



**EDUCATION
FOUNDATION
OF PENDLETON**

www.educationfoundationofpendleton.org

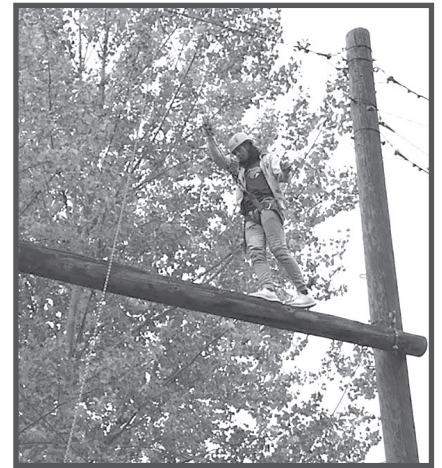
PO Box 812 • Pendleton, OR 97801

PHS ECMC Class Receives Grant Funds

Approximately 30 PHS students, along with their instructor, Sonia Cooley, were able to participate in a valuable group experience thanks to the EFP grant award. ECMC (Education Credit Management Corporation) is a national program that is designed to help students realize their potential. The course at PHS focuses on helping a variety of students, many of whom are low-income, first generation college-going students, reach their educational goals.

This is the third year Cooley has been the ECMC instructor, and according to her, team building is crucial to the success of the program. She places a strong emphasis on students becoming a "family" as they build trust and respect for one another. Thus, the field trip to the Hawk Point Challenge Course in Walla Walla was chosen as an activity to help achieve those goals. Grant funds allowed all students to participate in the field trip by eliminating personal cost as a deterrent.

A quote from a senior who participated in the ropes course best summarizes the experience: "The ropes course is an amazing way to build relationships with people you never thought you would. It also brings leadership qualities out in people you never would have known would have leader qualities."



ECMC student participates in ropes course.

In summary, Cooley stated, "the ropes course is by far my favorite activity of the school year with my ECMC class. They learn to encourage, support and trust each other!"



Students tackle the Hawk Point Challenge Course in Walla Walla.

OUR MISSION

The purpose of the Education Foundation of Pendleton is to encourage and support curriculum enrichment, supplemental learning experiences, and other projects which may be deemed necessary and timely for the benefit of students in the Pendleton School District 16R. Through its work, the Foundation promotes public awareness and seeks to broaden the support of the community for its public schools. Funds for professional development are not a priority but may be considered.

Contributions/gifts to the Education Foundation of Pendleton are tax deductible. Also, because the Education Foundation is a qualified Oregon Cultural Organization, you would be eligible to receive a tax credit on any subsequent matching gift to the Oregon Cultural Trust – a dollar for dollar reduction of your Oregon state income tax liability.

To utilize this tax credit, contact the Oregon Cultural Trust at 503-986-0088 or go to: www.culturaltrust.org.

2017 Fall Grants Total \$12,257

\$3,920

Approximately 69 Honors Biology II students at Pendleton High School will participate in overlapping field trips to the beach so that the first half will go May 15/16 and the second half will go May 16/17, 2018. During this trip to Newport and Lincoln City, these students will visit two aquariums, explore the sandy beach and rock tide pool habitats, ride in a research vessel in Yaquina Bay and on the ocean, capture crabs and flatfish and look for whales, seals and dolphins. It is expected that students will extend their knowledge of our marine ecosystem by exploring these habitats first hand and search for and handle animals discovered there. This year they will also visit the Bonneville Dam along the way to Newport. This field trip each year is the highlight of Schelle Hand Bixler's Honors Biology class.

\$1,165

On October 18, 2017, Sonia Cooley, ECMC Instructor at PHS, took 30 students to the Hawk Point Challenge Course in Walla Walla where they participated in a Ropes Course. Additional information about this trip is highlighted on the front page of this newsletter.

\$2,427

For the 17th year, the Foreign Language Club at PHS will be taking students to Eugene in May 2018 to attend the Foreign Language and International Studies Day at the University of Oregon. Kathryn Youngman, Foreign Language Teacher, estimates that 30-40 students will participate. The event is attended by approximately 1000 high school students from throughout the state. It provides students with an opportunity to explore possible foreign language careers and study abroad opportunities.

\$1,075

The 5th grade team at Washington Elementary is planning to host author visits via Skype during this school year. The writers contacted have created fiction and non-fiction work that is included in the 5th grade reading curriculum anthology and the 2017-2018 Battle of the Books literature. It is an amazing opportunity to connect students with working writers. The teachers hope to infuse energy and inspiration into their daily reading and writing. The Skype visits also introduce students to potentially new technology that they could use in the future to more easily connect to the world outside the classroom. 5th grade teachers at Washington Elementary include Kathy Gregory, Hollie Chay, Stephanie Smith, and Brenda Giesen.

\$1,400

John Summerfield, Sunridge Middle School Teacher, was given 35 tickets to a production of Portland Center Stage's "A Christmas Memory/Wintersong" performed at the Armory Theatre in Portland on December 14, 2017. The tickets normally sell for \$20 to \$75 and were provided at no charge because Sunridge is a Title I school. The production is geared to a school audience as a noon matinee, so students will drive down and back in the same day. Mr. Summerfield indicated this is a quality theatre production at a very affordable cost and his students will greatly benefit from the experience.

\$2,270

Thirty-seven ASPIRE (Access to Student Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone) students participated in a three-day college tour to the Willamette Valley November 8-9, 2017. On this trip students visited Oregon State University, Lane Community College, University of Oregon and Western Oregon University. At each college, students attended an information session, met face-to-face with admission counselors, toured the campuses, and had the opportunity to get the feel of different types of post-secondary schools in our region. Jill Gregg is the program director and stated this trip has become a very sought-after opportunity at PHS.



ASPIRE students visited several campuses during the college tour.

Grillin' for Grants Moved to Convention Center for 3rd Annual Event

Thank you to our Scholastic Sponsors (\$1000)



Thank you to our Academic Sponsors (\$500)

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The foundation would like to thank the board members who chaired the Grillin' for Grants committees:

Sponsorships: Lona Odom

Auctions: Steve Muller, Colleen Hunt
(Silent Auction baskets)

Food: Terri Taber

Food & Other Areas: Darcey Ridgway

Logistics: Steve Muller

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Publicity/Tickets: Michele Madril

On Thursday, November 9th, Pendleton community members enjoyed the third annual Grillin' for Grants fundraiser. In the first two years, the Education Foundation held the fundraiser at new Pendleton School District schools, but this year's event was moved to the Pendleton Convention Center.

About 125 people enjoyed a tri-tip dinner with Dan Greenough, PHS Principal, doing the barbecuing. Students from PHS culinary classes, under the direction of Chef Kristin Swaggart, prepared the side dishes for the meal. Students from the National Honor Society chapter at the high school also helped at the event.

The new venue seemed positive, with many attendees enjoying time before dinner to mingle and peruse auction items. Two silent auctions and a live auction were a part of the night's festivities, led by auctioneer Dennis Hunt. Foundation president Steve Muller served as the evening's master of ceremonies, encouraging attendees to purchase donated items to support the foundation. About 45 themed baskets, everything from gardening and sports to coffee lovers and children's books, were part of the silent auctions, all donated by local residents.

This year's Grillin' for Grants raised about \$21,430, a bit less than last year's event, but the foundation hopes to grow the event in years to come. "This is still a relatively new event for us, and we hope to increase business sponsorships and attendance in the future," said Steve Muller, Foundation President pro tem.

Any individual or business can be a Grillin' for Grants sponsor, so please contact a board member or visit the website if you are interested.



Grillin' for Grants sponsors are recognized.

Half of the funds raised at the event will be awarded in spring 2018 for Pendleton School District grants to teachers. The other half will be added to the foundation's endowment to increase the amount available for future grants.



Patrons enjoy the new venue and dinner at the Pendleton Convention Center.





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Donors give \$4,506 July 1 - December 8, 2017

The Education Foundation of Pendleton wishes to thank the following individuals and groups for their support. The EFP could not serve Pendleton students without donors like you.

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THANK YOU to our contributors who have helped to make these programs possible!

Please cut here and return with your donation toward enriching education for Pendleton students.

EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF PENDLETON

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