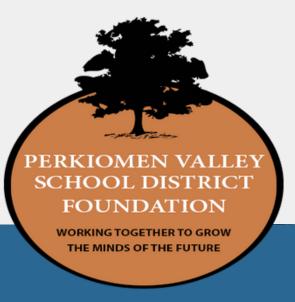
### **PVSD Foundation**

2024-2025 Annual Report



Enriching education, one classroom at a time















## A Message from the Executive Director

What a school year we've had! The year started with the excitement of the Anatomage Table at the high school enhancing biology classes and anatomy classes and Ken joining the Middle School West team. It has been a joy to see the progress of both of these grants throughout the year and how they enhanced education in two very different ways, their impact is highlighted later in this report.

Throughout the year, we funded innovative projects around the district. I had the honor of presenting most of them to the teacher who applied and their classes. It is such a joy to see the smiles on students' faces and their excitement to dive into the experiences and activities we have funded.

Our two classic fundraisers continue to see growth, and it's because of supporters like you. As they continue to grow, I am excited to

pursue various ways to make them even better for you and your children.

Thank you for your continued support of the Foundation as we continue to build a stronger community, together.

Take Care, Kristin Craven Executive Director.

#### **Board of Directors**

Allison Petersen, President Michael Wagman, Vice President Christy Smith, Secretary Jim Weaver, Treasurer

Kate Bullard
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Shelly Douglas
Christine Hamilton
Tim Hickey
Krista Leach
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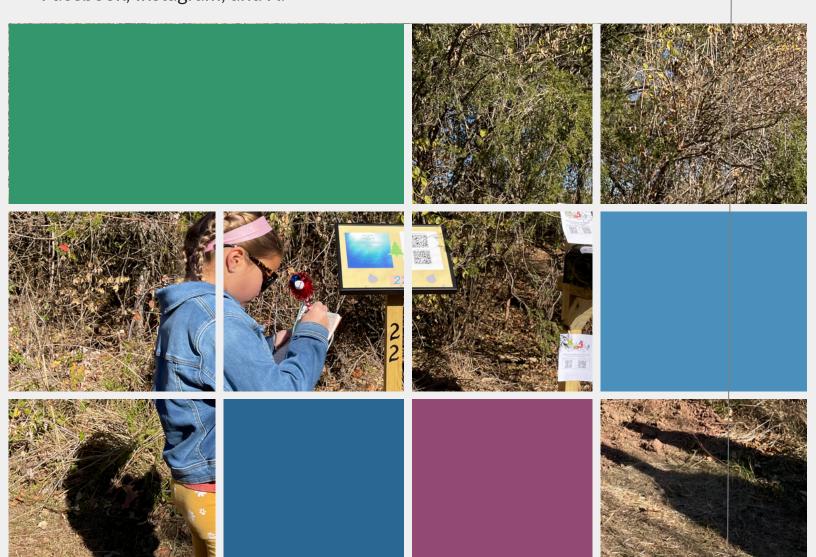
Cory Rupe
Dr. Barbara Russell
Phil Sapovits
Tracy Tesfaye
Kevin Tomlinson
Janice Wagman
Wayde Weston

#### **About Us**

Perkiomen Valley School District Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created to provide supplemental funding to enhance the educational opportunities offered to Perkiomen Valley School District students.

The PVSD Foundation Board of Directors is comprised of parents, residents, community members, employees, and officials of Perkiomen Valley School District who have an interest in promoting and enhancing educational opportunities across the district.

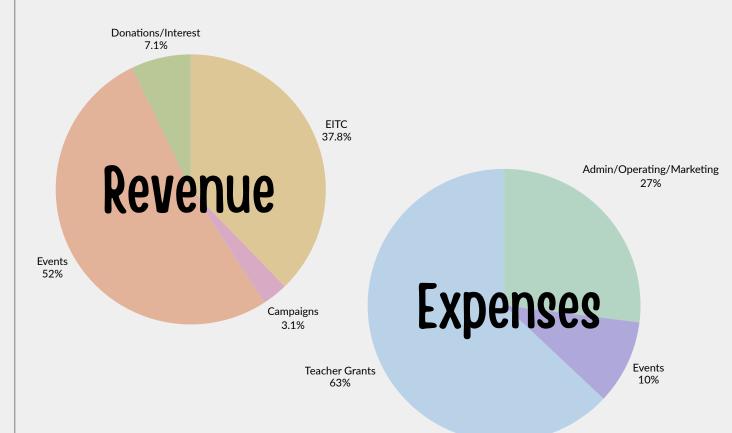
Follow us on social media! We can be found at @PVSDFoundation on Facebook, Instagram, and X!



#### **Foundation Finances**

Contributions made to PVSD Foundation are an investment in stronger educational programs for students and, therefore, an investment in our community. Every time the school district is able to incorporate new and updated programs that challenge and empower students, our students' academic potential grows and our school district community is strengthened. Strong school districts attract new residents, businesses, and students to our community.

Perkiomen Valley School District relies on donations, the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program, grants, fundraisers, and interest to support our mission.





# **Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)**

PVSD Foundation has been approved by the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) as an educational improvement organization for the 24-25 school year.

Through EITC, a state program that provides companies with tax credits for donations to a non-profit educational improvement organizations, a business can receive a tax credit equal to 75% of a contribution (up to \$750,000). Credits can be increased to 90% of the contribution if a business agrees to provide the same amount for two consecutive years. By donating to the Foundation through EITC, you are supporting public education and keeping state tax dollars in the local community.

Types of businesses that are eligible: C-Corporations, S-Corporations, Partnerships, Sole Proprietors, Limited Liability Companies (LLCs), Subchapter S-Corporations, and other businesses that pay their state business taxes under the personal income tax on PA business income.

Thank you to our 2024-2025 EITC Sponsors











## Grants

PVSD Foundation is proud to support projects around the district that enhance students' educational opportunities. We are happy to fund the following projects and can't wait to see them come to fruition in the 2025-2026 school year.

	School	Amount Awarded
Enriching Education Through Nature	South Elementary	\$10,000
District STEM Initiatives	District Wide	\$25,316
National Science Teaching Association National Conference	District Wide	\$6,345
Restorative Practices	High School	\$20,000

The Foundation funded 10 mini-grants throughout the year.

Storybook Trail (PV Woods at Muhlenberg Woods), Chimes for Responsive Classrooms (Schwenksville), Classroom Puzzle Center (Schwenksville), Math Game Bundle (Schwenksville), Sensory Bins/Materials (Schwenksville), Death, Loss & Grief Professional Development (District), MLK Day (District), ChompSaw (Schwenksville), KidWind Challenge (Evergreen), Ozobot Color Code Magnes (Evergreen).

For more information on grants we have funded, please visit pvsdfoundation.org/grants/ or scan the QR code.





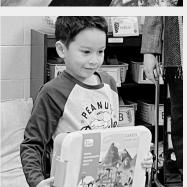


















#### Death, Loss, & Grief

The Foundation awarded (now) Dr. Patti Colucci a mini-grant to provide comforting items while staff went through a Death, Loss, and Grief Professional Development.

Perkiomen Valley School District understands that, unfortunately, it is an inevitable experience that, at some point, we will all lose someone close to us. In PA, 1 in 11 children will experience the death of a parent or sibling before they graduate. These times of loss can happen at critical developmental stages that can affect student growth academically, emotionally, and socially. During this highly sensitive training, staff gained insights into how to help students navigate the uncertain times surrounding losing a loved one.

Dr. Colucci was able to turn this mini-grant into something much more. Because several staff members from each building attended the training, each school in the district has earned the designation of Grief-Sensitive School from New York Life Foundation.

With the designation of a Grief Sensitive School, each school received \$500 to enhance the grief support and resources available. Following in the footsteps of the Unpack It mini-grant we awarded Skippack in October 2023, Evergreen, Schwenksville, and South are creating their own version of the Unpack It totes to assist students and families when they experience death. The middle schools and high schools are investing in resources to support students and staff during their grief.





#### **Anatomage Table**

This past year, Anatomy and Zoology classes began an exciting journey with the Anatomage Table—a state-of-the-art virtual dissection and anatomy platform that is transforming the way our students experience science. The table has allowed students to interact with life-sized, fully segmented human and animal anatomy models, providing a deeper understanding of body systems and their interconnectivity.

The Anatomage Table has already brought noticeable changes to the way Dr. Fitzhenry teaches and how students learn. Instruction now bridges dissection with clinical case studies, allowing students to more clearly understand the interplay between structure and

function in the human body. With the ability to explore real-life medical scenarios—such as strokes, pacemaker implantation, and heart attacks—students not only engage with anatomical structures but also with the physiology behind them. They analyze EKGs, scans, and clinical notes to build a deeper, case-based understanding of body systems.

While using the Anatomage Table's teachers sharing platform to assist in the creation of lesson plans, Dr. Fitzhenry has also shared her final labs she has done with the Anatomage Table and will continue to do so as her lessons and knowledge of the Anatomage Table increase.

Dr. Fitzhenry is excited that there has been a slight increase in enrollment in anatomy for the 2025-2026 school year, suggesting that the table has removed the barrier of traditional dissection and has made the course more accessible and appealing to some students.

This coming school year will focus on refining our lessons and deepening student engagement. While the Anatomage Table will not yet make its way into additional courses, Dr. Fitzhenry is continuing to explore all of the many capabilities and laying the foundation for intentional implementation into other courses.











#### Ken, the facility dog

It has been nothing short of remarkable to witness the impact Ken has had on students and staff over the past year at Middle School West. The handlers have observed Ken reducing students' stress and anxiety simply by being in his presence. We have witnessed students instantly shift from sadness and upset to joy and happiness within seconds of petting him. This shift in affect is the first step towards improved mental health.



One of the biggest struggles middle school students face is regulating their emotions. With Ken's presence, handlers have found it exponentially easier to support students in achieving a more regulated, calm emotional state. When students' emotions are regulated and their anxiety and stress are reduced, they can then tap into the part of their brain that enables them to problem-solve, create, and concentrate (to name a few). Ken has been an enormous support when working with students to process their grief. He provides a level of comfort that exceeds what would be achieved without his presence.

One example of how Ken provides joy and comfort to many students every single day is during bus duty. Every morning, Jen (his primary handler & caretaker) and Ken stand outside

think all schools in the district should have dogs. In my school, we have a dog named Ken. He is a goldendoodle, school, we have a dog named Ken. He is a goldendoodle, and he is very calm, and he is there when you need him. You would still have to gain his trust so he would feel you would still have to gain his trust so he would for kids and he is very calm, and you. Ken can be helpful for kids you would still have to gain his trust so he would feel you wonk. When I'm doing when they need a break to calm down. When I'm doing me comfortable around you. Ken can be helpful for kids when I'm doing me work to calm down. When I'm doing me they need a break to calm down. When I'm doing me that I should be relaxed too, and that calm mood helps that I should be relaxed too, and that calm mood her that I should be relaxed too, and that calm mood her that I should be relaxed too, and that calm mood her that I should be relaxed too, and that calm mood her that I should be relaxed too. And that calm mood her that I should be relaxed too. And which is could break kids' fears time to just have fun with him. Having a dog in school time to just have fun with him. Having a dog in school time to just have fun with him. Having a dog in school about dogs. I also think that having a dog in school about dogs. I also think that having a hout dog life and how dogs adjust to many kids. - MSW 7th grader

and watch the buses pull in. They watch as sleepy faces burst into big smiles as they see Ken through the windows. It's like this all day – as soon as a staff member or a student sees him, their mood is instantly transformed to one of joy and happiness. When Ken showers them with his attention, nothing else exists, and the smile never leaves their face. This brief moment in time can have a profound impact on a student's mood. It is a much better start to their day as well!









### **Support the Foundation**



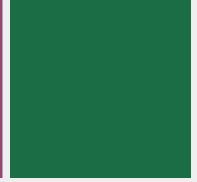
#### **Campaigns:**

**180 Club** - donate \$180, representing a dollar a day for each day of school

**Giving Tuesday** - the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, join the global generosity movement unleashing the power of people.

Hats Off - Senior students and their families can leave a legacy gift.



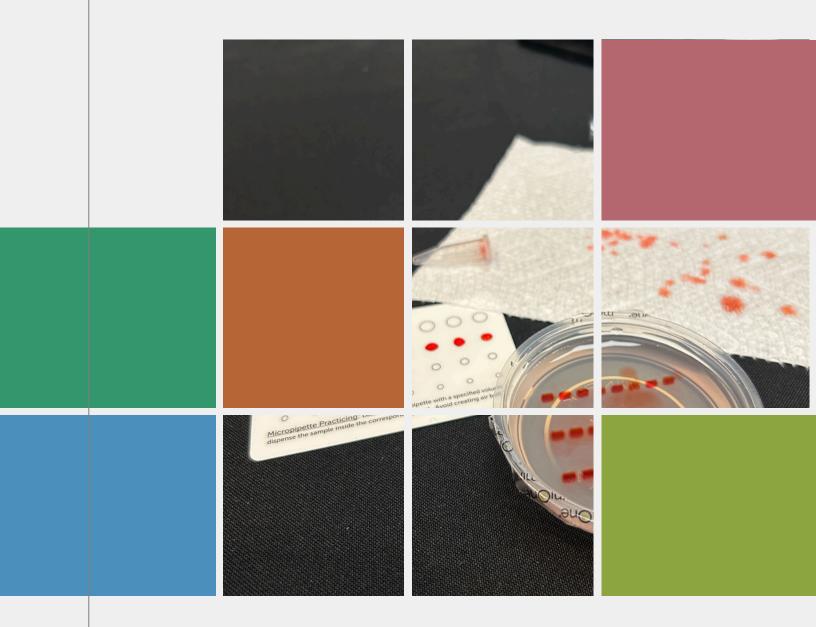


#### Pam Kirkman Scholarship

In October 2022, Perkiomen Valley School District lost a vital community member, Pam Kirkman, also a valuable member of the Foundation. As a substitute teacher in the district, and to honor her love for the community and education, the Foundation is proud to create a scholarship in her name for a graduating senior expecting to major in education.

Congratulations to Mallory Klug, this year's recipient of the Pam Kirkman Scholarship. Mallory will be attending Gwynedd Mercy University majoring in Special Education and Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade Elementary Education.





### **Contact Us**

You can find us in a number of ways:

- 3 Iron Bridge Drive, Collegeville, PA 19426
- foundation@pvsd.org
- www.PVSDFoundation.org