



PENNSBURY PARTNERS PROGRAM

2015 - 2016

The Pennsbury Partners Program (PPP) has forged over 1,000 partnerships with businesses and local community organizations for the last 20 years, benefiting Pennsbury students, families, and the community.

These partnerships enable the School District to:

- demonstrate real-life applications of the Pennsbury curriculum;
- offer opportunities for students to provide community service; or
- offer mentoring programs and other career awareness and development activities to prepare students for satisfying careers.

Each partnership helps to prepare students for higher education and the workforce of our future.

PARTNERSHIP YEAR-END SUMMARY

The Pennsbury Partners Program had another busy and successful year. Some highlights include:

1. Established eight **new partnerships** this year - including: Artists of Yardley (AOY), Huntington Learning Center, Performance Spine & Sports Medicine, Yordano's Pizza (Fairless Hills), The MAX Challenge of Fairless Hills, The Prancing Peacock Yoga Studio, Starr Bus Charter and Tours, and TMA Bucks.
2. Celebrated the 17th year of recognizing outstanding business and non-profit partnerships via the Annual Partnership Recognition Reception. Approximately 150 business people, non-profits, administrators, school board members, teachers and community members attended. The **Non-Profit Partner of the Year for 2015-2016** was the **Pennsbury DARE Program**, presented by the Townships of Lower Makefield and Falls. **Davis Acura** was honored as the **Business Partner of the Year for 2015-2016**, in recognition of its generous support of the Pennsbury Odyssey of the Mind Program.
3. The Pennsbury Partners Advisory Board Mini-Grant Committee awarded nine schools with 17 special **corporate-sponsored grants** for a total of \$6,030. The main purpose of the annual PPP Mini-Grant program is to foster partnership development in each school. *See next page for more information.*
4. Corporate sponsorships received for next year's PPP Mini-Grants topped over \$5,100.
5. This year, the PPP Office provided over \$1,800 for transportation costs to school classrooms for seven different partnership opportunities.
6. In addition to the PPP Mini-Grant Awards, a STEM partnership continued for the third year; this is a partnership activity with all three middle schools and the National Aerospace Training and Research Center (NASTAR). Three grants were awarded, \$500 to each middle school, for a total of \$1,500 for the **Middle School Young Adults in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Partnership Program**.
7. Waste Management, a generous Pennsbury Partner, offered a \$1,000 grant for educational programs relating to the environment and resource protection. First and fourth grade students at Oxford Valley Elementary benefited from this sponsored activity that included the distribution of hundreds of "Litterless Lunchboxes" and a special demonstration titled, "The Edible Landfill," by School Board President Gary Sanderson (an environmental specialist).

PPP MINI-GRANTS

This year, the PPP Office awarded one Mini-Grant to each school that applied! Applications were reviewed by the PPP Advisory Board Committee, and the following nine schools received seventeen PPP Mini-Grants for a total of \$6,030.

Afton Elementary (\$500):

- Craig Van Demark/Colleen Jones – *Brain Train with Speed Pursuit*

Fallsington Elementary (\$630):

- Kristen Cahill – *Let's Learn About Personal Safety with NOVA*
- Monica James – *Fallsington Gardens with the Fairless Hills Garden Center*
- Sheila Miley/Jennifer Tietz – *Treasure Hunt with the Fallsington Library*
- Edward Obert-Thorn – *Habitats and Ecosystems with the Fallsington Library*
- Chris Rosica – *Rocks and Minerals with the Fallsington Library*

Makefield Elementary (\$1000):

- Donna Merriman - *5th Grade School to Work Program (various Partners)*
- James Parsons – *Brain Train with Performance Spine & Sports Medicine*

Oxford Valley Elementary (\$1000):

- Cherie Lynne Kooker - *Have you Filled Your Bucket Today? With Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve*
- Heather Ryan – *Unless Program with the Philadelphia Zoo*

Penn Valley (\$635):

- Sue Kline/Kristen June/Jess Sheedy – *Healthy Eating Program/Chick Hatching Program with Snipes Farm and Education Center*
- Stephanie Myers – *Stability Balls with The Prancing Peacock*

Quarry Hill (\$480):

- Jessica Coccozza/Lee Ann Georgescu/Lisa Lare/Renee Hanna – *Curriculum Connection with the Philadelphia Zoo*

Walt Disney (\$785):

- Lorie Becker – *Habitats Around the World with the Philadelphia Zoo*
- Gregg Roberts/Duane Kolar – *Board/Card Game Club and Family Game Night with Barnes & Noble Oxford Valley*

William Penn (\$500):

- Kristin Slota/Kristilyn Kraus – *Renewable Energy Education in the Middle School with Exelon*

Pennsbury High School (\$500):

- Frank Mayo - *Career Fair (various Partners)*