



# OSDEF

Osborn School District  
Educational Foundation

## THANK YOU PRICE KONG/PK CHARITIES!

NOVEMBER 2021

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**The Osborn School District  
Educational Foundation  
(OSDEF) has four successful  
signature programs:**

- **KidsRead**
- **Teacher Mini-Grants**
- **Sports Programs**
- **Requests for Funding**

To learn more about us and how  
to support our programs,  
please visit

[www.osbornfoundation.org](http://www.osbornfoundation.org)

**PK Charities**, a nonprofit organization supported by **Price Kong**, focuses its efforts on providing resources to enrich the educational and life experiences of underserved children and adults, by hosting an annual golf tournament and silent auction, with all proceeds distributed to numerous charities, including the Osborn Educational Foundation (OSDEF).

Price Kong/PK Charities has had a successful long-standing partnership with the Osborn School District and OSDEF. From 1998 to 2008, when Montecito School officially closed, PK provided Christmas presents and refreshments to first-grade classes and occasionally to other classes when there was a shortfall, one year providing pizza to the entire fourth grade. In addition, during the 2007-08 school year, PK provided backpacks to Montecito students filled with school supplies and then did the same for Longview School beginning in 2008 with approximately 145 backpacks per distribution.

PK also supported the Art Department by soliciting children's artwork for their holiday cards. Submissions were judged by PK employees and prizes were awarded for the top three in the



**Pictured left to right: Don Tate, Lee Pistor, Tony Kong, Michael Robert and John Dowd**

1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade level divisions. Numerous honorable mentions were awarded along with a \$500 monetary gift to the Art Department from 2014-19.

For almost every year since 2003, Price Kong, PK Charities has awarded the Osborn School District Educational Foundation a check for \$10,000 to be used for district sports programs. Funding over the years has totaled approximately \$179,000. We appreciate the ongoing generosity of this wonderful community organization.

The pandemic put a crimp in funding during the 2019-2020 school year but in 2021 OSDEF was once again funded and at Longview School's request, they were the recipient of PK's Headphone &

Water Bottle Drive this fall, in lieu of backpacks.

In May 2020, several members of the Osborn School District Educational Foundation board participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Price Kong Golf Tournament. What a day it was! The four-some spent a day at the Biltmore Golf Course,

supporting an organization that has done so much for the Osborn School District and OSDEF past, present and future. As OSDEF Board Member John Dowd stated, "This was a day full of celebrations, giving back to a local foundation that does so much for our Osborn students and community. And to top it all off, our very own, Lee Pistor won Closest to The Pin."

The OSDEF board extends our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Price Kong and PK Charities for their continuous commitment to helping fund after school youth sports for Osborn students. The 2020 event raised nearly \$40,000 for local nonprofits.

The PK Charities 17th Annual Golf Tournament will be held May 6, 2022 at the Arizona Biltmore Golf Course.

## OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The mission of the **Osborn School District Educational Foundation** is to **encourage innovation, promote healthy campuses and support creative experiences** in and out of the Osborn School District classroom. **Osborn School District Educational Foundation provides support and funding** to supplement traditional funding sources to insure that all Osborn students have a comprehensive educational experience regardless of their socioeconomic status.

## FOUNDATION PROGRAMS HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Osborn School District Educational Foundation supports innovation in education through mini-grants in amounts up to and including \$300. These grants are funded by the Rotary Club of Phoenix West in honor of former superintendent Dr. Wilma Basnett. The grants are to be used by teachers and staff for educational opportunities involving students.

OSDEF goals are to support programs that:

- ◆ Improve students' physical and mental health
- ◆ Enhance literacy, math, science and the arts
- ◆ Provide innovation and enhancement of education

Teachers and staff follow these same guidelines for Requests for Funding (RFF) when projects exceed \$300. Staff may submit requests for funding for both mini-grants and RFF twice a year, spring and fall.

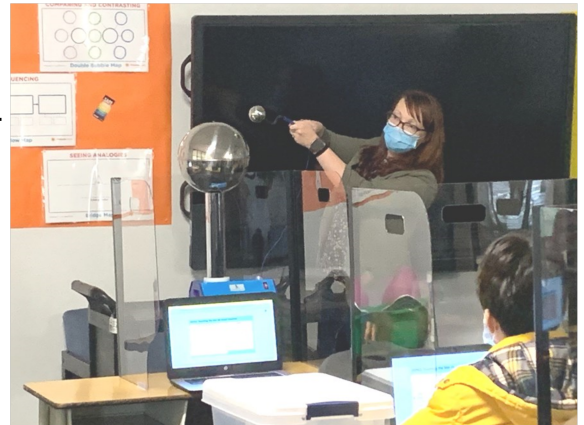
Staff continues to amaze OSDEF board members with their creative ideas for innovative programs for students!



## WHAT AS LITTLE AS \$300 CAN DO IN A CLASSROOM

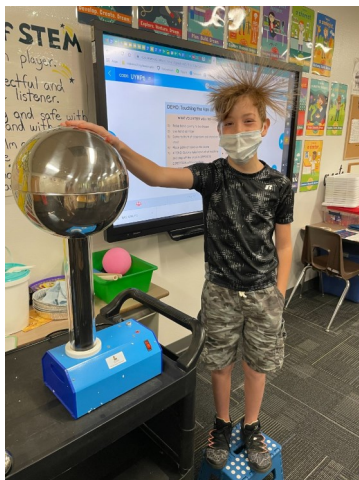
Last year, OSDEF funded nine Mini-Grants ranging from \$40 to \$300 totaling approximately \$2,500. Despite schools being closed and staff and students working remotely, teachers found a way to be creative with innovative programs they could implement during the pandemic and afterwards. Below is a completion report written by Clarendon STEM Teacher, Hannah Evans

I received a mini grant for the 2020/2021 school year to purchase a Van de Graaf Generator for Clarendon. This is a machine that is used to demonstrate static electricity using hands-on, interactive experiences using volunteers and different types of objects. I was not able to use the machine until March 2021, when the Osborn School District returned to in-person learning. I introduced the machine to students as a "Fun Friday" experience in STEM, and it was extremely engaging and exciting for the students, as can be seen in the pictures below. I also introduced the machine to the students who attended Clarendon summer school, many of which were from other schools around the district. [STEM refers to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math]



Here is a link to the Nearpod I used when teaching this lesson last school year and over summer school: <https://share.nearpod.com/td8uAZRMfjb>. This school year I am continuing to use the Van de Graaf Generator to enhance an electrical engineering unit that I am doing as my first three week STEM rotation with students. We are using it to discuss the similarities and differences between static and current electricity and using it to conduct tests on whether different materials are conductors or insulators of electricity. This leads into the students conducting their own tests of insulators and conductors as well as building their own electrical circuits with circuit kits. The last week of the rotation, students apply their new knowledge of electricity to complete mini-projects using Makey Makeys

(<https://makeymakey.com/>), which are miniature circuit boards that students can hook up to their Chromebooks and attach to other conductive materials. These were purchased through another grant received from the Osborn School District Educational Foundation. The projects we have tried so far were creating your own conductive video game controller and creating a playable "instrument" on paper that can control music apps through the Chromebook.



I would like to thank the Osborn School District Educational Foundation for the grant of this Van de Graaf Generator, as it already has sparked joy and interest in learning for the students at Clarendon and will continue to do so for many years to come. Please enjoy the following pictures of students experiencing the Van de Graaf generator of the last several months.



**NOTE:** Students wore masks for this experience and used hand sanitizer before and after all demos. Machine was wiped down after every student.

~Hannah Evans, STEM Teacher Clarendon Elementary

## AND THE FALL 2021 TEACHER MINI-GRANT WINNERS ARE.....

**Congratulations to the thirteen staff members below** who submitted eleven successful proposals for the Fall 2021 Mini-Grant cycle. Read the brief descriptions and be inspired! These innovative programs were made possible by contributions from the Phoenix West Rotary Club. *Proposals for the spring grant cycle are due January 31.*

Project/Teacher	School/Grade	Description	Budget
<b>Active Calming Center</b> Amanda Renning	Encanto 2	Provide students with an Active Calm Center with tools to utilize before going to the Safe Place in the classroom. Conscious Discipline has an active calming tool kit with nine ways to physically/mentally calm and self-regulate	\$201.10
<b>Botany in the Primary Montessori Classroom</b> Jill Singh and Terer Obrochta	Montecito PK	Students study Botany as it relates to the importance of plants to human life and as a gateway to further studies in Biology. Students will start a garden from the ground up to spark curiosity and wonder about the natural world. Purchase of tools, composting bins and wheelbarrow. Grounds crew will help with establishing a boundary and perimeter.	\$306.32
<b>Building Phonics</b> Samantha Wright	OCIS 5	Secure a Reading A-Z subscription for phonic group instruction four times weekly for students who are determined to be "high/some risk" on assessments. Reading skills have been set back due to pandemic.	\$137.32
<b>Cube Regulators</b> Luis Valencia	Encanto K-3	Helping students regulate emotions using Rubik's cubes—students are fascinated with the motions and color patterns; when using the cubes— they are engaged, focused and relaxed. Helps regulate emotions by focusing on an activity that stimulates the mind and body	\$194.87
<b>Hands-On Literacy and Math</b> Desiree Barnett	Encanto K	Purchasing hands-on games and manipulatives for literacy and math centers to hold interest and allow for independent practice and greater social distancing	\$309.43
<b>Harnessing the Wind: A Renewable Energy Engineering Design Experience</b> Hannah Evans	Clarendon 4-6	Fund an engineering design experience (brainstorming, planning, designing, testing, improving and communicating) tied to the book "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind" –a true story of a Malawi boy. Will use a class set of the Firefly miniature turbines so students can plan, build, design and test their own turbine. Will build on a previous mini-grant—Van de Graff Generator	\$294.00
<b>Kinder Literacy Centers</b> Sara Borghaus	Encanto K	Purchase materials for hands-on literacy centers focusing on letter names/formation, beginning sounds, rhyming words, CVC words and writing/fine motor skills	\$298.76
<b>Native Books for Native Students</b> Amber Stevens	Districtwide 4-6	Provide cultural-based books for Native students in the Native American Ed Program, to use in small districtwide literacy groups and then take home at end of the year	\$300.00
<b>Playground Core Communication Board</b> Denise Kohrs	Solano, Longview & Encanto PK	Erect 3x4 foot playground communication board on developmental PK/K playground to enhance communication for limited and non-verbal children—will help promote socialization. Funds used to print boards/Maintenance will install	\$600.00 \$200 per three sites
<b>Secret Stories Alphabet Project: "Cracking the Reading Code"</b> Sean Conway & Sara Aguiar	Encanto 1-2	Reading interventionists incorporate Secret Stories program providing students with a highly engaging, fun approach to learning letters and sounds using storytelling and Whole Brain Learning rather than memorization allowing for "formation of multi-layered memories resulting in deeper learning experiences and easier skill retrieval."	\$300.00
<b>Solano Community Preschool Garden</b> Marina Wright	Solano Pre-K	Offering Solano Community Pre-K gardening tools so they learn with hands-on activities in the garden where food comes from—build a raised bed to grow vegetables year-round + two large pots for herbs	\$300.00
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT FUNDED</b>			<b>\$3,241.80</b>





## OSDEF RECOGNITION AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

### WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE?

To say that the Osborn School District Educational Foundation is an avid supporter of education in the Osborn School District is an understatement. In fact, **providing funds and support for innovative programs to enhance education for Osborn students is the sole purpose of our existence.**

### WHAT PROGRAMS DO WE SUPPORT?

We provide direct funds to classroom teachers and special support staff via our four long-standing signature programs: KidsRead, Teacher Mini-Grants, After-School Sports Programming and our Request for Funding Program (RFF).

- **KidsRead** puts books in the hands of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders for home libraries
- **Teacher Mini-Grants** award up to \$300 for innovative classroom projects during a spring and fall funding cycle
- **After-School Sports**
- **Requests for Funding (RFF)** are awarded for innovative teacher, grade level, school level or district level programs in amounts in excess of \$300 with no top cap. The fall program awards are for implementation during the spring; spring program awards are for implementation the following fall.

We also provide funds to principals and the superintendent to support special events and activities for which funds are not normally available—for example, the opening meeting breakfast and refreshments for staff development meetings.

### HOW DO WE RAISE FUNDS?

Our major fundraiser has been the Annual Teacher of the Year Event that serves a dual purpose—to recognize excellence in teaching and to raise funds through ticket sales, a raffle and silent auction. Sadly, our Fifth Annual Teacher of the Year celebration last year was cancelled due to COVID.



So just as Osborn teachers resorted to virtual learning, OSDEF did too, with our first ever Exceptional Educator Virtual Event that recognized staff members for exemplary service during COVID and raised funds through donations from generous sponsors:

**Concord General Contracting**  
**CORE Construction**  
**FMG-Facilities Management Group**  
**Christian Lehr**  
**McCarthy Construction**  
**Midstate Energy**  
**Primary Consultants**  
**Progressive Roofing**

### WHAT RECOGNITION/FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES ARE BEING PLANNED ?



#### SPRING 2022

Our *first annual* **HAPPY HOUR OHSO Brewery and Distillery** at 4900 E. Indian School Road

Our *second virtual* event **OSDEF RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE**

#### FALL 2022

Our **FIFTH ANNUAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR (TOY) Event**