

Portsmouth Public Education Foundation
P.O. Box 58
Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871
www.portsmoutheducationfoundation.org

Annual Report
To the Residents of Portsmouth

August 19, 2009

Introduction

As fiscal year 2009 comes to a close, I proudly offer this Annual Report of the Portsmouth Public Education Foundation (PPEF).

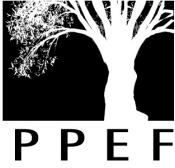
PPEF has just ended its 8th year of existence. Prior Annual Report's have chronicled the events of the previous years. The Board has diligently worked during these years to fulfill our mission and has continued to explore additional means of achieving our goals. The next year is an opportunity for PPEF and its constituents – the students, educators, and residents of Portsmouth to continue to make education in the public schools a valuable asset to our community and future.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 in Review

As a review of FY 2009, we look back at our major accomplishments.

1. We continued to add some great strength in active new members. Their addition has been a great asset to the working of the Board. The new officers appointed this year (President, Treasurer and Secretary) worked hard to make a smooth administrative transition and support of the Board was seamless.
2. The Strategic Plan has been refined so PPEF can focus on its top priorities.
3. Due to additional funding, PPEF was able to offer a secondary set of grants as well as those given in the summer for a total of 18 grants totaling \$11,335.00.
4. We have continued success of our Fall Social. We hold this annual event to honor the past recipients (teachers and students) and also provide a forum in which the success of these grant projects are displayed.
5. Our third Annual Hidden Kitchens of Portsmouth Tour was another resounding success and is our major fundraiser. With a large support of community volunteers and a very hardworking and dedicated Kitchen Tour Committee, the Tour had drawn visitors from all over the state as well as other states.
6. We held our 2nd annual Teacher of the Year Award. We solicited nominations from the community and will recognize our 2nd award winner, Ms. Cheryl DelSanto, at the Fall Social.
7. Within the community, PPEF was recognized by NewportFed Bank and was included in their Portsmouth Branch opening promotion. PPEF was also recognized by the Honnen Family with memorial contributions honoring Ms.

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- Mary Honnen, and by the Melville Parent Teacher Group that selected us as their charity of the year.
8. PPEF had an initial meeting with the two other education foundations on the island, the Newport Public Education Foundation and the Middletown Education Collaborative. A joint effort will be investigated that may be beneficial to all.

Before we look toward the next fiscal year, we must recognize the departure from our Board of some great talent.

Marty Easley is retiring after serving 6 years on the board. Marty has been instrumental in the success of the Kitchen Tour as well as the many other activities she has been active in for PPEF. Marty has also chaired the Grant Giving committee these past years.

Maria Hurley is retiring after serving 6 years on the board. The growth and continued success of the Fall Social has been under her strong leadership. Her active role in PPEF's other events and activities contributed to the success of PPEF.

Ray Isacco is retiring after serving 5 years on the board. Ray's knowledge and expertise was a tremendous asset when running the Barton J. Carroll Road Race, our first major fundraiser that helped sustained PPEF during its initial years.

Patty McCarthy is retiring after serving 3 years on the board. She has been an asset in refining and simplifying the strategic plan, co-chairing the Race committee, and a tremendous help in the nomination selection of our new board members.

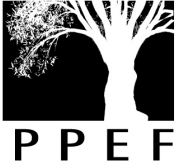
Joy Benson is retiring after serving 3 years on the board. Joy served on many committees like the Fall Social and New Member Nominations, and her active role made her a vital contributor to the growth of PPEF.

Looking Ahead – FY 2010

We look forward to FY 2010 and all the potential it offers. Among the goals we have set are the following:

1. Continued **strengthening of our Board of Directors**. For FY 2010 we will continue to add to the Board to replace departing members. PPEF has a strong and varied Board of Directors committed to the organization. Some retired members have come out of retirement and will rejoin the Board. With the nomination process and term limits, we hope to continue to have fully involved Board Members with a variety of experiences, gifts and talents.
2. **Increased community involvement** has been a goal for a number of years and we are seeing the results. The Kitchen Tour utilizes a large number of volunteers. We have been recognized as a charity of choice by NewportFed Bank Portsmouth Branch, Melville Elementary PTG and the Honnen Family. We will continue to

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- focus on making the community feel that we are an integral part of Portsmouth and they are a part of PPEF.
3. **Collaboration with the other Aquidneck Island Education Foundations** is listed as a priority in our Strategic Plan. First steps have already been taken with an informal meeting and a look in a joint fundraiser effort. We are working toward a beneficial relation in learning from each other and sharing knowledge.
 4. **Financial Strength and Soundness** continues to be a focused goal of the Board. It is in fact our fiduciary duty. We continue to invest in an endowment fund for the future of PPEF. We have also increased our funding from outside sources by applying for grants ourselves. We continue to build for the future of the Board with fiscal responsibility.

Conclusion

With a dedicated Board and a supportive community, PPEF continues to grow and meets its mission of enhancing the educational experience of our public school system. This past year was initially challenging with the administrative change. But the dedication of the entire Board kept PPEF on track in meeting its mission. I am also excited with our venture with Newport Public Education Foundation and Middletown Education Collaborative; this should be beneficial to all. And I am very privilege to hold the President seat of a very dedicated, driven and supportive Board. I look forward to another year of growth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen M. Furriel
President