THE BiOME

The Biome Connection

Alumni Spotlight



C'Dora, Biome Class of 2026

> *"The Biome gave me a strong start, helped me find my voice and prepared me to spread my wings and fly."*

C'Dora walked through the doors of The Whitfield School more than prepared. Her hard work, her family's support, and The Biome School made it all possible. At The Biome, she discovered her passion and gifts for mathematics and science, built strong relationships, and developed exceptional character.

In C'Dora's first year at Whitfield, she continues to grow academically. Currently, she's on the Honor Roll, sits on the Student Advisory Council, and has perfect attendance. Every day, she pushes herself to learn more, grow as a person, and become the best scholar she can be. Wherever her journey takes her, we are proud to forever count her as a member of the Biome community.



FALL 2026

FROM BILL KENT JR., PRESIDENT AND CEO



A note from our president

Hello members of The Biome Community!

We are determined to develop a high-performing academic haven in the heart of St. Louis. Despite the challenges facing our world and community, we see tremendous opportunity to build upon what is positive and promising in our city.

To that end, we are significantly improving our STEM programs and expanding partnerships that will give our students learning opportunities they might not otherwise experience. We believe St. Louis families need exceptional educational options, and we are creating one.

Our commitment to serving every child who enters our doors remains unchanged. At the same time, we are developing specialized programs for students who are ready for greater academic challenges. We look forward to sharing more about these initiatives soon.

Finally, thank you to our donors and friends who continue to invest in The Biome and the children we serve. Your generosity lets us move beyond imagining what education could be and start making it a reality.

Exciting announcements are coming soon!

Bill Kent Jr.
President and CEO

THE BIOME

"I Can Do This"

How One Book Series Turned Clyde Into a Reader



When reading time begins in Clyde's fourth-grade classroom, no one has to remind him. His *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book is already open, and he's already grinning, eager to find out what happens next.

There was a time when that eagerness wasn't there. Unfamiliar words slowed him down, and pages that didn't make sense sent him back to the start. But Clyde didn't give up, and neither did the adults around him. His teachers met him with small-group lessons, patient feedback and books he actually wanted to read.

"I love reading because I enjoy learning new words."

— CLYDE, 4TH GRADE

Next, his teachers will use Wimpy Kid as a doorway to biographies, nonfiction and new series. Clyde is ready. And he's beginning to believe what everyone who loves him already knows: **I can do this.**



Clyde dives into his latest Diary of a Wimpy Kid book.

Quickly, reading became something he enjoyed. He was drawn to the humor, the illustrations and the characters in the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, and he started wanting to know what happens next instead of needing reminders to read. ***"You can see the difference in him when he has one of those books in his hands,"*** his teacher says. Now he shares the funny parts with classmates, talks about the characters and is growing more comfortable sharing his thinking in class discussions. He's also getting better at going back into the text to find evidence for his answers. At home, his mother reinforces what he hears at school, so the adults on both sides of his day send the same message: education matters, and they believe he can succeed.

Why your support matters

One great book can change everything. Your gift puts books and skilled teachers within reach of every Biome reader.

SCAN TO GIVE

THE BiOME

STEM SPOTLIGHT

Zuri's Great Ice Pop Challenge

In the Science Lab, a simple question can lead to a big idea. For second grader Zuri, exploring everyday materials has become a chance to think like a scientist—and an engineer.

During the Materials Science unit, Zuri and her classmates are investigating aluminum foil, paper, and foam. Their challenge is to design a container that keeps an ice pop frozen for at least 30 minutes. Students make predictions, test their ideas, compare results, and use what they learn to improve their designs.

"I didn't know science could be this fun until Science Lab. Now I want to test everything!"

— ZURI, 2ND GRADE



Zuri at the microscope during 2nd grade science in the Science Lab.

Zuri brings curiosity and care to each step. She listens to her classmates, considers their feedback, and shares her own ideas as she works through the challenge. When a design needs improvement, she treats the results as a chance to learn and try again. Each experiment helps her see that her questions and observations matter—and that she can use them to solve problems.

Many of the tools that make hands-on learning possible, including microscopes and the Hydroponic Tower, are available thanks to generous donors. Their gifts help students explore, experiment, and see science at work.

For Zuri, the Science Lab is a place to wonder, learn with others, and **discover just how much she can do.**

Why your support matters

Every great invention starts with a question. Your gift puts hands-on STEM labs, materials and skilled teachers within reach of every Biome scientist and engineer.

SCAN TO GIVE

THE BiOME

What's happening at The Biome



Reading With The Community

This past October, Reading with the Community brought students and community members together to share the joy of reading. Thank you, GFI, for sponsoring this event.



M2 in the Classroom

Through the ITEF Innovator Grant, The Biome is using the AI tool M2 to improve instruction and student engagement. Thank you, ITEF, for supporting our students, teachers, and the community.



MICRO SCHOOL Partnerships

The Biome School kicked off its partnership with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, bringing park interpreters into classrooms and students to state parks for hands-on environmental learning experiences.

WAYS TO GIVE

Help build what comes next.

A gift of any size goes straight to our classrooms and supports the learning needs of our students:

- **Literacy support**
  Small-group literacy instruction and materials
- **STEM lab materials**
  Equipment and supplies for science and technology classes
- **Special education**
  Specialized instruction so every learner can thrive
- **Micro-school partnerships**
  Resources for our micro-school partnerships with the Saint Louis Zoo, Made for Kids and the Department of Natural Resources

THANK YOU

Recent foundation and corporate support

Innovative Technology Education Fund

EMERSON

BURNS McDONNELL

Scan to give
Or visit thebiomeschool.org/giving

CORPORATE MATCH

Double your gift
Many employers match donations. Ask your HR team today.

Mark your calendar

Dec 18
Reading with the Community

Feb 19
Reading with the Community

Mar 4
STEM Museum

STEM Spectacular Gala May 1, 2027

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