



Vashon Partners in Education

2025-2026 School Year

Enhancing the Learning Environment
in Vashon Public Schools



On the cover: **7th Grade Poetry Book Grant** at McM — Seventh-grade English students collaborated on a book of original poetry. The project provided an immersive, hands-on experience with creative writing and publishing, including editing, design and marketing.

About PIE

Vashon Partners in Education (PIE) is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1987 to enhance the learning environment in our public schools.

The mission of PIE is simple: we fund direct grants to those closest to the learning process — teachers, staff, and students. Each school year, PIE grants support activities, materials and experiences that promote hands-on learning and extracurricular programming in all grade levels of Vashon's schools. The PIE board assesses grant proposals on educational value, innovation, need and impact. **All money raised funds grants for that school year.**

Vashon PIE supporters have donated over **\$1.9 million** and helped PIE fund more than **1,600 grants!** For more information, please visit **VashonPIE.org**.



Comparative Zoology with Singer the Grey Whale and Flower Mystery Grant at StudentLink — Students studied the grey whale bones this year and compared them with other real animal skeletons including a pigeon, fish, turtle and more. Students also dissected flowers and learned hands-on botany skills.



Vashon Artists in the Schools Grant at CES — 3rd graders in their Textiles & Tapestries residency with Barb Gustafson, at McM — 6th graders in their Chinese Woodblock Printing with Allison Crain-Trundle. "Linoleum block printing projects enhance my programs by bringing art to life in a way that helps develop artistic skills and also connects with history and literature. For instance, students can dive into the cultural significance of printmaking while reading about its history in the novel, *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*," said teacher Sara Filanoski.



Applied Chemistry Through Jewelry Making Grant at VHS — Chemistry and jewelry students experienced a day of hands-on learning about chemistry through the lens of metalsmithing with guest teachers Dr. Joshua Marceau (Salish), research scientist, chemist, virologist, and silversmith, and Natalia Batchenkova, a MD/PhD student specializing in infectious disease and immunology.

No donation to PIE is too small!
Many successful grant requests are for smaller dollar amounts.

PIE Board

President: Karen Boyle • Secretary: Marie Koltchak • Treasurer: Suzanne Rutkowski
Board Members: Shanti Colwell, Phyllis Davis, Lauren Gallegos,
Beth Kraabel, Debbie Levin, John 'Oz' Osborne, Jenna Riggs,
Justine Witt, Bill Ameling (Emeritus)

PIE Q&A

What's the difference between PIE, Vashon Parent-Teacher Organization and the Vashon Schools Foundation?

Vashon Partners in Education (PIE) provides direct grants to teachers, staff, and students to support hands-on learning and extracurricular experiences across all grade levels in Vashon's public schools.

Vashon Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) organizes and supports community-building activities and funds teacher and student requests that enhance school life.

Vashon Schools Foundation (VSF) bridges critical state funding gaps to support essential teachers and staff, as well as programs in science, art, and social-emotional learning.

What kind of grants will my PIE donation fund?

Your tax-deductible donation will help fund students' favorite classroom enhancements including field trips, art projects, science equipment, elective materials, guest lecturers, and library books. PIE also supports the Artists in School and Science in School programs.

What percentage of donations are actually spent on grants?

PIE is run solely by volunteers, so more than 85% of all donations go directly to grants. Remaining funds cover operating expenses.

2024–2025 School Year Grants

All Schools

Vashon Artists in the Schools
Vashon Scientists in the Schools

Family/Student Link

Local Author Visit and Workshop
Action Simple Machines & Storage System
Enhancement of Cooking Lab
Enhancing Creative Learning Through Pottery and Claywork
Comparative Zoology with Singer the Grey Whale and Flower Mystery*

Chautauqua Elementary School (CES)

Human Anatomy
Supporting (Physically and Metaphorically) Independent Reading
Action Network: Orca Documentary and *Free Willy*
Spanish/English Science/Social Studies Books for MLL Students
Writing on the Oregon Trail
Make it Snappy—Nonfiction Writing Workshop
A Long Walk to Water

Chapter Books
Time News for Kids
Books to Support Students with Dyslexia
High Interest Books Supporting our Latino/a Community
2025 Towner Award Nominees
2025 WCCPBA Nominees
Lego Robotics Upgrade: Go Big!
Teaching World Cultures: Japan
Recorders and Drums
Occupational Therapy Tools
Ninja Obstacle Course EXPANDED!
Individualized Math Fact Fluency Practice for Special Education
Sensory/Communication
Physical Development

McMurray Middle School (McM)

7th Grade Poetry Book
Supporting Social Connections in the Library
Materials to Enhance Social Studies Instruction
Quizizz For Differentiation
Support for Students

Improve Ping Pong Program
Guardians of the Green
Adopt a Plant!
Creative Tools for Creating Art
Access to Audiobooks
Books for the Library
Debate Club*
8th Grade DC/NY Exploratory Week*
8th Grade Olympia Trip*
Promote the Vote*

Vashon High School (VHS)

Afterschool Theatre Program
Water Quality Testing
Applied Chemistry Through Jewelry Making
Building a Foundation in Grammar with Word Shapes
Literary Magazine
Updating the Library
AP Physics Class Start-Up
Laboratory Equipment
Trigonometry Experience
Calculators for Science
Climate Scientists/Community Action*
Photography Symposium*
Debate Club*

*Robin Appleford Enrichment Fund

Donate Today!

Please **donate online at www.VashonPie.org** or fill out this form and mail to Vashon PIE, PO Box 1645, Vashon WA 98070. Your tax-deductible contribution helps Vashon Island schools tremendously.

Matching Gifts—Many firms match their employees' donations. Please attach your employer's matching-gift form when you donate.

Endowment Fund—Giving to this fund helps PIE become self-sustaining.

In Honor Of—Consider a donation in honor or memory.

Your Name (as you would like it to appear on the Donor List)

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

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My tax-deductible donation this year is \$ _____

☐ Please list as a business donation ☐ In honor of _____

Please designate \$ _____ of this for the PIE Endowment Fund

Method of payment ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

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Vashon Partners in Education

*Thank you for sharing your email with PIE. We are moving toward paperless communications and will not share your email with any outside organizations.

Donors

250 donors generously contributed nearly \$56,820 last year. Thank you!

\$3,000 to \$5,000

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Royal Little Family
Foundation

Vashon Sheepdog Classic

\$1,000 to \$2,999

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Gerie Wilson Play Grant Fund

*PIE also administered
\$6,855 from 58 donors
to the Gerie Wilson Play
Grant Fund.*

PIE Business Donors listed in red.

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list donors, but unintentional
errors may occur. Please
contact us to correct our
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donors at VashonPie.org.*

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VashonPIE.org