

Supporting students by supporting teachers
EAST PALO ALTO KIDS FOUNDATION 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Since 1993, the East Palo Alto Kids Foundation (EPAK) has been a community-based, volunteer organization whose mission is to promote educational opportunities and academic success for students by awarding grants to teachers of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park schools.



EPAK at a Glance

- EPAK is a non-profit founded in 1993 to improve the quality of education for students in economically disadvantaged East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park.
 - The organization supports district and charter schools, serving over 4,000 children in pre-K through twelfth grade.
 - Our model of granting to teachers has a direct, immediate impact and provides much-needed classroom tools and resources.
 - EPAK's all-volunteer board keeps administrative expenses at 7% of budget, ensuring an impressive 93% of funds raised goes directly to benefit students.
-

President's Message



Karen Ross
EPAC Board President

Year after year, EPAC helps students in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park increase their prospects. With a philosophy embracing social justice and impact, our unique funding model directly and immediately reaches those who need help the most.

To support students, we need to support teachers. Last year, EPAC applied for grants from the Heising-Simons and Packard foundations to fund a year-long initiative: 'Bridging the Empathy Gap in Educational Giving'. Led by board member Shafi Saxena, the project enabled us to learn about the daily pressures and challenges faced by teachers, and to better understand how EPAC can support their needs.

The resulting insights allowed us to look critically at our offering, with the outcome that EPAC grants are now more inclusive and accessible than ever. For example, we're awarding grants to new teachers who start their jobs mid-year in addition to those who start in the fall. And we saw an unprecedented rise in grant applications this spring as a result of our Empathy Gap activities.

For 2018/19, we awarded \$233,541 in \$600 micro grants

for everything from art and music projects to math and technology initiatives. The two most requested areas were literacy (38%) and science (29%). We also gave \$13,250 to new teachers to set them up for success in the classroom. On a related note, I'd like to thank our volunteer grant readers for making this support possible.

Regular donors know that EPAC's success can be attributed to the deep involvement and dedication of its board members. This year brought some change: I became board president in August, replacing longtime leader Lee Dineen; and we welcomed former Stanford University Spanish Professor Cachi Kenna in January. At the same time, we bid farewell to Sara Hackett and Shafi Saxena; and to our longstanding grant writer Nancy Bardsley. All three have worked tirelessly for EPAC, and I'm grateful for their contributions.

Speaking of change, we're thrilled that respected teacher and administrator Gina Sudaria has been appointed interim superintendent of the Ravenswood City School District. Gina shares our vision for creating a supportive environment for teachers and understands the role that job satisfaction plays in their retention. Not surprisingly, she has been enthusiastically welcomed by staff and families.

Finally, I wanted to draw your attention to a short video that captures the need for and impact of EPAC. Please take a moment to watch it on our website or our Facebook page.

I am full of gratitude for your support.

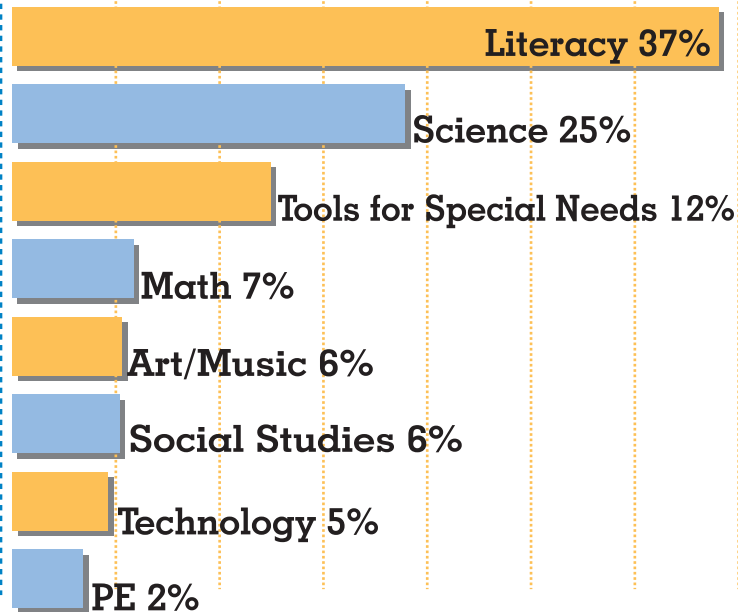


Our Impact 2018-19

182 Grants awarded **Fall 2018**: \$106,225

208 Grants awarded **Spring 2019**: \$120,979

TOTAL AWARD OF \$227,204



Supporting students
by supporting teachers



Your grass-roots program helps teachers enrich student experiences in the under-resourced Ravenswood City School District. Donations allow you to provide first-year teachers funding for classroom supplies and to approve grants to teachers who request educational books, materials and field trips.

This year we visited East Palo Alto Charter School on EPAK Day, May 31 and saw first-hand some impressive results of your work.

Julie J Pearce, President - Huge M. and Julie J Pearce Foundation



I have been the happy recipient of EPAK grants for over 10 years! I have used the grant funds to purchase music instruments (drums, recorders, push bells), costumes, props, sheet music, teaching supplies, such as flash cards, visual charts, sheet paper, and a host of other things! Thanks for all that you all do, to make it easier for us to do what we do!

Alisha Fitzhugh, teacher

Financials

Our operating expenses were 7% of revenue for the 2018-19 fiscal year

Revenues

Donations	\$306,492
Other Income	\$ 15
Total Revenues	\$306,507

Expenses

Grants

Teacher Micro Grants	\$233,541
New Teacher Grants	\$ 15,750
Total Grant Expense	\$249,291

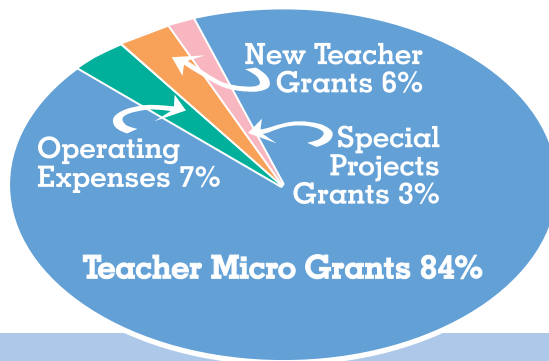
Operating Expense	\$ 29,306
Total Expenses	\$278,597

Assets & Liabilities

Cash*	\$372,405
Liabilities	\$ 0
Total Net Assets	\$372,405

Change in Net Assets \$ 27,910

**Cash Balance includes \$6,977 special project grant from Heising Simons and Packard Foundations.*



EPAK Supporters

It is through the generous and dedicated support of our donors that EPAK has been serving the children of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park since 1993. Without our donors, teachers and students would not have the educational opportunities other communities take for granted. Our strong base of diverse contributors makes EPAK a stable and trusted partner for all schools in the area. **We appreciate your generous and continued support.**

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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELP TO MAKE EPAK THRIVE





To support students, we must support teachers.



EAST PALO ALTO KIDS FOUNDATION

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