

Public education stands on shifting ground for a number of reasons, yet here in our community, we continue to rally around what matters most - our teachers, our students, and the promise of opportunity for every child.

Your support fuels this work. I'm thrilled to share the evidence in this 2025 Annual Report. Through teacher grants and strategic investments from hands-on classroom projects to adding a dedicated behavior specialist, you're helping create classrooms where every student feels safe, supported, and ready to learn.

Together, we're proving that when we invest in our students and educators, our community flourishes. I hope we can count on your continued support.

With gratitude,

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Executive Director

Panhandle Alliance for Education





## A Message FROM THE PRESIDENT

There's something magical about watching a garden come to life—the careful preparation of soil, the intentional planting of seeds, and the joy of witnessing each bloom unfold.

I like to think of PAFE playing a similar role to that of a gardener, cultivating the conditions where every student can flourish.

This year's annual report tells the story of our community garden-rich with possibility and tended by countless caring hands. Like any thriving garden, our success depends on the entire ecosystem: dedicated educators, generous donors, engaged families, and a community that believes in the power of public education. Together, we're not just planting seeds, we're cultivating tomorrow's leaders.

With gratitude, Kendon Perry





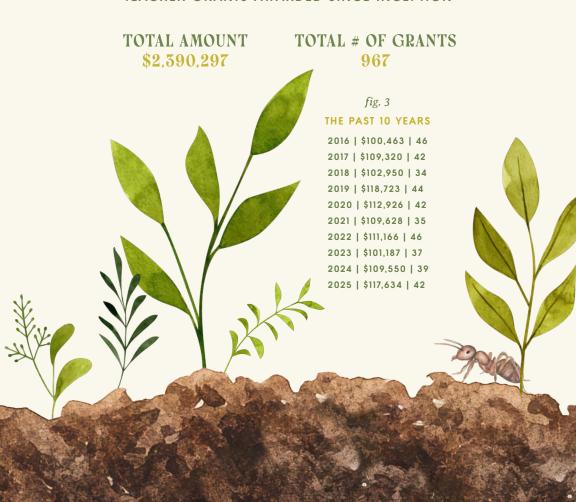


# GRANTS RECEIVED: JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025

We are sincerely grateful for the generous grant funding that supported PAFE programs and initiatives this fiscal year. Thank you to the Here for Good Foundation, Kissler Family Foundation Philanthropic Gift Fund, Northern Lights, Innovia Foundation, Equinox Foundation, Avista Foundation, and the Idaho Community Foundation (Idaho Future Fund) for your commitment to education in our community.



### TEACHER GRANTS AWARDED SINCE INCEPTION



### A PAFE TEACHER GRANT:

### GROWING OUR OWN

When second-grader Gwen sits with high school junior Halo for reading practice, magic happens. Gwen's admiring eyes show the motivation that comes from learning with an older student mentor, while Halo gains teaching experience and career clarity. This program, led by Lorainne Gee, After School Program Director, creates a powerful win-win-win: 148 elementary students receive targeted one-on-one tutoring in reading and math through brief 15-minute sessions (proven most effective); high school students earn wages or school credit while exploring careers in education, and the community builds its own pipeline of future educators: small moments, lasting impact.



WATCH THE GRANT IN ACTION:





## ART IN THE COSMOS

Forrest Bird Charter School Teacher Sarah Evans brings this interdisciplinary approach, combining science education, artistic expression, and critical thinking to 80 sixth- and seventh-grade students. They study NASA images of planets, moons, and asteroids, create original artwork in oil or chalk pastels, and then write artist statements that explain their observations and inspiration. The grant provides the proper supplies and demonstrates that small investments can create a significant educational impact through hands-on, engaging learning experiences.

WATCH THE GRANT IN ACTION:



### A PAFE TEACHER GRANT:

### PEND OREILLE WATER FESTIVAL

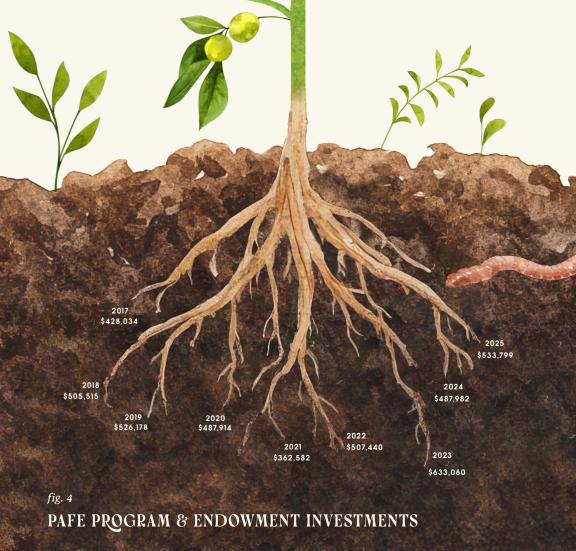


Think of a moment that profoundly changed your perspective–maybe when your teacher swung a bucket of water overhead to demonstrate centrifugal force, altering how you see the world forever. The Pend Oreille Water Festival creates these transformative moments for 310 fifth-graders across the Lake Pend Oreille School District. Started by Barbie Hunt of Southside Elementary School and funded by PAFE since 2010, this environmental education program combines interactive classroom sessions with hands-on

field experiences at Riley Creek Recreational Area. Students explore fisheries, water quality, watershed dynamics, and animal tracking, guided by 50 high school mentors and natural resource professionals. Through visual learning with floor maps of the Columbia River Basin, students connect classroom knowledge to real-world stewardship, inspiring the next generation of environmental guardians.



WATCH THE GRANT IN ACTION:



# PAFE'S STRATEGIC INITIATIVE: DEDICATED BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST

Each year, PAFE collaborates with Lake Pend Oreille School District leadership to identify the most pressing needs facing our students and educators. The district provides us with a prioritized wishlist of initiatives that would make the greatest impact but fall outside their traditional funding capacity.

The dedicated behavior specialist offers intensive, individualized support that complements the efforts of classroom teachers. We are especially pleased to help make this happen because the investment aligns with PAFE's strategic goal of fostering student readiness to learn, acknowledging the crucial link between emotional support and academic achievement.





## 2025 SUMMER GALA Recognition

We are deeply grateful to Bob and Carolyn Gumerman and Larry and Kathy Wogman for graciously sharing their beautiful properties to host this memorable evening. Our heartfelt thanks also go to our generous sponsors for helping education flourish in such a meaningful way: Litehouse, Inc., REALM Partners, Farm Bureau Financial Services / Kendon Perry, Mountain West Bank, Mountain View Construction, Family Health Center, The Alpine Shop, Edward Jones / Caleb L. Bowman, and Numerica Credit Union.

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