The Ed. Foundation

2026 – 2027 Grants

DISTRICT BAND SPECTACULAR
All District
Kevin Scully, John Akios, Dr. Elizabeth Andrew, Jessica Castaneda, Jason Cherry, Christian Crawford, Shane Helfner, Jenna Leen, Aaron Prindle
Band students from all seven schools will perform at the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts in Spring 2027 with a nationally renowned guest conductor. Co-funded with HEARTS.

SEPTA - EVERY SCHOOL EVERY YEAR
All District
Jeanine Cummings, Krista Citrolo
Motivational speaker Dr. Paul Wichansky will visit schools to lead presentations on disability awareness, anti-bullying, and growth and resilience, drawing on his own experiences living with cerebral palsy and hearing loss.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: THE EDELSON FAMILY

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER
Schreiber
Justin Arini
A modern and comfortable space designed for students and guidance counselors to collaborate on college and career planning goals. Updated technology and comprehensive planning workshops will be available to support students navigating the increasingly complex college and post-secondary planning process.
FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

VIKING ROBOTICS
Schreiber
Bryan Beach, John Schineller
New robotic kits, components, and motors will be purchased to enhance the Schreiber Robotics program. These materials will allow the team to compete at a higher level while improving efficiencies, organization, and time optimization for future competitions, leading to future success.
FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

FOCUS FORWARD - EMPOWERING STUDENT VISION THROUGH iMac TECHNOLOGY
Schreiber
Elizabeth Zucker, Kevin Scully, Joy DiPasquale, Sarah Jones, Peter Koch, Nicole Thomas
New iMac computers will be used to create a professional, efficient, and equitable digital learning environment that mirrors real-world creative industries and post-secondary art programs. The technology will strengthen photography, digital photography, Media Arts, and AP Photography curriculum by supporting advanced digital editing and enabling complex projects aligned with AP 2D Art and Design standards.

THE WAY OF THE BRUSH - SUMI-E AND CONTEMPORARY INK
Schreiber
Nicole Thomas, Kevin Scully
Internationally acclaimed artist and author Sungsook Setton will lead a two-day master-class workshop series for AP and Advanced High School artists. Students will be immersed in the meditative and expressive world of East Asian ink wash painting, known as sumi-e.

PW ATHLETICS - LEAD 'EM UP
Schreiber
Nick Schratwieser
The Lead 'Em Up program will continue to transform Port Washington Athletics by transitioning teams from a coach-led model to a more effective player-led dynamic. A nationally recognized leadership and character curriculum will be integrated into the existing athletic framework through interactive exercises and 'sticky' teaching concepts that build a positive, high-performance culture.
FUNDED BY P10 25-HOUR RUN

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS
Schreiber
Millicent Hudson
Schreiber High School students participating in Model UN will be able to attend the world's largest, most diverse, and most prestigious Model UN conference/competition for secondary school students. Students will experience a highly engaging, immersive experience in the world of international affairs, problem solving, and diplomacy.
SPONSORS: THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION, RACHAEL & SCOTT LIEBMAN

STITCHING INNOVATION - EMBROIDERY AND TEXTILE DESIGN
Schreiber
Joy DiPasquale, Nicole Thomas. Sarah Brackman
A new computerized embroidery machine will be added to enhance the Fashion Design curriculum, giving students the ability to explore textile embellishment, branding, surface design, and digital-to-fabric production. This equipment will expand students' hands-on skills in a field that bridges technology and creative design.
SPONSOR: THE BIRBIGLIA FAMILY

MEANING-MAKING THROUGH MUSEUM EDUCATION
Schreiber
Nicole Thomas, Kevin Scully
Students in advanced art classes will participate in a museum learning series at The MET and MOMA through guided tours and workshops related to their classroom learning of art and history.
SPONSOR: THE REICHENBACH FAMILY IN MEMORY OF KAREN REICHENBACH

VECTRIC ASPIRE - MORE ACCESSIBLE CNC SOFTWARE
Schreiber
Fred Feldmann
New software will be added to enhance the student experience in the district's Computerized Woodworking class, providing greater access to CNC and Laser machines with a more user-friendly interface. This upgrade will simplify student use and increase accessibility for all skill levels.

VEGETABLE GARDEN - THE LIVING LAB SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION
Schreiber
Luis Gallego, Nicole LoPinto
Students will design, build, and maintain two organic raised-bed gardens as part of a hands-on agricultural project that bridges the gap between classroom theory and real-world application. This living laboratory will teach students the mechanics of sustainable food production and transform the existing curriculum into an immersive, experiential learning environment.
SPONSORS: THE ENTWISTLE FAMILY, THE FINE FAMILY

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD - COMPETITION SUPPORT
Schreiber
Nicole LoPinto, Jason Caesar
This grant will provide support to the Schreiber Science Olympiad program for regional and state competitions. Funding will help ensure that students have the resources they need to prepare and compete at a high level.
FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

SPORTS BROADCASTING MEDIA - STUDIO AND EQUIPMENT
Schreiber
Jeremy Klaff, Nick Schratwieser
The broadcasting and sports broadcasting program will be enhanced with visual decals, TV sets, an action camera, and accessories to improve live coverage in the gym and on the turf. These upgrades will give students access to professional-quality tools as they develop real-world media production skills.
SPONSORS: THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION, THE RABER FAMILY, THE LOEWY FAMILY

LANDMARK ON MAIN STREET'S ARTIST IN RESIDENCE SERIES
Schreiber, Weber
Amanda Kowalczuk, Kevin Scully
Landmark on Main Street will offer workshops, master classes, and multicultural interactive performances with professional musicians for Schreiber and Weber students. These experiences will expose students to diverse artistic traditions and provide opportunities to work alongside working professional artists.
Co-funded with HEARTS.
FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

THE MUSIC AND STORIES OF THE AMERICAN SHARECROPPER
Weber
Thomas Barbara
All 8th grade students will experience the American folk art known as The Blues. Students will read, listen to, discuss and compose poetry and music ending with a performance and extended workshop with renowned artist Toby Walker.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: MARCIA LEVINE IN HONOR OF THE ED. FOUNDATION & ROBIN SIGMAN

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STARLAB
Weber
CarrieAnn Lindstadt-Iurka
A digital StarLab dome, a portable planetarium offering 360-degree visual displays, will bring fully immersive, multi-sensory learning experiences to students. Educators will be able to teach a wide range of topics and disciplines using Next Generation Science Standards-aligned content.
FUNDED BY THE BRABSON FAMILY FOUNDATION

SPIRIT OF TRIUMPH
Weber
Matt Holzer
Virtual reality technology will be used to transport students to Auschwitz, creating an immersive experience that allows participants to explore the camp's landscapes and barracks from a firsthand perspective. The program blends historical accuracy with interactive features, including survivor testimonies and authentic artifacts, as part of the World War II and Holocaust unit.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: JESSICA & ZACHARY FEINGOLD

FOSTERING COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE DEAF AND BLIND COMMUNITY THROUGH ASL
Weber
Holly Gober, Illisa Sternlicht
Representatives from the Helen Keller National Center will visit the 8th grade Blue House Core Extension class to provide instruction in American Sign Language and share the lived experiences of deafblind youth and adults. Students will develop a deeper understanding of the challenges these individuals face as they strive for independence.
FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

LONG ISLAND COASTAL FIELD INVESTIGATION
Weber
Christopher Buchman
All 8th grade students will participate in field experiences focused on coastal environments, investigating how natural processes such as tides, storms, and sediment transport shape Long Island's shoreline and wetlands. Through field-based investigations and data collection, students will explore how Earth's atmosphere, hydrosphere, and geosphere interact to influence coastal change.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: ELIZABETH MILBANK SOBEL & MICHAEL SOBEL

GAMERS GUILD
Weber
Matthew DiCarlo, Jennifer Thompson, Kimberly Caracciolo
An enrichment club for Middle School students that will foster strategic thinking, social interaction, and problem-solving skills through the use of board and card games. The club will provide students with a fun and structured space to develop critical thinking while connecting with peers.

LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK - STEREO MICROSCOPES
Weber
CarrieAnn Lindstadt-Iurka
New stereo microscopes will be added to grade 6 and 7 science classrooms, allowing students to examine a variety of three-dimensional objects with greater magnification. This equipment will enhance hands-on scientific observation and deepen students' engagement with the natural world.
FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

FITNESS UPGRADED
Weber
Heather Mitchinson
The Middle School fitness center will receive new equipment, including a rowing machine, a multifunctional strength training machine, and two strength training cable machines. These additions will provide students with a wider range of fitness options and support their physical wellness.
FUNDED BY P10 25-HOUR RUN

WEBER LEGO ROBOTICS CLUB
Weber
Kimberly Pinto, Genna Cohn
A new Lego Robotics Club will introduce students to science, technology, engineering, and math through exciting hands-on learning. The club will participate in the FIRST LEGO League Challenge and will serve as a foundational stepping stone to Schreiber's high school Robotics program.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: THE WIGGINS FAMILY IN MEMORY OF GRAHAM C. WIGGINS

MARS HABITAT ENGINEERING CHALLENGE
Weber
Christopher Buchman
All 8th grade students will engage in a hands-on STEM project designing and building model habitats capable of supporting human life on Mars. Students will investigate Martian environmental conditions and apply engineering design principles to develop solutions that allow astronauts to live safely in extreme planetary environments.
SPONSOR: ALEXIS & JARED SMITH

GAME ON!
Weber, Guggenheim, Manorhaven, Salem
Marlene Ruskin, Kristen Cagnard, Jessica Parekh, Kimberley Singh, Marialina Corbo, John Davis, Lucy Gable, Alyssa Cianciulli, Erica Albin, Christine Piserchia, Nicole Chicarelli, Jaclyn Fantozzi-Howland, Kimberly Caracciolo, Melanie Guarneri
This PEP/ENL partnership will be dedicated to playing unplugged educational board games, with students learning to play a variety of games, teaching others how to play, and borrowing games from a lending library. Students will also have the opportunity to play games alongside their Weber mentors.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: CARRIE & DAVE KERPEN

TALK ABOUT AN ADVENTURE!
All Elementary - ENL Students
Marialina Corbo, Elementary ENL Department
4th grade ENL students will participate in a Nassau BOCES Outdoor Adventure program which will help students to develop and strengthen communication and leadership skills through team building activities.

PEP ROBOTICS - A WHOLE CLASS ENRICHMENT UNIT
Daly, Guggenheim, Manorhaven, Salem, Sousa
Marlene Ruskin, Jeanne Zeh, Kimberley Singh, Karen Raichoudhury, Alyssa Cianciulli
New Edison Robot technology will be introduced to enhance 5th grade PEP, with all 5th grade classes learning engineering and programming skills using this technology. This program will give students a solid and consistent foundation in robotics that will carry forward into their middle school years.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: THE EPSTEIN FAMILY

DISTRICT-WIDE ELEMENTARY CHESS CLUBS AND TOURNAMENT
Daly, Guggenheim, Manorhaven, Salem, Sousa
Lucia Laguarda, Natalie Miller, Emilio Cruz, Pia Ferrante, Justin Ryan
3rd through 5th grade students will be taught the intellectually challenging game of chess and engage in friendly competition, culminating in an inter-school wide Chess Club tournament, bringing all five elementary school clubs together.
EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: JILL & JACOB MANCZYK

SCRABBLE CLUB TOURNAMENT
All Elementary
Julie Katz, Melissa Koulouris, Lisa Cangliosi, Heather Hoffman,, Kimberley Singh
This grant will provide support for the intra-school wide Scrabble Club tournament which will bring all elementary school participants together for the club's culminating event.
SPONSOR: JESSICA & ANISH MELWANI

PROACTIVE PLAY
Daly, Guggenheim
Casey Cheffo-McNulty
Elementary students will be supported through cooperative play instruction to assist in conflict resolutions during unstructured play time when the need for independent problem-solving occurs.
SPONSOR: SAMANTHA & DANIEL CLASTER

MINDFUL MOVEMENT AND MEDITATION FOR THE RISE AND TLC CLASSES
Daly, Guggenheim, Manorhaven
Casey Cheffo-McNulty
RISE and TLC students will gain the tools and techniques needed to reduce stress and anxiety, improve focus and concentration, and develop a greater sense of inner balance through yoga and mindfulness practices.

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JOURNEYS INTO AMERICAN TERRITORY
Daly, Guggenheim, Salem

Jenny Smith, Kristina Bresnick, Bella Wilkins, Maribeth Betsch, Danielle Stalnaker, Jaclyn Ryan

4th grade students will experience hands-on workshops when the Eastern Woodlands Museum comes to school with artifacts that allow students to explore the lives and cultures of the Iroquois and Algonquian peoples in depth. This in-school field experience will bring the 4th grade social studies curriculum to life through direct engagement with historical materials.

KINDERGARTEN CLUB - CREATIVITY AND EARLY CONCEPTS
Guggenheim

Heather O'Shea

An afterschool club that will allow Kindergarten students to explore math and science concepts informally through art, literature, and play. This program will nurture curiosity and early learning in a relaxed, creative environment.

FUNDED BY THE GORDON FAMILY

THE SO FUN GAME SHOW
Guggenheim

Shannon Goldstein, Loren Maroof

A game show experience will deliver an immersive program that blends entertainment with evidence-based behavioral and social-emotional learning. The program will also partner with Ronald McDonald House, connecting the excitement of the experience with real-world empathy and community impact.

FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

LITTLE GREEN THUMBS - A HANDS-ON PLANT SCIENCE EXPERIENCE
Guggenheim

Jenny Smith, Deena Williams

The Little Green Thumbs program, offered by the Science Museum of Long Island (SMLI), will be brought to all Kindergarten students for an engaging, inquiry-based introduction to the science of plants. Students will explore plant structures and functions through direct observation and hands-on experimentation.

FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

PROJECT SKYWARD - WEATHER IN ACTION AT GUGGENHEIM
Guggenheim

Sandra Tarrant, Dr. Kimberly Licato, Suzanne Mody

An innovative partnership between Guggenheim Elementary and Sam's Weather School will bring the excitement of weather science to life through interactive, hands-on learning experiences. Led by veteran Long Island meteorologist Samantha Augeri, this initiative will provide students with immersive learning experiences in meteorology, including storm development, atmospheric pressure, and weather forecasting.

ROOTS AND WINGS
Guggenheim

Jenny Smith, Jocelyn Worrall

K-5 students will research, design, plant, and maintain a Native Pollinator Garden, creating a thriving sustainable ecosystem rooted in science that is built to last. Every native plant installed will serve as a living lesson, and students will have the opportunity to watch their outdoor science laboratory transform into a fully blooming native garden.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELAINE SANDS

BENNER'S FARM - A COLONIAL FARMING EXPERIENCE
Manorhaven

Renee Schettino, Dr. Stefanie Seidner, Kristen Miller, Emilio Cruz

4th grade students will experience Colonial Times through an in-school field trip led by Benner's Farm of Setauket, featuring an educational seminar, research activities, and hands-on exploration tied to their social studies curriculum.

BAL-A-VIS-X (RHYTHMIC BALANCE/AUDITORY/VISION EXERCISES)
Manorhaven

Lorraine Bellmann, Michael King, Alissa Zendzian, Marianne Nell, Joseph Lennon, Jessica Tallarico, James O'Brien, Laurey Brevig-Almirall

Bal-A-Vis-X, a program of rhythmic balance, auditory, and vision exercises, will be used to improve brain and brain-body integration in students. Participants will develop improved fine motor skills, cognitive skills, sensory integration, academic performance, and social-emotional skills.

RHYTHM AND MOVEMENT - TAPPING TOES
Manorhaven

Claudia Aliano-Levin, NIna Evans, Susan Cominski, Jennifer Kim

Kindergarten students will explore movement and music through tap dance, with the program focusing on developing gross motor skills, enhancing coordination, and improving body awareness. Students will gain a stronger understanding of how their bodies move in space through rhythm and creative movement.

MANORHAVEN STEAM CLUB
Manorhaven

Jeanine Oleksiw, Lourdes Perez

This before-school club for 3rd through 5th grade students will introduce and develop technology skills in computer programming, robotics, and 3D printing. Utilizing programs such as OSMO, DASH, and Lego 2.0, students will build critical thinking and problem-solving skills in a hands-on setting.

SPONSOR: HERSH & FERN COHEN

HABITATS IN OUR OWN BACKYARD
Manorhaven

Jennifer Lenney, Galit Hassin, Patricia Rex, Shari Salazar

1st grade students will explore the Sands Point Preserve to discover different habitats and their characteristics, enhancing the study of plant and animal adaptations and designs in nature.

FUNDED BY THE PETER & JERI DEJANA FOUNDATION

STEP BY STEP - CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH DANCE
Salem

Pia Ferrante, Nicole DiCarlo

A dance residency workshop will teach 5th grade students Hip-Hop style dance with a focus on civic responsibility. Co-funded with HEARTS.

PAWS AND PROMISE
Salem

Gina Kelly, Elyssa Kanterman

A foster puppy program will be introduced to promote stress reduction, emotional wellness, and overall morale at Salem Elementary. This initiative will foster a culture of compassion, calm, and connection for students, staff, and everyone who walks through the school's doors.

EXCLUSIVE SPONSOR: THE REJWAN FAMILY

TOGETHER WE THRIVE
Salem

Gina Kelly, Marlene Ruskin

A buddy program will be implemented to strengthen social skills, build empathy, and develop greater self-awareness through guided group activities and reflection. Each group will include six Salem students paired with six participants from the Nicholas Center.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT AND DANCE UNIT
Sousa

Emily Kellner

Kindergarten students will be engaged by a teaching artist in activities designed to develop motor coordination and spatial and rhythmic awareness. This program will support students' physical, mental, emotional, and social development as they are introduced to the world of dance.

PARENT RESOURCE CENTER STEPPING STONES CLASSES
Preschool, Pre-K

Leila Noor, Nicole Asselta, Hope Pecullan, Analia Quispe

This program prepares at-risk pre-schoolers with limited English proficiency for the District's Pre-K program.

The Ed. Foundation

Previously Funded Signature Grants

SCHREIBER GREENHOUSE - Est. 2025
Schreiber
The addition of a dedicated greenhouse enables students to engage in a more diverse range of scientific experiments, enhancing their research in areas such as botany, environmental science and agricultural studies.
IN LOVING MEMORY OF JULIAN H. BERNSTEIN, CLASS OF 1975 AND MARK HARRIS BERNSTEIN, CLASS OF 1972

SCHREIBER HIGH SCHOOL RECORDING STUDIO - Est. 2023
Schreiber
This state-of-the-art, soundproof recording studio integrates with the existing television studio, digital video course, sound engineering course and music ensembles. Students now have a place to create high-quality recordings that can be used for auditions, competitions or integrated into other school programs.
FUNDED BY THE CORNELIA T. BAILY FOUNDATION

THE SCHREIBER HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY & ART LAB - Est. 2021
Schreiber
The upgrade of technology with state-of-the art interactivity, new workstations and updated software enhances capabilities and fosters interactive instruction for Ed. Tech and Art students.

NEXTGEN MANUFACTURING AND DESIGN - Est. 2019
Weber
"NextGen Manufacturing and Design" equipment is used in a variety of Technology Education units, where students are introduced to three state-of-the-art machines. New units engage students in automated, cloud-based mass production, laser cutting and vinyl cutting, while learning about the modern economy. Students will develop confidence and familiarity with high-tech machines and engineering principles with real-world applications for careers in tech industries, manufacturing, design and more.
FUNDED BY THE MILDRED AND SIDNEY EDELSTEIN FOUNDATION

THE DIGITAL LEARNING CENTER - Est. 2018
Schreiber
The Digital Learning Center is a dynamic workspace and resource for students and faculty to use the most current equipment and technology including various laptops, desktops, interactive whiteboards and new modular furniture that creates collaborative and moveable work spaces. The DLC is home to the Writing Center and the Girls Who Code club. Students, classes and staff utilize the room for online learning, virtual field trips, telecommunication, collaborative projects and a host of other educational experiences.
FUNDED BY JAIMEE & DAN LOEWY

COLLEGE PIONEERS - Est. 2016
Weber, Schreiber
This program increases awareness of post-secondary educational opportunities and provides college readiness skills in first-generation and disadvantaged populations in the Port Washington School District, beginning in seventh grade and continuing through senior year of high school. The program includes college visits, guest speakers, parent workshops, test prep and college application support.
FUNDED BY THE LUCERNE FOUNDATION/THE RIMSKY FAMILY

NAO ROBOTS - Est. 2015
Weber
All middle school students are exposed to the growing field of robotics in a deep and meaningful way. This program integrates two robots, software for twenty user stations, and curriculum, along with staff development, into the technology classes for grades six through eight. The robots enable teachers to increase their ability to expose students to a variety of problem-solving skills, along with basic programming, making them better prepared to continue their studies through high school to college and beyond.
FUNDED BY THE MILDRED AND SIDNEY EDELSTEIN FOUNDATION

DOTv - Est. 2013
Schreiber
The Schreiber TV studio began as a club and has now been incorporated into the high school curriculum. Students can enroll in classes like Sound Production, Film and Television Production and Digital Video Production. This state-of-the-art facility has the technology which allows students to benefit from learning all aspects of writing, recording and reporting in front of and behind the camera. DOTv has become an integral part of the Port Washington community as many organizations count on these talented students to create videos and report on local events.
FUNDED BY DOT & ED SLADE

WDOT RADIO - Est. 2004
Schreiber
This began as a donation to establish a high school radio station and has quickly become a part of the fabric and culture of Schreiber High School. The radio station is a vibrant club where students learn programming and development. There are currently two broadcasting classes that utilize the facility. Students can often be found at the soundboard recording and creating shows for entertainment and promoting events. Tune in to www.portradio.org to hear some of the latest programming.
FUNDED BY DOT & ED SLADE

THE ED. FOUNDATION SUPPORT CENTER - Est. 2004 - 2024
All Elementary
The Support Center focused on improving literacy and math skills for 3rd graders in need of academic support through individualized attention, homework help, and writing exercises. The Support Center was led by a Director, along with an intergenerational volunteer staff, and featured distinguished guests who provided a variety of creative programming including music, art, yoga, dance and other enrichment experiences.
FUNDED BY DOT & ED SLADE, THE JARED FAMILY FOUNDATION, ELLEN & RICHARD FOX, THE MCDERMOTT FAMILY, THE GORDON FAMILY, DARDANA GELLER & STEVEN BAUM

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The Ed. Foundation
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The Ed. Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit, community-based organization. Our mission supports education initiatives that are beyond basic educational requirements. Since 2001, The Ed. Foundation has actively raised funds and awarded grants to enhance and expand educational opportunities for all students in Port Washington public schools. The Ed. Foundation actively seeks donations, grants, and other funding in order to fund selected programs and resources.
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