



**Pinellas Education Foundation**

**2024** Impact Report

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**Kim Jowell, CEO**  
 Pinellas Education Foundation



**Bob Byelick, Board Chair**  
 Pinellas Education Foundation

## A Note From Our Leaders

We are proud to present our 2023-2024 Impact Report, a snapshot of the incredible successes we have achieved together. Thanks to your dedication and support, we have reached significant milestones in our mission to accelerate academic achievement and support teachers and schools across Pinellas County. Our work is possible through partnerships with those who share the belief that investing in education is investing in the future of our community. We are incredibly grateful for a strong partnership with Pinellas County Schools. A notable achievement this year, Pinellas County Schools earned an A district grade from the Florida Department of Education. As one of the nation's top-performing urban school districts, this achievement reflects the incredible power of community support. Your involvement provides essential resources and opportunities needed to elevate our schools.

This year alone, we have awarded over \$5 million in scholarships, allowing countless students to pursue their dreams and post-secondary education. Our mentoring program surpassed over half a million hours of mentoring, providing critical guidance and support to students who need it most.

Literacy is one of our key focus areas and one of our programs, the Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI) saw remarkable improvements in literacy rates.

We know that reading is the key to success in school and life. These improvements are paving the way for long-term academic success. These achievements, along with many others, have helped our district earn an A grade.

We hope you take pride in reading this report, knowing your support has made a meaningful difference. This report is more than numbers; it represents lives changed and futures transformed. Our work and accomplishments are only possible with your support; we can do more together than any one of us can do alone. Thank you for partnering with us, believing in the power of education, and making an impact on the students and teachers we serve.



**Kim Jowell, CEO**  
 Pinellas Education Foundation



**Bob Byelick, Board Chair**  
 Pinellas Education Foundation

# About Us

Pinellas Education Foundation is a nationally recognized, dynamic nonprofit organization committed to transforming students' lives, empowering them to achieve their full potential, and providing teachers with the resources they need to excel in the classrooms. Through innovative initiatives, a strategic partnership with Pinellas County Schools and collaboration with community partners, we work tirelessly to accelerate academic achievement for all students.

With a comprehensive approach to education, our programs cover the bookends of learning, beginning with an emphasis on early literacy and extending to initiatives that emphasize college and career readiness. Improving outcomes, especially for students with the greatest achievement gaps, is pivotal to our work.

### Our Mission

Our mission is to accelerate educational achievement for ALL students through the effective mobilization of innovation, relationships and resources.

### Our Vision

Our vision is that every student will be prepared for life after high school, whether the choice is to attend college, to enter the workforce, or to obtain technical training.



# Our Beliefs

## Equity for All

We believe everyone deserves a high-quality education.

## Value of Public Education

We believe that public education is a primary determinant of our county's economic prosperity and future success.

## Multiple Pathways

We believe in preparing students for the variety of postsecondary and career pathways available to them.

## Innovation

We believe in serving as a catalyst that activates new, more effective solutions to some of education's most pressing issues.

## Continuous Improvement

We believe in learning from our work and using these discoveries to inform the best solutions and investments in education.



# Literacy

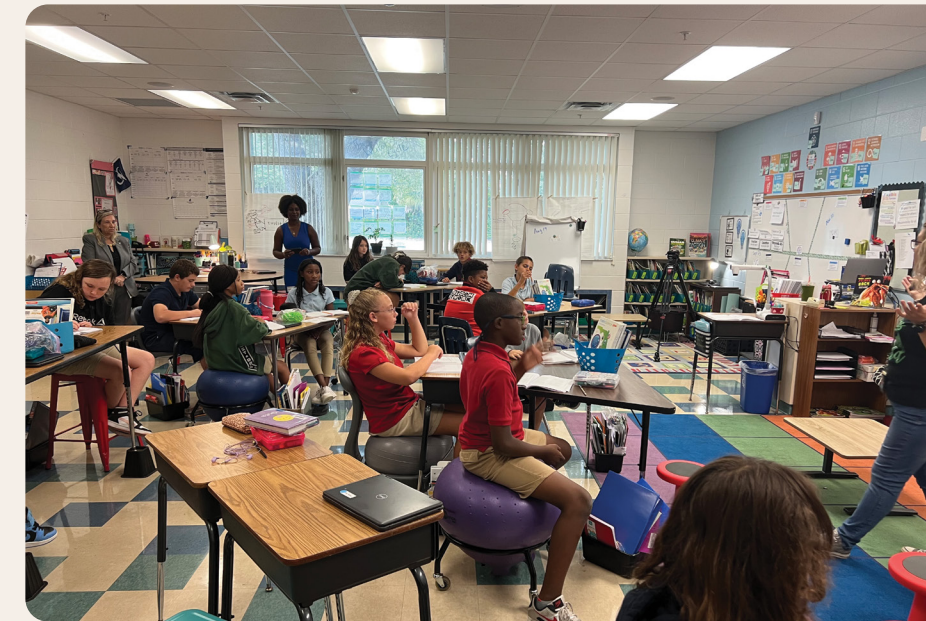
We strategically focus on early literacy achievement because research consistently shows that strong reading skills lay the foundation for long-term student success. When students become proficient readers by third grade, they are more likely to have opportunities such as dual enrollment and advanced placement college classes, in addition to being far more likely to graduate high school. This access to academic enrichment opens doors to brighter futures, including higher lifetime earnings and broader career opportunities. Investing in early literacy is investing in the lifetime success of our students, ensuring they have the skills to thrive in school and beyond.

We are deeply committed to improving literacy outcomes, and two key programs are leading the way: the Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI) and Closing the Gap. These programs equip teachers with advanced professional development and instructional strategies to boost literacy achievements.

“I know we’ve seen growth in our school. Instead of learning to read, they’re ready to read to learn and making that transition. It’s important.”  
- PELI Administrator



We invest in teachers’ professional development because the #1 factor in student success is the teacher leading the classroom.



**PELI**

completed its third year focused on VPK through 2nd-grade reading strategies.

**89%**

of participating PELI schools had gains in English Language Arts achievement.

**69%**

of participating PELI schools had double-digit gains in English Language Arts achievement.

**21 schools**

participated in Closing the Gap, which focused on the gender reading gap between boys and girls.

**Over 800 teachers**

participated in professional development focused on literacy and improving instructional strategies.

Family engagement is essential to early literacy development. PELI emphasizes this by hosting Family Literacy Nights, where students and families come together to learn how to foster a love of reading at home. We hosted 10 community events, reinforcing the role of family involvement in improving reading skills and supporting literacy outside the classroom.

# College & Career Readiness

We are committed to ensuring that every student in Pinellas County Schools has a path to economic and career success after high school. Our community thrives when students are prepared to take the next step—whether it is continuing their education or launching their careers—empowering a brighter future for all.

That’s why we strategically invest in programs that prepare students for post-secondary education or equip them with the skills they need to enter the workforce. Our programs and initiatives that prepare students for life beyond high school include Career and Technical Education, College and Career Centers, Senior Scholarships, Student Internships, Take Stock in Children, and Walker’s Rising Stars.

“The experience has been rewarding and very positive. It has made me appreciate that the youth in our community are growing up to be some amazing people.”

- Take Stock in Children Program Mentor



Our Take Stock in Children program serves over

**1,100 students**

annually. It is the largest mentoring program in Pinellas County.

**99%**

of our TSIC students graduate high school.

More than

**half a million**

hours of mentoring completed.

Over

**8,000 students**

received one-on-one support in all 17 college and career centers.

**\$5 million**

in scholarships awarded.

“I have now earned my bachelor’s degree in Marketing and this couldn’t have been possible without the help of Take Stock in Children and my sponsor. With moving away to the university of my dreams, I was able to fulfill my goals of obtaining an internship, joining multiple campus organizations, and meeting so many inspiring instructors and friends.”

Julisa, Take Stock in Children Mentoring Program Alumna

# Curriculum Enrichment

We enrich the learning experience of students and teachers by awarding grants that fund innovative classroom projects beyond the standard curriculum. Additionally, we invest in hands-on opportunities that foster and develop essential life skills. Our innovative Curriculum Enrichment initiatives include Classroom Grants, Enterprise Village and Finance Park.

Over **\$115,000** invested in Classroom Grants and 22,000 students directly impacted.

Over **9,000** students visited Enterprise Village.

Over **6,000** students visited Finance Park.



Watch our 2023-2024 Impact Video!



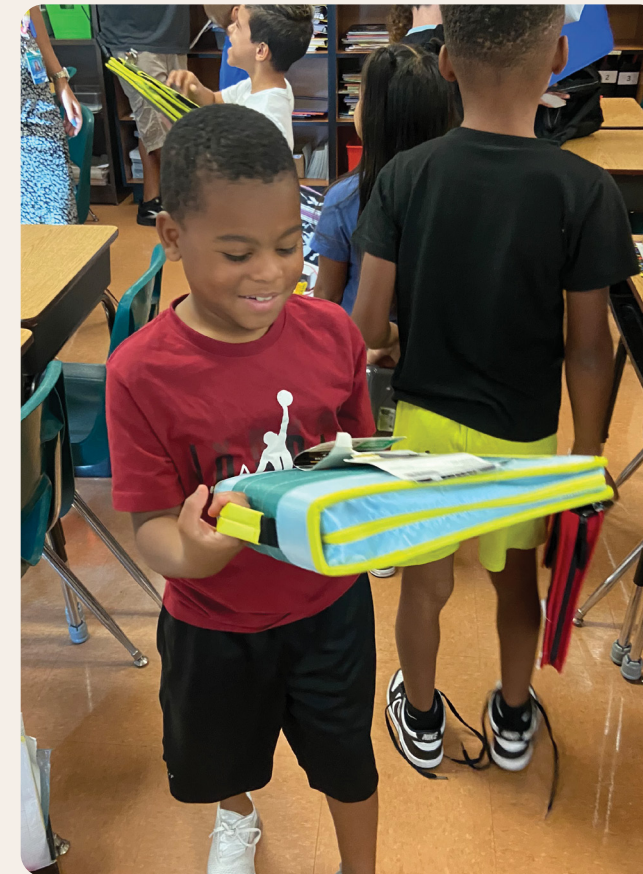
Sign up for our newsletter and never miss out on the latest updates!



# Other District Support

To ensure students, teachers, and schools with the greatest needs have a successful year, we host the annual Tampa Bay School Supply Drive.

In the 2023-2024 school year, over 80 businesses and organizations hosted donation drives with their employees and customers. This allowed us to distribute school supplies to 35 schools in the district.



# Our Generous Donors

It's through the generosity of our community that our work is possible.

Thank you to our 2023-2024 donors and partners!

## \$250,000-\$499,999

Consortium of Florida Education Foundations  
Helios Education Foundation  
Take Stock in Children, Inc.

## \$100,000-\$249,999

Bob McIntyre  
CareerSource Pinellas  
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St. Petersburg Cultural Endowment Fund at the CFTB

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YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg Florida, Inc.

OUR GENEROUS DONORS

**\$500-\$999**

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**\$250-\$499**

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 Peter & Julie Perrelli  
 Pinellas Classroom Teachers Association  
 Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League  
 Prado Enterprises  
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 Roger Hopper  
 Sean Cavanaugh  
 Susan Adams McKee  
 USF Foundation  
 Walter Schoenknecht  
 William B. Lyons

\*Deceased  
 +In-Kind Donor  
 Lists reflects gifts given between July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

# The Stavros Society

The Stavros Society, honoring our founder Dr. Gus A. Stavros and his wife Frances, is an annual giving program that supports the Foundation's goals to accelerate academic achievement for all students—fueling innovation and the future of education

## Dream Builder

Richard P. Austin\*  
 Paul B. Stavros  
 Tash & Emily Elwyn

## Visionary

The Sesame Foundation  
 Mitchell Lee & Linda Miller

## Luminary

Jim & Melissa Myers  
 Gary & Teresa Regoli  
 Stacy & Greg Baier

## Patron

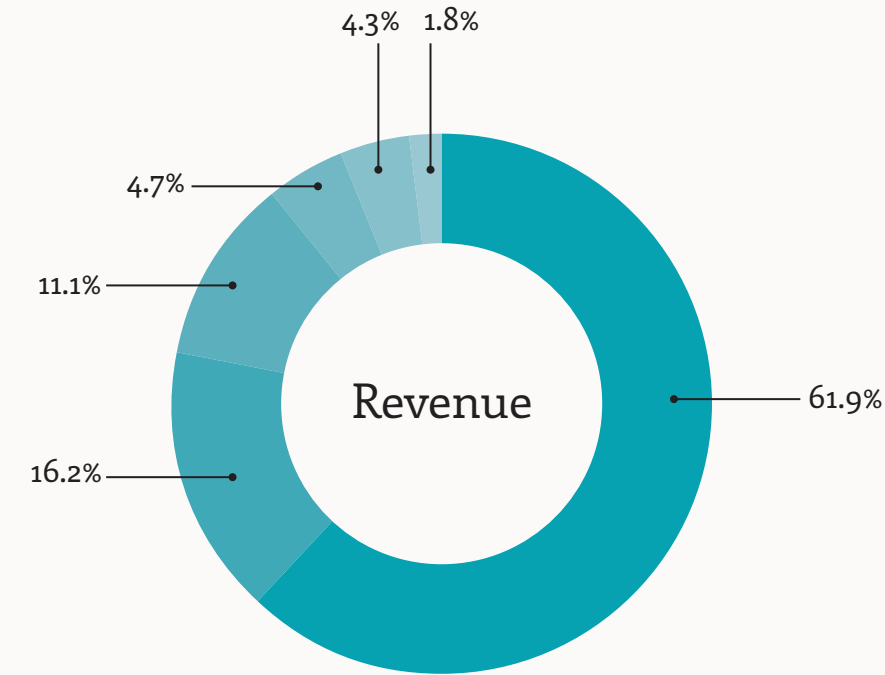
Pierre & Gina Caramazza  
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 Dr. Jeffrey S. Walker  
 Holly Duncan  
 Jack & Mary Critchfield  
 Jennifer Dull  
 Joseph P. Baker  
 Mark D. Stavros  
 Melissa & Chris Lostraglio  
 Nielsen  
 Wendy & Dave Gattis

## Member

Brian & Molly Auld  
 Bill & Lori Goede  
 Robert & Barbara Byelick

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

# Revenue and Expenditures

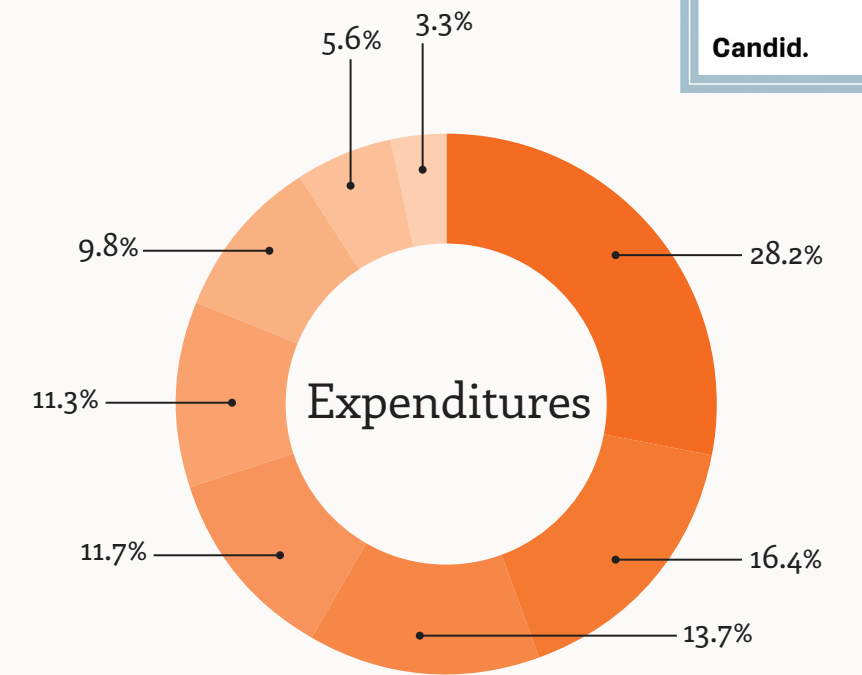


## REVENUE

- **\$5,291,187** Contributions (61.9%)
- **\$1,382,648** Grants (16.2%)
- **\$952,299** Prepaid Scholarship Match Fund (11.1%)
- **\$403,040** In-kind Contributions (4.7%)
- **\$366,337** Other Revenue (4.3%)
- **\$155,454** Bequests (1.8%)

**\$8,550,965**

Audited 2023-2024 financials



## EXPENDITURES

- **\$2,258,067** TSIC Mentoring Program (28.2%)
- **\$1,312,301** College & Career Readiness (16.4%)
- **\$1,101,117** Curriculum Enrichment (13.7%)
- **\$933,008** Literacy (11.7%)
- **\$902,231** Scholarships (11.3%)
- **\$783,768** Other Program & District Support (9.8%)
- **\$451,109** Administration (5.6%)
- **\$264,025** Development & Fundraising (3.3%)

**\$8,005,626**







**Pinellas Education  
Foundation**

**2024**

Impact Report

12090 Starkey Road  
Largo, Florida 33773  
727-588-4816  
[pinellaseducation.org](http://pinellaseducation.org)