



Papillion La Vista Community Schools

Foundation

We all win when local kids thrive

Outstanding public schools attract working families to the area. PLCS greatness keeps them here. Many remain for generations. Our community is PLCS proud — and so is the PLCS Foundation. We assist when public funding just isn't enough because kids need the support of many to thrive.

THRIVE: to grow or develop vigorously; to flourish or succeed.

The Foundation helped 12,038 students and 1,719 staff members in 2023. That's right — every student and staff member throughout PLCS benefited. How was that possible? Because 1,643 generous donors gave to PLCS through the Foundation. You help local kids thrive. This 2023 impact report celebrates your generosity.


On behalf of the students, staff and families that you helped, Thank You!

2023 IMPACT REPORT

Funding Priority: Student and Staff Well Being

Kids do best when they stay in school and have a safe, comfortable place to call home after the bell rings. That isn't the situation for all kids, though. Sometimes family setbacks occur and help is needed fast. Thanks to donors, the help was there.

- "Something unexpected can happen at any moment." **The Student Emergency Fund** assisted 73 families with rent assistance, utility payments, rides to school, clean linens and other items.
- Snack pantries were stocked at 22 PLCS school buildings thanks to the **Anders Food Fund**. Weekly fresh food bags with apples, carrots and bananas were sent home with 161 elementary students when school let out each weekend.
- The **PLCS Family Fund** helped 26 staff members and their families during unexpectedly hard times such as deaths in the family, illnesses and accidents.

"I believe a little angel must have nominated me to receive some financial help from the PLCS Family Fund as they saw my family and I struggling with an unexpected diagnosis." 

- Since opening in 2021 with a startup grant from the Foundation, 2,200 families in need have shopped for free clothing and personal care items at the **PLCS Community Closet**. 62,000 items were given away.

“ It is hard for kids to focus on learning when their basic needs are not met. The Foundation is always there to help our students succeed. ”
Dr. Andy Rikli, PLCS Superintendent

Scholarships Help With Rising College Costs

Three-quarters of all 2023 PLCS graduating seniors continued on with post secondary education. Without scholarship assistance, some would have been unable to pay the growing costs of tuition and fees. Last year, 78 graduates received donor-funded Foundation scholarships to make school more affordable.

New scholarship endowments established by generous donors in 2023

- Captain Joel Cahill Memorial Scholarship
- Fricke Family STEM Scholarship
- Sherry Magner Scholarship
- Debra Moore Young Scholarship
- Robert W. and Charlotte Zimmerman Scholarship



Funding Priority: District and School Support Programs

Some financial needs extend to all students while others are specific to a school, program or grade level. The PLCS Foundation's wide range of funds and programs ensure that every student is positively impacted at school.

“ Each PLCS school has an exceptional culture that makes it kid-friendly. We support all levels - elementary, middle and high schools. That allows us to align donor interests with needs all across the district. ”
Lee Denker, Executive Director



Both high schools enhanced their counseling centers, making them more accessible for all students, thanks to PL Fund & T Fund donors.

935 6th graders participated in Outdoor Education for free at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland. Legendary Educator Ann Danner continued to teach students even in retirement.

5,960 elementary students attended a field trip, show, touring production or workshop through the highly regarded Rose Theater's "Every Child" program.

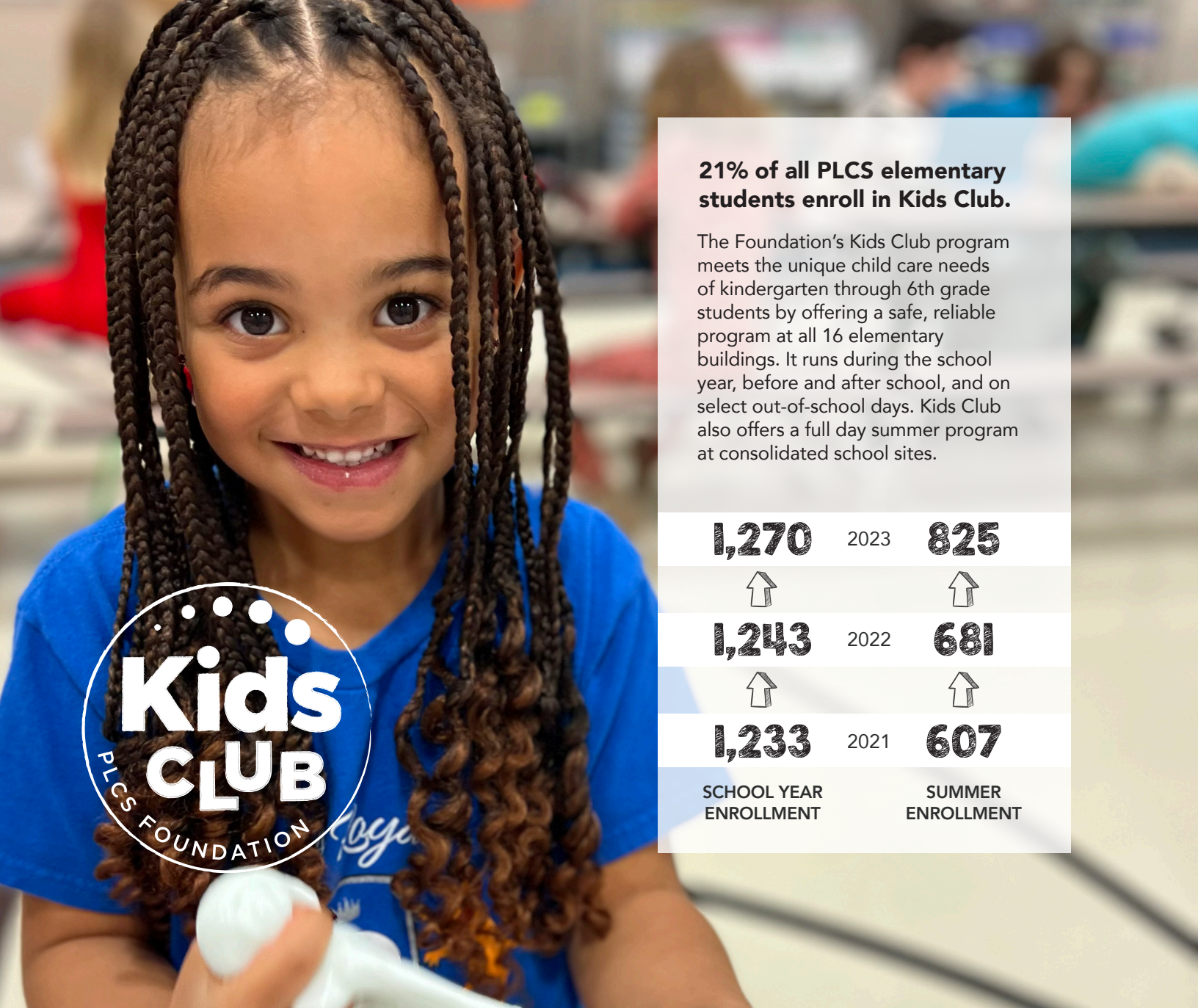


37 innovative classroom projects were funded through the competitive Teacher Grants Program, reaching kids at all grade levels.

1,870 middle school students had access to homework help with free tutoring after school.



Scoreboard advertisers directly assisted with the growing cost of activities for the wildly successful Monarch and Titan programs, benefiting 3,735 high school students and a loyal community of fans.



21% of all PLCS elementary students enroll in Kids Club.

The Foundation's Kids Club program meets the unique child care needs of kindergarten through 6th grade students by offering a safe, reliable program at all 16 elementary buildings. It runs during the school year, before and after school, and on select out-of-school days. Kids Club also offers a full day summer program at consolidated school sites.

1,270	2023	825
↑		↑
1,243	2022	681
↑		↑
1,233	2021	607
SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT		SUMMER ENROLLMENT



**Papillion La Vista Community Schools:
Rooted in Academics.
Grown to Greatness.**

The Foundation is proud to be the school district's philanthropic partner.

- PLCS celebrated 135 years of graduates
- 955 Seniors graduated with the Class of 2023
- PLCS has a 95% graduation rate compared to the state average of 87%
- 20.3 average senior ACT score compared to state average of 19.2
- 12,038 students enrolled
- 28% Free and Reduced Lunch
- 8% military families



**Engagement Events
Unite the Community
in Support of PLCS**

BACK TO SCHOOL SOIREE
August 19, 2023

\$165,000 raised by 395 attendees for school supplies and the Captain Joel Cahill Memorial Scholarship.

HALL OF FAME HONOREES
Distinguished Titan Alumni:
Sarah Rose Summers, Class of 2016
Distinguished Monarch Alumni:
The Colonels of the Class of 1989
Legendary Educator: Dr. Enid Schonewise
Community Booster: Calvary Church

**37TH ANNUAL SWING FOR KIDS
GOLF OUTING**
June 13, 2023

\$65,000 raised by 200 golfers for the Student Activities fund.
Former PLHS principal Jim Glover was the honorary starter.

2023 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Generous donors and a successful Kids Club program made 2023 a year of impact.

The PLCS Foundation contracts with Lutz Accounting to oversee all accounting operations and received a clean opinion on reviewed 2023 financials from Bland and Associates.

1,643
unique donors
THANK YOU!

\$860,000
direct support to
PLCS schools



\$3,720,000
student support through all sources,
including Kids Club

↑
19.10%
growth in managed
endowed funds

DONORS

Our Donors Make a Difference for Kids

Sincere thanks to the 1,643 donors who gave a total of 5,380 financial and in-kind contributions.

LEADERSHIP DONORS (\$500+)

Candi & Bret Abels •
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ALLO Communications •
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Class of 1983
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Facility Advocates •
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Papillion Tire Inc • •
Papillion-La Vista Optimist Club • •
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Paul Haug Revocable Trust
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Lisa & Jon Peterson
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Prime Time Healthcare •
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Raising Cane's •
Ref's Sports Bar and Grill
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Ringer Contracting Inc
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Commerce
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Julie Watts
Wayne State College
The Weitz Company
Alexi & Scott Wellman
Daniele & James Wills
Lisa M. Wright
Steve Young
Young Chiropractic •
Nancy Zaraya

- **Golf Swing for Kids**
- **Back to School Soiree**
- **Scoreboard Donor**

MEMORIALS

Loved ones honored with memorial donations:

Russell Dodds
James (Jim) Hicks
Louise Greco
Ray Higgins
Sherry Magner
Debra Moore-Young
Mike Steenbock
Carol Lynne Swayne
Dwight Trumble

THE FUNDS WE MANAGE

The Foundation's endowment fund manages money that is invested for current AND future student impact. The principal value of the endowment fund is kept intact, while the investment earnings are distributable dollars used for donor-intended purposes. The endowment fund is held permanently, allowing donors to support PLCS in perpetuity.

EXPENDABLE FUNDS

Affiliated Expendable Funds

Bell PTO Fund
G. Stanley Hall PTO Fund
Golden Hills Elementary School Student Support Fund
Hickory Hill PTO Fund
La Vista West PTO Fund
La Vista West Elementary School Student Support Fund
Liberty Middle School PTN Fund
Monarch Band Fund
Monarch Boosters
Monarch Softball Fund
Parkview Heights Elementary School Activities Fund
Patriot PTO Fund
PL Fund
PL South Titan Athletics Fund
PLCS Family Fund
PLCS Mental Health Fund
PLHS Show Choir Organization of Parents Fund
PLV Media
Prairie Queen PTO Fund
Rumsey Station PTO Fund
Student Emergency Fund
T Fund
Titan Baseball Boosters
Titan Softball Fund
Titan Theater Boosters
Wellman Leadership Academy Fund

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Donors contribute to expendable funds at the Foundation in direct support of schools and programs.

Scholarship Endowment Funds

Richard Bellino Student Opportunity Scholarship
Captain Joel Cahill Memorial Scholarship
PLHS David Cecil Scholarship
Class of 1980 Memorial Scholarship Fund
Denker Family Scholarship
Carol Fairfax Scholarship for the Culinary Arts
Fricke Family STEM Scholarship
Dr. Toni Ganzel Scholarship for Health Science Excellence
Arthur C. and Marie D. Grube Family Scholarship
Sherry Magner Scholarship
PLHS Bob McCallie STEM Education Scholarship
Shirley Minton Memorial Scholarship
Ken and Charlotte Molzer Music Educator Scholarship
Debra Moore Young Scholarship
Mark Noziska Distinguished Service Scholarship
Papillion La Vista Optimist Club Scholarship
Don Ozanne Scholarship
PLSHS Jennifer Pinkerton Titan Band Service Scholarship
Anthony J. Schuetz Memorial Scholarship
Robert W. and Charlotte Zimmerman Scholarship

NEW ENDOWED FUND SPOTLIGHT: Blue Angel Teacher Support Fund



Debbie (Moore) Young, Monarch Class of 1982, was a beloved elementary and middle school teacher. She encouraged lifelong learning yet understood the financial challenges. In her memory, Debbie's family and friends established the Blue Angel Teacher Support Fund to assist teachers who pursue advanced education. The Blue Angel name salutes the law enforcement community that supported her husband, Steve, a retired Papillion Police Officer, upon Debbie's passing.

Teacher Support Endowment Funds

Dr. Rick and Kyle Black Fund for Excellence
Fase Family Fund for Educator Excellence and Appreciation
Glover Family Fund of Excellence
PLCS Family Fund Endowment
The Cliff and Ruth Pratt Teaching Excellence and Support Fund
Blue Angel Tuition Assistance Grant Fund

Student Support Endowment Funds

Anders Food for Kids Endowment
Paul Basler "Boppy" School Activities Pass Fund
Biomedical Sciences Education Endowment
Pat and Edward Gehring Student Family Opportunity Fund
Glen Koca Band Excellence Fund
McVey Technology Education Fund
Monarch Endowment for the Performing Arts
Outdoor Education Fund
Student Athletics and Activities Endowment
Student Emergency Fund
Student Performing Arts Endowment
Titan Endowment for the Performing Arts
Russ and Martha Zink Family Fund for Financial Literacy
Veridian Credit Union Fund for Financial Literacy
Wachholtz Special Needs Endowment

Skilled and Technical Trades Endowment Funds

American National Bank Skilled Trades Fund
BCDM Architects Fund
Bob and Karen Olson Fund for the Trades
Facebook/Meta Fund
Falewitch Construction Services Fund
Google Student Opportunities in the Trades Fund
Lozier Foundation Fund
Milton Fricke Sr. Student Opportunities in the Trades Fund
The Weitz Company STEM and Construction Fund
Wes and Ruby Turtscher Student Opportunity Fund
Wilbert and Delores Wittmuss Student Opportunity in the Trades Fund

We are neighbors, friends, parents, grandparents, business owners, retirees, alumni, educators and community servants. We proudly volunteer to help local kids thrive.



“Compassionate community leaders launched our Foundation in 1986 to address a need for quality before-and after-school care for working families. The Foundation’s impact has grown stronger every year – thanks to the steady support of our volunteers and donors. We couldn’t do it without you! On behalf of the board of directors, thank you for helping local kids thrive through your donation to the PLCS Foundation.”

Bret Abels, Board President

PLCS Foundation Board of Directors

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Lee Denker, Executive Director, Ex Officio

Your Donations Help Kids Thrive

The PLCS Foundation is here to help you leave a legacy of support for PLCS students. We accept donations by cash, check, securities and online. Monthly recurring gifts can be set up. We welcome the opportunity to learn more about your philanthropic goals.

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OUR MISSION

We enhance educational opportunities for PLCS students that would not otherwise be possible.

plcsfoundation.org

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