

Indian Valley Education Foundation

October 2022 edition

Who is the Indian Valley Education Foundation (IVEF)?

We are so glad you asked! IVEF is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that works in partnership with the Souderton Area School District (SASD) to support educational programs for both the students and staff. IVEF works to set funding priorities and manage donations, directing philanthropic contributions toward the needs of the 6,500 students in our 9 schools.

Our work is critical for the children of this community and supports the future with an educated workforce. Smart investments in public schools offer the opportunity to introduce cutting-edge educational models that enhance SASD's current programs and advance learning outcomes for all students.

IVEF provides funds for educational programs and activities which are not funded by the school district's normal operating budget. IVEF funds are used to support student achievement and skill development, recognize and encourage staff innovation, and expand community involvement from individuals, businesses, and civic organizations.

Why do we need IVEF?

#1 PA is not adequately funding public schools.

Pennsylvania ranks **46th** in the country in the state's share of funding for public schools...Local school districts are forced to make up the difference, mostly through property taxes.

#2 Mandated charter school costs continue to strain the SASD budget.

Charter school costs in SASD have more than doubled over a 10-year period from \$1.8 million to over \$4.0 million. The state stopped reimbursing districts for a portion of its charter school costs in 2011-12, putting the responsibility on the local taxpayer.



#3 Rising mandated costs decrease the funds available for classroom resources.

From 2010 to 2016, the **mandated costs of special education, pensions and charter payments grew by \$293 million** for Montgomery County districts, while State funding grew by just \$119 million.



#4 Our children need a top-notch education to ensure the future success of our community.

The mission of the Department of Education is to **ensure that every learner** has access to a world-class education system that prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens.



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Big Red Cornament

On Saturday, September 17th, families and community members came out to participate in IVEF's first annual Cornhole Tournament! Cornhole teams were able to participate in a friendly competition using boards designed and handcrafted by Souderton Area High School (SAHS) wood tech students under the direction of Mr. Jacob Marushek. Spectators enjoyed inflatables, kids' games, face painting, delicious food, and music by SASD's own Darren Smith. Eventgoers also had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to win some fantastic baskets and mums to support the work of SAVE and the Greenhouse Growers in the greenhouse on the campus of SAHS. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped make this event possible. It was a beautiful day and fun was had by all. We are already looking forward to next year's event!



SASD Nation

IVEF is pleased to present our our new online community, **SASD Nation Alumni & Friends!**

Through this network, all SASD alumni, supporters, and community members are able to stay connected and receive regular updates and news articles, along with a wide variety of information on special events, mentoring, and volunteer opportunities.

A private online [directory](#) allows you to easily find and connect with other alumni and community members, no matter where they're located.

Graduates of SASD schools, former school district students, supporters, and local residents may sign up for this network and receive regular news and updates. We invite you to [check out the SASD Nation network](#) and all that this new online community has to offer. We look forward to connecting with you!



Boon Supply Sale

Looking for a way to support IVEF and get your holiday shopping done? We are hosting a Boon Supply Sale through **Friday, October 14th**. Simply place your order [online](#) and it will be shipped directly to your home. All orders over \$85 include free shipping!

40% of every purchase will go to support educational initiatives in each of the 9 buildings in the Souderton Area School District.

Thank you for your support and Happy Shopping!

BOON SUPPLY
Our Fundraiser is Happening Now!
Indian Valley Education Foundation

Our fundraiser is here, and we need your help. It's easy! 40% of purchases and 80% of direct donations go back to Indian Valley Education Foundation. Our fundraiser ends 10/14/2022.

- REGISTER** to track sales! Scan the QR code to the right or visit boonsupply.com/296562 and complete the form.
- SEND** our fundraiser to family and friends using our BOOST feature to make our fundraiser a big success!
- SHARE** with friends and family across all SOCIAL MEDIA and watch your sales grow!
- SHOP** online for hundreds of products or donate directly to your fundraiser! Go to boonsupply.com/296562

Something for Everyone

Reusable Bags, Dryer Balls, Gift Wraps, Food Huggies, Candles, Market Bags, Paper Plates, Water Bottles, Burrit Cakes, Direct Donation, Reusable Bags

SEE EXCLUSIONS ONLINE

Innovation Grant Program

The Innovation Grant Program, open to all SASD teachers and administrators, is a fantastic way to support the implementation of an innovative project or initiative in a classroom, grade level, or building.

Through our Innovation Grant program, we provide the funding needed to support teachers and help students embrace new ways of learning, solving problems, and working together. Faculty and administrators of SASD are invited to apply for grants to provide innovative offerings in their classrooms, which otherwise would not be supported by the school district budget. IVEF is committed to providing \$30,000 per year to this program.

Our Innovation Grant program is now open and we are accepting [applications](#)! If you are a teacher in SASD and have an idea for your classroom, please consider submitting an application. More information can be found on our [website](#).



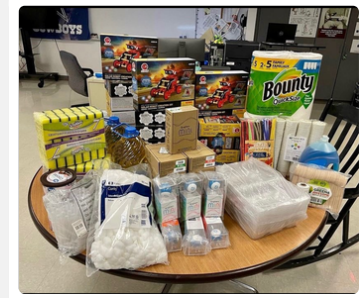
Calming Corner Kits!

Provided to each classroom, these baskets are equipped with objects to help children soothe themselves when emotions are running high or they simply need a chance to pause. These kits support social and emotional health and build self-regulation skills.



Book Baskets!

Book Baskets are used to build foundational reading skills while bringing stories to life! Each bucket contains multiple copies of a shared book along with props and manipulatives that represent the story's features to go along with them. Reading comes to life!



Teach Girls Tech!

Teach Girls Tech is a Service Club at SAHS that engages girls to engage in STEM fields. Led by students for students, this club travels to our middle schools and most recently our elementary schools to provide motivation and mentorship for girls across the district!

Play to Learn Grant

The H-Pod at Oak Ridge Elementary School has been transformed into an innovative space where students can learn how they learn best: through play! What started as an Innovation Grant submitted by Dina Palski and Alyssa Picard has grown into a legacy honoring Dina Palski's life and dedication to her students. Dina and Alyssa's vision has been realized in this wonderful space and will continue to benefit the students at Oak Ridge for generations to come!



SAT Prep Classes

IVEF, in partnership with SAHS, is pleased to provide an 8-week comprehensive SAT Prep Class for students in their junior year at SAHS. This class will be taught by SAHS highly qualified teachers and will be conveniently held at the high school. The purpose of this program is to provide students who are seeking to pursue post-secondary education an affordable resource to prepare for the SATs.

The goal is to provide as many students as possible the chance to achieve their full potential. The IVEF is committed to being able to provide scholarships for students in need to take this class, giving them access to this opportunity.

Thanks to the Souderton Area Education Association for their sponsorship and support of this program!!

Purposeful Play

As SASD rolls out a full-day kindergarten program, IVEF will be helping to support Playful Learning in each of our elementary schools through the generosity of our community partner, Univest. Univest has provided this funding through Pennsylvania's EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credit) Program, impacting hundreds of students across the district. Stay tuned for more information as both of these programs are implemented in the Fall of 2022!



"Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood"
~Mr. Fred Rogers

The IVEF is so grateful for the generous support of Univest to support resources for the full-day kindergarten program's Playful Learning curriculum. Providing each classroom with unique and creative resources will take kindergarten to the next level!

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS!

We would like to thank our 2022-2023 Community Partners for helping us to build a strong foundation for the students of the Souderton Area School District!

- [Grandview Health](#)
- [Univest](#)
- [Transportation Services, Inc.](#)
- Budget Store and Lock
- Franconia Insurance and Financial Services
- Access Security
- Souderton Telford Rotary
- W.B. Homes
- J.I. Welding Welding & Mechanical, Inc.
- Fraser, AIS
- Costanzo's Bakery

Please contact us to find out more about our [Community Partnership Program!](#)



SAVE THE DATE(S) & PLAN TO JOIN US!

The HARLEM WIZARDS RETURN!

When

Friday, March 24th 2023 at 7pm

Where

625 Lower Road Souderton, PA

More information

That's right! After a 2 year hiatus, the world famous Harlem Wizards will return to Souderton to take on the equally as famous SASD Dream Team! Mark your calendars and plan to come and enjoy a fun night as we cheer on an awesome show of tricks and alley oops! Stay tuned for more information, tickets always sell out!

The IVEF Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament

When

Monday, June 19th 2023 at 7:30am

Where

650 Bergey Road Telford, PA

More information

Save the date and put your foursome on alert! The IVEF Annual Golf Outing is back with a new venue, new time, but the same promise of a fantastic day on the links of the beautiful Indian Valley Country Club. Stay tuned for more information! Want to be sure to get a spot in this scramble? RSVP today and we will keep you up-to-date.

How Do I Get Involved?

Donate your energy, knowledge, and experience as a volunteer!

IVEF relies upon committed volunteers to help us advance our work and help accelerate our progress. There are many ways for you to make a positive impact. We would love to help match you with the right opportunity! Our success comes from our dedicated board members and volunteers working together to move the mission of IVEF forward!

Some of the volunteer roles within the IVEF include:

- Special Events support
- Promotional Writing (Newsletters, Social Media)
- Photography

Our volunteers are one of our greatest assets and we encourage our parents and community members to become involved. Whether you have a few hours a month to help on an regular basis or a few hours a year to help with one event, we are grateful for your time and can assure you that it will be an opportunity to serve our schools in a meaningful way. We hope to hear from you! Please [click here](#) for our volunteer application.



2022 - 2023 IVEF Board of Directors

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Michael Taylor , Treasurer

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Katie Kennedy-Reilly, Ed.D.

Sue Mandia

Bob Solomon

Tim Swartley

A special thanks to Carol Luciani for her 6 years of service to the Indian Valley Education Foundation. Her never-ending support and commitment to our work has helped grow this organization tremendously!

IVEF Staff

[RuthE Potter, Executive Director](#)

[Meg Dick, Administrative Coordinator](#)

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Indian Valley Education Foundation (IVEF)

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 @IndianValley_EF

The Indian Valley Education Foundation is a non profit 501c3 organization that works in partnership with the Souderton Area School District to provide funding and innovative program opportunities to students and teachers.

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