



We're committed...

...to every student,
every teacher,
every classroom

2011-2012
annual report

**BERKELEY PUBLIC
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**





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Dear Supporters

The Berkeley Public Education Foundation is proud to showcase the achievements of our 2011-2012 grant recipients, volunteers and students in this Annual Report. We hope that you will truly enjoy the stories of opportunity and dedication that your gifts help foster. But we want you to know that your generosity does more than that. Bottom-line, your generosity inspires. It shows that there is a community in Berkeley that encourages educators to dream beyond their budgets, to try new methods and create new experiences for their students. And that even in tough times, these ideas and inspiration can come to life in every school, from our pre-schools through our high schools. While it is a great honor to help lead the Foundation, ultimately we are only the conduits because you, the donors and volunteers, are the real champions of our schools and our students.

We know it's fashionable to do more with less, but we truly believe that investing more in our children, our community and our future, through direct support at the teacher and classroom level, provides the greatest return. We hope you will continue to support the Berkeley Public Education Foundation's mission to provide an extraordinary public education for every child. Thank you again for your support.

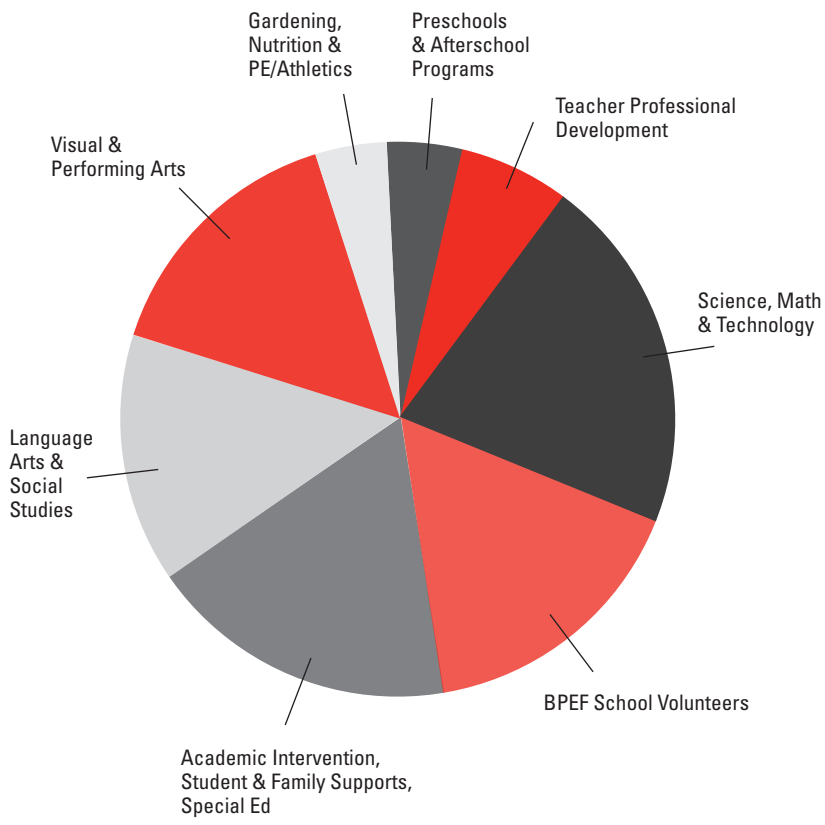
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\$631,997

Berkeley Public Education Foundation: making investments in teaching and learning

2011- 2012



Statement of activities

July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012

INCOME

Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 595,308
Designated Contributions	\$ 252,050
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 22,912
Fees & Other Revenues	\$ 14,334

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 884,604**

EXPENDITURES

DIRECT GRANTS AND PROGRAMS SUPPORT

Classroom & System-wide Grants	\$ 345,009
Designated Grants & Programs	\$ 196,720
BPEF School Volunteers	\$ 90,268

SUBTOTAL **\$ 631,997**

ADMINISTRATIVE

Fundraising & Management	\$ 122,221
In-Kind Goods & Services	\$ 22,912

SUBTOTAL **\$ 145,133**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES **\$ 777,130**

teachers

Encouraging professional growth

The teacher in the classroom is our greatest asset for turning kids on to learning. Berkeley Public Education Foundation knows the importance of teachers' development and training, so we invest in opportunities to deepen their knowledge, broaden their perspective, and sharpen their practice.

Summer Camp for teachers!

For summer of 2012, Berkeley Public Education Foundation introduced its Summer Fellowships for Teachers. Three educators pursued personal and professional learning, and are putting that new knowledge to work!



Bill Briggs (Thousand Oaks Elementary Kindergarten teacher) went on a 45-day overland trip in Africa, visiting schools, orphanages, and experiencing the ecology and wildlife of the countries he visited.

“ This opportunity provided me with a broader perspective of education throughout the world. I have developed a themed curriculum about Africa that has integrated social studies, science, math, and language arts into the various lesson plans that I created. My classroom has a few dozen books about Africa and is filled with photographs and artifacts that provide first hand knowledge about its different cultures and wildlife. ”

Richard Silberg (King Middle School Humanities, English Language Learners, and Drama teacher) went to New York City to attend Lincoln Center's "Learning English And Drama" workshop, and was invited to extend his stay and conduct field observations with the Center's staff.

“ This project reinforced my commitment to the idea of using drama to teach language. These techniques are valuable not just for ELL Students, but for any who struggle with reading. This was an opportunity to immerse myself in thinking about these issues...I had no other responsibility than to learn as much as possible. Being around a different population of teachers, I saw how important issues of second language acquisition are throughout the country. ”

Xin Chen (Berkeley High Mandarin teacher) attended an AP Culture and Language Course offered by the College Board in Monterey, CA. It gave her the ability and confidence to teach AP content.

“ After this workshop, I successfully drew up the AP course syllabus and got approved by the College Board. This school year, students who take the course will get the AP credit. I came to know experienced AP Chinese teachers and we exchanged some wonderful teaching ideas and we all signed in on an AP discussion circle on the College Board website. This is a very valuable resource for me! ”

**A special thanks to the Herb Singer Fund for its support of this program.*



“ Every day my kids come into class saying ‘look at this pattern I found’ or ‘look at this pattern I made at home’. I’ve never had a group like this before! ”

Pre-school teacher using “Creative Curriculum”



Paving the Way to Kindergarten **Readiness**

Our 475 youngest learners in BUSD are spread among three pre-schools, where an exciting new “Creative Curriculum” is preparing these children to enter Kindergarten with the skills and confidence to succeed. A \$7,000 grant from BPEF supplemented district funding for teacher training in the curriculum, building a confident team of three teacher leaders to observe and coach specifically in math instruction. Funding also was used to purchase nearly 100 quality hands-on math instruction materials for all 18 classrooms, such as wooden blocks; sets of geometric shapes, numbers, and pattern puzzles; and various counting games.

**A special thanks to Alba Witkin for her support of this project.*

Gestures Speak as Loud as Words

Introductory foreign language instruction at the middle and high schools has been transformed through use of the dynamic AIM Language Learning teaching method. Two years ago with the Foundation’s support a middle school teacher started using this approach,

which combines expressive gestures, drama, humor, and non-stop conversation in the target language to create a fun, dynamic—and effective—learning environment. The technique caught the interest of other teachers, which resulted in the Foundation first sponsoring an introductory session in Berkeley, and then partnering with BUSD to send six teachers to an intensive 5-day AIM workshop this past summer in Canada. Teachers are saying that the approach is revolutionizing their classes!

**A special thanks to The Wilder Green Fund for its support of this project.*



Something for Everyone in the Classroom Library

We are so proud of our elementary students’ progress in reading over the past few years, and equally proud of the Foundation’s role in their success. For the past 10 years the Foundation has been the go-to partner with the District’s Early Literacy coach team to fund pilot demonstrations, summer professional development, and instructional materials for the language arts curriculum that now has caught fire among teachers and students in all our K-5 schools. Our collaboration culminated in a single

\$40,000 grant for classroom library book purchases last year – giving teachers and their students an abundant selection of books, on a range of subjects and at a wide range of ability levels so that there is always a next book to read!

Technology Transforms Teaching

Matching technology to the needs of classrooms and individual students is not a one-size-fits-all proposition. In partnership with many teachers, the Foundation has been making strategic investments in educational software as well as new hardware for those “early adopters” who demonstrate the know-how and motivation to pilot its use, and excite their colleagues to follow. In recent years, the Foundation helped jumpstart the use of document cameras that are now commonly found in all our schools. The over \$30,000 we spent on technology last year continued to include about a dozen projectors or document cameras across the District, and 20 Nook readers for B-Tech. At Berkeley High, we funded ten Chromebook computers for Academic Choice, a netbook for Special Education, and a laptop for English Language Learner instruction; 16 graphing calculators for the Math Department; digital cameras for the Photography Department; a hard drive for the Berkeley High *Jacket*; and an iPad for teaching Economics.



students

Investing in their futures

Here's an overview of last year's Classroom Grant awards, with total dollars and teacher participation, and **highlights from every school across Berkeley.**

Districtwide

9 grants, \$54,187

The 4th and 5th grade Science Resource Teachers purchased and were trained to use three different types of Vernier Probes for doing hands-on experiments and data gathering with their students; a music teacher who works at multiple sites used a new iPad to create musical dialogues between students, to tune students' instruments, and to develop musical accompaniments using Garage Band.

Arts Magnet

13 grants, \$9,527

17 teachers

Three teachers collaborated to purchase document cameras and projectors to show their lessons, student work, and visual aids in a more engaging and 'real time' way; the entire 5th grade spent a week near Big Basin participating in a cross-curricular outdoor education program and the entire 4th grade traveled to Lawrence Hall of Science for a geometry workshop.

Cragmont

12 grants, \$7,075

15 teachers

A teacher purchased and trained her colleagues in the Math Facts in a Flash program, a self-paced computerized learning tool to review and accelerate basic math skills; a class set of Reader's Theater scripts in Spanish and English targeted at "just right" reading levels generated enthusiasm around understanding and performing folks tales and "tall" tales; all third graders were able to participate in field trips to Coyote Hills, Cal Performances, and Año Nuevo State Park.

Emerson

9 grants, \$5,970

20 teachers

Games, books and art supplies stocked the Discovery Zone, an alternative space for students who struggle physically or socially on the playground at lunchtime; the school librarian, an experienced blogger

BUSD Preschools

15 grants, \$13,165

18 teachers

Two different classrooms purchased sand tables to allow tactile play and socialization; two others teachers bought supplies for their cooking curriculum; several teachers purchased cameras and printers for photo-documentation of student work to share with their multi-lingual parent body.



2011-2012 Classroom Grants by Subject Area

After School Program	\$ 2,913
Gardening & Nutrition	\$ 7,374
Language Arts Reading, Writing, Spelling, Foreign Language, English Language Learners	\$ 67,874
Mathematics	\$ 19,514
Physical Education	\$ 3,955
Professional Development	\$ 1,722
Science & Ecology	\$ 44,138
Social Studies	\$ 9,030
Special Education	\$ 4,141
Student and Family Supports	\$ 10,355
Technology & Media	\$ 20,205
Visual & Performing Arts	\$ 30,227

about engaging young readers with book apps, was given an iPad for the school that she used to introduce and explore interactive stories, creative apps, and math practice games with students and teachers.

self-contained listening station now gives groups of four students at a time the ability to hear and follow the text of books at the same time, working on their reading fluency and decoding skills.

Jefferson

12 grants, \$6,930

14 teachers

Supplies for an Inventor's Workshop helped create a Rube Goldberg balloon-popping machine that was introduced at a family Math & Science Night, as well supporting as ongoing building projects; a collection of leveled books designed specifically for use by 1st through 5th grade full inclusion students was purchased; 4th and 5th graders and their teachers worked with Cooperative Adventures on team building, leadership, and positive behavior.

Leconte

6 grants, \$4,355

10 teachers

More than 20 "Playaway" books were purchased for the library to support students trying to raise their reading level, allowing them to check out these self-contained audio books and listen both in class or at home; all K-1 teachers were given instruction on specific Reading Recovery strategies as well as intervention support with a small group of struggling readers.

John Muir

14 grants, \$5,958

15 teachers

Individual student whiteboards gave a teacher the means to obtain quick visual assessment of her students' grasp of math concepts, and adjust her lessons accordingly; a mobile



Students deserve the best educational experience we can provide.

Each teacher at every school makes a difference, and should have resources to bring ideas to life—for themselves and especially for their students. Berkeley Public Education Foundation is like an “angel investor” in our schools, providing grants for all kinds of new teaching tools, teaching methods, classroom trips, and hands-on experiences.



Malcolm X

10 grants, \$6,704

25 teachers

Third through 5th graders embarked on a ‘window art’ project in conjunction with the study of Andy Warhol portrait multiples, and produced their own work on a material that was hung in the windows to create a stained glass effect; the K-5 PE program was given a significant upgrade and focus with the purchase of a large variety of sports equipment and outdoor games.

Oxford

10 grants, \$5,248

15 teachers

The entire 4th grade participated in a one-day outdoor drawing project with a world-renowned chalk artist that resulted in a magnificent representation of a phoenix (the school mascot) created on the school yard; 20 copies of the Scholastic Children’s Thesaurus were provided to share among the three 2nd grade classrooms; all Kindergarteners learned about health and exercise by participating in three hoola hoop classes.

Rosa Parks

21 grants, \$10,790

26 teachers

The Kindergartens collaborated on a musical production called “Really Rosie” based on Maurice Sendak’s Nutshell Library books; 22 faculty and staff members attended a weekend retreat to focus on “Teaching with Equity at Heart;” the

Mosaic Project held a week of student, staff and family workshops on anti-bullying, conflict resolution, and respect; extra keyboards and other equipment added to the experience in an after-school Garageband Class.

Thousand Oaks

11 grants, \$5,997

15 teachers

All four 3rd grade classes were able to attend a performance of the Peking Acrobats at Zellerbach Hall, as well as receive a ‘behind the scenes’ tour of San Francisco’s Museum of Modern Art and produce their own interpretations of pieces right in the galleries; scholarships ensured that all 5th grade students were able to travel to and participate in the living history program at Fort Ross; kinesthetic learning tools supported a Kindergarten classroom that had students with a range of auditory and language processing issues.

Washington

12 grants, \$7,695

17 teachers

A 4th grade class had a 10-week residency by a San Francisco graphic artist/author, resulting in a full length book produced collaboratively by the students; a 1st grade class produced a mural reflecting their studies of heroes, with support from Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center of San Francisco; the school-wide Science Fair was enhanced with purchases of hands-on experiment materials and presentation supplies; supplies for a new after-school chess club helped attract 50 students to the game.

Longfellow

13 grants, \$7,131

12 teachers

A document camera transformed the teaching of art by allowing paintings, photographs and real-time demonstrations of

technique to be shown to students; 150 7th graders travelled to Half Moon Bay to study intertidal organisms, compare the biodiversity of two areas they studied, and build a deeper understanding of food webs in an ecosystem; resources given to the Longfellow counseling team sponsored guest speakers, supported student clubs, and facilitated counseling for students.

M. L. King, Jr.

24 grants, \$22,175

43 teachers

A class set of 20 advanced LED monocular microscopes was purchased to support all science classes at King; every 7th grade student was ensured a copy of the book *Fever 1793* so they could participate in an all-school summer reading project; a shadow puppet artist collaborated with a teacher on using drama to instruct English Language Learners; a new solar panel was purchased to power the pump for the Edible Schoolyard pond; a musician worked with the orchestra to compose original music based on short poems.

Willard

10 grants, \$6,886

17 teachers

Seventh and 8th graders studied printmaking with an artist-in-residence from Kala Art Institute; 7th grade science labs were given real animal organs for dissection studies; the Youth Support Program offered intervention and credit recovery as well as higher level

enrichment courses after school; magnet tiles, whiteboards, and “Mathalicious” math lessons supported class and after-school instruction.

Berkeley High

36 grants, \$39,680

66 teachers

LabQuest handheld data acquisition devices were purchased for shared use by science classes; 30 new screen frames were used to introduce silk screening to the BIHS art curriculum; a mobile lab work station doubled the capacity for doing group projects in multiple science classes; the Language and Culture Exchange club, pairing English Language Learners with native speakers, culminated their year by doing a ropes course together; Band and Orchestra students received small group training from professional musicians.

B-Tech

5 grants, \$5,331

5 teachers

Twenty Nook e-readers expanded the resources available to individual students and for group and class-wide projects, and were shared by the teaching staff at the school; an elective class in early childhood education was provided a standard college text to prepare for internships at an elementary and preschool; career technical education books and materials were purchased for the school library.



community

Connecting people and resources

Berkeley has an amazing range of resources to tap,

and Berkeley Public Education Foundation is the hub that directs them into the schools. Our recruitment and training of over 1,700 community volunteers adds extra heads, hands and hearts at every school. We draw upon the talent and knowledge that resides in our local arts community and education organizations, collaborating with organizations such as Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, and Berkeley Symphony. And when community members have a particular program they wish to support, we help develop the project and efficiently manage their earmarked funds.

Transforming Stories for the Small Stage

BPEF has funded Berkeley Repertory's School of Theatre to bring 10-week drama workshops into 23 elementary school classrooms since 2010. Visiting theatre artists from the Rep help 2nd and 3rd graders agree on a favorite book that they analyze, rewrite as a script, and perform as a play. More than 500 the children have learned not only about character development and storytelling through drama, they have also strengthened their collaboration, public speaking, and problem-solving skills in the process. Thousand Oaks 2nd grade teacher said,

“ This was awesome! I feel like my students are so lucky to have had this drama experience. It was a huge dose of literary analysis, and students had a blast creating art. ”

Teaching Science Has Never Been Easier

“Practical support for great science teaching” is how Community Resources for Science describes their mission, and this Berkeley-based non-profit delivers with enthusiasm and effectiveness. With so much testing emphasis on reading and math, K-5 teachers need to be proactive and vigilant about integrating science instruction into their weekly

schedule. Fortunately, all of our 245 Berkeley elementary teachers have a CRS membership thanks to an annual \$9,000 grant from the Foundation, meaning they have web-based or phone advice on lessons, activities, field trips, workshops, and volunteer opportunities right at their fingertips.



Inspiring the Next Bach... or Beck

Imagine having an opportunity to perform at age 6 with a leading symphony orchestra! We wholeheartedly subscribe to the importance of music in education, and are honored to partner with Berkeley Symphony's Music in the Schools program. As elementary students make their way from Kindergarten to 5th grade, they get increasingly more exposure to the Symphony's individual members, and more sophisticated in their instrumental development. And no matter their age, everyone takes the stage for the “I'm a Performer” all-school concert, where the

Symphony plays back-up to our budding and inspired musicians.

So That's What They Do Up On The Hill!

The renowned Lawrence Berkeley National Lab resting above the Cal campus is a center of cutting edge scientific research. How wonderful that they open their doors to young learners! Five years ago, the Foundation realized that very few Berkeley elementary teachers were aware of the half-day workshop and tour they offer to school groups. So the Foundation teamed up with the school District to arrange that every fifth grade class be scheduled to visit and conduct their own hands-on experiments at this celebrated center of innovation. Five years later, more than 3,000 kids have participated, and who knows... maybe a future Nobel Laureate is among them!



1,792

School Volunteers

Berkeley Public Education Foundation's School Volunteers

reflect the diversity of our community, and bring their many skills and perspectives into every school. Our volunteers are drawn from the wonderful mix of town and gown talent that gives Berkeley its exceptional character, and we focus this remarkable resource on serving the highest needs of students. Reading and math interventions, special education, and a broad range of afterschool programs engage our volunteers in the ambitious 2020 Vision effort to close Berkeley's achievement gap. Donated volunteer time equates to more than \$500,000 of paid work, but their real value to our students is... priceless!



564 Classroom Volunteers

Volunteers work during the school day in the classroom, in the library, in the garden, in cooking classes, and in remediation and special education at every grade level. Whether the youthful UC student or the active retiree, everyone brings their special energy and talent to the job.

248 After School Programs

Our volunteers in Berkeley's K-8 LEARNS and BEARS afterschool programs, and Berkeley High tutoring sessions, provide a healthy mix of academic support as well

as facilitating activities such as sports, visual and performing arts, and cooking.

90 Lit Pal Program

Monthly pen pal correspondence between volunteers and King and Longfellow Middle school 6th and 8th graders refines letter-writing skills and builds bonds with members of the community, as favorite books, interests, hobbies, and other life experiences are shared.

319 Writer Coach Connection(WCC)

A local nonprofit partner, WCC coordinates with BSV to train coaches to work with middle and high school students over an entire year, developing their writing and communication skills.

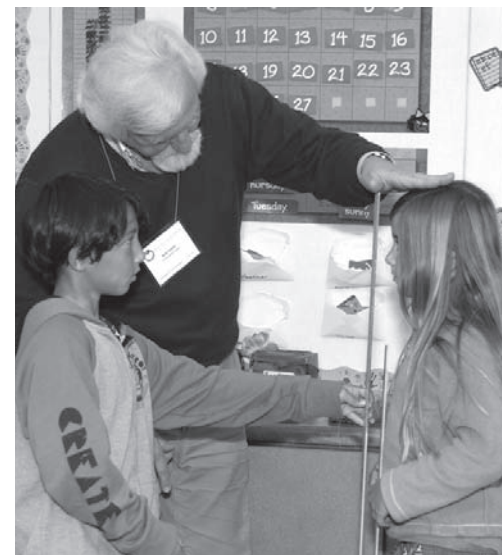
498 UC Berkeley SAGE Mentors

This popular Cal program connects college age mentors with K-5 students at six different elementary sites. Mentors work with youngsters whom staff identify

as needing additional support in academics and personal development.

73 UC Berkeley's The Music Connection

Cal student musicians work with elementary through high school soloists and ensembles in their classes and after school, to improve practice routines and performance quality.



Contributors

You make it happen!

Public education is the bedrock of our community and essential to a thriving democratic society. In Berkeley, that education begins in our public schools—and is made stronger by your generosity.

To all our 2011-2012 contributors:

Thank you

for supporting our Berkeley public schools.

* A special thanks to our 2012 Spring Luncheon Sponsors of \$1,250 or more.

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Above and Beyond!

All our Berkeley public school educators go 'above and beyond' every day, but last May we honored three truly standout teachers for 58 combined years of tireless and selfless efforts on behalf of their students and school communities. Our theme also gave a nod to the important support Berkeley Public Education Foundation receives from everyone who participates in this annual fundraising event, helping all the schools go above and beyond.



George Rose

7th Grade Humanities, Speech and Debate, and Drama Teacher, Willard Middle School:

George has taught nearly every subject at Willard, but what students and parents know him for is his commitment to building a strong and creative school community, whether it be through the Metal Shop Theater, lunchtime concerts, student government, or the annual Spring Day celebration of student achievement.

“ I believe strongly in building upon students' motivation. If they are truly and passionately interested, they become inspired and work very hard. ”



Mary Patterson

AVID and Dual Immersion Humanities Teacher, Longfellow Middle School:

After twelve years of teaching Spanish at Berkeley High School and launching a mentoring program for new teachers, Mary inaugurated the Dual Immersion program at Longfellow, where it has grown from 15 to 160 students in nine years.

“ I like to dream up what can make school more engaging and rewarding for students, and then look for ways to make that happen. ”



Akemi Hamai

Science Department Chair, Martin Luther King, Jr., Middle School:

A graduate of Berkeley K-12 schools, and now both a teacher and parent at King, Akemi's life is entwined with public education and activism on behalf of students, particularly English Language Learners.

“ My main reason for getting into teaching was to deal with issues of equity, and it continues to be my number one concern. ”



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