



Indian Valley
**EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**
Progress | Opportunity | Advancement



PHOTO CREDIT: TOMMY MEEHAN PHOTOGRAPHY

“Growth Happens Here”

2018–2019 Annual Report

The mission of the Indian Valley Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization serving the Souderton Area School District, is to ensure the highest level of educational opportunity for students through a community partnership with public education.



On behalf of The Indian Valley Education Foundation (IVEF) Board of Directors, we are pleased to share with you the 2018–2019 Annual Report. The IVEF is in its 27th year of service to the Souderton Area School District (SASD). Our mission and purpose have become a vital component to not only supporting but expanding the resources and opportunities that are available to the students in each of the nine traditional Souderton Area public schools. In the 2018–2019 school year the IVEF has:

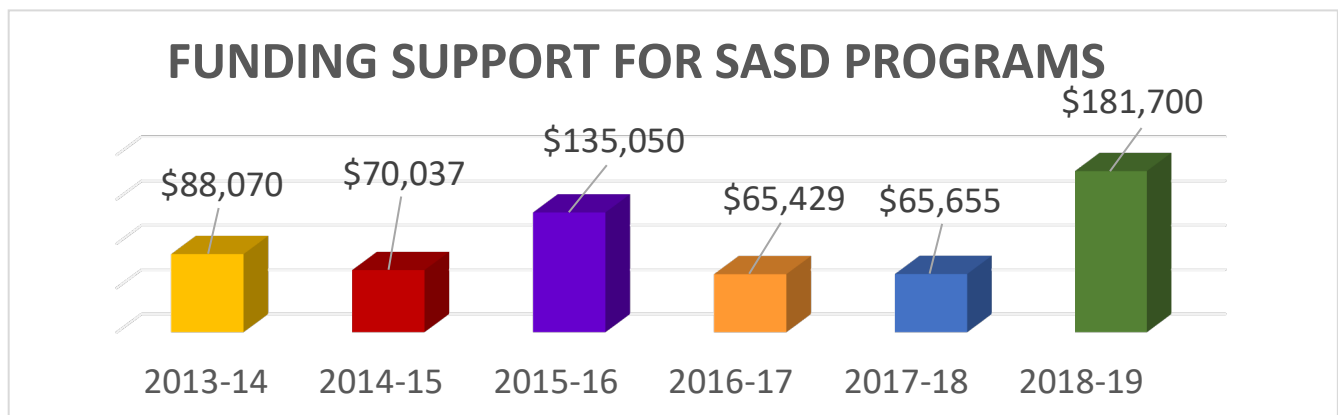
- Provided over \$180,000 in funding to support a variety of K-12 educational initiatives
- Helped implement the IQWST science curriculum at both Indian Crest and Indian Valley Middle Schools
- Provided funding and partnership opportunities to build a 1400 square foot state of the art greenhouse on the campus of Souderton Area High School
- Played an integral role in instituting the Big Red Picnic Program that provided over 1200 summer lunches to students
- Worked to increase community awareness of educational challenges and solutions
- Offered continued support to programs that address the needs of the Souderton Area School District and the communities it serves
- Continued to provide a vehicle for individuals, businesses, and organizations to share resources and gifts with the Souderton Area School District and its students

As the IVEF continues to serve the Souderton Area School District, we do so with gratitude and optimism. Thank you for believing in the power of traditional public education. The resources and opportunities our students have access to each day are changing the trajectory of our community for the best.

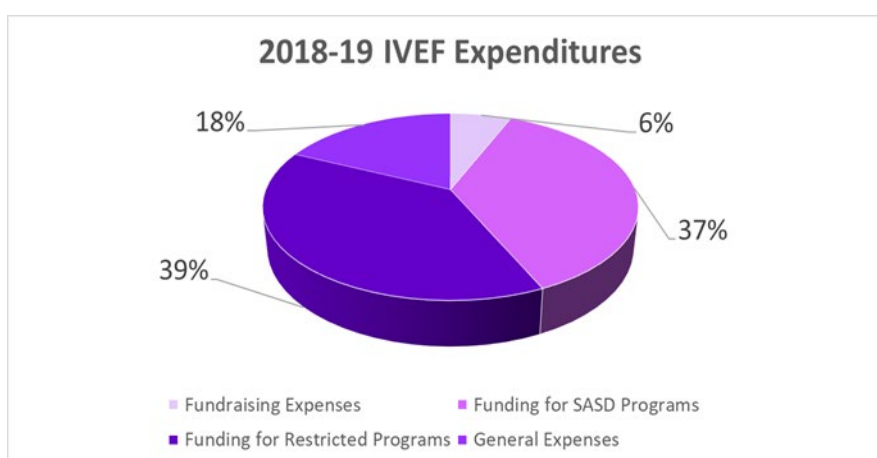
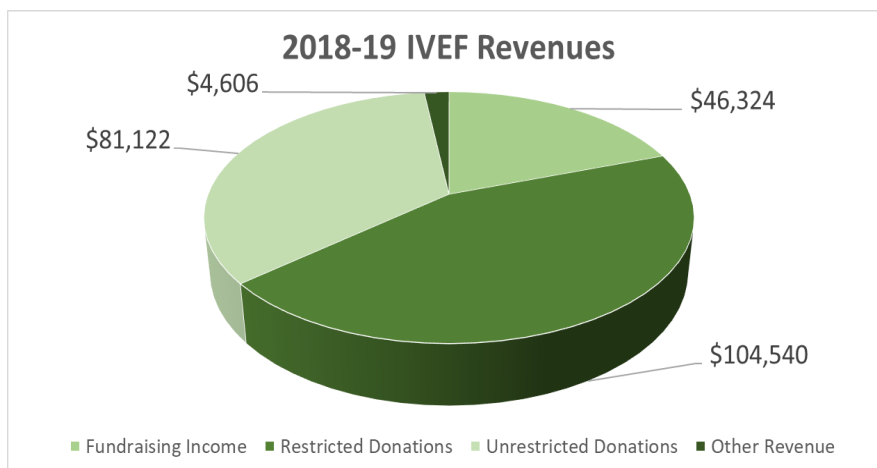
Sincerely,

Ruth E. Potter, CEFL
Executive Director

Timothy V. Swartley
President



Financial Snapshot



EITC: Educational Improvement Tax Credit

The Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program is administered by the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) under Act 48. Established in 2001, the Program awards tax credits to businesses that make contributions to scholarship organizations and/or educational improvement organizations that are on a list approved and published by DCED. A gift to the IVEF can provide your company with a substantial tax credit. Your contribution can impact the quality of our schools and ensure that the Souderton Area School District remains a premiere community in Pennsylvania.

For more information:

PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program website: www.NewPA.com/eitc

Giving Opportunities

There are so many ways you can support the IVEF. From financial contributions to sharing your time and talents, we are eager to hear how you would like to help us advance our mission and make a difference. We welcome your involvement with the IVEF and look forward to connecting with you!

- **Volunteer:** The IVEF relies upon committed volunteers to help us advance our work and help accelerate our progress in supporting educational programs in the SASD. There are many ways for you to make a positive impact. We would love to help match you with the right opportunity!
- **Fundraising Support:** Throughout the year the IVEF hosts district-wide fundraising opportunities. Teacher Appreciation Campaigns, our annual Golf Outing, and coming in the spring of 2020, The Harlem Wizards return! See page 6 for more information.
- **Donate:** The generous support of our donors is what allows the IVEF to fulfill its mission. Donations are the key to funding innovative, non-budgeted programs in our schools that benefit all the students in the SASD. Large or small, your donations make a difference!

The Greenhouse Project

The vision and purpose of this project has been in the works for well over a decade. As students and teachers worked side by side in the classroom and within the SAVE organization (Students Against Violating the Earth) the question was never “Why?”, but rather, “How?”. Funding a project of this magnitude requires a unique formula of collaboration, cooperation, and passion. The family of Cindy Kilmer (SAHS '73) spent a significant amount of time searching for just the right way to remember their beloved daughter, sister, and mother. This opportunity was precisely what they wished for and last spring thanks to the collaboration of community and school, we dedicated a new state of the art learning space.

The SASD Greenhouse will facilitate hands on learning opportunities for students offering real-world problem solving, STEM-related science, differentiation, personal skill development, community collaboration, and career exploration in agriculture, business, environmental science, and more.

The Greenhouse is at its core, represents precisely why the IVEF is an important and valuable resource to the Souderton Area School District. By bringing the resources of the community to our district we can provide significant opportunities to each one of our students.



Upper Left: SAHS SAVE & Greenhouse Growers at the groundbreaking ceremony

Upper Center: Progress being made thanks to a mild winter!

Upper Left: Making it official with the Kilmer Family cutting the ribbon.

Bottom Center: The family of Cindy Kilmer surrounded by SASD Administrators, IVEF Board members & students, both current & future!

We gratefully acknowledge our community partners for their generous support of this project:

The family of Cindy Kilmer, SAHS, 1973 ~ Haines Custom Builders, LLC. ~ Chiarolanza Mechanical, LLC. ~ EGCI, Inc. ~ Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete ~ Rimol Greenhouse Systems ~ SAVE & The SAHS Greenhouse Growers ~ W. B. Homes, Inc.

IQWST Science

In 2019 the IVEF invested \$35,000 in SASD middle school students by supporting a new science curriculum called IQWST, (Investigating and Questioning our World Through Science and Technology). This curriculum is research based, supported by the National Science Foundation, and aligns with NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards). IQWST takes learning to the next level by encouraging student-focused activities in the classroom that in turn provide a better understanding of the topic they are studying. These activities incorporate reading, writing, collaboration, and hands-on participation to promote learning and retention.



Love your Library Innovation Grants \$18,000 in Funding Provided

21st-Century Libraries are the center of so much exploratory learning. Libraries become a different kind of learning destination when schools reimagine them as open, transparent spaces that invite student communication and collaboration.

Each year the IVEF evaluates the most effective ways we can make an impact in each of our schools. In the 2018-2019 school year we took a new direction in our Innovation Grant program and offered each building the opportunity to submit grants that would support the transformation of the school libraries! Each building was eligible for up to \$2,000 in funding to support ideas that would best accommodate the culture and needs of their school community.

The results were overwhelming! From puppet theaters to creation stations, 3D Printers and STEM based centers complete with hissing cockroaches, each building embraced the opportunity to think outside the box to enhance learning for every student



IVEF FUNDING AT WORK IN OUR SCHOOLS

E.M. Crouthamel Elementary:

- Love Your Library grant equipped the library with a flat screen TV, Cuddle-Up Floor pillows, and a Deluxe Floor Model Theater
- Helping Hands fund to assist students in need
- Funding for 5th Grade classroom libraries
- Support for new playground

Franconia Elementary:

- Love Your Library grant provided an Innovation Creation Station in the library, complete with tables that can easily fit together, Learniture chairs, a talking globe, Lego bricks, Keva planks, and mobile organizers
- Helping Hands fund to assist students in need
- Funding for 5th Grade classroom libraries

Oak Ridge Elementary:

- Love Your Library grant supported the continued transformation of Oak Ridge Elementary's library into an innovative space that includes a puppet theater and puppet tree, Cubelets, and K'Nex Maker Kit and gears
- Funding for 5th Grade classroom libraries

Salford Hills Elementary:

- Love Your Library grant provided funding for New Wave tables and smaller, lighter, more comfortable chairs that can be used to create a more productive learning space in Salford Hills Elementary's library
- Funding for 5th Grade classroom libraries

Vernfield Elementary:

- Love your Library Grant provided a 3D printer and filament used by the students at Vernfield to provide opportunities to work individually or collaboratively to solve problems and create useful items
- Funding for 5th Grade classroom libraries

West Broad Street Elementary:

- Love Your Library grant supported the purchase of STEAM-based centers to extend, bolster, and complement the K–5 science curriculum. Each grade level has a complementary center for each trimester
- Helping Hands fund to assist students in need
- Funding for 5th Grade classroom libraries

Indian Crest Middle School: *

- Love Your Library grant supported the creation of a Library of Life Enrichment which allows students to borrow nontraditional items from the library, including: telescope, guitar, a sewing machine, a Makey-Makey Kit, microscope, crochet hooks, banjo, ukulele, keyboard, and binoculars along with books to teach students how to use these materials.

Indian Valley Middle School: *

- Love Your Library Innovation grant provided two Oculus Rift Touch Virtual Reality systems along with software and hardware for students to create, design, and draw in 3D in a virtual reality environment.

"The best part about the program is that it allows students to become scientists as they encounter and uncover phenomena and begin to unravel the scientific principles at work. Students are also exposed to a variety of scientific content in each grade and will build upon previous knowledge both within each school year and each grade level. Some highlights include: examining invasive species by dissecting sea lamprey and perch, making new substances, (specifically making soap from two unlikely substances), and investigating how food provides our bodies with energy."

– Eric Hartman, Indian Crest Middle School faculty

Souderton Area High School:

- Love Your Library Innovation grant was used to create small group collaboration stations complete with large monitors, mounts, splitters, and cables which students and staff can connect to their own devices creating a space to be used by classes, independent study groups, and staff in the Souderton Area High School Library.
- The IVEF spearheaded the funding support of a 1400 square foot state-of-the-art Greenhouse that will be utilized by students and the SASD community to learn botany, horticulture, business, biology, and chemistry.

2018-2019 Fundraising & Events

Big Red Rooster Scramble:

Our 6th year in partnership with the Harleysville Rotary, hosting our annual Golf Outing, which was a huge success bringing in over \$35,000 which will fund educational initiatives for SASD as well as service projects in our community supported by the Rotary Club of Harleysville. Save the date and join us on August 21, 2020.

Big Red Bash:

The Big Red Bash was held in September of 2018 in partnership with Bergey's Buick GMC. A district-wide event that included participation from each of our schools - there was a car show, a variety of sports clinics, raffles, games and prizes, and guests had a chance to test drive the latest and greatest Buick and GMC cars and trucks!

Tastings of the Indian Valley:

An annual culinary event highlighting select local restaurants, breweries and wineries and showcasing their favorite dishes. The IVEF has been the non-profit partner for this event, hosted by the Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce. Hundreds of community members come to enjoy an evening of food and conversation!

Holiday and Year -End Teacher Appreciation Campaigns:

Each December and May, families are encouraged to donate in any amount in honor of their child's teacher! Teachers receive a personalized certificate acknowledging each donation made on their behalf. It makes a great gift during the holidays or at the end of the school year! The funds are used to support the IVEF Innovation Grants program available to teachers throughout the District.

Boon Supply, Co.:

Held in the Spring, and again in the Fall, this district-wide fundraiser allows families to purchase a variety of eco-friendly bags and other items through Boon Supply Company (formerly Mixed Bag Designs). In addition to versatile reusable bags, there are home and kitchen essentials are available.

SAHS Graduation Signs:

A new tradition was started in Souderton this year. Families of graduating seniors honored their graduates by purchasing yard signs personalized with their graduate's name. They are wonderful yard markers for graduation parties. Keep a sharpie handy, have friends and family sign them for a special keepsake. Sales will begin again in early spring!

2020 SAVE THE DATE! Harlem Wizards are BACK!!

Save the Date! The Harlem Wizards, a comedic basketball team, are coming back to Souderton Area High School on March 27, 2020 to take on a team of teachers and administrators from across the district in a game like you have never seen before. Ticket sales will be announced soon so don't delay in getting yours; this event WILL sell out!

Alumni Spotlight

Jonathan R. Graf, Ed. D

Principal Vernfield Elementary School



When I graduated from Souderton Area High School and headed to Millersville University to pursue a teaching degree, I knew that I wanted to come back to Souderton. My experiences at Souderton schools - Lower Salford, Indian Valley, and Souderton Area High School - drove my career choice. More importantly, with the exception of my parents, Souderton teachers were the most influential force upon me during my formative years. Along with expected academic learning, my teachers taught me about leadership, empathy, and how to view the world beyond Souderton.

Now, as a principal in Souderton, I see that the opportunities and resources for teaching and learning go beyond those that were once available to me as a student. This is due, in large part, to the success of the Indian Valley Education Foundation. The IVEF has supported countless teachers and students in all nine of our schools. From innovation grants to support classroom learning, to

working with community donors to build a greenhouse on the grounds of Souderton Area High School, the IVEF has become a crucial partner in educating the whole child.

In addition to their financial support of Souderton schools, the IVEF advocates for traditional public education. The leadership and board of the IVEF can be found in every corner of our school district sharing the needs of the district and serving as ambassadors of the great things that are done for Souderton students in every school. I am proud to support the IVEF and their commitment to Souderton students and teachers.

2019-2020 IVEF Board of Directors

Tim Swartley – President, FIFS, Inc.
Andrew Hudak (SAHS '05) – Vice President, SASD
Rachelle Wilson – Secretary, SASD Parent
Brian Pawling – Treasurer, SASD
Michael Moyer – Past President, Budget Store & Lock

Stacy Bucher, SASD Parent
Kimberly Dommel, SASD Parent
Briana Doña (SAHS '99), Uninvest
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Katie Kennedy-Reilly, SASD
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Robert Solomon, Dow Chemical
Carter Wilson, SAHS '21 Student
Virginia Woodbury, SASD Parent
Megan Dick, Administrative Coordinator
RuthE Potter, Executive Director
Frank T. Gallagher, Superintendent, Souderton Area School District

Special thanks to:

*Kimberly Detwiler, Robert Haines & Brook Williams, board members who completed their term of service in 2019.
Your service, creativity, and dedication to the IVEF is appreciated!*

Follow us on Social Media:



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