



2023-2024 Year End Report

Board of Trustees 2023-2024

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Jim Vargas, Marquardt District 15, Board Representative

PEP staff member Becky Parke, Foundation Services Coordinator

2023-2024 Summary:

- Becky Parke completed her fifth year as the PEP Foundation Services Coordinator. Becky continued fine-tuning the administrative processes and forms for establishing a fund, scholarship, or partnership. She oversaw the addition of six new PEP Fund Partner scholarships awarded in spring 2024 working with the four Glenbard High School counselors.
- PEP Glenbard Scholarships were awarded to 34 students (an increase of 6 sponsorships over last year) at the four high school Scholarship Convocations ranging from \$500 to \$2500 and totaling \$33,250. This is a \$6000 increase from the previous year.
- PEP's fiscal year runs June 30-July 1. The ending balance for FY23-24 for the PEP Unrestricted Operating Assets is: \$21,251.61 The PEP Restricted Money Market Fund is \$23,440.75. PEP ended the fiscal year for the operating budget with a positive net income of \$310.22. PEP's operating budget supports the salary for the Foundation Services Coordinator, Liability Insurance, Accounting and financial services, website maintenance, and office expenses.
- PEP Board members donated more than 400 volunteer hours as active members of the PEP Board, local boards of education, leading local school improvement committees, serving as PTA President or other board roles, and serving on other local nonprofit boards.



Program Highlights 2023-2024

- Since 2020 PEP Fund Partner, Make a Memory Fund worked with the Anna Ball Horticultural Foundation and with Glenbard District 87 create an outdoor student garden offering a hands-on experiential learning opportunity. Glenbard West H.S. initiated the Horticultural courses with the collaboration of Ron Aubrey, founder of Make A Memory. Now at Glenbard East H.S. courses include sustainable urban agriculture and horticulture for college dual credit. An article in The Echo, Glenbard East Student Newspaper explains new courses. <https://gehsecho.org/1820/uncategorized/a-new-class-sprouts-at-east-horticulture/> Completing their fourth year as a PEP Fund, Make a Memory is now becoming an independent 501(c) (3) to create larger opportunities for horticulture and experiential learning across the Glenbard schools.

-PEP is the fund partner for an expanded entrepreneurial program in Glenbard District 87. Beginning with the Fall 2024 school year, all four Glenbard High Schools will offer the Glenbard INCubator program a start-to-finish entrepreneurial business education program. Students work in teams to create and fully develop a product or service creating a business plan, and communication and marketing plan. A dual credit course with the College of DuPage – Entrepreneurship 1161 open to freshman through seniors. This is a community-based program engaging business professionals as volunteer team coaches and mentors sharing their knowledge, expertise and experience. Becky Parke, Steve Szymanski, at-large PEP Board member and Erica Nelson, Chair, PEP collaborated with Mike Fumagalli, Assistant Director for Teaching and Learning in Glenbard District 87 introducing PEP’s role as the 501(c)(3) fund partner for tax-exempt donations. **Special acknowledgement to PEP Board member Steve Szymanski for his outreach to Mike Fumagalli and volunteer role with the Glenbard East High School INCubator Program.**

-CCSD93 “D93 Kids Foundation” disbursed over \$12,000.00 purchasing school supplies, warm outerwear, and resources supporting families in emergency situations. The PEP Board approved a \$200.00 board donation to support the inaugural fundraiser for the CCSD93 Kids Foundation. D93 Kids Foundation begins a second year as a PEP fund partner.

-PEP was awarded a DuPage Foundation \$3000 grant from the Webb-Hutter Foundation. The grant supports communication outreach and materials for Pep Fund partners including Supplies for Success, Glenbard PEP is grateful for the continued support from Joyce Webb through the DuPage Foundation and her commitment to local non-profit organizations.

-Continued the priority to increase PEP’s outreach as a 501c3 and increase partnership activity with all fund partners, and the elementary school foundation board members (Marquardt SD15, Glen Ellyn District 41, CCSD89, and CCSD93, and Glenbard D87 High School.

New PEP Fund Partners

PEP’s ability to respond quickly to community members who wish to honor or memorialize a family member in the form of a student scholarship or grant for an educator is central to our purpose.



In 2023-2024 the Robert Urbain Memorial Scholarship was founded by his family. Mr. Urbain was the Department Chair for Mathematics at Glenbard West High School and retired in 2015. The scholarships of \$500 and \$1000 were awarded to three students at Glenbard East High School in Lombard where he resided and to a student at Glenbard West High School.

PEP is honored as an organization to provide this important opportunity. We are grateful to the families who entrust their loved one's memory in the form of these scholarships.

Upcoming:

-The PEP Board of Trustees is focused on how PEP's 501c3 status may be leveraged to support educational equity across PEP partner school districts through grant applications. PEP's Mission Statement reflects the long-term commitment as we enter our 33rd year of operation and we recommit to supporting all students and educators.

Mission: *The Partnership for Educational Progress (PEP) promotes excellence in the Glenbard community schools in DuPage County, IL. As an educational foundation, we provide financial resources to foster and support learning for all students today and tomorrow.*

-Outreach to the Glenbard Elementary Feeder Districts to encourage representation on the PEP Board and to seek ideas and recommendations to apply PEP's 501c3 status in support of educational initiatives.

-Engagement with the local communities to increase awareness of the opportunities to support students and our staff members and faculty in our community schools.

Submitted on behalf of the Partnership for Education Board by

Erica Nelson, MA ~ Chairperson