



A new semester and a new round of EPAK grant opportunities begin for our teachers in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park. As we mark the new year, we celebrate the creativity and dedication of our teachers. A recent testimonial from one such teacher notes the high impact of the EPAK classroom grants:

"My EPAK grant had a profound impact on learning in my classroom. Funding to purchase supplies, books, and materials made learning more accessible, relatable, and joyful for my students. EPAK support aided a creative, dynamic learning environment that catered to the diverse needs of my students, including those with IEPs.

Several EPAK funded science labs were a highlight for many students. The labs promoted understanding of complex topics like plate motion, the rock cycle, and states of matter. In one lab students constructed structures out of popsicle sticks to simulate buildings. These structures were then tested on a shake table to determine their ability to withstand an earthquake. Students learned that plate motion is a continuous process.

Another engaging lab focused on modeling the rock cycle. Students used potato peelers to "weather" crayons into tiny pieces that represented sediment. These pieces were then compacted and cemented using foil to mimic the process of forming sedimentary rocks. Next, students used candles to heat the crayon fragments until they melted, simulating the formation of magma. The melted crayons represented igneous rocks. This activity helped students understand the processes of weathering, erosion, compaction, cementation, and cooling within the rock cycle.

Overall, the EPAK grant money provided essential funding in my classroom. The labs, in particular, helped students make connections between theoretical concepts and real-world applications. These experiences fostered a love of learning that I hope will stay with them throughout their academic journey."

- Francisco B., Kipp Valiant Community Prep (Dec 2)

Please support our teachers and the new semester.



Students doing science projects at Kipp Valiant Community Prep.

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East Palo Alto Kids Foundation (EPAK) believes that all students deserve an inspiring, engaging, and tailored classroom experience. For 30 years, we have provided grants to teachers to enhance educational opportunities for students in the Ravenswood City School District (RCSD) and public charter schools in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park.

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