

SAN BRUNO

Community Foundation

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SAN BRUNO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROVIDES LONG-TERM FUNDING FOR SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Funding to Support San Bruno Fifth Graders' Participation in Transformative Program Is One of the Foundation's Final Legacy Projects

San Bruno, California, March 11, 2026 – At its March 4, 2026, regular meeting, the Board of Directors of the San Bruno Community Foundation approved long-term funding to help fifth grade students in the San Bruno Park School District attend the San Mateo County Office of Education's award-winning Outdoor Education program. The Board awarded a \$160,000 grant to the San Bruno Education Foundation to support the program in the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years and also designated \$2 million as Quasi-Endowment specifically for the Outdoor Education program, with annual grants to be awarded for the program from Quasi-Endowment payout beginning in the 2027-2028 school year.

Known for its significant educational and developmental benefits for participating students, the Outdoor Education program is a one-week, overnight camp program run by the San Mateo County Office of Education in cooperation with local schools throughout the county and the San Francisco YMCA Camp Jones Gulch in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Each year, about 200 San Bruno Park School District fifth graders and their teachers participate in the program. Typically,

the families of participating students – supplemented by fundraising activities organized by the elementary school PTAs – cover the program fees, which this year cost \$550 per student, and the cost of renting buses to transport them to and from the camp location, which can together total nearly \$130,000 districtwide. SBCF grant funding will substantially relieve the burden on the PTAs to fundraise and the families to pay out-of-pocket to cover the program expenses, thus ensuring that all SBPSD fifth graders who want to attend the Outdoor Education program are able to do so, regardless of their economic circumstance.

“Outdoor Education is exactly the kind of transformative, districtwide program – an experience that *all* District fifth graders should have the opportunity to attend – that is ideal for one of the San Bruno Community Foundation’s final legacy projects,” said SBCF President Malissa Netane-Jones. “By making this funding commitment to this program, the Foundation is ensuring that San Bruno public elementary school students will be able to explore the outdoors and develop valuable life skills through the Outdoor Education program.”

“For many San Bruno students, Outdoor Education is their first time away from home and a once-in-a-lifetime, milestone experience that not only develops in them an appreciation for the natural world, but also nurtures their self-confidence, self-esteem, and independence,” said SBPSD Superintendent Matt Duffy. “We are so grateful for the San Bruno Community Foundation’s investment in the Outdoor Education program. With this funding, the San Bruno Park School District is likely the only district in the county with a dedicated, ongoing funding source for Outdoor Education.”

To fund this commitment to the SBPSD Outdoor Education program, SBCF is utilizing investment proceeds from the restitution funds received from the City of San Bruno’s settlement with Pacific Gas & Electric Company, following the 2010 gas pipeline explosion that devastated San Bruno’s Crestmoor neighborhood. This initiative is one of SBCF’s final legacy projects as it allocates its remaining net assets. The \$2 million in earmarked funds will be invested with a long-term endowment profile as part of SBCF’s investment portfolio, with an annual withdrawal funding an annual grant targeted at approximately \$100,000 beginning in

the 2027-2028 school year. Immediate grant funding will provide \$60,000 for the program in the current school year and \$100,000 in 2026-2027. SBCF will make the Outdoor Education grants to the San Bruno Education Foundation, which serves as a fundraising partner for SBPSD.

“Outdoor Education is one of the highlights of the elementary school experience for San Bruno Park School District students, but the increase in program costs over the years has created significant funding challenges for the school district, the PTAs, and fifth grade families,” said Heather Latta, President of the San Bruno Education Foundation. “The PTAs often complain about fundraising fatigue related to Outdoor Education, as they organize bake, popsicle, catalog, and other sales to raise the necessary funds. Not only will this tremendous investment by the San Bruno Community Foundation enable all fifth graders to participate in Outdoor Ed regardless of their families’ ability to pay, but it also will allow the PTAs and parent volunteers to focus on supporting many other important school activities, instead of dedicating so much of their time and energy each year to fundraising for the Outdoor Education program.”

Since 2016, the San Bruno Community Foundation has invested nearly \$70 million in the San Bruno community through the Community Grants Fund, the Crestmoor Neighborhood Memorial Scholarship, and a variety of strategic grants. SBCF’s most notable initiative has been its \$51.5 million investment in the design and construction of the San Bruno Recreation and Aquatic Center, which opened in the summer of 2024.

The San Bruno Community Foundation is the nonprofit organization created by the City of San Bruno to administer the \$70 million in restitution funds received from PG&E after the devastating 2010 gas pipeline explosion in San Bruno’s Crestmoor neighborhood. The Foundation serves the San Bruno community by investing in projects, programs, services, and facilities that have significant and lasting benefits. Through making grants, leveraging partnerships, and taking advantage of other resources, the SBCF assists and enables the community to maximize shared investments and realize their subsequent enhancements and benefits.

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