



Spring 2023 Update

The PBL Education Foundation has partnered with the school district to bring you this Spring update.

For over 25 years we have been working together to enhance students' academic growth with opportunities, experiences, and challenges.

Good things are happening within our schools!



Annual Toy Show

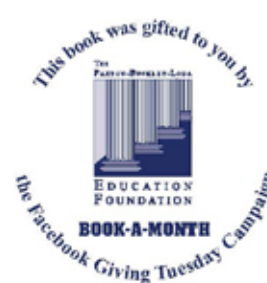
PBL FFA hosted its widely popular FFA Toy Show in February. This was the show's 34th year and as in past years, hundreds of toy collectors and ag enthusiasts showed up to an action-packed day.more at www.pblfoundation.org/SpringUpdate2023



PBL HS Math Team - STATE BOUND

The full team will advance to State on April 22, following a victorious day at Regionalsmore at www.pblfoundation.org/SpringUpdate2023

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY!



WOW - \$9406!!!

Last Fall's Annual Book-a-Month online fundraising program held the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving yielded impressive results allowing us to give Clara Peterson students a new book of their very own September - April!

620 students x 8 months = 4,960 books!

Look what we are doing!

Last Fall we shared that The Foundation had partnered with the school district by contributing \$15,000 towards a total remodel of the High School Library. The project has been completed and we invite you to join us to visit with staff and see what a high school library looks like in 2023.

PBL High School Library Open House

**Wednesday, April 19th
3:30-5:00pm**



Supt. Cliff McClure, right
incoming Supt. Travis Duley, left.

Leadership Change

Superintendent Cliff McClure will be retiring in 2023 ending his 20th year at the helm of PBL, and his 27th year at PBL. McClure served as principal of Clara Peterson Elementary School from 1996 to 2002 and as assistant superintendent in 2002-03. His 20 year stint as district leader began on July 1, 2003.

As a result of McClure's leadership and support, The PBL Education Foundation saw tremendous growth and was able to positively impact academics at PBL!

THANK YOU CLIFF!

Travis Duley has been selected by the PBL Board of Education to fill the role. ...more at www.pblfoundation.org/SpringUpdate2023

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY!

Home from New Orleans

Every 4 years, PBL High School students are rewarded with a trip to New Orleans. The trip is packed full of musical and cultural experiences - and just plain fun! Spring break ended with the PBL High School Band returning from New Orleans with stories and pictures to share. We promise it will be worth a visit! Just go to: ...more at www.pblfoundation.org/SpringUpdate2023

In our 2022 annual report we shared how band director Tim Hess' military experiences influenced his teaching. This trip highlights how Mr. Hess's patriotism and military experiences continually impact his students and our communities. In addition to performing at the WWII Museum, students received input from members of the military band.

Posted by parents on The PBL High School Band Facebook page:

"...we can't thank Mr. Hess enough for showing these kids what an amazing teacher looks like." Janet Russell

"Sitting here listening to my boys compare stories about their trips to New Orleans with the PBL band and laughing together. I am so thankful to Mr. Hess for giving them both an experience that they could share even though they went 4 years apart!" Michelle Mathews Swanson

From Mr Hess:

"Now that the entire crew is safely home, I can say the NOLA Tour 23 Mission is complete. While every mission has had different kids over the six trips, the common denominator has been that special quality that makes the Paxton-Buckley-Loda High School Band special. I thank all my kids, past and present, for building a legacy that we can all take pride in.

Last One - Best One, New Orleans 2023." *

*note: Mr. Hess will retire at the end of the 2023-2024 school year

www.pblfoundation.org/Spring2023Update

PBL Endowment Fund

\$690,600.28

balance as of March 27, 2023

Throughout the year, we receive questions asking us about The PBL Endowment Fund. This Fund is an investment being overseen by The Frederick Community Wealth Management Department, along with a local committee, that make annual recommendations to the Foundation Directors regarding amounts we have available to distribute to the district.

Gifts of grain, memorial gifts, and all planned gifts such as estate gifts, are deposited into The PBL Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund's principle will never be spent, it will only grow year after year thus creating a legacy for our donors. How does this make money for the Foundation? The gains on this investment provide income. As the principle grows, the gains will grow.

Endowment Fund Committee

Bruce Kietzman-Chairman, Scott Allen,

Robin Niewold, Jay Ross, Joe Sawyer

Interested in learning more about how you might create your legacy within our schools and communities?

Contact Robin Niewold or Carl Hudson, Jr.

endowment@pblfoundation.org or 217.379.4715

PBL Band in New Orleans





PAXTON-BUCKLEY-LODA
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

New Board Members

In February, three new board members were appointed to serve on The PBL Education Foundation Board of Directors. This group brings a wealth of collective experiences to our board.

Donna (McGuire) Pepper

Donna McGuire Pepper attended Paxton schools from 1974-1979, including both West Lawn and Clara Peterson Elementary Schools. Donna is the daughter of Rev. Richard and (late) Kay McGuire. She is a 1994 graduate of the University of Illinois and is currently the Executive Director of Paxton Main Street. She and her husband, Cam, currently live in Loda. They have 2 children, Taybor and Sloane, daughter in law, Haley, and granddaughter, Rue.

Donna's favorite teacher in Paxton was Mr Dunlap, 4th grade at Clara Peterson. She also shared that one of her clearest memories was everyone getting fluoride treatments in the gym at West Lawn.

"I wanted to be a part of the PBL Education Foundation because education in many forms is the basis of a person and a community's overall success. Our family moved often as our children were growing up, so I have seen the strengths and weaknesses of numerous districts and can say that those with strong financial support and involvement often exceed the districts without support. If I can share the mission and knowledge of the PBL Foundation to increase the learning ability for our local students, then I will do so, and welcome others to join in support of the Foundation."

Lynn (Marshall) Rubarts, PHS Class of 1986

While attending Paxton High School Lynn was involved in band, chorus, basketball, volleyball and track. She also worked in the high school office during her senior year as part of the ICE program.

After graduating from Paxton High School in 1986, Lynn married Jeff Rubarts (Class of 1981). They have three children, Thomas (Class of 2008), Taylor (Class of 2010), and Tyler (Class of 2015).

Thomas served as the JV boys basketball coach for many years prior to having his son; Taylor currently serves as the Assistant Principal at PBL Junior High School, and Tyler has spent his entire educational career serving as a teacher and coach at PBL Junior High School. Lynn also stayed connected with the school district by working in the unit

office for four years and coaching within the district where she served as the JV girls basketball coach for many seasons under head coaches Don Shields, Jim Carley, and Travis Duley. She also served as 8th grade girls basketball coach.

"One of my favorite memories from high school was when my accounting teacher (Jean Seibold) and office practice teacher (Joyce Pool) took us to the University of Illinois to test for different positions.

I was fortunate enough to get hired and retired from there with 30 years of service. It meant a lot for me to have teachers that cared about our future.

I hope by being a part of the PBL Education Foundation I can help carry out the wonderful tradition it has with providing educational tools for the children and teachers in the district."

Peggy (Popel) Seibring, PHS Class of 1982

While in high school Peggy participated in all sports and was active in several organizations and extracurricular activities. She graduated from the University of Illinois and began teaching in the Paxton school district in 1988. Peggy is married to Richard Seibring (PHS 1979). Together they have four children: Justin (PBL 1998), Jase (PBL 2002), Brad (PBL 2004), and Jenna (PBL 2008). They also have nine grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

After a 33-year teaching career in Paxton, Peggy retired in 2021 from PBL. She taught second, third, and fourth grades and was a reading specialist/Title I teacher for the last 18 years of her career. She also coached junior high and high school cheerleading and was a member of numerous committees.

"As a teacher, I saw the value and impact the PBL Education Foundation had on our students and teachers. I loved when the students received a coupon for a free book from the book fair. The PBL Education Foundation has touched three generations in my family - myself as a teacher, and my children and grandchildren as students. If I'm lucky, I'll see it touch a fourth generation as well. I have always appreciated the hard work of the foundation to provide academic resources for students and staff and look forward to helping the foundation continue that mission."

Reach out to board members with questions, ideas and your support!

Scott Allen
Carl Hudson, Jr.
Craig Loschen
Cliff McClure
Robin Niewold
Donna Pepper
Lynn Rubarts
Peggy Seibring
Justin Swan
Jackie Weber

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TODAY!

Together we can make a difference in our students' lives!

DONATE ONLINE at www.pblfoundation.org or
send your gift to **The PBL Education Foundation**
P.O. Box 192 • Paxton, IL 60957

Flight & Space

Last Fall we shared that the Jr. High PLTW curriculum was being expanded to add a Flight & Space unit. Students design and test models to learn about the science of flight & what it takes to travel & live in space. The final space challenge is a mission to Mars.

Mrs. Pondel teaches this course to 6th grade students and graciously provided us with some great input from her students. ...more at www.pblfoundation.org/SpringUpdate2023



Students design and test models to put learned principles to use.



PBL Mentoring

The second semester of Peer Mentoring, “Panther Partners” continues the success of the first semester. The Peer Mentoring class covers topics including empathy, community, and conflict and resolution skills. The peer mentors class explored “Who Are We” as a class and listed traits they hoped to project to the mentees. ...more at www.pblfoundation.org/SpringUpdate2023

PBL Band in New Orleans



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