

Inspired Minds Transform Lives



Pinellas Education Foundation

IMPACT REPORT 2018-2019

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Our Mission

Our Vision

Our Message

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.

Dear Foundation Friend,

It seems like the best way to start off this letter is with a huge THANK YOU! This was a landmark year for the Foundation. We broke two records: \$12.1 million in total revenue and the single, largest gift made in the Foundation's history – a \$5 million donation from the Richard O. Jacobson Foundation. This momentous contribution supports the creation of the Veterinary Sciences building at Richard O. Jacobson Technical High School at Seminole and aids a dynamic new program, Elevating Excellence, which helps students, particularly high-achieving minority and low-income students, with a personalized pathway to college.

In partnership with Pinellas County Schools, we launched two brand new programs: the Career Awareness Leadership Forum and the Summer Career Acceleration Program. Both of these initiatives seek to build career awareness and job skills through job exposure and in some instances summer internships among rising seniors who want to enter the workforce directly from high school.

But more than finances and programs, the generosity of YOU, our donors, mentors and volunteers, is transforming lives. This commitment to changing lives has been our driving force since the Foundation's inception in 1986, flowing from the vision of one man – Dr. Gus Stavros – who could see the incredible value that we could bring to the public education landscape of Pinellas County. The result was not only Enterprise Village, which marked its 30th anniversary this year, but also the birth of the Pinellas Education Foundation.

Through it all, we have been guided by a belief in equity for all – that everyone deserves a high-quality education – and a vision that every student will be prepared for life after high school, whether they choose to attend college, enter the workforce or obtain technical training. At the same time, we have adhered to a mission to accelerate educational achievement for all students by mobilizing innovation, relationships and resources.

We're deeply grateful to you for joining us in our shared journey to ensure that every student has the resources and opportunities to become a thriving citizen in our community.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Bishop'.

Doug Bishop
Chair
Pinellas Education Foundation



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stacy Baier'.

Dr. Stacy Baier
CEO
Pinellas Education Foundation



**ROBERT
HURLEY:
A Future
to Take
Stock In**

When Robert Hurley crossed the stage inside Tropicana Field last May to accept his high school diploma, it marked the end of a most improbable journey and the start of a new one. There was a time in his life when even setting foot on that stage would have seemed out of the question. Now, the only question is what new, amazing twists in his remarkable story of resilience and love will unfold next. As a child, his future looked bleak at best growing up in a family derailed by enormous challenges. He grew up with his sister in a two-bedroom trailer, raised by a mother who loved her children, played Monopoly with them and sang them Elvis songs to calm them at night, but fell into a life of dealing drugs – while the children’s drug-addicted father abandoned the family altogether.

Robert could easily have fallen through the cracks of the foster care system, facing an uncertain road ahead. “Luckily,” he would one day write in a college essay, “it had the opposite effect on me. I used my situation to propel myself toward a better future, but I did not do it alone.”

Indeed, buoyed by a deep determination to find his footing in life and embraced by a unique support system, the bright, soft-spoken teen with the mop of brown hair graduated from Boca Ciega High School as Class Valedictorian with a weighted GPA of 4.66. He was then offered full rides by some of the nation’s top universities before settling on prestigious Stanford to study medicine.

It’s difficult to pinpoint one factor in Robert’s story of overcoming the odds – a story splashed across the national media last spring. But without question, the encouragement and direction he received from the Pinellas Education Foundation’s Take Stock in Children program and his devoted Take Stock mentor, Robert Davis, who liked to remark, “Robert, you’re my hero,” played a huge role.

So too did people like his first guardian, Gene Goldberg of Child Protective Services, who never failed to visit Robert in his group



“I used my situation to propel myself toward a better future – but I did not do it alone.”

**ROBERT HURLEY,
Stanford University Freshman**

home and helped him cope with the tragic death of his older brother in a 2016 car accident; and Gianna Barrett, the group-home manager who enrolled Robert in the medical magnet program at Boca Ciega.

But it was his high school geometry teacher, Amy Krusemark, who changed his life forever four years ago. When Robert was on the verge of being moved to a new foster care home out of town, uprooted from his stable environment, Krusemark stepped up. She offered to take him in with her family, and eventually became his legal guardian – loving him like her own child, and guiding him through the rigors of high school and the wide-open possibilities as a collegian.

“Amy has helped me realize how much someone can help another person,” he says. “She really stepped into my life and changed it.” Now, with the added help of the Foundation and others, he has a future to take stock in.

To learn more about Take Stock in Children, please email Lisa.Fasting@pinellaseducation.org or call 727-588-4816, ext. 2103.



**ABOVE: Robert Hurley giving a nod to his Take Stock in Children mentor, Robert Davis
LEFT: Robert and his foster mom, Amy Krusemark at a football game on a campus visit last fall**



**MARCUS
BOYD:
Changing
Lives
As a
Volunteer**

Marcus Boyd's path to becoming a valued mentor for the Pinellas Education Foundation and students in dire need of guidance took a most circuitous route in life. But in the end, it led him precisely where he needed to be.

As a child, he experienced life as a self-described "military brat" – growing up on an army base in Missouri and then moving to Texas and Arkansas as his father transferred to new locations. Being uprooted from pals and familiar surroundings was difficult, but Marcus' outgoing personality and basketball skills always helped him break the ice and make new friends.

Through all the changes, he felt fortunate that his parents served as good role models for him – his dad having served in the infantry and then as a recruiter, his mother a sports specialist in a federal prison. They instilled in him a desire to give back, and he was drawn to the idea of working in the rehabilitative end of the criminal justice system.

Then came a potential setback: Marcus was accepted at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville but never got past freshman orientation. "As soon as I learned how much tuition and room and board would be, I changed my mind," he recalls. "I didn't want my parents to have to go into debt, so I left and started looking at other options."

He had no desire to enter the military, and his father had stopped suggesting it as a career. But one day, a friend of his dad told Marcus that the U.S. Coast Guard was "the best-kept secret." Marcus was intrigued enough to speak to a recruiter and was sold, knowing he could at least earn his college education. "It turned out to be the best decision I made," he says. "Here I am 13 years later, with a degree in criminal justice from Loyola University in New Orleans and a great career, currently working as a recruiter just like my dad did."



"Marcus not only listened to what I had to say, but he was always concerned about where I was in life."

**KEVIN,
Marcus Boyd's original mentee**

But the road had much more in store. Serving in the Coast Guard allowed him to meet his future wife, Ellen, while stationed in Cocoa Beach and today the couple have two children. And recruiting duties brought him into area high schools with his supervisor. It was in that capacity that Marcus met St. Petersburg High School's community liaison, Suzanne Pace. She asked if they would be interested in serving as mentors for students in the Take Stock in Children program, and both accepted on the spot. "I wondered at first how I could help my student and why he needed a mentor," Marcus says. "He was going through normal high school type stuff – and the light bulb went off. That's what I'm here for."

When his supervisor was transferred, Marcus took on his two students. And last year, Pace asked if he would mentor an additional three, "I enjoyed mentoring so much," he says, "I couldn't say no. I'm so glad to be in a position to help them."

To become a mentor, please email Lisa.Fasting@pinellaseducation.org or call her at 727-588-4816, ext. 2103.



ABOVE: Marcus Boyd, 2018-2019 Take Stock Mentor of the Year, with St. Petersburg High School principal Darlene Lebo; LEFT: Marcus Boyd with six St. Petersburg High School students he has mentored



**CORTNEY
SMITH:**

Connecting Youth to a Brighter Future

Cortney Smith wasn't sure where to turn when she graduated from Osceola High School in 2008. Her future looked far from certain as the single mother of a baby boy, Elijah. And at times she couldn't even afford to fill up her car with gas to attend Pinellas Technical College (PTC) as a dental assistant student.

But a casual conversation with classmates one day helped her connect to a brighter future. Cortney heard someone mention a program, Youth Connect, and that would soon change everything.

"In fact, the very first thing they did for me when I met them that first day was get me a gas card," she says. "Having enough gas to go to and from school with a little extra made a huge difference, especially with a child and having to get to daycare."

She officially enrolled and immediately benefited in other important ways from Youth Connect, a work-readiness program of Career Source and coordinated by the Pinellas Education Foundation. The initiative opens doors and changes lives, providing guidance and financial resources to students between the ages of 16-24. Participants can attain their GED or train in technical, mechanical or healthcare programs that put them on a path to industry certifications and technical degrees.

The program services are free of charge and include counseling, assistance with educational costs and job placement services. In Cortney's case, Youth Connect did all of that and more. The program purchased her medical scrubs and books. And by helping her manage the costs of school, she found herself on a path to a job upon graduation from PTC.

"I was fortunate that the place we did our clinical work was the University of Florida dental clinic in Seminole," she explains. "And I was able to do my externship there and continue as an employee after graduating."

"I wouldn't be where I am today without Youth Connect and the Pinellas Education Foundation. I can now make use of their help by giving back to my community."

**CORTNEY SMITH,
Youth Connect Alumna and PTC Instructor**



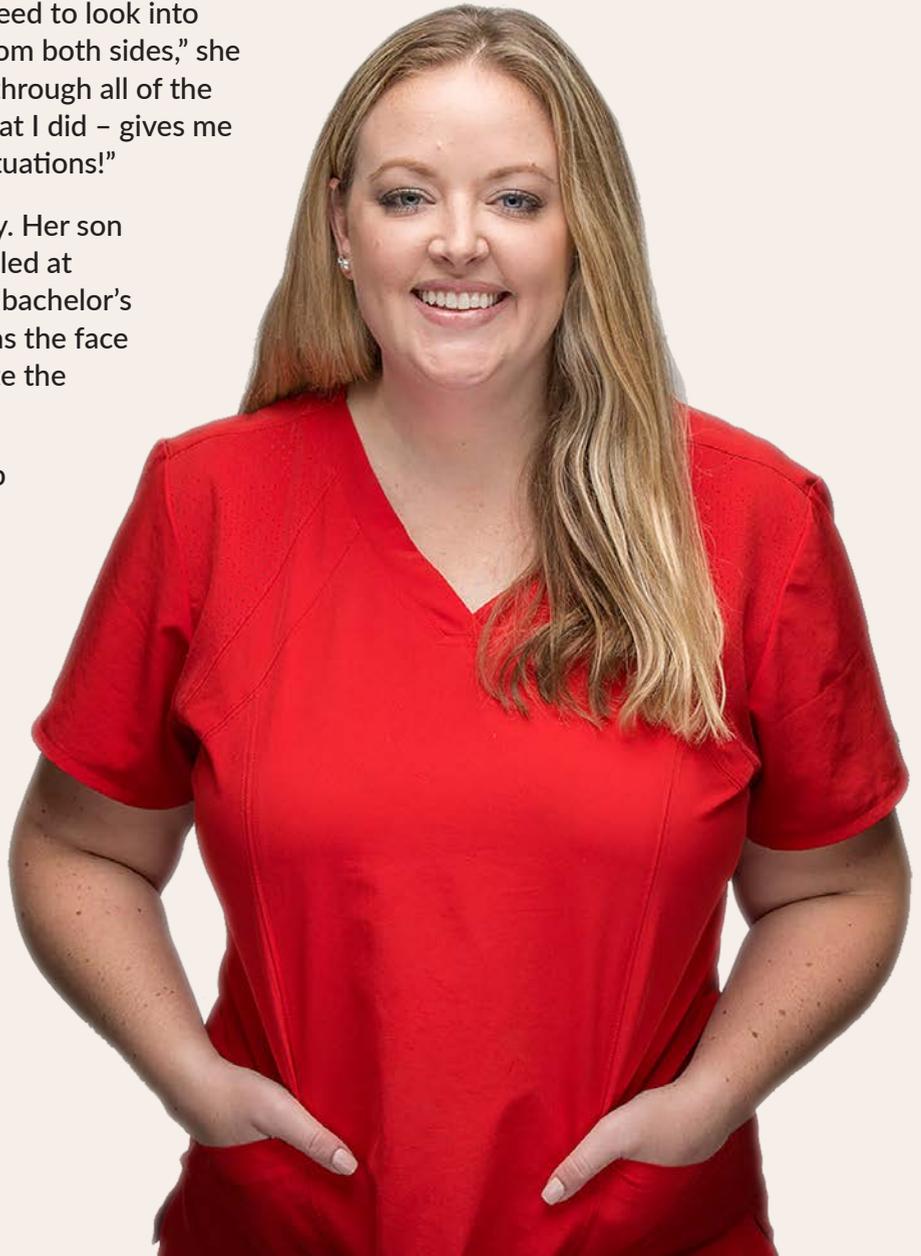
In little more than a year, she had gone from a young mother raising an infant by herself to trained professional with a budding career. She worked for the University of Florida clinic for six years. But then an opportunity arose that would bring Cortney full circle. Her PTC instructor was bringing new students to do their clinical work at the UF clinic every week in Seminole and could see Cortney possessed the skills and engaging personality to work with students. When a teaching position finally opened up, she hired her.

For the past four years, Cortney has worked as a dental care instructor – urging those in need to look into Youth Connect. “I understand it from both sides,” she says. “Being an adult – and going through all of the hardships many of them do and that I did – gives me a special understanding of their situations!”

Life is good these days for Cortney. Her son is a happy 11-year-old. She’s enrolled at St. Petersburg College to earn her bachelor’s degree. And this past year, she was the face of a digital ad campaign to promote the Pinellas Education Foundation.

“My friends would see the ads pop up on Facebook and say, ‘Cortney, you’re famous!’ ” she says with a laugh. “I’m not the kind of person who cares about that kind of thing. But if putting a face on the Youth Connect program helps, then that’s great.”

To learn more about Youth Connect, please contact Donna.Burns@pinellaseducation.org or call 727-588-4816, ext. 2101.



**ABOVE: Cortney Smith, who was able to change her life path with the help of Youth Connect
LEFT: Cortney with son Elijah upon graduating from Pinellas Technical College with a dental assistant certification**



WOODLAWN ELEMENTARY: Innovation, Passion and Research Are Closing the Gap

Inside a dimly lit classroom at Woodlawn Elementary School, music plays softly in the background as a cutting-edge teaching program to promote gender equity is in full swing. A large white grid is outlined on the floor, filled with squares of various colors. And all around, teams of fifth-grade students sit at their desks, on the floor and on a large riser against the front wall, pondering how to arrange eight paper squares in a row by answering science questions correctly on the back of each one.

The work requires concentration and collaboration and is deftly guided by teacher Alicia Abelow, who calls out instructions over a portable microphone – encouraging students to work together to figure out the best approach in an educational exercise known as Connect 8.

It's just one of many scenes that unfold throughout each school week here at a school that serves as a county-wide model for this innovative program of the Pinellas Education Foundation, Closing the Gap. The initiative has been accomplishing precisely what its name implies – closing the gap that has left young, male students lagging behind females in learning, a problematic trend that can leave boys struggling through their school years if left unchecked.

“This is so important because our data shows that we were leaving our boys behind – and that can’t happen.” says Woodlawn principal Tammy Keiper. “We’re here to educate all of them, so with this initiative and my teachers participating in creating ideas, it makes school more engaging for kids. It makes them more motivated to learn.”

“Each child deserves the best,” she adds. “Our curriculum and instruction has to take into account academic, behavioral, social and emotional needs – and meeting them for all kids.” Closing the Gap recognizes that boys and girls learn differently. Interestingly, boys learn better if they drink water to hydrate their brains. In addition, they need to move, enjoy competition and prefer shoulder-to-shoulder interaction rather than looking face-to-

“We had a glaring need to support our boys, so they could be more successful in the classroom.”

ALICIA ABELOW,
Woodlawn Elementary Math & Science Teacher



face. Girls prefer more defined areas, small friend-groups and more structure, and excel more in discussion-led learning environments. The program has customized its approach with those learning styles in mind to enhance learning across the board.

Among the strategic tools is the use of “houses” that groups of students are assigned to at Woodlawn. Students spin a wheel and that determines which house they will join, and they quickly develop a keen sense of pride and the ability to earn good conduct points, allowing them to honor their houses. Curriculum specialist Jacqueline Shotwell is a member of the House of Dreamers, home of the Wolf Pack.

“We can wear black on Fridays and little wolf ears,” she explains. “We have our wolf howl, and a special greeting in in the halls with a hand sign. It immediately gives students a strong bond within their classroom. The students are very passionate about their houses and therefore earning points for their house. We use an online tracking tool for points, and we take any positive behavior we want to see more of – and we attach it to a house point.” It’s one of many success stories in a gender equity program that is helping boys and girls learn like never before.

To learn more about Closing the Gap, please email Donna.Burns@pinellaseducation.org or call 727-588-4816, ext. 2101.



**ABOVE: “House” teachers (L-R): Sarah Franklin, Jessica LoGrande, Allison Boulanger, Alicia Abelow, Gwendetta Richards-Betts, Principal Tammy Keiper, Gina Villano, Jaqueline Shotwell, Janelle Blank
LEFT: Students engaged in a learning exercise called Connect 8**



ENTERPRISE VILLAGE: A Treasure Turns 30

The dream took root three decades ago – a concept pioneered by Dr. Gus Stavros that would forever transform public education in Pinellas County.

At the time, there was no way to imagine the powerful impact of a new program named Enterprise Village – giving fifth-graders a unique, hands-on experience in economic education. But the brainchild of Dr. Stavros and then-Pinellas County Schools Associate Superintendent (and future Superintendent) Dr. J. Howard Hinesley would open the door to a new educational era – and benefit students for generations to come.

The creation of Enterprise Village – for which Dr. Stavros raised more than \$1 million through donations from local businesses and his own contributions – would soon lead him to become the first board chair of the Pinellas Education Foundation in 1986. Three years later, Enterprise Village officially opened its doors offering a new approach in economics education. And the rest is history.

It is a history that today spans 30 years, punctuated by a recent celebration in November that brought together Enterprise Village alumni from various generations, business and community leaders and representatives of the Pinellas Education Foundation and Pinellas County Schools, and volunteers who help keep the program thriving.

Today, Enterprise Village is not only a fixture in Pinellas County but around the state, nation and world – after being acquired by Junior Achievement under the name Biz Town. In that sense, the vision of Dr. Stavros has enriched the lives of countless children – all beginning with a seed planted three decades ago.

“Gus used to talk about the good that can come from touching the life of one child,” says Bob McIntyre, former Foundation board chair and longtime supporter. “And I’m thinking today how many



“When I mention Enterprise Village, people instantly tell me, ‘Oh, I was the mayor.’ Or ‘I was a banker.’ It’s a monumental moment in a Pinellas County Schools student’s experience.”

DR. STACY BAIER, CEO
Pinellas Education Foundation

lives has Gus Stavros and the Foundation touched due to the idea that he had 30 years ago?" Ellen Stavros, daughter of Gus and Frances Stavros, remembers that the idea originated when Dr. Hinesley saw a center in Kansas City called Exchange City. He approached Dr. Stavros, a busy entrepreneur and founder of Better Business Forms, about starting something similar in Pinellas. "He told dad, 'I really want you to start a foundation and build this for our students in Pinellas County,' " she recalls. "After several requests, dad agreed to do it. He had been president of the Suncoast Chamber of Commerce and drew from all the business leaders he knew."

Rather than replicate the Exchange City model, which had generic storefronts, Dr. Stavros tapped his vast business connections to install actual businesses in Enterprise Village, such as Barnett Bank, Florida Power and Morton Plant Hospital. "These businesses were thus familiar to the fifth-graders as they grew into adulthood in the community," Ellen explains. "He put all these CEOs on the board, and they worked to create this amazing building."

It's a building that has allowed more than 400,000 students over 30 years – parents and now their kids – to experience a highlight of their education journey.

"He once said that the reality was by far better than the dream," Ellen adds. "Because the dream was just a mall-like facility, where kids could play at being an adult for a day. I know he is so grateful and humbled by it."

To become a storefront sponsor at Enterprise Village and Finance Park, please email Julie.Perrelli@pinellaseducation.org or call 727-588-4816, ext. 2113.



ABOVE: An artist's watercolor rendition of Enterprise Village at its inception

LEFT: Another busy day for fifth-graders at Enterprise Village



**BOB
MCINTYRE:
A Lifetime
of Giving
With a
Can-Do
Spirit**

Nearly 20 years ago, the annual “Yes, I Can” breakfast appeared to be on thin ice, with no one to sponsor the event that celebrates the accomplishments of Pinellas County students with disabilities. But one person stepped up and said, “Yes, I can,” keeping the inspirational and impactful program alive. Not surprisingly, it was Bob McIntyre, whose life’s work has embodied the slogan’s can-do spirit.

Bob has always tackled challenges with a perpetually optimistic, personable manner. Growing up in a working-class family of humble means in Niagara Falls, N.Y., he knew college wasn’t in the cards, so he worked an array of factory jobs before a stint in the U.S. Navy. But what makes Bob special is the part he has played in the community, from sponsoring dozens of teams for Seminole Little League, to becoming a philanthropic icon of Pinellas County, or standing tall as a driving force and longtime donor of the Pinellas Education Foundation.

Bob’s passion helped him turn a garage operation into DITEK, a global surge protection leader. And he has generously spread his good fortune into a driving pursuit as former Foundation chair and long-serving board member. His mission: supporting public education in Pinellas County and helping kids succeed in school – and life.

His influence is mirrored in his dozens of leadership, humanitarian and service awards – including being honored in 2019 as a Lightning Community Hero. He takes pleasure in connecting people and encouraging them to get involved with causes that improve the quality of life. Bob’s philosophy is rooted in one premise: a simple spark of involvement by one person can power participation by many.

Now, that is the guiding premise of a new project he has undertaken with fellow board member Ellen Stavros: working with the Pinellas Education Foundation to create the Stavros Society, a special

“Never miss the chance to give back. Do something, anything, and it will come back to you. Nothing is too small to make a difference.”

BOB MCINTYRE, Former Pinellas Education Foundation Board Chair and DITEK Founder & CEO



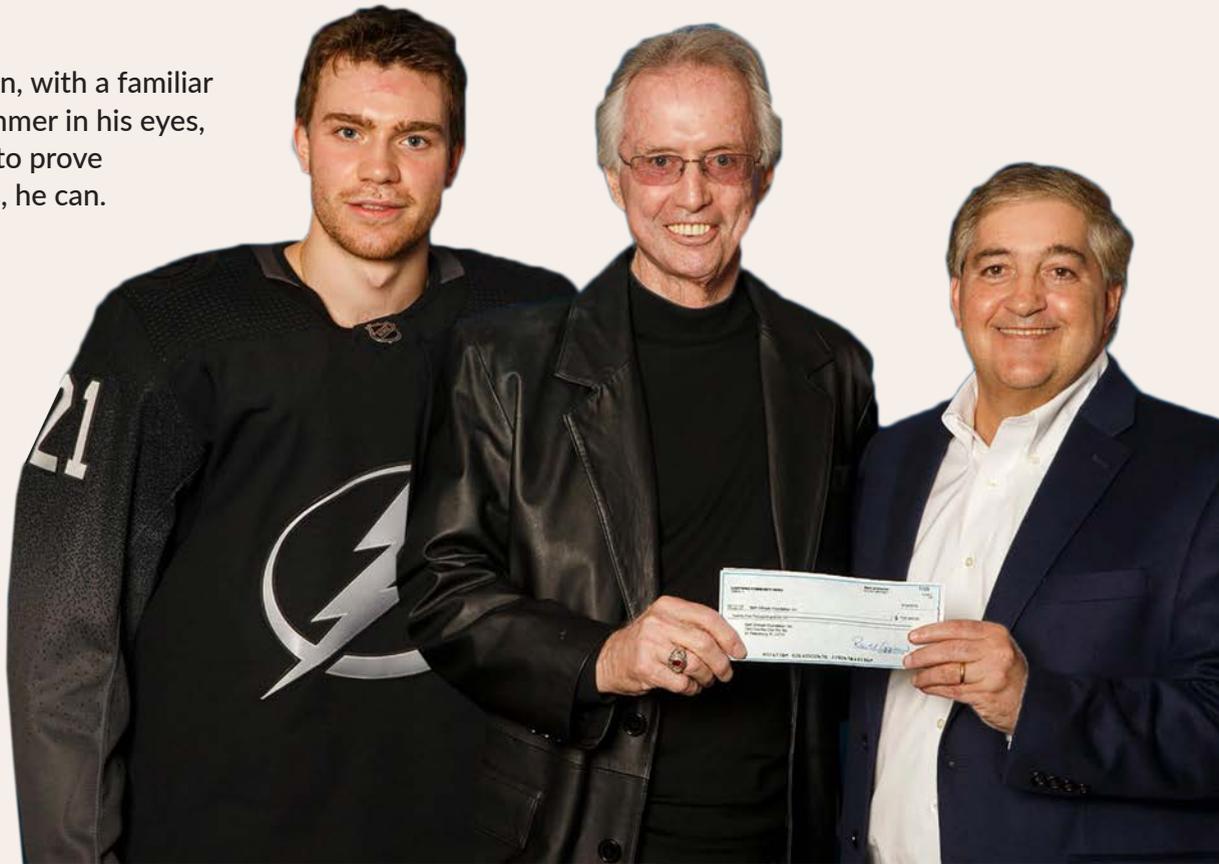
philanthropic entity designed to benefit the Foundation and continue the giving tradition of Ellen's parents, Dr. Gus and Mrs. Frances Stavros. "Gus Stavros started the Foundation over 30 years ago and we have an opportunity to continue his legacy," says McIntyre. "It's a way for everybody to be a part of the Foundation and that amazing legacy." (See page 19 to learn how to join the Stavros Society).

Like Gus Stavros, Bob has long been an advocate for students in need of equitable educational opportunities – turning the Foundation into his personal mission. Today, his family-run business has reached the rare million-dollar mark in contributions to the Foundation. He is a champion of Career Technical Education, resulting in multiple career academies at every Pinellas public high school and more than 13,500 students earning a technical certification, up from 2,500 just six years ago.

He has helped pave the way for innovative initiatives to provide mentorship and college scholarships. And as a result of his long friendship with late philanthropist Dick Jacobson, the community celebrated a landmark moment in 2018. The Richard O. Jacobson Foundation awarded \$5 million to the Pinellas Education Foundation – the largest gift in our history.

Meanwhile, consider these other honors: the Patron of Public Education Award, Sertoma Service to Mankind Award; Largo Civic Pride Award (twice); Citizen of the Year Award and the Frederick E. Fisher Humanitarian of the Year Award. His commitment to the Pinellas Education Foundation has helped uplift thousands of students.

Time and again, with a familiar laugh and glimmer in his eyes, he continues to prove one thing: Yes, he can.



ABOVE: Bob accepts a Lightning Community Hero Award check from Tampa Bay Lightning owner Jeff Vinik. **LEFT:** Bob takes in the scene at Enterprise Village, which turned 30 this year.



THE STAVROS SOCIETY: A Bold New Initiative

The heart of our success story beats steady and strong with a commitment that began 30 years ago. You can find it in the vision and generosity of Dr. Gus Stavros and his wife Frances, who have enhanced the lives of countless Pinellas County students. You can see it in the innovative work that flows through transformative programs of the Pinellas Education Foundation. And we can recognize it, each and every day, in our donors.

Without such steadfast and generous support, we could not have accomplished all that we have in our mission to create equity – the belief that every student deserves a high-quality education. We could not have touched the lives of the thousands of students who have participated in and been uplifted by our programs, expanding their opportunities in school, in careers and in life.

That is the bold spirit that moves us now to celebrate a milestone three decades in the making, as we proudly announce the establishment of the Dr. Gus and Frances Stavros Society – bringing together donors to continue their legacy of generosity and keep their remarkable contribution to our children’s education burning brightly.

It is now possible to become charter members of this elite giving group – one that will be comprised of people who share our passion for expanding educational and career opportunities for students and enriching the community; who share our vision that every student be prepared for life after high school, whether to attend college, enter the workforce or obtain technical training.

With the creation of the Stavros Society, we can be even more effective in our mission. Working together, we can continue to enhance the educational landscape for our students – just as Enterprise Village did when it first opened in 1989.

In 1998, Finance Park began operation, building on the Enterprise Village model with a program designed to help eighth-graders develop financial decision-making skills. That was followed by the third leg of our mission to prepare students for rewarding careers and lives: Future Plans.

*“The act of standing still
is the beginning of the end.”*

**DR. GUS STAVROS, Pinellas Education
Foundation Board Chair Emeritus**



These three signature programs – eventually existing under the umbrella of the Stavros Institute – have become embedded in the fabric of learning throughout Pinellas County. And today they are being replicated across the nation, enriching the financial and life-skills knowledge of students – all starting with the passion and foresight of Gus and Frances Stavros.

What would motivate the pair of New Jersey natives to do all they could to elevate education in their adopted home of Pinellas County? It was a shared passion for knowledge – whether studying at New York’s prestigious Columbia University or in their many business and civic endeavors throughout the Tampa Bay area. Gus, who earned a Purple Heart in World War II, married Frances after the war. The couple moved to Pinellas County, where he founded Better Business Forms. In 1986, he helped create Enterprise Village and founded the Pinellas Education Foundation. It was the start of a new era of Pinellas education, and his work has enriched countless lives.



To learn more about becoming a member of the Stavros Society, please email Julie.Perrelli@pinellaseducation.org or call (727) 588-4816, ext. 2113.

ABOVE: Dr. Gus and Frances Stavros celebrate their 40th anniversary in 1988. Frances, an acclaimed public education advocate, passed away in 2017 at age 92, after 68 years of marriage.

LEFT: Stavros Society member pins



**PINELLAS
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION:
Pictures
From a
Remarkable
Year**



LEFT: Mentoring relationships, such as the one pictured at left, are a pillar of the Take Stock in Children program.

BELOW: Take Stock begins with the annual pledge ceremony for inductees, as seen here with St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman.



LEFT: Naseem Hamed, a Lakewood High School senior in the Next Generation Tech program, was honored as a Lightning Community Hero of Tomorrow winner at a game. Bob McIntyre (below middle, clapping) won the Lightning Community Hero Award in March.

BELOW: A highlight of our year came last November 30 with the official presentation of the \$5 million gift from the Richard O. Jacobson Foundation and dedication of Richard O. Jacobson Technical High School at Seminole.



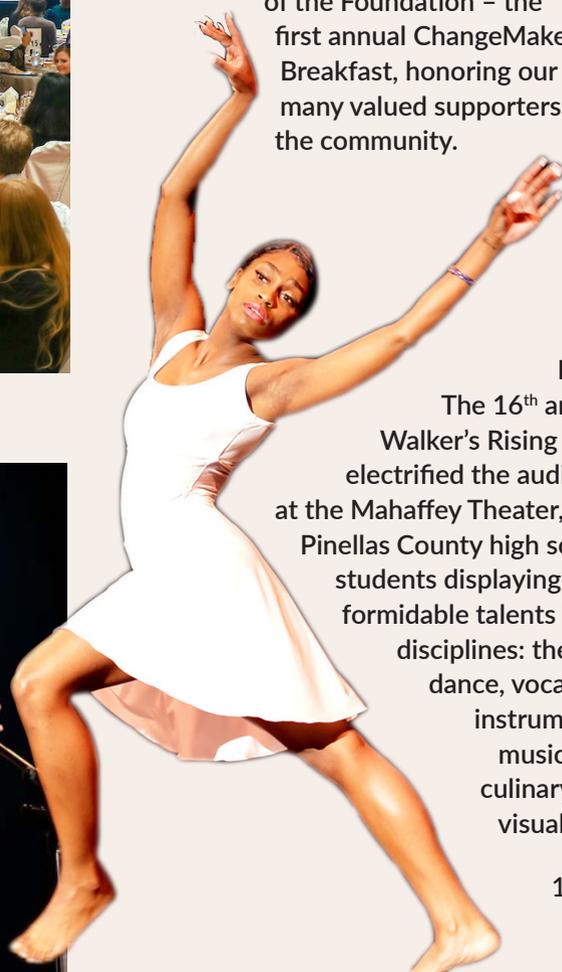
RIGHT: An elated Nicole Kenngott of Plumb Elementary School was named Pinellas County Schools Teacher of the Year on January 28, 2019 at the Evening of Excellence.

BELOW: The first job fair to match students with prospective employers for the inaugural Summer Career Acceleration Program

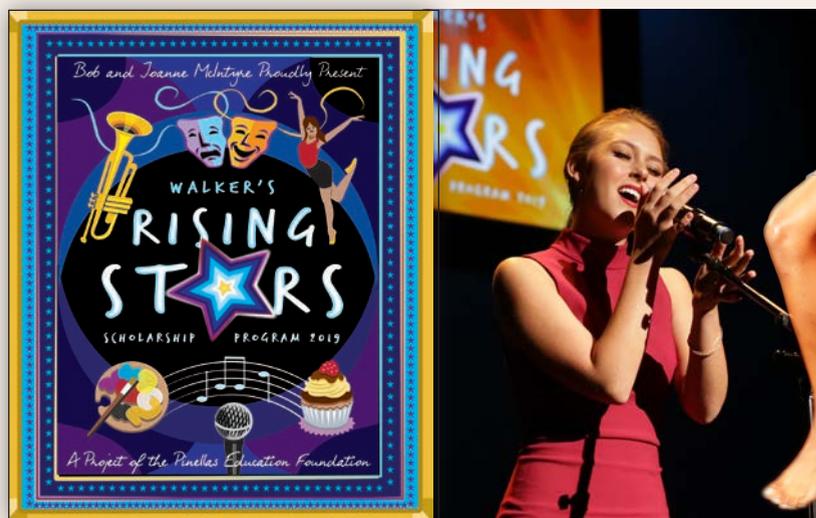


LEFT: We packed the ballroom at the St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater last December 5 for a new signature event of the Foundation – the first annual ChangeMakers Breakfast, honoring our many valued supporters in the community.

the first annual ChangeMakers Breakfast, honoring our many valued supporters in the community.



LEFT: The 16th annual Walker's Rising Stars electrified the audience at the Mahaffey Theater, with Pinellas County high school students displaying their formidable talents in six disciplines: theater, dance, vocal and instrumental music, and culinary and visual arts.





LEFT: InSite, the winning 2018-19 Next Generation Tech team from Palm Harbor University High School, displays its check for \$10,000 at the NGT Awards ceremony in April.



STUFF THE BUS

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATION DRIVE
BENEFITING CHILDREN IN NEED IN PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

- 3-RING BINDERS • Notebook Paper
- Pocket Folders • Highlighters •
- CRAYONS • COLORED PENCILS •
- Pencil Sharpeners • BACKPACKS
- RULERS • Water-Based Markers
- BLUE STICKS • White Glue • SCISSORS •
- Ballpoint Pens • Number 2 Pencils •
- eBooks • ERASERS • Index Cards

FRIDAY, AUG. 16
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
1300 1st Ave. N.
Old St. Petersburg
Police Department

Pinellas Education Foundation

ACT OF THE PINELLAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

ABOVE: Stuff the Bus was a rousing success in August, collecting more than 10,000 pounds of school supplies at two locations – Carillon Park and downtown St. Petersburg – and even getting a visit from Spider-Man.



Preparing Pinellas Students for the Future:
College and Career Readiness Insights

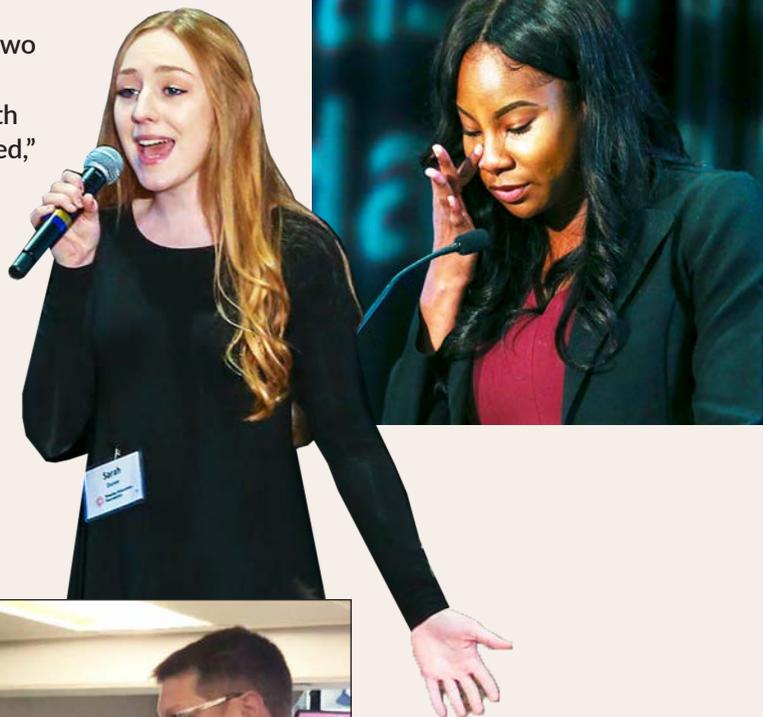
Indicators of High School Success and Associated Factors

ABOVE: Two comprehensive Focus on Education research reports were published by the Foundation, supported by the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg. The two new reports focused on Career and Technical Education and Preparing Pinellas Students for the Future: College and Career Readiness Insights.



ABOVE & RIGHT: Enterprise Village – celebrating its 30th anniversary – and Finance Park continue to provide a unique, hands-on education in free enterprise and finance.

RIGHT: At last year's inaugural ChangeMakers Breakfast, two uplifting highlights were provided by Sarah Duren of Palm Harbor University High School, who wowed the crowd with a rendition of "For Good" from the Broadway show "Wicked," and Florida State University graduate Angelina Kincy (far right), who delivered a moving speech about how Take Stock in Children has changed her life.



ABOVE: Sarah Gruber, Northeast High School's Valedictorian and a Take Stock in Children scholar, won a culinary competition sponsored by the Ryan Wells Foundation and was honored at Walker's Rising Stars in May.



LEFT: Doug Bishop, Foundation Board Chair, is interviewed by Tampa Bay Rays broadcaster Neil Solondz about the Foundation and its mission at the Rays Up! event at Tropicana Field in March.

RIGHT: A scene from the Data Walk of community leaders and stakeholders at St. Petersburg College's Collaborative Labs. The event was tied to our research report entitled Preparing Pinellas Students for the Future: College and Career Readiness Insights - hosted by the Foundation and LEAP Tampa Bay, and supported by the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg.

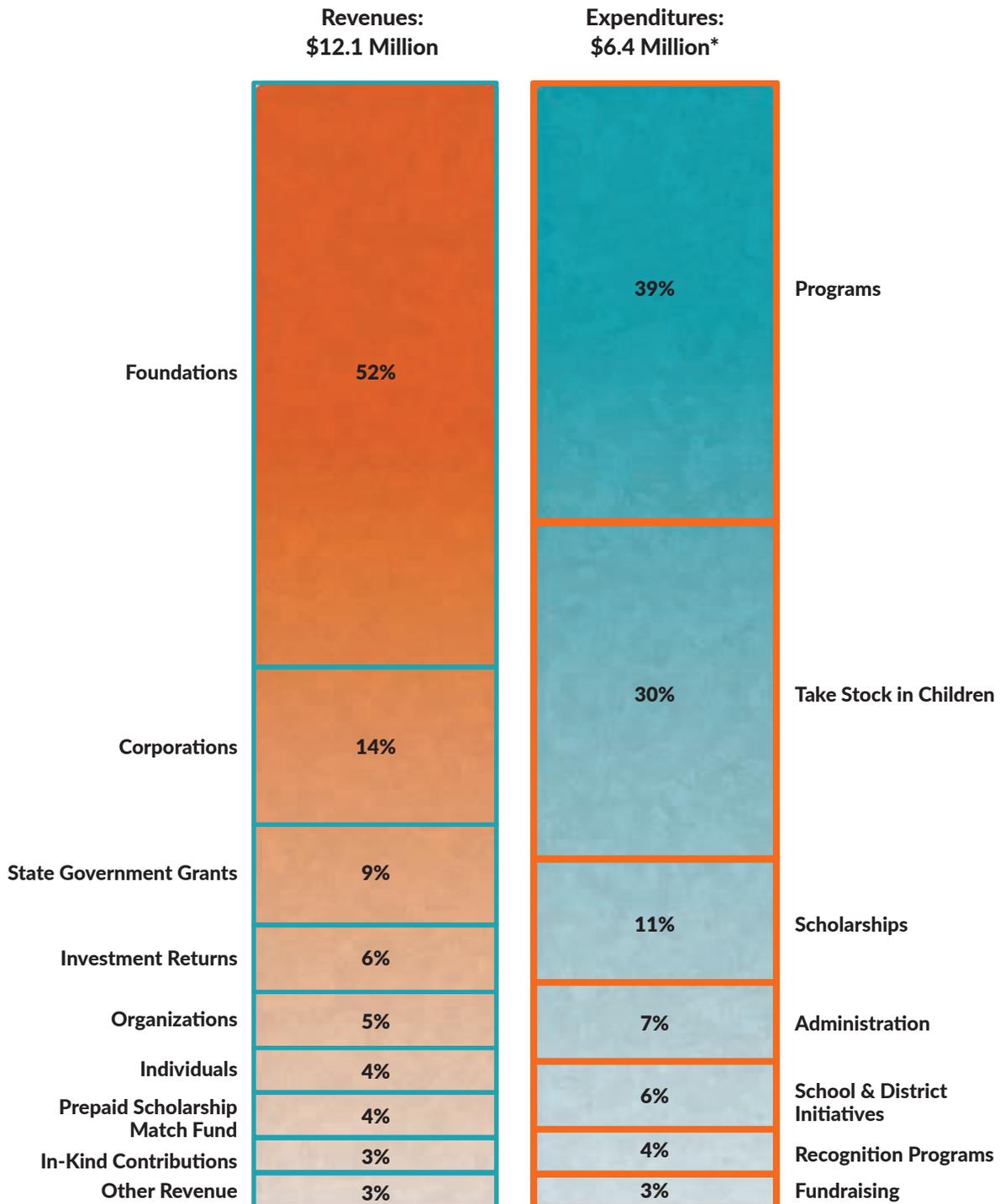


LEFT: A panel discussion for the Career Awareness Leadership Forum hosted in January by our business partner, Duke Energy.



2018-2019 Revenues & Expenditures

Audited Financial Statements as of June 30, 2019



* Some revenue raised in 2018-19 is intentionally allotted to be spent on projects in 2019-20.



2018-2019 Impact Statistics

13,949

Industry
Certifications
Earned

232

Take Stock In Children
Graduates

921

Take
Stock In
Children
Mentors

122

Student
Summer
Internships

30

Teacher
Business
Externships

604

Scholarships Awarded

137

Job Placements
Through Youth Connect

214

Classroom
Grants



PINELLAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Who We Are And What We Do

The Pinellas Education Foundation is a dynamic, nationally recognized non-profit organization that leads the way in advancing public education and student achievement. For more than 30 years, our wide spectrum of initiatives has made a measurable impact – expanding educational and career opportunities for students and enriching the community.

We are committed to equity – our belief that every student deserves a high-quality education. Our priorities align with Pinellas County Schools to ensure that students graduate from high school with multiple pathways to success – including college, career readiness, and the military. Together with a coalition of local businesses and community leaders, we envision the possibilities – and inspire our students to fulfill them!

We're proud to have been recognized consistently as one of the best K-12 public school foundations in the United States, as featured in respected industry publication Education Week. And we are also rated a four-star foundation by Charity Navigator, its highest ranking. We share these honors to underscore that we are an organization worthy of your trust – eager to explore how your support can help accelerate educational achievement for every student, and ensure that they will be prepared for life after high school.

Key Areas of Focus

Everything we undertake is geared toward driving our mission: accelerating educational achievement for all students through the effective mobilization of innovation, relationships and resources. We've identified two key focus areas in which we feel we can leverage our greatest impact: **Improving Student Academic Achievement** and **Preparing Students for Multiple Pathways after High School** – whether that means college, career technical education, entering the military or going straight into the workforce.

The most powerful levers for improving academic achievement are the effectiveness of teachers and school leadership. In order to maximize our impact, many of our efforts are directed toward supporting excellence in instruction and leadership. When it comes to multiple pathways, the Foundation has identified a powerful role in providing students with the navigational capital and supports to advance student access and success in college, career technical education or the workforce.

An important factor driving the identification of our programs, which align to these focus areas, is the ability to measure impact. We ensure that the work of the Foundation is intentionally geared to success measures, including graduation rate and college and career readiness accelerators. In a few instances, programs of the Foundation don't lend themselves to evaluation on our identified key measures of success. We believe there is value in programs that can't be measured by rigorous assessments, but still make a difference in the culture of schools, lives of students and classrooms of teachers.



Our Key Programs

- **Career Awareness Leadership Forum:** Teams of students and educators from selected schools explore the vast career pathway options within a single business.
- **Career Technical Education:** Offers students relevant, challenging courses and certifications to prepare for in-demand jobs.
- **Closing the Gap:** Provides teacher training and supports on creative classroom intervention techniques that acknowledge how boys and girls learn differently.
- **Elevating Excellence:** Assists high-achieving students, particularly low-income and first generation college students, with college and career counseling and additional college preparedness supports.
- **Enterprise Village:** Gives students a unique, hands-on experience in free enterprise and an understanding of how businesses and consumers relate.
- **Evening of Excellence:** Honors our community's inspiring teachers with a formal ceremony, capped by the naming of Pinellas Teacher of the Year.
- **Finance Park:** Teaches students personal finance and sound financial decision-making skills.
- **Focus On Education:** Provides independent research to inform educational programming and further equitable education outcomes.
- **Fund a Classroom:** Gives teachers the resources they need to engage students with innovative instruction.
- **Future Plans:** Ensures that young adults get information and guidance they need with this comprehensive college career-planning tool.
- **Next Generation Entrepreneurs:** Helps students create and enhance business skills in a real-world scenario.
- **Next Generation Tech:** Allows students to work with mentors and teachers throughout the year, competing to develop an innovative tech product.
- **Scholarships:** Make valuable funds available to students so they can pursue college and career technical education opportunities.
- **Stuff the Bus:** Collects essential school supplies for Pinellas children in need.
- **Summer Career Acceleration Program:** Enables rising seniors to participate in a summer internship, which gives them real world work experience.
- **Take Stock in Children:** Offers students hope for a better life through college scholarships and mentoring.
- **Youth Connect:** Provides guidance, support, financial assistance with post-secondary and technical and academic training and employment opportunities to low-income youth.
- **Youth Farm:** Empowers high school youth to take on progressive leadership roles on an urban farm, while being trained in entrepreneurship and business.
- **Walker's Rising Stars:** Helps talented students hone their audition, portfolio and performance skills while competing for college scholarships in six categories: Culinary Arts, Dance, Instrumental, Theater, Visual Arts and Vocal Performance.

PILOT PROGRAMS

- **Digital Equity Project:** Makes broadband WiFi devices available for low-income students at Title I schools, to expand internet-based learning opportunities.
- **Reading Recovery:** Targets struggling readers in first grade and provides 1:1 reading tutoring to increase their reading achievement to grade level.





Many Thanks to Our 2018-2019 Generous Donors

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