

# SAN BRUNO

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## Community Foundation

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**SAN BRUNO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS  
\$35,000 GRANT TO SUPPORT FIELD TRIPS AND ASSEMBLIES  
AT SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOLS**

***Funding Will Provide Enrichment Opportunities to Students and Financial Relief to Parent-Teacher Organizations After Two Challenging Years of the Pandemic***

**San Bruno, California, October 13, 2022** – The Board of Directors of the San Bruno Community Foundation recently approved a \$35,000 strategic grant to the San Bruno Park School District to support off-campus field trips and on-campus assemblies at all six district schools. Under the grant, \$5,000 is earmarked to support activities at each of the five elementary schools and \$10,000 to support activities at Parkside Intermediate School during the 2022-2023 school year.

“We are thrilled to provide valuable enrichment opportunities for San Bruno’s students, while also offering some much-needed financial relief to our schools’ parent-teacher organizations, which are often relied upon to fund these types of opportunities,” said Raul Gomez, Secretary of the Foundation’s Board of Directors and chair of the ad hoc advisory committee that proposed the grant. “We see tremendous value in field trips for elementary and middle school students – the chance to leave the school campus and be exposed to new experiences at

museums, parks, concerts, and other community venues – especially after more than two years of the pandemic, when youth have faced mental health challenges with social distancing and isolation. Our hope is that students will, once again, be able to attend community events and benefit from experiential learning opportunities.”

In an effort to identify needs at San Bruno’s public schools, last spring the Foundation’s Ad Hoc Committee on Education Initiatives surveyed the parent-teacher organization leaderships at all six San Bruno Park School District schools. Although the survey data revealed different needs at each school, it also made clear that all of the schools would benefit from additional financial support, especially after the past two years of substantial impact from the pandemic. In particular, most schools identified a need for more funding related to field trips, including the San Mateo County Office of Education’s Outdoor Education program for fifth graders. The schools typically depend on their parent-teacher organizations to cover or subsidize the costs of field trips, including expensive bus transportation. Moreover, since 2020, the pandemic has limited the ability of schools to offer field trips. No field trips were available in 2020-2021, when the schools spent most of the year in distance-learning format and most field trip venues were not open. The 2021-2022 school year provided some opportunities for field trips, including the Outdoor Education program, but as venues continued to have COVID restrictions and the schools faced ongoing challenges related to the pandemic, field trips were not as plentiful as they were pre-pandemic. Social distancing and limits on campus visitors also hampered the schools’ ability to bring outside musicians, artists, speakers, and instructors to the school sites for assemblies and performances.

The San Bruno Park School District will administer the grant, allocating \$5,000 to each elementary school – Belle Air Elementary, Decima M. Allen Elementary, John Muir Elementary, Portola Elementary, and Rollingwood Elementary – and \$10,000 to the district’s middle school, Parkside Intermediate, for use during the 2022-2023 school year. With input from the schools and their parent-teacher organizations, the grant funds may be used for expenses related to

off-campus field trips, including the Outdoor Education Program, as well as assemblies that bring arts performances, educational presentations, and other creative activities to campus.

“The San Bruno Park School District, our schools, and our parent-teacher organizations are grateful to the San Bruno Community Foundation for this grant funding, which will support field trips and assemblies throughout the district,” said Superintendent Matt Duffy. “We are eager to use the grant funds to provide our students with new enriching learning experiences that supplement the classroom curriculum and expose them to our diverse community and natural environment.”

To fund the grant, the Foundation is utilizing a portion of the restitution funds resulting 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.

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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