



# Peoria Public Schools Foundation



The Peoria Public Schools Foundation is a private, independent 501(c)(3) organization established in 1992. Our staff and board raises, manages and invests private contributions in ways we believe will help maximize the effectiveness of the substantial public investments our taxpayers already make in the schools. When schools and staff cannot do or fund a project on their own, the Foundation steps in to help. We serve as a bridge to the community to bring leaders and advocates to the school district.

## HORIZONS PROGRAM

The Horizons Program is a career exploration opportunity for middle school students in Peoria Public Schools. Students meet during their lunch period once a week and are introduced to different career areas using a variety of exploration techniques. No two

meetings are the same, thus providing a unique experience for the students as they learn more about themselves and their own career opportunities. Along with career and education information, students also learn important goal-setting techniques and study skills.

## ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Adopt-A-School program is a partnership with Peoria's business and private sectors to utilize the vast human resources and talents in our community to strengthen, enhance and enrich the quality of education in the Peoria Public Schools.

Businesses and organizations may choose to participate by partnering with a school, providing financial contributions (or in-kind donations) or by mentoring/tutoring. The objectives of each partnership are flexible, and the relationships grow and flourish through a climate of active involvement and interaction.

## GRANTS

Since 1998, the PPS Foundation has provided more than \$260,000 to classrooms and teachers throughout Peoria Public Schools. The Classroom Grants program is designed to encourage staff members to implement their most innovative ideas. The Foundation also offers Field Experience Grants, which provide funding for district staff members to take their students on educational field trips for hands-on learning.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The PPS Foundation administers 11 student scholarships for high school seniors and two scholarships for middle school students. The college scholarships for seniors are awarded in amounts ranging between \$500 and \$3,000.

peoria public schools  
**foundation**

## Peoria Public Schools Foundation

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Cindy R. Morris, President and Corporate Secretary  
Jen Adler, Administrative Director  
Trish O'Shaughnessy, Community Engagement & Horizons Program Coordinator  
Brenda Wilson, Horizons Staff  
Sarah Oakford, Adopt-A-School Coordinator

## Mission

To develop and provide a permanent source of supplemental funding for improving the quality of education within Peoria Public Schools. The Foundation shall work in partnership with businesses and the greater community and shall raise and disburse funds only for the use and benefit of the students, staff and alumni of Peoria Public Schools.

## Vision

The Peoria Public Schools Foundation champions real and positive change in Peoria Public Schools. It successfully devotes its expertise and fundraising capabilities to serve as a catalyst to implement bold ideas that achieve remarkable outcomes for our children.

## Upcoming Event

**21<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Outing and Dinner**  
June 25, 2018  
Country Club of Peoria  
For more information or to register,  
email [cindy.morris@psd150.org](mailto:cindy.morris@psd150.org).

## How to Help

**Financial gifts:** Send your contribution to the PPS Foundation office or make a secure donation through the website.

**Donate basic-need items:** The Foundation receives request from schools for families that need school uniforms, winter clothing, school supplies and hygiene items. These items can be dropped off at the Foundation's office.

**Volunteer.** The Foundation relies on volunteers to research, orchestrate and evaluate its many programs and staff our events. Contact us to get involved and to volunteer.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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