Supported Organizations Answer (a) and (b) below.		
a	Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? <i>Provide details in Part VI.</i>		
b	Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? <i>If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.</i>		

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations

- 1** Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov. 20, 1970 (explain in Part VI) **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E

Section A - Adjusted Net Income		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1	Net short-term capital gain	1	
2	Recoveries of prior-year distributions	2	
3	Other gross income (see instructions)	3	
4	Add lines 1 through 3	4	
5	Depreciation and depletion	5	
6	Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)	6	
7	Other expenses (see instructions)	7	
8	Adjusted Net Income (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4)	8	
Section B - Minimum Asset Amount		(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
1	Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year)	1	
a	Average monthly value of securities	1a	
b	Average monthly cash balances	1b	
c	Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)	1d	
e	Discount claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI)		
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets	2	
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	
4	Cash deemed held for exempt use Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	
5	Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)	5	
6	Multiply line 5 by .035	6	
7	Recoveries of prior-year distributions	7	
8	Minimum Asset Amount (add line 7 to line 6)	8	
Section C - Distributable Amount			Current Year
1	Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)	1	
2	Enter 85% of line 1	2	
3	Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)	3	
4	Enter greater of line 2 or line 3	4	
5	Income tax imposed in prior year	5	
6	Distributable Amount. Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions)	6	
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions)		

Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations (continued)

Section D - Distributions	Current Year
1 Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	
2 Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	
3 Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	
4 Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	
5 Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)	
6 Other distributions (describe in Part VI) See instructions	
7 Total annual distributions. Add lines 1 through 6	
8 Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI) See instructions	
9 Distributable amount for 2017 from Section C, line 6	
10 Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	

Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)	(i) Excess Distributions	(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2017	(iii) Distributable Amount for 2017
1 Distributable amount for 2017 from Section C, line 6			
2 Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2017 (reasonable cause required-- explain in Part VI) See instructions			
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2017			
a			
b From 2013.			
c From 2014.			
d From 2015.			
e From 2016.			
f Total of lines 3a through e			
g Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
h Applied to 2017 distributable amount			
i Carryover from 2012 not applied (see instructions)			
j Remainder Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f			
4 Distributions for 2017 from Section D, line 7			
\$			
a Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
b Applied to 2017 distributable amount			
c Remainder Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4			
5 Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2017, if any Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2 If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI See instructions			
6 Remaining underdistributions for 2017 Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1 If the amount is greater than zero, explain in Part VI See instructions			
7 Excess distributions carryover to 2018. Add lines 3j and 4c			
8 Breakdown of line 7			
a Excess from 2013.			
b Excess from 2014.			
c Excess from 2015.			
d Excess from 2016.			
e Excess from 2017.			

Additional Data

Software ID: 17005038

Software Version: 2017v2.2

EIN: 27-3816952

Name: The Students First Foundation

Part VI Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10, Part II, line 17a or 17b, Part III, line 12, Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c, Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2, Part IV, Section C, line 1, Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3, Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b, Part V, line 1, Part V, Section B, line 1e, Part V Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8, and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6 Also complete this part for any additional information (See instructions)

Facts And Circumstances Test

SCHEDULE C
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities
For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527

▶Complete if the organization is described below. ▶Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
▶Information about Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2017
Open to Public Inspection

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations Complete Parts I-A and B Do not complete Part I-C
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations Complete Parts I-A and C below Do not complete Part I-B
- Section 527 organizations Complete Part I-A only

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-A Do not complete Part II-B
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-B Do not complete Part II-A

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations Complete Part III

Name of the organization The Students First Foundation	Employer identification number 27-3816952
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Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

- 1 Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV (see instructions for definition of "political campaign activities")
- 2 Political campaign activity expenditures (see instructions) ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Volunteer hours for political campaign activities (see instructions) _____

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955 ▶ \$ _____
- 2 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 ▶ \$ _____
- 3 If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year? Yes No
- 4a Was a correction made? Yes No
- b If "Yes," describe in Part IV

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ _____
- 2 Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Total exempt function expenditures Add lines 1 and 2 Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b ▶ \$ _____
- 4 Did the filing organization file **Form 1120-POL** for this year? Yes No
- 5 Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments For each organization listed, enter the amount paid from the filing organization's funds Also enter the amount of political contributions received that were promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC) If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds If none, enter -0-	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization If none, enter -0-
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

- A** Check if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures)
- B** Check if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures
(The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)

	(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals
--	----------------------------------	-----------------------------

- 1a** Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)
- b** Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)
- c** Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)
- d** Other exempt purpose expenditures
- e** Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)
- f** Lobbying nontaxable amount Enter the amount from the following table in both columns

If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000

- g** Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)
- h** Subtract line 1g from line 1a If zero or less, enter -0-
- i** Subtract line 1f from line 1c If zero or less, enter -0-
- j** If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?

Yes No

4-Year Averaging Period Under section 501(h)

(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2014	(b) 2015	(c) 2016	(d) 2017	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount					
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					
c Total lobbying expenditures					
d Grassroots nontaxable amount					
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures					

Part II-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and has NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).

For each "Yes" response on lines 1a through 1i below, provide in Part IV a detailed description of the lobbying activity

	(a)		(b)
	Yes	No	Amount
1 During the year, did the filing organization attempt to influence foreign, national, state or local legislation, including any attempt to influence public opinion on a legislative matter or referendum, through the use of			
a Volunteers?		No	
b Paid staff or management (include compensation in expenses reported on lines 1c through 1i)?		No	
c Media advertisements?		No	
d Mailings to members, legislators, or the public?		No	
e Publications, or published or broadcast statements?		No	
f Grants to other organizations for lobbying purposes?		No	
g Direct contact with legislators, their staffs, government officials, or a legislative body?	Yes		108,317
h Rallies, demonstrations, seminars, conventions, speeches, lectures, or any similar means?		No	
i Other activities?		No	
j Total Add lines 1c through 1i			108,317
2a Did the activities in line 1 cause the organization to be not described in section 501(c)(3)?		No	
b If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred under section 4912			
c If "Yes," enter the amount of any tax incurred by organization managers under section 4912			
d If the filing organization incurred a section 4912 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year?		No	

Part III-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6).

	Yes	No
1 Were substantially all (90% or more) dues received nondeductible by members?	1	
2 Did the organization make only in-house lobbying expenditures of \$2,000 or less?	2	
3 Did the organization agree to carry over lobbying and political expenditures from the prior year?	3	

Part III-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(4), section 501(c)(5), or section 501(c)(6) and if either (a) BOTH Part III-A, lines 1 and 2, are answered "No" OR (b) Part III-A, line 3, is answered "Yes."

1 Dues, assessments and similar amounts from members	1	
2 Section 162(e) nondeductible lobbying and political expenditures (do not include amounts of political expenses for which the section 527(f) tax was paid).	2a	
a Current year	2b	
b Carryover from last year	2c	
c Total	3	
3 Aggregate amount reported in section 6033(e)(1)(A) notices of nondeductible section 162(e) dues	4	
4 If notices were sent and the amount on line 2c exceeds the amount on line 3, what portion of the excess does the organization agree to carryover to the reasonable estimate of nondeductible lobbying and political expenditure next year?	5	
5 Taxable amount of lobbying and political expenditures (see instructions)		

Part IV Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part I-A, line 1, Part I-B, line 4, Part I-C, line 5, Part II-A (affiliated group list), Part II-A, lines 1 and 2 (see instructions), and Part II-B, line 1 Also, complete this part for any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation
Part II-B, Line 1i - Other Activities Description	DBHK and Rally perform lobbying services, via direct contact with legislatures to discuss legislative issues that are in line with the Organization's mission

**SCHEDULE G
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

**Supplemental Information Regarding
Fundraising or Gaming Activities**

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a
 Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Information about Schedule G (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
The Students First Foundation

Employer identification number
27-3816952

Part I Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 17. Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

- 1** Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply.
- a** Mail solicitations
 - b** Internet and email solicitations
 - c** Phone solicitations
 - d** In-person solicitations
 - e** Solicitation of non-government grants
 - f** Solicitation of government grants
 - g** Special fundraising events
- 2a** Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual (including officers, directors, trustees or key employees listed in Form 990, Part VII) or entity in connection with professional fundraising services? Yes No
- b** If "Yes," list the ten highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements under which the fundraiser is to be compensated at least \$5,000 by the organization

(i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser)	(ii) Activity	(iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?		(iv) Gross receipts from activity	(v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col (i)	(vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization
		Yes	No			
1 David Stanley 523 N Cahuenga Los Angeles, CA 90004	Fundraising		No	1,609,940	111,927	1,498,013
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
Total				1,609,940	111,927	1,498,013

- 3** List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing

CA

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

		(a) Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c) Other events	(d)
		(event type)	(event type)	(total number)	Total events (add col (a) through col (c))
Revenue	1 Gross receipts				
	2 Less Contributions				
	3 Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)				
Direct Expenses	4 Cash prizes				
	5 Noncash prizes				
	6 Rent/facility costs				
	7 Food and beverages				
	8 Entertainment				
	9 Other direct expenses				
	10 Direct expense summary Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶				
	11 Net income summary Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶				

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col (a) through col (c))
		1 Gross revenue			
Direct Expenses	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Noncash prizes				
	4 Rent/facility costs				
	5 Other direct expenses				
	6 Volunteer labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ % <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	7 Direct expense summary Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶				
	8 Net gaming income summary Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d) ▶				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities _____

a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? Yes No

b If "No," explain _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain _____

- 11** Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers? Yes No
- 12** Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming? Yes No
- 13** Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in

a	The organization's facility		%
b	An outside facility		%

14 Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records

Name ▶
 Address ▶

15a Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue? Yes No

- b** If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ▶ \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ▶ \$ _____
- c** If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party

Name ▶
 Address ▶

16 Gaming manager information

Name ▶
 Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$
 Description of services provided ▶

Director/officer Employee Independent contractor

17 Mandatory distributions

- a** Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license? Yes No
- b** Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v); and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also provide any additional information (see instructions).

Return Reference	Explanation
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Schedule L
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Transactions with Interested Persons

OMB No 1545-0047

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.**
 ▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**
 ▶ **Information about Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.**

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization The Students First Foundation	Employer identification number 27-3816952
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Part I Excess Benefit Transactions (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations only)
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958 ▶ \$ _____

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization ▶ \$ _____

Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a, or Form 990, Part IV, line 26, or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Total						▶ \$						

Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
(1) David Welch	President		Credit Line Guaranto		No

Part V Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions)

Return Reference	Explanation
Schedule L, Part V Supplemental Information	The Organization has a \$6,400,000 revolving line of credit with a local financial institution. Provisions within the credit agreement allow for termination by either party via either a default of the terms or complete pay off. The credit line is secured by assets of the David and Heidi Welch Revocable Trust, the Organization's CEO and Director. Advances bear interest at an indexed rate, based on the balance due, not to fall below 2.25% or exceed 18%. For the year ended December 31, 2017 the interest rate accrued on advances is 3.25% and at December 31, 2017 the balance due is \$2,197,648.

**SCHEDULE M
(Form 990)**

Noncash Contributions

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

▶ **Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.**

▶ **Attach to Form 990.**

▶ **Information about Schedule M (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990**

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
The Students First Foundation

Employer identification number
27-3816952

Part I Types of Property

	(a) Check if applicable	(b) Number of contributions or items contributed	(c) Noncash contribution amounts reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g	(d) Method of determining noncash contribution amounts
1 Art—Works of art				
2 Art—Historical treasures				
3 Art—Fractional interests				
4 Books and publications				
5 Clothing and household goods				
6 Cars and other vehicles				
7 Boats and planes				
8 Intellectual property				
9 Securities—Publicly traded	X	2	1,350,535	FMV
10 Securities—Closely held stock				
11 Securities—Partnership, LLC, or trust interests				
12 Securities—Miscellaneous				
13 Qualified conservation contribution—Historic structures				
14 Qualified conservation contribution—Other				
15 Real estate—Residential				
16 Real estate—Commercial				
17 Real estate—Other				
18 Collectibles				
19 Food inventory				
20 Drugs and medical supplies				
21 Taxidermy				
22 Historical artifacts				
23 Scientific specimens				
24 Archeological artifacts				
25 Other ▶ (_____)				
26 Other ▶ (_____)				
27 Other ▶ (_____)				
28 Other ▶ (_____)				

29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgement **29**

	Yes	No
30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least three years from the date of the initial contribution, and which is not required to be used for exempt purposes for the entire holding period?		No
b If "Yes," describe the arrangement in Part II		
31 Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy that requires the review of any nonstandard contributions?		No
32a Does the organization hire or use third parties or related organizations to solicit, process, or sell noncash contributions?		No
b If "Yes," describe in Part II		
33 If the organization did not report an amount in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked, describe in Part II		

Part II **Supplemental Information.**

Provide the information required by Part I, lines 30b, 32b, and 33, and whether the organization is reporting in Part I, column (b), the number of contributions, the number of items received, or a combination of both. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference

Explanation

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

OMB No 1545-0047

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
The Students First Foundation

Employer identification number

27-3816952

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 11b Form 990 Review Process	The tax return is reviewed by the primary officer and is made available to the full board prior to its filing

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 12c Explanation of Monitoring and Enforcement of Conflicts	All Board members are required to disclose potential conflicts as they arise and then excuse themselves from any board vote covering such conflicts

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Line 19 Other Organization Documents Publicly Available	Governing documents are made available to the public immediately upon request of such information