



Martha Holden Jennings Foundation 2022 Annual Report

A Message from the President and Director

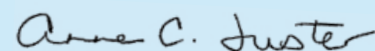
Excellent teaching and deep learning for student success: practices and experiences that develop agency, competency, and identity

The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation was established as a means to provide greater accomplishment on the part of our youth and their teachers. In this spirit, we spent 2022 thinking deeply with our partners across Ohio, considering the following:

- *What does “student success” look like?*
- *How do our learning environments and engagement strategies provide the right conditions for all of our students to succeed in their own unique ways?*
- *How will our teaching cultivate the agency needed for students to make choices about and take an active role in their lives rather than solely being the product of their circumstances?*

Throughout the year, we explored these and related questions as part of our thought partnerships while seeking to fund projects to reconnect educators to their purpose in teaching. Ohio educators and their partners responded by creating and implementing amazing models for building understanding, skills, and confidence around student agency; guiding self-reflection and its connection to growth; and developing competencies, mindsets, and values for individual fulfillment, community wellbeing, and student success.

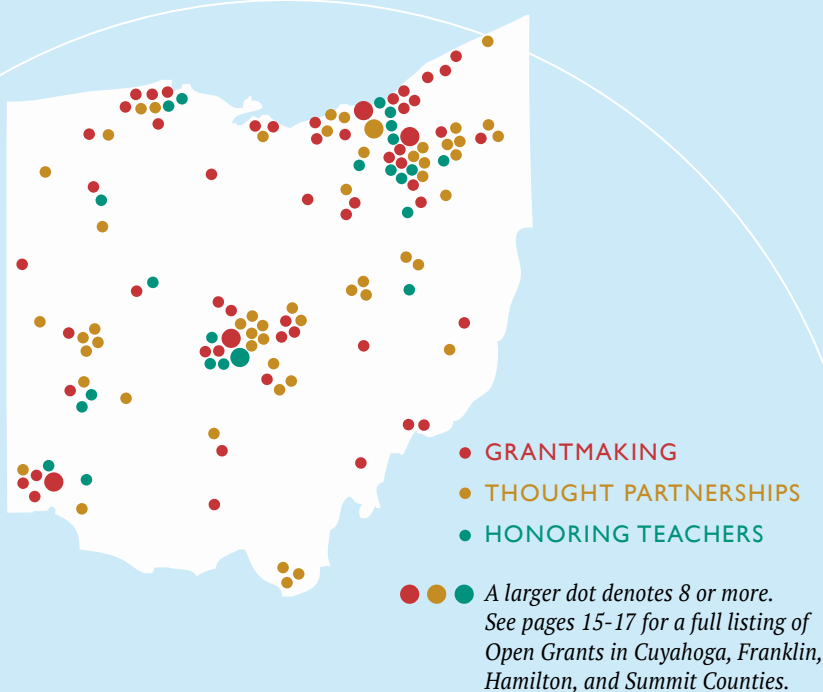
In this annual report, you will find, in summary, an accounting of the Foundation’s support and the accomplishments of the students and teachers we support. We are grateful for the dedication and creativity of the many educators across the state who are committed to deep learning and the greater accomplishment of our public school students, and we are excited to share this glimpse of their efforts. In the year ahead, we aspire to build on our body of work to ensure students remain at the center of their learning, experience success, contribute to our community, and lead fulfilled lives.



Mrs. Anne C. Juster
President & Chair



Dr. Daniel J. Keenan, Jr.
Executive Director





Making a difference in the lives of Ohio’s public school teachers and students is the priority of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. Each year we invest in teachers’ ideas and professional development, honor exceptional practitioners, and engage with like-minded partners. We connect with educators who aim for *Excellent Teaching* and *Deep Learning* – the two themes at the heart of every project, program, initiative, or honor connected to our name.

In 2022, we continued to ensure schools had the support needed for rigorous and relevant work. We also worked to illustrate that *Deep Learning* and *Excellent Teaching* result from a sense of agency, identity, and competency as explained in [Foundations for Young Adult Success: A Developmental Framework](#), published by the University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research.

Three Key Factors to Success

Researchers at the University of Chicago have identified three key factors that contribute to life success.



AGENCY is the ability to make choices about and take an active role in one’s life path, rather than solely being the product of one’s circumstances. Agency requires the intentionality and forethought to derive a course of action and adjust course as needed to reflect one’s identity, competencies, knowledge and skills, mindsets, and values.



COMPETENCIES are the abilities that enable people to effectively perform roles, complete complex tasks, or achieve specific objectives. Successful young adults have sets of competencies (e.g., critical thinking, responsible decision-making, ability to collaborate) that allow them to be productive and engaged, navigate across contexts, perform effectively in different settings, and adapt to different task and setting demands.



INTEGRATED IDENTITY is a sense of internal consistency of who one is across time and across multiple social identities (e.g., race/ethnicity, profession, culture, gender, religion). An integrated identity serves as an internal framework for making choices and provides a stable base from which one can act in the world.

GRANTMAKING

The Foundation is committed to supporting teachers and students in Ohio's PK -12 public schools by investing in projects designed to advance Excellent Teaching and Deep Learning through Open Grants and Grants-to-Educators.

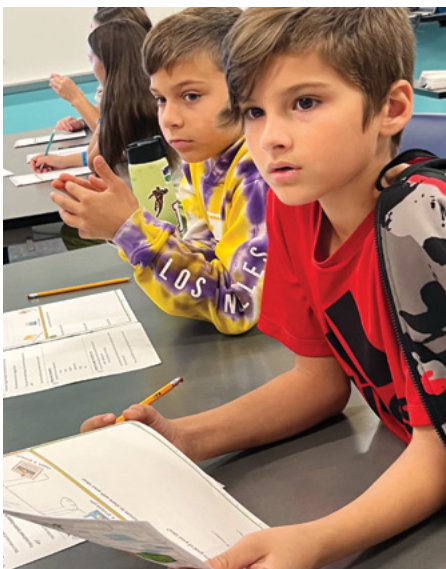
Open Grants are available to any public school district, non-religious private school working with public schools, or tax-exempt organization that assists elementary and secondary schools in Ohio. Proposals are evaluated on the quality of teaching and/or the depth of learning the experience has for teachers and students.



Open Grants Focus on Deep Learning and Excellent Teaching

After completing training as a STEM Fellow at the **DAYTON REGIONAL STEM CENTER**, Jessica Lay received a microgrant to support STEAM activities in **MIAMISBURG SCHOOLS**. She transformed a former computer room at Kinder Elementary into a hands-on lab where students in grades K-5 focus on teamwork challenges and learn collaboration, perseverance, and problem-solving skills. Mrs. Lay acquired robots in the fall, which students have been programming to move, sing, dance, flash their lights, respond to voices, make sounds, and even tell stories. Students work in teams using Chromebooks to code the devices to accomplish various problem-based tasks. Lessons are interdisciplinary, involving language arts, math, science, and social studies.

How can we help our community thrive? Sixth-graders at **LAKE ELEMENTARY** in Hartville dreamed up more than a dozen solutions to that question while partnering with educators at Tom Tod Ideas. After interviewing community stakeholders, they set out to design projects that are “new and better, needed and wanted, and able to become real.” Next, they brainstormed, collaborated, researched, and developed prototypes that met those criteria and address issues they feel passionate about. Community gardens, a handicapped accessible playground, a community art space, and a sign language club are just some ideas they pitched to the same community stakeholders weeks later. Through the experience, the students learned they have a voice and that adults are willing to listen and support their ideas.



Left: “What If 101?” challenges 6th-graders at Lake Elementary School to think of ways to improve their community. Right: Coding robots teaches the importance of following precise steps to solve STEAM problems.





Teens from northeast and central Ohio are involved in a yearlong leadership program where they meet peers from other schools and learn how to become “Voices for Change.”



“This program allows students to become leaders of their own learning. They are planning, leading the sessions, and taking action. We give them structure, but they are the actual leaders; and that is a different concept than what traditional education has been all about.”

DR. KEITH BELL, COORDINATOR OF STUDENT LEADERSHIP RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Art and chemistry may not seem like likely companions, but for high school students in central Ohio, merging the subjects has led to increased engagement and a deeper understanding of theoretical topics. [OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY](#) Chemistry Professor Joan Esson adapted a college course called *Art and Chemistry* to high school standards and partnered with science teachers at [DUBLIN JEROME](#) and [BUCKEYE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOLS](#) to pilot the curriculum in their classes. Activities include making paint, removing graffiti, and restoring art. These labs help students understand how chemistry connects to real life. Dublin teacher Amy Pochodylo says the experience reminded her of how important it is for *teachers* to learn and grow, especially when the outcome is “what’s best for students.”

Wendy Jovan has learned never to underestimate what students can do. As the Coordinator of the Youth Leadership Collaborative, facilitated by [CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY](#), she works with student leaders from Cleveland-area high schools on a yearlong initiative to build civic-mindedness and nurture leadership skills. Students attend monthly programs to develop the skills to identify critical needs and make meaningful change within their schools and communities. Most work is completed between sessions when they interview, survey, research, and present solutions to stakeholders. A similar program, facilitated by educators at [OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY](#), engages teen leaders from central Ohio. The groups convene twice a year to engage and learn from each other.

“This program is very student-driven. We put out frameworks and support, but the students bring the magic,” says Ms. Jovan.

[MADISON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT](#) has been working for several years to ensure deep learning in reading and writing by engaging teachers in a common approach to literacy instruction. Administrators adopted the *Science of Reading* to establish a consistency of practice in grades PK-3. They have been providing professional development and ongoing support to teachers as they learn to apply these instructional strategies in the classroom. The training addresses early literacy skills, vocabulary development, multiple comprehension strategies, and brain research around factors that cause learners to struggle with reading. The district’s literacy coach is collaborating with teachers throughout the process. Administrators believe the consistent instructional approach, along with teacher-team collaboration, will result in a systemic change in early literacy development for all young learners in the district.

GRANTMAKING

*“Students need authentic learning experiences, where they engage with the community, to feel that they matter and have important things to do **now**. Through these experiences, they develop agency, because they realize how capable they are.”*

ELLEN ERLANGER, CO-FOUNDER, PARTNERSHIPS FOR AUTHENTIC LEARNING & LEADERSHIP



Left: Ben Jurek, from Drink Local Drink Tap, demonstrates how one cigarette pollutes a bottle of fresh water. Right: Applying their understanding of fractions, Tallmadge students design and build prototypes of their “ideal” secret rooms.



Elementary students in NE Ohio are learning why talking about water is so important. **DRINK LOCAL DRINK TAP** has designed a series of standards-based lessons that focus on water-related issues: plastic pollution in the Great Lakes; microplastics found in the oceans; climate change through the lens of water; and the scarcity of clean drinking water throughout the world. From local to global concerns, the students learn how to help alleviate problems by creating awareness in their schools, eliminating plastic in their personal lives, or working with peers to clean a local beach. “We want to give educators the tools they need to teach this content successfully and to empower young people to feel they can make a difference in the world,” says Program Manager Ben Jurek.

With the guidance of educators at Partnership for Authentic Learning & Leadership, **TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS** has been working to infuse Service- and Project-Based Learning into all aspects of teaching and learning. Through ongoing professional development, teachers apply these strategies into lesson design and delivery in grades K-12. Students work on relevant projects that nurture collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking skills while making real-world connections. Last year, a second-grade class built a “Bug Hotel” to study insects in their outdoor habitat. Separate houses to study birds, butterflies, and squirrels are on this year’s drawing board. Fourth graders are in the beginning stages of designing an

outdoor science lab, while high school students will present research to the school board on ways the school could adopt a healthier food culture. “We are making those authentic connections for our kids, those real-world applications, because our teachers have seen firsthand its impact on students,” explains Courtney Davis, the district’s Director of Curriculum.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR AUTHENTIC LEARNING & LEADERSHIP sponsors a Summer Institute to educate and engage other educators in similar work. With experience behind them, Tallmadge educators are taking on leadership roles, spreading the impact of their work to colleagues across the region and state.

Grants-to-Educators recognize and encourage outstanding classroom teachers and administrators. Grants are available for classroom, grade-level, or school-wide projects. Applications are reviewed six times a year and are evaluated on the depth of learning the experience will have on students. For a grant application, see www.mhjf.org.

Seniors from **AKRON'S NIHF STEM HIGH SCHOOL** are designing digital and physical products to solve problems. Using the Design Thinking Process, they follow successive steps to create solutions to unmet needs they have identified in their families, school, or community. The first step was to extensively research the problems with help from community partners. Next, they designed and reworked their products until they found workable solutions. Examples include:

- a firefighter's suit that is more comfortable for carrying heavy air tanks
- an app that organizes college assignments
- an easy-to-sterilize de-stressing ball nurses wear on their wrists
- an emergency tub that holds an assortment of items that can relieve stress during a school lockdown
- a wheelchair that transforms into a walker

"I ask a lot of these students," says their STEM coach, Katie Metcalf, "and I am amazed at their creativity and interest in what they're doing. They identified a problem they want to solve, and they are driven to learn because it's important to them."



Natalie Borsch explains how she and her classmates used Design Thinking to create Orange High School's Writing Center, which supports the students' desire for more creative writing opportunities in and out of class.

"Any time I can choose a creative outlet on a project, I work harder because I enjoy it more. At the Writing Center, I can do a lot with every little writing prompt. That's why I'm so passionate about it."

ETHAN VINCENT, ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR & WRITING CENTER CO-FOUNDER

2022 Grants-to-Educators

Katarina Alexander	Cleveland Metropolitan Schools • <i>Foodstrong Learning Garden at FDR</i>
Sam Appleby	Akron Public Schools • <i>60883 Tournament Engagement</i>
Bryan Berwanger	Oak Hills Local Schools • <i>Student Instruments for Learning</i>
Jennifer Buckner	Scioto Valley Local Schools • <i>Incubation Embryology</i>
Kelly Cieply	Lake Local Schools • <i>Tails of Success</i>
Marie Compston	Union Local Schools • <i>Music AND Project</i>
Fran Compton	Warren City Schools • <i>Sowing Seeds of Success!</i>
Jon Darkow	Seneca East Local Schools • <i>Wicked Problems Project</i>
Angelic Dean	Graham School • <i>Extending the Table</i>
Jennifer Domo	Union-Scioto Local Schools • <i>"Indi Body" Can Code With Sphero Indi</i>
Kathleen Frazier	Orange City Schools • <i>OHS Writing Center Project</i>
Erik Haggard	Cleveland Metropolitan Schools • <i>Hands-on UAS Exploration</i>
Jessica Lay	Miamisburg City Schools • <i>Dash, Dot & Me!</i>
Ann McNeil	Triway Local Schools • <i>Rocket Challenge</i>
Katie Metcalf	Akron Public Schools • <i>STEM Capstone: IMPLEMENT your Design!</i>
Colleen Mudore	Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools • <i>Choice, Agency, Ownership</i>
Gabe Oberlin	Patrick Henry Local Schools • <i>Robo Hockey: Engineering Goals and Robotic Arm-Engineering Muscle</i>
Michael Palermo	Mayfield City Schools • <i>Multicultural Ed with Steel Drums</i>
Danielle Shaub	Lake Local Schools • <i>Reflection of Musical Expression</i>
Korri Storms	Columbus City Schools • <i>Ohio ES Grade 3 Boys Book Club</i>
Greg Thatcher	Ross Local Schools • <i>STEAM Concepts in the Music Room</i>
Sybil Truster	Midwest Regional Educational Service Center • <i>Gaga for STEM</i>
Alexandra Vires	Riverside Local Schools • <i>Lifting Third Grade Rising Readers</i>
Jeffrey Wells	Lancaster City Schools • <i>Virtual Reality for Biomedical Science</i>
Kevin Wise	Margaretta Local Schools • <i>Margaretta Robotics Program</i>
Matthew York	Akron Public Schools • <i>Aquaponics Biology and Engineering</i>

THOUGHT PARTNERSHIPS

The Foundation is a statewide leader in advocating for *Excellent Teaching* and *Deep Learning* in Ohio. Through our Thought Partnership work, educational organizations and facilitators with missions that align with those themes have played a key role in joining us in that effort. Programs that advance these themes include the Educators Retreat, Educators Institute, Mathematics Institutes, and Action Research Fellows. These programs improve teachers' skills, recognize their work, and provide forums for discussing educational theories and practices.

Dr. Jeffrey Wanko, Professor at Miami University, leads the Mathematics Institutes where teachers learn how to strategize and collaborate with colleagues from across the state.



Learning With and From Each Other

The **JENNINGS EDUCATOR RETREAT** is an annual, end-of-summer event designed for Ohio's educational leaders to discuss critical issues in education under the direction of renowned educational thinkers. The Retreat allows participants to step away from daily challenges and dedicate time to focus on core work.

In 2022, the Foundation held its 49th annual event. Dr. Camille Farrington, Managing Director and Senior Research Associate, Consortium of School Research at the University of

Chicago, facilitated two days of discussion around the topic "Success: Developing Agency, Integrated Identity, and Competency." She challenged educators to think about the following question: *How do we design and enact practices that prepare students for the real world while also inspiring and equipping them to create a better one?*

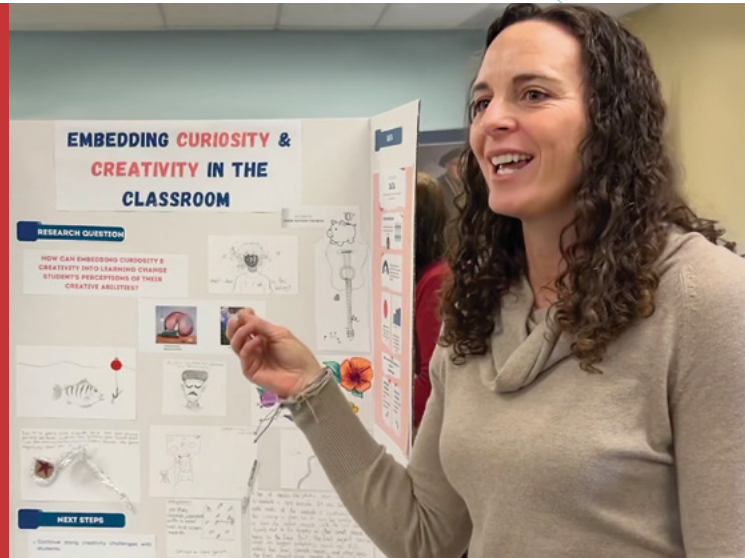
Projects modeling these ideas are already underway in districts throughout the state, including in Granville, Westerville, Columbus, Belpre, and Cleveland.

"Thank you for this thought-provoking, engaging, and honest PD opportunity... I found the Retreat content to be incredibly timely and exciting...I appreciate the opportunity to network, collaborate, and grow...Facilitation of this 'conversation' was tremendous...This was one of the strongest retreats I can recall with deeply relevant content and actionable tools I can use immediately."

SHARED COMMENTS FROM RETREAT PARTICIPANTS



Left: At the Jennings Institute, Dr. Fred Burton explains how teachers can use “Thinking Routines” to deepen students’ work. Right: Ann Hagedorn presents what she learned through her Jennings Fellows research at Tallmadge Middle School.



“I completed the action research to deepen that sense of student agency and better serve my students. I believe the more creative and flexible I can be, the more control I am willing to let go, the better it is for my students.”

CHRISTINE BURKE, ENGLISH TEACHER, FIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Each summer the Foundation sponsors two **MATHEMATICS INSTITUTES** to re-energize math educators. Separate sessions, for grades 4-5 and 6-8, are filled with practical strategies teachers can incorporate immediately in their classrooms. Those interested must be nominated by their superintendent. Dr. Jeffrey Wanko, Professor, Department of Teacher Education at Miami University, has led the hands-on sessions since 2008.

Educators who have been recognized by ODE as “Teacher of the Year” in 11 geographic regions across the state were given an opportunity to engage in action research with a professor at **CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**. Teachers identified topics they are curious about and interested in investigating further. The teachers received funding to develop work in that area of focus.

The **JENNINGS EDUCATORS INSTITUTE** energizes educators, promotes networking, and enhances classroom instruction through a series of three Saturday workshops each fall. The Institute is open to administrators and teachers in a different region of Ohio each year. Each workshop is led by a keynote speaker who is well-respected among educators in Ohio. The 2022 Institute was hosted by Kent State University.

Participants may choose to take an extra step to put their learning into practice by becoming a **JENNINGS RESEARCH FELLOW**. Under the guidance of a university mentor, these educators design and then implement a research project in their classrooms incorporating ideas presented at the Institute.

2022 JENNINGS ACTION RESEARCH FELLOWS

- [Lexie Beamer](#) • Toledo School for the Arts
- [Tamara Belko](#) • North Ridgeville Academic Center
- [Christine Burke](#) • Field High School, Mogadore
- [Rachael Grech-Scott](#) • William Rainey Harper Elementary School, Cleveland
- [Ann Hagedorn](#) • Tallmadge Middle School
- [Brooke Hare](#) • Norwayne Elementary School, Creston
- [Ramona Hasan](#) • Polaris Career Center, Middleburg Heights
- [Wendy McMillin](#) • North Olmsted Middle School
- [Lisa Owen](#) • Tuscarawas Valley Middle School
- [Cindy Schade](#) • Richmond Heights Elementary School
- [Lee Smith](#) • Ravenna City Schools

HONORING TEACHERS

The Jennings Foundation is dedicated to honoring educators who are advancing Excellent Teaching and Deep Learning in Ohio's public schools. These awards are intended to recognize their achievement, advance their professional interests, and inspire others throughout the state by sharing their input and classroom experiences.



Educators Modeling Excellence

Through the **JENNINGS EDUCATORS AWARDS**, the Foundation recognizes Ohio public school educators in five categories. To qualify, candidates must have earned respect from colleagues, demonstrate leadership in their field, and serve as a model of excellence for the teaching profession. Teachers are nominated by their superintendents and superintendents by their board presidents. All receive awards to fund projects in their classrooms or district.

In 2022, the Foundation expanded the Educator Awards Program to celebrate the efforts of additional practitioners in these fields with **AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE**.

**OHIO SUPERINTENDENT
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AWARD**
Dr. G. Ira Wentworth
Indian Valley Local Schools

Dr. Wentworth says the Indian Valley Local Schools promote deep learning on two levels: with students and with staff. With award funds, he is affirming that mission by training all K-1 teachers in Orton-Gillingham's multi-sensory approach to literacy instruction. Eventually, the effort will expand to teachers of grades 2-3. He expects the policy will positively impact all readers in his district. While he will evaluate its effectiveness over the long term, he believes, "If you implement sound processes consistently over time, it's going to have an impact, it's going to make a difference."

"I like creating conditions and opportunities for students to learn at high levels and to discover their interests and passions."

IRA WENTWORTH, SUPERINTENDENT, INDIAN VALLEY LOCAL SCHOOLS



Left: Dr. Wentworth reads to kindergartners at Midvale Elementary. "Literacy is the Foundation of all other learning," he says. Right: Karmyn Metzger is teaching her 2nd graders to become "Agents of Change."



“We are constantly bouncing ideas off each other—expanding, retracting, or revising. It’s like our own little professional learning community.”

TAMERA ZELWIN, 8TH-GRADE TEACHER, ORCHARD STEM SCHOOL, CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN SCHOOLS

MASTER TEACHER AWARD

Karmyn Metzger
Worthington Hills Elementary School

Karmyn Metzger’s classroom is a safe and loving environment where 2nd-grade students are empowered to be curious thinkers, lifelong learners, and engaged citizens. She nudges children out of their comfort zone by presenting them with ambiguous creativity challenges that require open-ended thinking. “Kids have the best ideas,” she says. “I want them to know their words have value and they really can make change at a young age.” Her students are working on projects this year to make positive change in their community. Their ideas include saving animals, picking up litter, and speaking out against bullying.

GEORGE B. MILBOURN

TEAM TEACHING AWARD
Deborah Schmidt, Takiyah Williams,
and Tamera Zelwin
Orchard STEM School
Cleveland Metropolitan School District

“Every principal’s dream is to have a staff that uses student-centered approaches and team teaching to solve problems that exist in the community,” says Dr. Andrea Moss, Orchard’s principal. Her school’s unlikely team of 2nd, 5th, and 8th-grade teachers has worked with their classes to expand and beautify the school parking lot. It now includes 18 new spaces and will house a gazebo designed by their students. Each teacher incorporates standards for their grade level in the activities required to complete the project. “We have taken an authentic situation and made it a learning experience,” says Deb Schmidt. “How good is that?”

GEORGE B. CHAPMAN, JR. TEACHER

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION**
Anthony Bokar
Innovative Learning Center
Shaker Heights High School

Anthony Bokar views himself as his students’ mathematical “coach.” Through a personalized PBL model, students co-design real-world projects of interest to them. His role is to support the math learning—anything from algebra I to calculus—involved in completing the project. It might be launching a rocket or building a budget for a small business. “It’s important to me to help students be creative and to see the world through a ‘math lens,’” he says. “I think they have grown in their appreciation as to how math fits into their world now and will continue to do so in the future.”



Left: Anthony Bokar teaches in an innovative setting where students learn math in a way that’s meaningful to them. Right: Team teachers (l. to r.) Deb Schmidt, Takiyah Williams, and Tamera Zelwin



HONORING TEACHERS



ARTHUR S. HOLDEN TEACHER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

[Emily Carter](#)
[Dayton Regional STEM School](#)

Emily Carter infuses her 6th-grade science classroom with a sense of inquiry that comes from authentic problem-based learning. She taps into the students' natural curiosities by presenting them with projects that require deeper thinking about scientific concepts. This year, her students are investigating why oak trees in the Alleghany plateau are not regenerating. This is a huge economic and ecological problem, she says, and her students get to be “real scientists” alongside microbiologists at Wright State University.

“My students are very curious and really want to help the world. So when I bring them a real-world problem, they are ready to dive in.”

EMILLY CARTER, DAYTON REGIONAL STEM SCHOOL

2022 Awards of Excellence

MASTER TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

[Maggie Rapp Boggess](#) Art • Trevitt and Beatty Park ES, Columbus Public Schools
[Nichole Fach](#) Intervention Specialist • Goldwood Primary, Rocky River City Schools
[Mawdo Fall](#) English TEOSL • Hannah Ashton MS, Reynoldsburg City Schools
[Sandy Gemmel](#) Intervention/Gifted Specialist • Indian Hill MS, Indian Hill Village Schools
[Mandi Morgan](#) 2nd Grade • Ridge Elementary, Mentor Public Schools
[Maggie Oliver](#) Intervention Specialist • Helen Arnold Learning Center, Akron Public Schools
[Daneé Pinckney](#) English • Twinsburg HS, Twinsburg City Schools
[Ashley Schroeder](#) 2nd Grade • Sharon Elementary, Highland Local Schools

OUTSTANDING SUPERINTENDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

[Jill A. Ackerman](#) Lima City Schools
[Matt K. Geha](#) Springfield Local Schools
[Scott E. Goggin](#) Westlake City Schools
[Angela J. Hannahs](#) Barnesville Local Schools

SCIENCE TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

[Amy Boros](#) Hull Prairie Intermediate School, Perrysburg Schools
[Eric Gregg](#) Olentangy High School, Olentangy Schools
[Rita Mikita](#) Garrett Morgan School of Leadership, Cleveland Metropolitan Schools
[Tina Michel](#) Shenandoah Elementary School, Noble Local Schools
[Kathleen Overmyer](#) Van Wert High School, Van Wert City Schools
[Spencer Reames](#) Benjamin Logan High School, Benjamin Logan Local Schools

MATH TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

[Jeanna Heitkamp](#) Marion Local Elementary & Mercer County ESC
[Angela McCay](#) Maple Heights High School, Maple Heights City Schools
[Kathryn Thompson](#) Summit Road Elementary School, Reynoldsburg City Schools
[Nathan Woos](#) Rocky River High School, Rocky River City Schools

TEAM TEACHER AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

[Philip Bottelier](#), [Maan Broadstock](#), [Jacqueline Harris](#), [April Marini](#), [Jenny Montgomery](#),
[Nick Pant](#), [Jon Roberts](#) Dayton Regional STEM School
[Wendy Dugan](#), [Kim Hace](#), [Jillian Negin](#) Wickliffe Elementary School, Wickliffe City Schools
[Ashley Brown](#), [Brittney Murphy](#) Woodland Elementary School, Perrysburg Schools
[Mary Kohl](#), [Sarah Loveland](#) Perry Ingenuity Institute, Perry Local Schools

“We appreciate these educators for taking the time to showcase what it means to deliver challenging, innovative, and student-centered lessons that result in powerful and deep learning.”

DR. DANIEL KEENAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JENNINGS FOUNDATION



Left: Emily Sokolowski’s recommending teacher marveled that her attitude, ideas, and flexibility match those of veteran teachers. Right: Students in Kerri Rodenbaugh’s class incorporate STEM principles while creating art.



Teachers Support their Profession and Colleagues

In partnership with the Ohio Department of Education, the Foundation facilitated a new forum in 2022 called **AMPLIFY TEACHERS VOICE**. Teachers, who had been recognized previously for excellence in practice, were invited to share their ideas on how to recruit and retain similar professionals with State Superintendent Stephanie Siddens and Chancellor of Higher Education Randy Gardner. The teachers appreciated the opportunity to share their perspectives on an issue that impacts many Ohio districts.

The Jennings Foundation launched a new program in 2022 inviting teachers to recognize a colleague they know is doing exceptional work in the classroom. Through the **TEACHERS HONOR TEACHERS PROGRAM**, Ohio public school teachers share great things a teach-

ing colleague is doing to ensure deep learning for students. Teachers submit an article and photos to showcase their colleague’s work to post on the Foundation’s website. The Foundation honors their efforts by providing funds for classroom materials to both educators.

2022 HONORED TEACHER / RECOMMENDING TEACHER

Emily Sokolowski	Jodi Hitman	Revere Local Schools
Myles Bowers	Jennifer Davis	Benjamin Logan Local Schools
Kate Scherwzler	Tracy Higgins	Milford Exempted Village Schools
Zach Griffith	Kathleen Metcalf	Akron Public Schools
Nicole Zubik	Melissa Strouth	Cleveland Hts.-University Hts. City Schools
Jody Keith	Mary Crabtree	Buckeye Local Schools
Kerri Rodenbaugh	Jeff Wells	Lancaster City Schools
Alicia Nussbaum	Susan Jones	Ottawa-Glandorf Local Schools

HONORING TEACHERS

What in the world are teachers curious about? This group of adventurers traveled to destinations on three continents during summer 2022. They gathered in December for a “Celebration of Professional Learning” to share photos, anecdotes, and the many lessons learned from their life-changing experiences.



“I traveled by myself and made lifelong friendships...I was able to find balance and make space for growth...The pool of ideas we shared among teachers was a gift... My advice to others would be go with the flow and enjoy the experience in the moment.”

SHARED COMMENTS FROM TEACHERS' EXPERIENCES

Teachers Develop Agency Exploring the World

The **JENNINGS FUND FOR TEACHERS (FFT) PROGRAM** invests in the self-determined professional growth of outstanding teachers. Ohio teachers apply for these grants through a partnership between the Foundation and the national FFT Program. Fellowships are awarded annually and allow teachers to travel worldwide during the summer. Teachers design their own experiences, either individually or as a group. Destinations are unlimited, driven entirely by the teachers' curiosities and passions. Whether they are fulfilling a lifelong travel dream or deeply studying a specific topic, teachers believe these experiences change their lives.

FFT recipients from 2020 and 2021, who put travel on hold during the pandemic, also completed their fellowships in 2022. The Foundation held a reception in the spring for recipients of the first five FFT cohorts to recognize them for thinking big, taking a risk, and transferring that experience to their practice.

INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIPS

Courtney Carroll • Estonia, Finland, Sweden

Kristin Kercher • Costa Rica

Kimberly Nofsinger • Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, France

Ariana Sanders • Ghana

Katherine Sennott • Colorado, Utah, Maine

TEAM FELLOWSHIPS

Amy Boros, Michael Dick, Kristy DiSalle
Costa Rica

Pete Barnes, Joshua Flory, Jenna Haskins, Jason Imbrogno, Malinda McNamara Kletrovetz, David Seed, Christopher Smith, Elizabeth Snoko
Washington State

Jessica Anderson, Jody Queen
Costa Rica

Beth Boza, Amanda Schaeffer
Portugal, Spain

Grants & Allocations *An alphabetical listing of all grants for the period ending 2022*

Open Grants are available to any public school district, non-religious private school working with public schools, or tax-exempt organization that assists elementary and secondary schools in Ohio.

The Board of Directors reviews Open Grant requests six times a year. Grant proposals are evaluated on the impact that the quality of teaching and/or the depth of learning the experience has for teachers and students. Excellent Teaching involves motivating students, leading them in academic discovery, managing the classroom, and connecting concepts with personal experience. Deep Learning refers to higher-level thinking, complex processing, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

Akron Public Schools Middle School Instructional Framework Year 4	\$ 104,109
America SCORES Cleveland Literacy, Fitness & Youth Development	\$ 15,000
Anthony Wayne Local Schools, Whitehouse Student SEL Needs in the Classroom	\$ 15,000
Universal Equitable Literacy	\$ 15,000
Apollo's Fire: The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra 2022-2023 Apollo's Fire Workshops	\$ 15,000
Arts Commission of Greater Toledo Inc. Young Artists at Work (YAAW)	\$ 18,000
Ashland University Essex School @ Ashland 2022	\$ 11,000
ASM Materials Education Foundation, Materials Park Materials Camps for Teachers	\$ 20,000
Athens Meigs Educational Service Center, Chauncey Project RISE's Paid Internship Program	\$ 20,000
Baldwin Wallace University BW + CMSD Virtual Private Lessons	\$ 28,000
Ballet Metropolitan Inc., Columbus Dance-in-Schools	\$ 15,000
Beech Acres Parenting Center, Cincinnati The Character Effect	\$ 25,000
Benjamin Logan Local Schools, Bellefontaine Expanding Minds With Collaboration	\$ 20,000
Boston College Trustees, Chestnut Hill LLA NE OH School Leaders Micro Academy	\$ 25,000

Boys Hope Girls Hope of Northeastern Ohio The Academy Program	\$ 20,000
Bradford Exempted Village Schools Collins Writing Program	\$ 11,600
Building Bridges to Careers Inc., Marietta Build My Bridge and Student Agency	\$ 45,250
CATCO-Phoenix, Inc., Columbus CATCO In-School Residency	\$ 15,000
Center for Arts-Inspired Learning ArtWorks Summer 2022	\$ 15,000
Children's Defense Fund-Ohio, Columbus Supporting SEL and Whole Child Wellness	\$ 50,000
Cincinnati Shakespeare Company PROJECT38: 2022-2023 School Year	\$ 10,000
City Year Inc. Whole School Whole Child Supports	\$ 25,000
Cleveland Botanical Garden Sprouting Young Scientists	\$ 14,480
Cleveland Classical Guitar Society CCGS Education Program in CMSD	\$ 10,000
Cleveland Council on World Affairs Bridges to the World	\$ 15,000
Cleveland Institute of Art Pathways to Careers in Art and Design	\$ 20,000
Cleveland Institute of Music 2022-23 CIM Teaching Artist Program	\$ 15,000
Cleveland International Film Festival Inc. FilmSlam Streams 2022	\$ 20,000
Cleveland Jazz Orchestra Sustaining Instrumental Music in CMSD	\$ 15,000
Cleveland Metropolitan Schools Arts Integration at Orchard STEM School C.H.O.I.C.E.	\$ 15,000 \$ 13,370
Cleveland Museum of Natural History SLAM Dunk for East Cleveland Schools	\$ 20,350
Cleveland Play House CARE Residencies in 3 CMSD Schools	\$ 35,000
Cleveland Public Theatre Inc. Student Theatre Enrichment Program	\$ 12,500
Cleveland State University Foundation CSU-I educate Action Research Project First Ring Leadership Academy Project-Based Learning Bootcamp Youth Participatory Action Research	\$ 35,000 \$ 24,626 \$ 9,745 \$ 27,209

Coach Sam's Inner Circle Foundation Aiming Higher Youth Literacy Program	\$ 15,000
College Now Greater Cleveland Inc. Early Action for the Motivated Middle Higher Education Compact	\$ 30,000 \$ 35,000
College of Wooster B-WISER Science Camp for Girls	\$ 10,000
Columbus Council on World Affairs Global Fluency Training Global Scholars Diploma (GSD)	\$ 25,000 \$ 28,000
Columbus Symphony Orchestra 2022 Columbus All City Orchestra	\$ 15,000
Columbus Museum of Art Cultivating Creative & Civic Capacities Year 4	\$ 75,000
Coventry Local Schools, Akron Middle School Lego Robotics	\$ 5,849
Cuyahoga Community College Foundation Tri-C TOP 2022-2023	\$ 15,000
Dance Evert STEM + Art = STEAM	\$ 8,400
Dobama Theatre Inc. Young Playwrights' Program	\$ 12,000
Drink Local Drink Tap Inc. Wavemaker Program	\$ 8,432
Economics Center for Education and Research, Cincinnati Student Enterprise Program Expansion	\$ 15,000
Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, Columbus CoPs for ALL: A Community of Innovators OSU Student Leadership Research Collab	\$ 39,000 \$ 25,000
Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio First Ring Student Leadership Institute Northeast Ohio (NEO) Works Ohio 8 Coalition: 2022-2023	\$ 24,600 \$ 50,000 \$ 20,000
Envision Children, Cincinnati Catch Every Child Initiative	\$ 15,000
Envision Excellence in STEM Education WIR'ED - AY 22/23 (Cohorts 6 & 7)	\$ 44,000
Facing History and Ourselves Inc. Northeast Ohio Partner Schools Network	\$ 20,000
Footpath Foundation Discover Your Path	\$ 25,000
Friends of the Cleveland School of the Arts CSA New Works Program	\$ 15,000

Grants & Allocations

Girl Scouts of North East Ohio, Macedonia Journeys--Minoritized Girls in STEM	\$ 10,000	Jennings Fund for Teachers Supports teachers' self-determined professional growth and development in order to enrich their own practice	\$ 60,000	Kent State University Foundation Designing Identities: Beyond 28 Bricks	\$ 20,000
Global Ambassadors Language Academy Creating Data Driven Instruction	\$ 20,000	Jennings George B. Chapman, Jr. Teacher Award for Excellence in Mathematics Education Award for a mathematics teacher, as well as Awards of Excellence for select mathematics teachers, in honor of the late George B. Chapman, Jr., former President/Chair of the Jennings Foundation	\$ 13,000	Elementary Design for 3D STEM	\$ 15,000
Graham School, Columbus We are Crew, Not Passengers!	\$ 15,000	Jennings George B. Milbourn Award for Excellence in Team Teaching Award for an exceptional team of teachers, as well as Awards of Excellence for select outstanding teams of teachers, in honor of George B. Milbourn, former President/Chair of the Jennings Foundation	\$ 14,000	Racial Equity for Teachers Institute	\$ 7,090
Granville Exempted Village Schools Students Leading the Way	\$ 54,750	Jennings Grants-to-Educators Grants up to \$3,000 awarded to Ohio classroom teachers and administrators	\$ 126,000	Science for Community Change	\$ 24,018
Great Lakes Museum of Science, Environment, and Technology Chardon Hills STEM School Partnership	\$ 29,500	Jennings Ieducate Partnership Supports an action research project as part of the ODE's statewide teacher recognition program	\$ 65,000	Kulture Kids From Ancient Times to AJ Today	\$ 10,000
Great Lakes Theater Festival Inc. School Residencies 2022-23	\$ 20,000	Jennings Leadership Series Convening of Foundation, educational, and community leaders to exchange ideas	\$ 25,000	Lake Local Schools, Uniontown Tom Tod Ideas What If 101?	\$ 4,300
Great Oaks Career Campuses, Cincinnati Reframing Mastery-Learning Through CTE	\$ 31,750	Jennings Master Teacher Award Award for an exceptional classroom teacher, as well as Awards of Excellence for select outstanding classroom teachers	\$ 13,000	Lakeland Foundation, Kirtland Teachers Guild: Year 4	\$ 15,000
Greater Cincinnati Arts & Education Center JazzReach	\$ 5,750	Jennings Ohio Superintendent Outstanding Performance Award Award to recognize the efforts of a public school superintendent	\$ 16,000	Learning About Business Inc., Painesville LAB Week 2022	\$ 12,000
Primary Instrumental Music Program	\$ 9,270	Jennings Opportunity Grants Grants up to \$1,000 awarded to schools and educational organizations for innovative projects	\$ 10,000	Licking Heights Local Schools, Pataskala Science - The Game Changer	\$ 9,856
GroundWorks DanceTheater Dance PROJECT: Firestone CLC	\$ 10,150	Jennings Summer Mathematics Institutes Institutes designed to improve the skills of Ohio's mathematics teachers	\$ 54,000	Literacy Cooperative of Greater Cleveland Professional Excellence Series	\$ 50,000
Ideastream NewsDepth	\$ 20,000	Jennings Teacher Voice and Professional Practice Teachers honored for exemplary practice convene with state-level leaders to discuss critical topics in education	\$ 10,000	Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage Stop the Hate: Youth Sing Out	\$ 15,000
Invent Now Inc., North Canton 2022 Camp Invention Program	\$ 10,000	Jennings Teachers Honoring Teachers Engages teachers in recognizing and honoring their peers' exemplary practice	\$ 25,000	Marietta College Marietta College STREAM Camp	\$ 15,000
iSPACE Inc., Cincinnati iSPACE STEM Educator Academy	\$ 15,000			Mercer County Educational Service Center, Celina Improve Teacher/Student Outcomes	\$ 32,000
Jennings Arthur S. Holden Teacher Award for Excellence in Science Education Award for a science teacher, as well as Awards of Excellence for select science teachers, in honor of the late Arthur S. Holden, Chairman Emeritus of the Jennings Foundation	\$ 13,000			Minds Matter Summer Programs & Writing Classes	\$ 28,000
Jennings Association Membership Fund Allows the Foundation to become a member in associations that share similar goals	\$ 8,000			Montgomery County Educational Service Center, Dayton Making Meaning - Create, Think, Feel, Imagine	\$ 28,910
Jennings Educators Institute - Kent State University Professional development institute for teachers and administrators	\$ 30,000			Musical Arts Association Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra	\$ 40,000
Jennings Educators Retreat Annual retreat for educational leaders	\$ 55,000			Musical Theater Project Rebuilding Kids Love Musicals	\$ 10,000
Jennings Elevate Community of Practice A cohort of Ohio's urban teachers examine teaching through the lens of how students experience learning	\$ 53,000			Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center, Zanesville Science of Reading	\$ 13,960
				New Teacher Center, Santa Cruz Columbus City Equity Project	\$ 38,500
				North Ridgeville City Schools Growing Our Own Literacy Foundation YR 3	\$ 22,000
				Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation Inc., Highland Heights STEM2U: Beyond the School Day	\$ 10,548
				Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra Inc., Oberlin NOYO 2022-23: Leveling the Playing Field	\$ 13,300

Oberlin City Schools OCS Best Practices PD	\$ 26,775	Summit Educational Service Center, Cuyahoga Falls STEAMing Up to the Challenge	\$ 18,000
Ohio Energy Project Enhancing STEM in Energy Education	\$ 13,500	Swanton Local Schools Put Me in Coach Project	\$ 15,000
Ohio Excels, Columbus Complete to Compete Ohio Coalition	\$ 15,000	Tallmadge City Schools Service-Learning & School Transformation	\$ 25,000
Ohio State University Foundation, Columbus Exploration of Place Project	\$ 43,221	Teaching Cleveland Foundation Teaching Cleveland Student Challenge	\$ 19,000
Olmsted Falls City Schools Benefits-Based Accountability System	\$ 55,000	The City Club of Cleveland Educational Engagement Initiative	\$ 28,500
Open Doors Inc. Solar Energy Project	\$ 11,800	The Works: Ohio Center for History, Art & Technology, Newark Deeper Learning: Powered By The Works	\$ 17,200
Otterbein University, Westerville Arts-Integrated Chemistry Community NExT Hub - Year 3	\$ 31,926 \$ 36,260	Toledo Science Center Engineering for Confidence	\$ 18,629
PAST Foundation, Columbus Launching the Digital OMJ Readiness Seal	\$ 55,000	University Circle Incorporated Early Learning Initiative 2022 Future Connections	\$ 25,000 \$ 20,000
PHASTAR Corp Future Aviation Careers: Navigating UAS	\$ 33,597	University Circle Incorporated LEAD - Linking Education and Discovery	\$ 20,000
Philanthropy Ohio, Columbus 2022 Education Initiative	\$ 20,000	University of Akron Foundation Third Grade Reading Action Team	\$ 30,000
Playhouse Square Foundation Virtual Classroom Connections Workshops	\$ 35,000	University of Cincinnati Foundation Community of Urban Educators Connected STEM Learning Pathways	\$ 12,450 \$ 25,000
Progressive Arts Alliance Incorporated Art-based SEL for CMSD Middle Schoolers	\$ 35,000	University School Entrepreneurship Education for Teachers	\$ 15,000
Putnam County Educational Service Center, Ottawa Mastery Learning Ecosystem Expansion	\$ 21,500	VH1 Save The Music Foundation, New York Columbus Music Saves	\$ 40,000
Rainey Institute El Sistema@Rainey Music Program	\$ 25,000	Well Community Development Corporation, Akron Akron Hope In-Classroom Tutoring	\$ 2,880
Refresh Collective Cleveland Rap-Around Strategy	\$ 19,925	Westerville City Schools Digging Deeper Project	\$ 30,500
Roots of American Music Inc. Blues is the Backbone Music Residencies	\$ 10,000	Wexner Center Foundation, Columbus Arts-Integrated K-12 Learning Programs	\$ 28,000
Sandusky City Schools Art Careers Media Project	\$ 14,209	Young Mens Christian Association Lake County, Painesville Arthur Holden Leadership Institute	\$ 55,000
Say Yes Cleveland Scholarship Inc. Say Yes Scholarship Fund	\$ 50,000	Youth Yoga Project, Worthington SEL + Mindfulness Institute for CCS	\$ 58,850
Shaker Lakes Regional Nature Center Experiential Science for CMSD Students	\$ 12,500		
Spice Acres Field Kitchen Inc. Understanding Our Community Food System	\$ 20,500		
		Total	\$ 3,780,894

All grantees are in Cuyahoga County unless otherwise noted in their title.



STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS

For the year ended December 31, 2022

Receipts

Income from investments	\$ 1,281,939
Capital Gain	590,649
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	\$ 1,872,589

Disbursements

Grants and programs	\$ 3,614,840
Operating expense (Grant-related)	999,551
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	\$ 4,614,391

Excess of Disbursements Over Receipts

\$ (2,741,802)

Note: The above figures are from the Foundation records prior to audit by RSM US LLP. Further information is available upon request from the Business Manager.

The Board of Directors met six times in 2022 to review the recommendations of the Distribution Committee to approve grants. They also conducted other Foundation business, including establishing policy and providing direction and accountability for the Foundation's funds.

The Directors have a substantial background of business and educational experience and during their careers have been involved in educational activities at various levels. They volunteer their time as a further sign of their commitment to enhance public school education in Ohio.



Mrs. Anne C. Juster
President
Spice Field Kitchen



Mr. Leigh H. Carter
Director
Relationship Manager,
Wealth Advisory Glenmede



Mr. John M. Gherlein
Director
Partner,
BakerHostetler



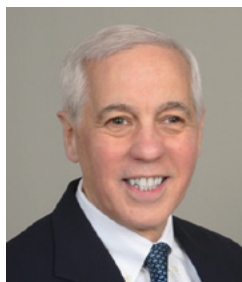
Mrs. Debra H. Guren
Vice President
President and CEO,
The Hershey Foundation



Mr. George B. Milbourn
Director
Retired Vice President,
The Coe Manufacturing
Company



Mr. Jon H. Outcalt
Treasurer
Chairman,
Federal Process Corp.



Mr. Thomas A. Richlovsky
Director
Retired Executive
Vice-President,
PNC Financial Services
Corporation



Mrs. Koyen P. Shah
Director
Director,
UPenn GSE Day School
Teaching Residency,
Hathaway Brown School

The Foundation Staff welcomed Dr. Beth Thomas in 2022. Dr. Thomas will connect us via social media to our thought partners across the state.



Dr. Daniel J. Keenan, Jr.
Executive Director

Ms. Christine W. Nestor
Business Manager

Mrs. Kathy L. Kooyman
Grants Manager

Mrs. Billie J. Pandy
Executive Assistant

Mrs. Mary Kay Binder
Editor

Mrs. Marjorie J. Cala
Accounting/Special Projects

Dr. Beth Thomas
Social Media

2022 Grant Evaluators

Mrs. Margaret S. Connell

Mr. Paul J. Cynkar

Ms. Marsha Dobrzynski

Ms. Nadine Grimm

Dr. Adrienne C. James

Ms. Sharon Arko Jones

Dr. Thomas J. Lasley

Dr. James W. Mahoney

Dr. William Wagner

Mr. Derran K. Wimer

The Distribution Committee met six times in 2022 to review Grants-to-Educators applications and make Open Grant recommendations to the Board of Directors. The committee members represent a balance of professional educators and experienced business persons who are dedicated to their responsibilities. Together, they brought keen insight and wisdom to their role as they individually read and weighed the value of 204 requests during the year.



Mrs. Jane M. Neubauer
Chairperson
Owner, Sugar Pines Farm



Dr. James V. Connell
Retired Director,
Educational Administration
Ursuline College;
Retired Superintendent,
Berea City Schools



**Mrs. Habeebah Rasheed
Grimes, LSPSY**
Chief Executive Officer,
Positive Education Program



Mrs. Doreen E. Osmun
Assistant Superintendent,
Hudson City Schools



Mr. Kyle G. Rose
Vice President, Marketing
and Communications,
Avient Corporation



Mr. Michael R. Sheppard
Assistant Superintendent,
Polaris Career Center



Dr. Bernice M. Stokes
Retired Assistant
Superintendent, Academic
Support Programs,
Shaker Heights City
Schools



Dr. Jack K. Thompson
Superintendent,
Perry Local Schools



Dr. Sajit Zachariah
Online Vice Provost
and Dean,
Cleveland State University

“Evaluating Jennings-funded projects has been a highlight of my career. Engaging with teachers and students who are eager to show what they have designed, created, and learned has been a real joy.”

NADINE GRIMM, MHJF EVALUATOR, EVALUATING AT LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



*“...to develop young people
to the maximum extent
and encourage greater creativity
in the teaching profession.”*

FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT



Martha Holden Jennings Foundation

The Halle Building, 1228 Euclid Avenue, Suite 240, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 Telephone 216 589 5700 www.mhjf.org