



H.O.P.E

"Every Student, Every Day"

Peabody EDUCATION *Foundation*

P.O. Box 233, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960

NEWSLETTER – MAY/JUNE 2023

PeabodyEdFoundation.org

***It's been an exciting and busy year for the Peabody Education Foundation!
Have a great summer and we will see you in the Fall!***

The Cara E. Murtagh Memorial Scholarship



Congratulations to the 2023 Cara E. Murtagh Memorial Scholarship Recipients!

The Cara E. Murtagh Memorial Scholarship is provided by the Peabody Education Foundation as a way to honor our dear friend Cara Murtagh's memory. Cara was an active member of our Foundation where she spearheaded many of our programs and events. Through this Scholarship, we hope to preserve Cara's dedication and commitment to the education of the school children of Peabody for years to come.

On a yearly basis, we award a PVMHS senior with a scholarship to help with their college education. This year, we were also pleased to present a second scholarship through the generosity of the Splaine Family Trust!

This year's winners are **Sydney Campbell** and **Siobhan Smith!**

The PEF selected Sydney and Siobhan as a result of their tenacity and devotion to pursuing a career in education. They both possess a passion for teaching and working with children, which personifies the life of Cara Murtagh. This Fall, Sydney will be attending Bridgewater State University for Elementary Education, and Siobhan will be attending the University of New England for Applied Mathematics. We would like to congratulate both Sydney and Siobhan on their scholarship and wish them luck as they begin their college years!



"RUN FOR THE ROSES"



Event Raises Funds for PEF Programs!

"Run for the Roses", a PEF fundraising event, was recently held at the Black Box Theater in downtown Peabody. Guests enjoyed Peabody's "Kentucky Derby", an event of southern charm and horse racing excitement. The evening included fashion, music, horse racing, games and prizes, along with "Kentucky Derby" themed food and signature cocktails.

Special thanks to our event sponsors, including Community Credit Union, GraVoc, Holden Filling Station, JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation, JJR Enterprise, Lyon-Waugh Auto Group, Laura Meisenhelter, North Shore Bank, Pavlo Orthodontics, and Peabody Rotary! All proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Peabody Education Foundation's programs.



Pictures courtesy of Cheryl Millard!

Check out more pictures on our website:

<https://peabodyeducationfoundation.org/run-for-the-roses/>

Career Day



Career Day a huge success!!

On April 13th, the Peabody Education Foundation hosted Career Day at Peabody Veterans Memorial High School.

More than 50 local businesses set up exhibit booths, allowing students to get informational materials and ask questions about possible future vocations. Hundreds of high school students were allowed to explore the various trades and career paths represented in our community and were able to interact with representatives of those occupations throughout the morning. Career Day helps create ties between the student body and the business community. Special thanks to the businesses who participated, our PEF volunteers, and the Peabody School Department!

AAA Northeast
 Bay State Financial
 Beverley Griffin Dunne, Attorney at Law
 BMC Engineering
 Boston Children's Hospital
 Chelsea Jewish Lifecare
 Citizens Inn
 Essex County Sheriff's Department
 Evolv Technology
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Gloucester Biotechnology Academy
 GraVoc
 Healthy Peabody Collaborative
 High Sierra Pools, Inc.
 In the Game
 Lahey Medical Center
 Massachusetts Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
 Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
 MassDOT Highway Division
 MassHire North Shore Youth Career Center
 North Shore Bank

Northeast Arc
 Northshore Mall
 Office of Senator Joan B. Lovely
 Office of Representative Thomas Walsh
 Passos Avante Preschool
 Peabody Area Chamber of Commerce
 Peabody District Court Probation Department
 Peabody City Hall
 Peabody Fire Department
 Peabody Institute Library
 Peabody Police Department
 Peabody TV
 Pearle Vision
 Peabody Municipal Light Plant
 PVMHS Cosmetology Department
 PVMHS Culinary Arts Department
 Salem Five Bank
 United States Air Force
 United States Marine Corps
 Velocity R Aviation
 Wachusett Animal Hospital and Pet Retreat
 Weston & Sampson
 YMCA of Metro North



Check out more pictures and videos on our website:
<https://peabodyedfoundation.org/programs/career-day/>

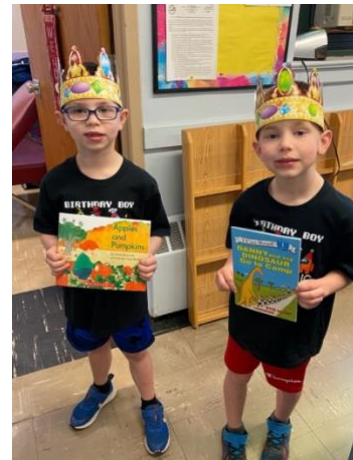
Birthday Books Program



JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation to fund Birthday Books next school year!

For the second year, the Peabody Education Foundation implemented the "Birthday Books" Program for the eight elementary schools and the Peabody Prep program. Over 3000 students, on their birthday, had the opportunity to choose a book of their liking to take home and keep and enjoy with their family. Students have chosen books from a variety of genres and interests that encourage independent reading. This literacy initiative has been supported by the Peabody Education Foundation and the JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation.

The "Birthday Books" Program will continue into the 2023-2024 school year with the continued support of the PEF and another generous donation from the JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation! Thank you to JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation for their continuous support of the PEF and its programs!



Mental Wellness Initiative



It's been a busy year for the Mental Wellness Initiative!

Elementary Schools:

In February and March, the PEF sponsored **TIGER** performances at all eight elementary schools for a total of 12 shows! TIGER is a professional theater company out of Plymouth State University in New Hampshire, designed to help children, schools, parents, and communities deal



positively and proactively with social issues and concerns facing children in schools today. **“Think Spaces”**, small areas in each classroom where students will be able to calm down, think, and reflect when they are anxious or emotional, are now located in all elementary schools. The spaces help address the social-emotional needs of students and are increasingly used across the Commonwealth. The areas are equipped with comfortable furniture, emotions posters, strategy ideas, and fidget tools. The initiative to add “Think Spaces” to each classroom came about as School Adjustment Counselors collaborated and looked across the district to find common needs across schools. Counselors identified that students needed a space to regroup their thoughts and feelings before returning to schoolwork. Adding a “Think Space” to every classroom will make accessing such spaces more convenient and less stigmatizing for children.

Special thanks to the JB Thomas–Lahey Foundation for funding this program in its entirety!

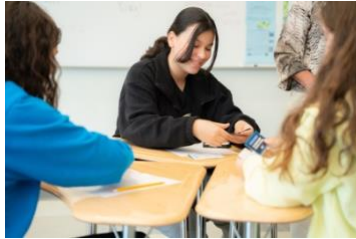
And special thanks to WBZ TV/Radio for coming to the Burke School to take pictures and allowing us to talk about this outstanding program! Check out the article by [clicking here](#)!



Middle School:

At the beginning of May, all 7th graders from the Higgins Middle School participated in a training facilitated by **Core Trainings**. The programs are designed to enhance one’s relationship with others, one’s leadership potential, increase self-worth, become socially aware of one’s actions, communication, and build intellectually stronger teams through a value-based focus. They reinforce a growth mindset to support becoming behaviorally intelligent and to empower a mindset to practice effective relationships and leadership.

The customized workshops were interactive and focused on: social and emotional intelligence and how it affects relationships; how to be an effective classmate that understands meaningful relationships with peers, classmates, teammates, staff and community; being mindful of what empathy is and adapting to the needs of others; and becoming socially aware of the value of others and how to really appreciate ALL people.



High School:

On February 3, 2023, the PEF and the Peabody School Department were pleased to bring **Dr. Adolph Brown** to PVMHS to speak to all High School students. An award-winning author, highly sought-after corporate thought leader, television personality and distinguished master teacher, Dr. Brown's unconventional approach has been enormously empowering, and it transcends differences of every kind – political, philosophical, religious, socio-economic, generational, gender, lifestyle, etc. Dr. Brown is admired around the world for his simple, yet powerful, universal, timeless teachings.



Teachers:

On March 17, at the conclusion of Professional Development Day, the PEF hosted an **ice cream social** at the Higgins Middle School and PVMHS as a thank you to Peabody teachers and staff for all of the work they do throughout the year for our students! Special thanks to Treadwell's Ice Cream for donating the ice cream and to all of our PEF volunteers!



Check out more Mental Wellness Initiative pictures and videos on our website:
<https://peabodyedfoundation.org/programs/mental-wellness-initiative/>

Special thanks to our Mental Wellness Initiative Sponsors!
Lyon-Waugh Auto Group **JB Thomas-Lahey Foundation**
North Shore Bank **GraVoc Charitable Foundation**

Guest Reader Program



The 2023 Guest Reader Program concluded at the end of May, and it was a very successful year. We had 38 volunteer readers in 42 different classrooms!! The program is intended to expose students to the pleasures of reading and to present a positive reading role model. Reading to children brings enjoyment to both the readers and the students, and reinforces the idea that reading is fun for everyone.

Special thanks to all of the readers, teachers and students who participated! Our readers had a great time, the teachers appreciated the opportunity for someone to come read to their class, and the students were great listeners!



PEF Grants Program



Grants awarded to benefit students throughout school district!

Almost \$50,000 in grants were awarded to teachers/principals throughout the Peabody School System this year! A list of this year's PEF grants and pictures can be found on the PEF website. <https://peabodyedfoundation.org/programs/pef-grants/>

Teachers can be on the lookout for the 2023-2024 application which will appear on our website on August 1! The PEF is always looking for new and creative programs!

Here are just a few comments from some of the teachers whose programs were funded this school year:

"THANK YOU SO MUCH for funding our grant! I am so excited about starting a Legacy Wall here at the high school and I know the students will be, too!" - *Melissa Silveira, PVMHS*

"I am so grateful for your organization and I look forward to working with Principals/Administrators to see what resources I can bring to the schools for our students in the future.... Thank you...for all of your support and assistance. It was a pleasure to work with you and it was a great way to start 2023 at the Welch for staff and students!" *Amanda Lockerbie, Welch School*

"Thank you very much. The staff and students will be very excited to hear the great news. Peabody is so lucky to have PEF supporting our education. Thank you for all that you do." - *Brittany Moreira, McCarthy School*

"Thank you so much to you and the committee!!! We are so excited for this! We really appreciate the grant and being able to access Everyday Speech for our students. Thank you again!" - *Christina Varinos, Center School*

"Thank you so much for the grant that helped us to build this amazing sensory wall. Our students are absolutely loving it!" - *Lauren King, Brown School*

"This project is the high point of my year, and your enabling the students to see their work in print is a real joy for all of us here!" - *Joseph Jones, PVMHS*

George Peabody Legacy Awards



Would You Like to Nominate a Fellow Educator Who Has Gone Above & Beyond?

Do you know an educator who has had a lasting impact on education, effects change for the good of the people over a significant period of time, is an active member in the Peabody Community, is a tireless advocate for the betterment of Peabody students, and lives or works in Peabody?

The George Peabody Legacy Award is presented by the Peabody Education Foundation to recognize and honor the educators and philanthropists from within the community who work to provide a lifetime of contributions to our educational system. It is an honor to recognize educators who have gone above and beyond to make a lasting difference in the lives of their students. In the classroom they are both learners and facilitators of learning. They attend to the social and emotional needs of their students, making a lasting and positive impact by providing a progressive learning atmosphere meeting the needs of every individual child.

To nominate a worthy candidate, please visit our Legacy Awards webpage below and tell us all about them! <https://www.peabodyedfoundation.org/george-peabody-legacy-awards/>

The Deadline is Friday, August 4, 2023.

The Legacy Awards Ceremony is scheduled to be held at the Higgins Middle School on October 19, 2023. Ticket information will be available in September 2023.

PEF Board News



Thank you!

The PEF wants to thank all of the volunteers who serve on the Board of Directors and various Committees, planning and implementing the many programs that provide support to our students and teachers! We couldn't do it without your help!

Donate to Peabody Education Foundation!

If you would like to donate to the Peabody Education Foundation, please visit our website by clicking below. 100% of all donations go directly to the teachers and students of Peabody Public schools!

<https://peabodyedfoundation.org/contribute/>

EXECUTIVE BOARD		BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
<p>David Gravel GraVoc <i>President & Chairman</i></p> <p>Mary Bellavance GraVoc <i>Vice Chair</i></p> <p>Barbara L. Kelly <i>Community Representative</i> <i>Secretary</i></p> <p>Daniel Vassallo GraVoc <i>Treasurer</i></p>	<p>Kristine Casciato GraVoc</p> <p>Donna Craven <i>Community Representative</i></p> <p>Lauren Cyr <i>Salem Five</i></p> <p>Maria Ferri <i>CTE/Vocational Director at PVMHS</i></p> <p>Thomas Gould <i>Treadwell's Ice Cream</i></p> <p>Dr. Mark Higgins <i>Assistant Superintendent of Schools</i></p> <p>Jarrold Hochman <i>Lepore & Hochman, P.A.</i></p> <p>Dr. Christopher Lord <i>Peabody Schools</i></p> <p>Debbie MacGregor GraVoc</p>	<p>Natalie Maga Peabody TV</p> <p>Karen McGovern <i>Community Representative</i></p> <p>Laura Meisenhelter <i>North Shore Community Action Programs</i></p> <p>Cate Merlin <i>Peabody Institute Library</i></p> <p>Christopher Pesce <i>North Shore Bank</i></p> <p>Steve Shea <i>Life Solutions Group</i></p> <p>Dr. Josh Vadala <i>Superintendent of Schools</i></p> <p>Katrina Vassallo <i>Harvard University Press</i></p>	