



Making a Difference

EAST PALO ALTO KIDS FOUNDATION

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

EPAK
FOUNDATION



Founded in 1993, East Palo Alto Kids Foundation is a community-based all-volunteer non-profit organization that serves 12 public schools and programs in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park, including the Ravenswood City School District. Our mission is to promote equity, educational opportunity and academic success for over 3,500 students in pre-K-12 public schools.



EPAK at a Glance

- EPAK provides direct micro grants to teachers for much needed classroom tools and resources.
- EPAK supports teachers in one of the lowest income school districts in our area. Students here are 60% English learners, 90% qualify for free or reduced lunch, and 40% are housing insecure.
- We are the only local funding organization that responds directly to individual teacher requests.
- We trust teachers to know their students' needs.
- EPAK's all-volunteer board keeps administrative expenses at less than 7% ensuring an impressive 93% of funds go directly to benefit students.

President's Message

East Palo Alto Kids began as an idea three decades ago to address local educational inequities. The goal was to provide "a direct conduit to benefit the education of children in EPA and eastern Menlo Park." To work towards this goal, EPAK began partnering with supporters from our community to fund classroom needs as defined by teachers, based on their direct experience. Adopting this PTA-like model has allowed EPAK to empower teachers to shape classroom experiences that best serve the needs of their students.

Board Member and REF Executive Director Jenna Pronovost speaks to the success of EPAK : "EPAK is tremendously impactful for students and teachers in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park. EPAK functions in a way that is incredibly respectful of teachers as leaders. EPAK has worked hard to streamline the grant application process, activate special funding opportunities during the pandemic, and listen to teachers. EPAK serves every publicly funded classroom in the community, across district and charter lines. The reach is outstanding and is so aligned with

the value of working towards equity in our community."

We are coming to the end of the first full year of classroom learning since the start of the pandemic. Our teachers and students are thrilled to be back in the classroom learning together. At the same time, the challenges ahead of us have never been more apparent. Our teachers are identifying the most effective learning strategies for students in their classrooms, and requesting funding for those projects. EPAK will continue to apply our expanded criteria for funding grant applications. We are exploring additional ways to support our students. As we celebrate thirty years of making a difference, thank you for being on this journey with us. Let's move forward together.

Nisha Pillai, Board President–2022-23

**EPAK: Celebrating
30 Years of Caring**



Our Impact 2022-23

FALL GRANTS 2022

224 (up to \$750 each): \$162,149

New teacher grants: 76 (up to \$375 each): \$28,500

SPRING GRANTS 2023

192 (up to \$750 each): \$139,070

New teacher grants: 15 (\$375 each): \$5,625

TOTAL AWARD \$335,344

Educator Grants were used for...

Literacy 35%

Art/Music 14%

Science 13%

Math 8%

Social Studies 7%

Technology 6%

- 20% of these grants went to Special Needs Education

Making a Difference

“Thanks to my EPAK grant I was able to provide students with essential resources and equipment to pivot back to in person learning... books, math and word games. Thank you EPAK!”

— Jessica C.,
Los Robles McNair
Teacher

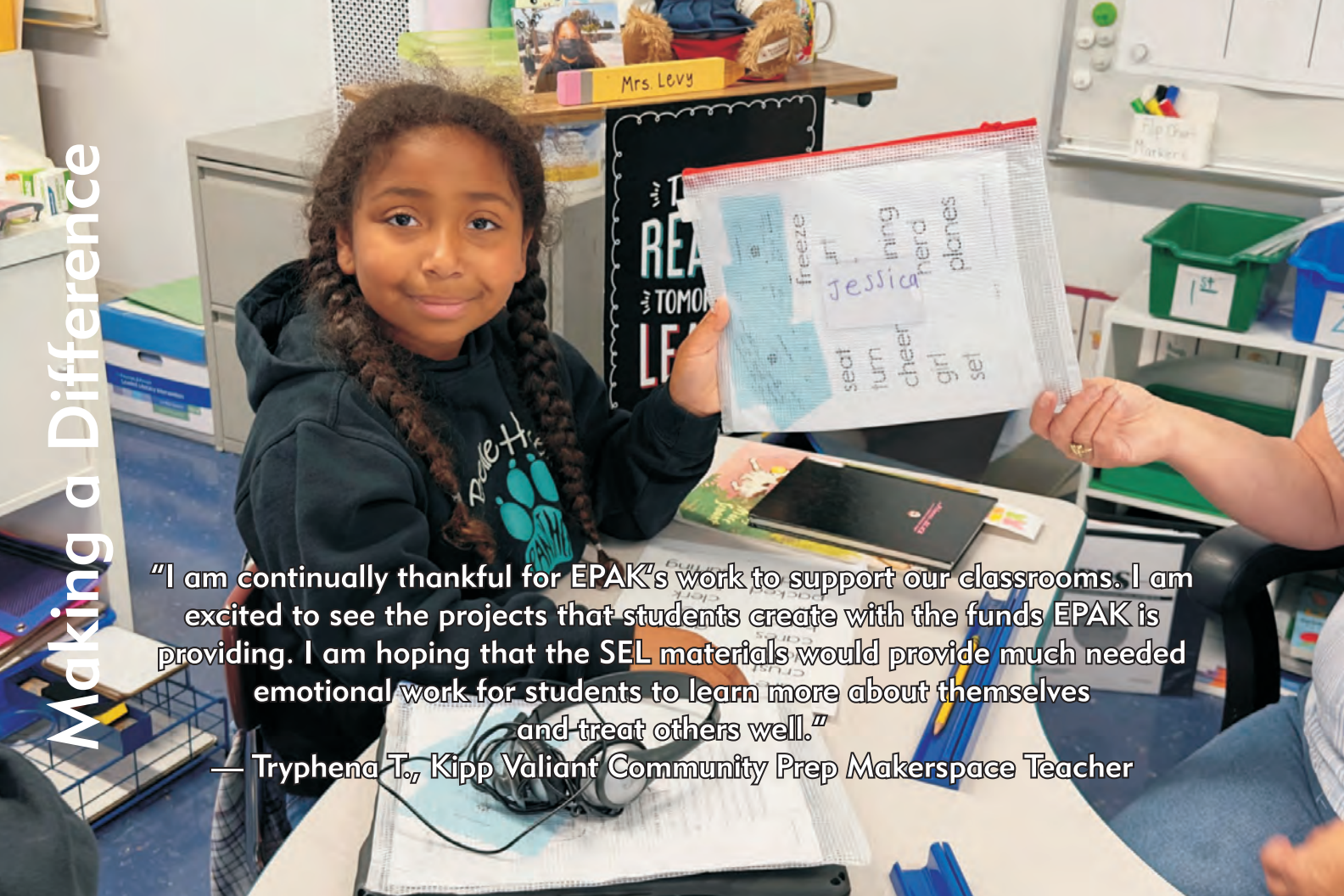


Making a Difference

Making a Difference

"I am continually thankful for EPAK's work to support our classrooms. I am excited to see the projects that students create with the funds EPAK is providing. I am hoping that the SEL materials would provide much needed emotional work for students to learn more about themselves and treat others well."

— Tryphena T., Kipp Valiant Community Prep Makerspace Teacher



Financials

Our operating expenses were 4.50% of revenue for the 2022-23 fiscal year

Revenues

Donations	\$488,162
Other Income	21,206
Total Revenues	\$509,368

Expenses

Grants

Teacher Micro Grants	\$301,969
New Teacher Grants	\$ 34,125
Total Grant Expense	\$336,094

Operating Expense \$ 22,948

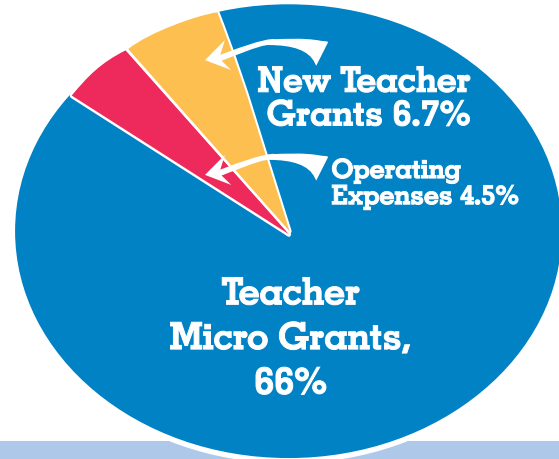
Total Expenses \$359,042

Change in Net Assets \$150,326

Assets & Liabilities

Cash (Wells Fargo)	\$672,460
Liabilities	\$ 0
Total Net Assets	\$672,460

EPAK Expenses



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.**

\$10,000 and up

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Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI)
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Palo Alto Rotary Club Annual
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\$2,500 - \$9,999

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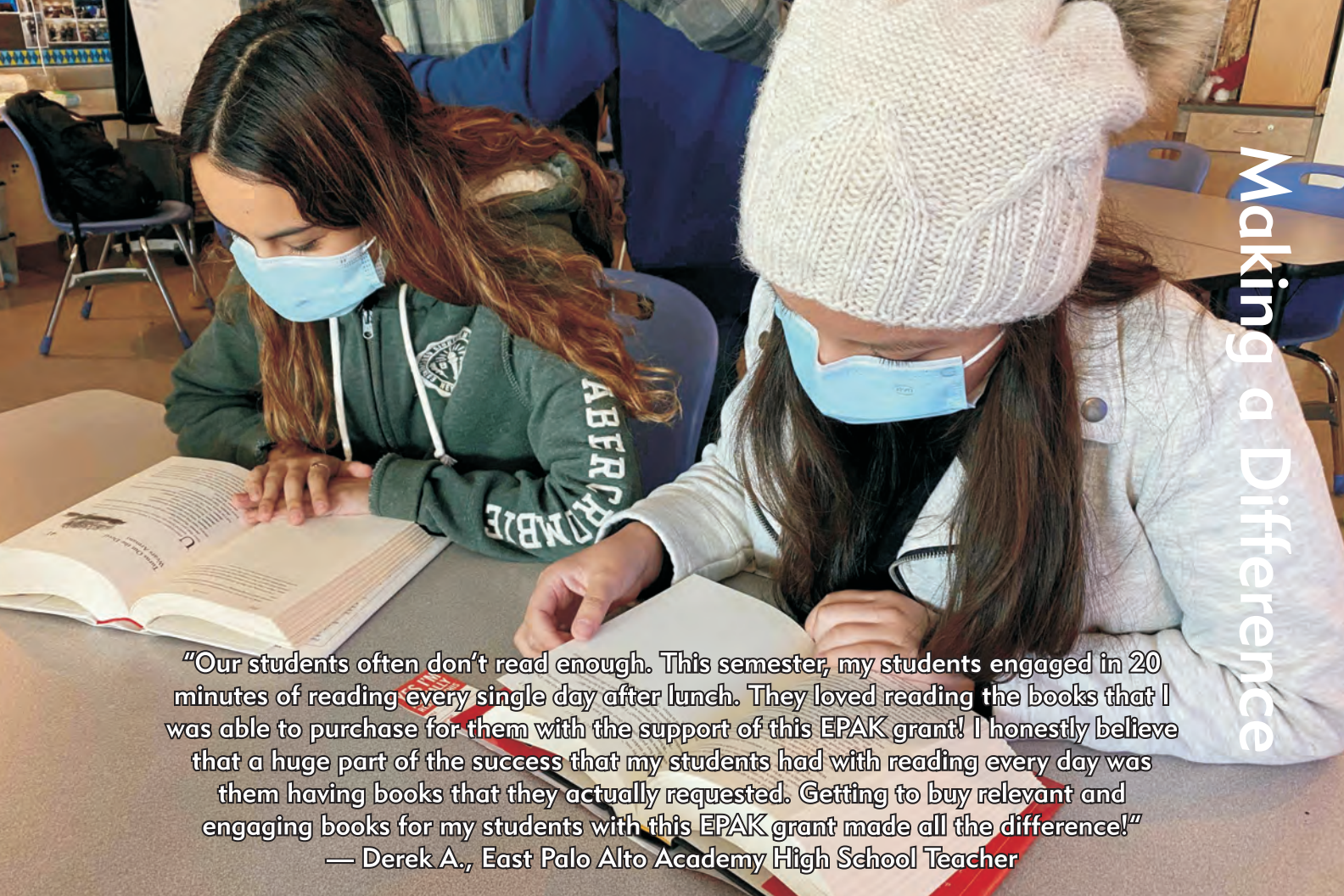
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matched by an employer

Please excuse any inadvertent
errors or omissions in this list.
We value all of our donors.

"I so appreciate the EPAK grants! It means so much to me to be able to fund project ideas and materials that I otherwise wouldn't be able to. It is amazing that this grant has been offered regularly for so many years. As a long time teacher, I keep a running list of projects and materials that could possibly be funded by EPAK.

**I so appreciate being able to rely on these funds being available. Thank you, Thank you!!"
— Eron T., East Palo Alto Charter School Teacher**



Making a Difference

"Our students often don't read enough. This semester, my students engaged in 20 minutes of reading every single day after lunch. They loved reading the books that I was able to purchase for them with the support of this EPAK grant! I honestly believe that a huge part of the success that my students had with reading every day was them having books that they actually requested. Getting to buy relevant and engaging books for my students with this EPAK grant made all the difference!"

— Derek A., East Palo Alto Academy High School Teacher

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EPAK: Celebrating 30 Years of Caring



**EAST PALO ALTO
KIDS FOUNDATION**

You can help us reduce our environmental impact and keep our expenses low by signing up for e-mailed newsletters and donating via our new website: epak.org
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