PROJECT SUCCESS[®]

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022





MISSION

Project Success motivates and inspires young people to dream about the future, helps them take steps to get there and gives them the tools they need to achieve their goals.

VISION

Every child entering middle school will graduate high school with a plan for their future and have the skills and confidence that will take them through the rest of their lives.



KIDS FIRST.



ADRIENNE DIERCKS Founder, Executive Director



TODD MACGREGOR Board Chair

This past year, we returned to classrooms with our students after a year of distance learning. While doing so, our students also experienced the effects of an ongoing pandemic, a teacher's strike that locked them out of classrooms for nearly three weeks, and a comprehensive district redesign moving more than 60% of students to new schools. Families of color, low-income students, and students with disabilities bore the brunt of the upheaval. The transition for our middle school students to high school in a "normal" year alone can be difficult – with many national studies highlighting the critical importance of students' successful transition to high school.

As the CDC warned of a mental health crisis among youth, it also reported that teens who felt connected to others at school felt better about themselves. We have heard this from many of our students. They want more support, more space, to feel hopeful for their futures. They stated strongly that they desired more experience learning - beyond the school building and technology.

This annual report covers our 2021-2022 school year, in which we did just that. Project Success provided an unprecedented number of students with hundreds of experiences, thanks to the generosity and support of our community partners, teachers and school administrations, foundations, corporations, and supporters like you. We worked hard to continue to innovate and adapt to meet students' changing needs. Through PS, students hoped, dreamed, focused on their future, and built the resilience and perseverance to achieve their goals.

We continued to expand and deepen our impact. For the first time this past year, Project Success expanded to serve EACH 6th-12th grade student attending Minneapolis public schools, including students attending contract alternative schools. Now, no matter what MPS school a student attends, they and their family will have Project Success. We began partnering with MPS to provide opportunities for students to earn and recover credits toward earning their diploma.

We believe the key to success exists within each student if empowered to unlock it. Through Curriculum, Arts, Expeditions, and Certificates, we reach more than 15,000 Minneapolis students. We facilitate opportunities - over 7 years of programming - to ignite hope and success from within by exploring the world, expanding the possibilities, and creating a plan for their futures. The work continues - we are at a time when empowering students to unlock their futures is needed now more than ever. Recently, we launched a new 3-year strategic plan and framework for inclusion, diversity, equity and access. With a clear vision and plan in place, we will continue to clear the hurdles and be there for our students and families - every step of the way for years to come.

On behalf of our students, families, staff, and Board of Directors – thank you.

With love and great hope,

Adrienne & Todd

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Ted Koenecke Sheila Livingston Karla Ekdahl of teachers report that Project Success helps students to:

Be better problem solvers



Be self-aware of their strengths





of students report that Project Success helps them:







Set goals

Think about their futures



What I love best about Project Success and what it has always meant for us is engagement and connection for our students. It is a very comprehensive way of meeting students where they are, helping them learn to think about their future and plan for their future to get a window into the world in ways that they wouldn't have had the opportunity to otherwise.

ERYNE WARNE, EDISON HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Be more motivated to succeed



Create a plan after graduation

RESULTS:

Project Success Programs result in a statistically significant increase in attendance, GPA and on-time graduation.



Top

Highlights through the 2021-2022 school year

Project Success is proud to have made it to the finish line with our students! The programming for our 15,000+ students centered around our 4 components: arts, expeditions, certificates, and curriculum.

Aug. 2021

We're Back!

After a year of social distancing and virtual learning, we were finally back in-person at 29 schools to serve our 15,000+ middle and high school students once more! That's every middle and high school student in the district.



Oct. 2021

What's Cooking in the PS Institute?

Students returned to the PS Institute in-person for cooking, bike tech, personal finance, and coding! Many students had only experienced the institute virtually, so this was a first trimester for many students being in-person.

Oct. 2021

PS Theater Experiences LIVE!

One of our most popular programs returned! Thanks to the generosity of our 50+ theater partners we welcomed 1,500 students, families and partner teachers to enjoy 30+ live performances once more!

Nov. 2021

Connection & Inspiration

Students were able to hear personal stories and life lessons from Justice Alan Page and Dr. Damion Thomas who is from the National Museum of African American History and Culture. They also took part in a PS facilitated workshop, shared their own stories and ask questions to the guest speakers and several current Vikings players.

Sadie from Andersen in the Guthrie Theater's A Christmas Carol.





Audrey from Southwest as Annie.

Dec. 2021

Live on Stage!

DECEMBER

Student Achievements

We are proud of our

59 high school stu-

completed our fall

bike tech, cooking,

courses. Multiple

students attended

numerous classes,

resulting in 75 total

earned Certificates!

and personal finance

PS Institute's coding,

dents who successfully

This holiday season we had multiple PS students living their acting dreams on stage with several PS theater partner productions.

Mar. 2022

A Tubular Day Outside

Winter Adventure was a blast! Anwatin, Franklin, Northeast and Olson middle schools families, students, and staff were able to experience free winter activities and sunshine with Project Success and The Loppet Foundation at Theodore Wirth Park. They enjoyed cross-country skiing, snowshoe hiking, sledding, tubing, orienteering, roasting marshmallows over an open fire to make s'mores, and arts and crafts.







AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

Nov. 2021

PS Institute Field Trip

Project Success took 16 of our PS Institute Cooking Certificate Students to a Malcolm Yards Market field trip. students were also able to partake in an interactive cooking activity with Chef Joey making gnocchi!



Mar. 2022

Science Fusion

As part of our partner-

ship with the Science Museum of Minnesota. students and families were able to explore science and history with African American, Asian American, Latin X, and Native American Scientists!

MARCH



Mar. 2022

"Be our Guest"



In March, PS musicals were back on stage after a two year pandemic hiatus! Beauty and the Beast Jr. was performed by Sanford

Middle School 6-8th grade students to a packed house both nights. From behind the scenes, and on-stage, students navigated both in-person and then virtual rehearsals while they were distance-learning to make this production a reality.

Sept. 2021

PS facilitated a unique outdoor learning opportunity for middle school students that included multiple teamwork building activities.

Outdoor Adventures!





Oct. 2021

College Exploration

We took 375 students on 15 PS College Tours throughout the Twin Cities and Wisconsin. Through admission chats, student panels, and campus tours, 9th-12th graders explored college options and their future goals and dreams!

Dec. 2021



Apr. 2022

"Get out of my Swamp"

Our Northeast Middle School students brought a rousing rendition of Shrek Jr. to the stage this spring! They were not only creative and talented, but also resilient. From virtual to in-person, in-school to PS-office rehearsals, and everything in between, our 6-8th grade students triumphed over many hurdles over the past couple months to make the first PS musical at Northeast happen!



Apr. & May 2022

Spring Theater Field Trips

multiple partner MPS

middle and high schools

experienced various the-

ater performances from

Northrop and the Guth-

rie Theater, just to name

students had a chance to

experience live theater

for the first time.

a few theaters! Many

Over 700 students from





Apr. & May 2022

Project Success Theater Residencies

We expanded artist residencies during the 2021-22 school year to help partner teachers continue to provide great arts experiences. Now that students have returned to primarily in-person learning, more get to experience a blend of virtual and in-person artist residencies directly within the classroom. These residency experiences provided students an opportunity for self-exploration on identity, culture, and movement.

May 2022

Credit Recovery

Through PS college tours, the PS Institute, Theater, and much more, high school students were able to receive needed graduation credits from Project Success programming to ensure that they finish the school year strong!



MAY



May 2022

Spring in the Project Success Institute

The final trimester within the PS Institute is alive and well with new and returning students exploring budget friendly dishes from all over the world to cook, building upon knowledge related to bike maintenance, gaining mentorship with coding, and building fundamental skills with personal finance! PS is on track to provide 200 certificates this year thanks to our Institute Programming.

This year...

160 students earned 250 certificates in cooking, coding, financial literacy, and bike tech.

6,100 students, families & teachers attended theater experiences

211 students visited **15** different college & universities

Nearly **1,000** middle school students participated in Outdoor Adventures

30+ MPS students attended a virtual event hosted in partnership with the Minnesota Vikings

APRIL

May 2022

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

Our 18th annual Fielding
Dreams event was incredible! For the first time in two
years we were able to gather
in-person. And thanks to the
generously donated tickets
from the Minnesota Twins, we
welcomed 1,200+ students
and their families to the game!
A perfect night at the ballpark
was made even more special
thanks to our talented Sanford
musical middle school students
who sang on the field.







May 2022

River Adventure Days!

As with the fall, Project Success once again partnered with Wilderness Inquiry to offer outdoor experiences for 300 middle school students. One student shared, "This is the best field trip ever!"

May 2022

2,029 Workshops This School Year

Every student within MPS middle and high schools was served with inspiring programming to help them discover and nurture their dreams and their post-secondary ambitions! PS has delivered 2,029 workshops, resulting in thousands of hours of Project Success curriculum, throughout this school year, encouraging goal-setting and support to help them be the person they want to be!



THANK YOU to PS for its unbelievable commitment to Northeast Middle School's production of SHREK. My son is a 7th grader there, and it has been a doozy of a year. The school community has suffered in enormous ways - the CDD upheaval, a really difficult transition back to in-person, Omicron, and THEN, of course, the strike. This musical was the only normal, child-centered thing that's happened since September. It will be very emotional for us, as parents, to gather tomorrow night for this performance. Our kids deserve this win. THANK YOU for giving it to them.

PS PARENT

FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL POSITION¹ Assets	6/30/2022 \$9,553,286	6/30/2021 \$10,284,942
Liabilities	\$4,444,896	\$5,108,399
Fund Balance (without donor restrictions)	\$2,871,621	\$2,635,101
Fund Balance (with donor restrictions ²)	\$2,236,769	\$2,541,442
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$9,553,286	\$10,284,942
SUPPORT		
Grants and Contributions	\$2,632,076	\$4,466,104
In-Kind Contributions ³	\$647,658	\$198,987
Total Support	\$3,279,734	\$4,665,091
REVENUES		
School Fees	\$1,057,500	\$330,000
Program Service Fees	\$114,590	\$300
Interest Income	\$2,287	\$2,261
Rental Income	\$26,311	\$33,752
Other Income⁵	-	\$1,052,268
Total Revenues	\$1,200,688	\$1,418,581
Total Support and Revenues	\$4,480,422	\$6,083,672
EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$3,460,957	\$2,527,282
General Operations	\$477,972	\$410,210
Fundraising	\$609,646	\$544,182
Total Expenses	\$4,548,575	\$3,481,674
Fund Balance: Beginning of Period Fund Balance: End of Period Change in Fund Balance	\$5,176,543 \$5,108,390 \$(68,153)	\$2,574,545 \$5,176,543 \$2,601,998
Revenue and Other Support	Expenses	
School Fees 6% Rental Income 1%		Program Services 72% General Operations 12%
< 1% Other Income < 17%		Fundraising

¹ Financial activities as a result of purchase of One Groveland Terrace in June 2021 are included in this report.

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THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS.

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July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

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² Donor Restricted gifts are primarily time restricted pledges and grants receivable. In FY22 there were also gifts made specifically toward the building purchase and a scholarship fund for students.

³ In-Kind Contributions include generous donations of: theater tickets, program supplies, printed materials, facility usage, and more. See page 15 for a list of donors.

^{*}Program Services cash expenses as reported in the 990 for 2022 are as follows: Curriculum \$1,976,517, Expeditions \$485,962, Arts \$671,568, and Certificates \$170,184. *PPP forgivable/forgiven loans

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