

## About Us

The Peninsula Education Foundation (PEF) raises money to support the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District in meeting its funding requirements to assure continued excellence in public education.

The Peninsula Education Foundation (PEF) was founded in 1979 by involved parents and community leaders who were concerned about the decline in State education funding after the passage of Proposition 13. The Foundation has raised over \$31 million in community contributions to maintain and improve educational resources, programs and technology in the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District (PVPUSD), and also fund teaching positions to keep class sizes more manageable.

With almost 12,000 students in the district, PEF touches the lives of local families every day with educational opportunities that position their children for a lifetime of achievement.

PEF has pledged \$3 million to the PVPUSD for the 2013-2014 school year. Through your donations, PEF helps maintain the quality of the entire PVPUSD by supporting every school, every child. Programs PEF supports through the district include:

- Teachers
- Music
- Physical Education
- Library and Media Aides
- Counselors
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), at all three intermediate schools and both high schools
- College and Career Centers
- Chuck Miller PEF Teacher Grants

**You want your child to have the best.** That's probably one of the reasons you live on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Our PVPUSD schools are among the best in the nation - ranked in the top high schools in Newsweek and US News and World Report.\* What makes our schools among the best?

**Strong Academics**  
**Motivated Students**  
**Experienced Faculty**  
**Involved Parents**

and

**Much**  
**Much**  
**More**

Like...

**Music**  
**Physical Education**  
**Library and Media Aides**

### **More Teachers to Minimize Class Size**

These programs aren't a given anymore. Many schools can no longer offer them. How does Palos Verdes maintain them while other California school districts can't? ***It's your donations to the Peninsula Education Foundation!*** We need your support to maintain them for your student!

Less is not more when it comes to your child's education. **Please donate today to maintain the educational experience you expect for your child.**



www.pvpef.org  
P.O. Box 2632  
Palos Verdes Peninsula CA 90274  
Tax ID#95-3498211

\* 2013 Newsweek & 2013 US News and World Report

**LESS**  
*is not*  
**MORE**  
in PVPUSD elementary schools

*Help us maintain important  
programs for your child.*

## Teachers



You've heard the news. Millions of public school students across the nation are seeing their class sizes swell because of budget cuts and teacher layoffs. Despite this trend, PEF believes that smaller class sizes translate into a more effective learning environment and they allow teachers to pay more individual attention to each student. A number of surveys also show that parents care about school class size second only to school safety.

LA County schools have a reputation for extremely crowded schools and large class sizes - up to 50 students per class, in some cases. PEF strives to keep our PVPUSD class sizes as small as possible with your donations. As the only school non-profit that can raise funds for teachers salaries, half of our annual pledge goes to maintaining teacher positions. It's shocking but true; class sizes in the PVPUSD would be even larger without your support of PEF!



## Music



From classroom music to choral and instrumental music, it's important to put music in our students hands (and minds) early and often.

It has been well-documented that early music education helps improve math performance. Children who enjoy music often do well in math because early music education strengthens the ability to recognize patterns - one of the foundations of math success and creative thinking in general. In addition, studies have shown that musical practice may help increase memory and language skills. They also have enhanced fine motor skills, vocabulary and non-verbal reasoning skills.

Unfortunately, many school districts have had to cut their music education programs due to budget constraints. PEF helps fund music at all ten PVPUSD elementary schools because we believe music is a key part of your child's development.



## Library & Media Aides



Each year, California schools struggle to keep teachers much less maintain all the staff resources we used to take for granted in elementary school. With your donations, PEF is able to provide the funds to hire a part-time library or media aide.

Library aides help keep school libraries accessible to students and they help teach our kids how to research, a skill they will use for a lifetime. Research has also shown that students at schools with libraries tend to earn higher scores on state reading tests.

Media aides keep computer labs running and accessible. They teach children basic computer/software skills that they use to prepare classroom and homework assignments. Media aides also assist teachers with technology in the classroom.



## New! PE Program



Beginning this 2013-14 school year, PEF will fund Physical Education at all ten PVPUSD elementary schools!

Credentialed PE teachers will teach PE to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at every elementary school. The PE program will be aligned to California Physical Education content standards, using SPARK, a program supported by the Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health. SPARK PE was designed to be more inclusive, active, and fun than traditional PE classes and after 20 years of research and field testing nationwide, SPARK PE has been found to be one of the best physical education programs in the world. The positive effects of SPARK PE include:

- Enjoyment of PE
- Increased physical activity
- Improved teacher instruction
- Academic and fitness achievement
- Sport skills development

