

# EPAK

EAST PALO ALTO KIDS FOUNDATION

# NEWS

Since 1993, EPAK has been a community based, all-volunteer organization whose mission is to promote educational opportunities by awarding grants to teachers in the classrooms of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park.



## EPAK Day May 19 Join Us!

EPAK board invites all donors and volunteers to EPAK Day on Thursday, **May 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** at East Palo Alto Academy High School located at 1050 Myrtle St, East Palo Alto. See how your donations make a difference in the Ravenswood City School District.

## Join Us At EPAK!

EPAK is seeking new volunteers. Please visit [epak.org](http://epak.org) or email us [info@epak.org](mailto:info@epak.org) to see how you can help. Please donate at [www.epak.org](http://www.epak.org)

Please review us at [greatnonprofits.org](http://greatnonprofits.org)



Find us on 

## Executive Update

Students of Ravenswood City School District are gearing up to share their gratitude for all that you do!

Don't miss EPAK's signature appreciation event, EPAK Day, designed for donors and volunteers. The event will be held on Thursday, May 19 at 8:30 a.m. at East Palo Alto Academy High School. You'll walk away feeling a sense of pride after seeing first-hand how your donations impact students in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park schools.

You'll have the opportunity to meet board members, hear directly from a teacher, the principal and enjoy a student performance. The event will conclude with a student-led tour of several classrooms where teachers will show off how your dollars are utilized.

And, new this year we are hosting a volunteer recruitment event. Learn more about the foundation and hear about different ways you can get involved through volunteer or board member opportunities. Please join us and bring a friend on Monday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Willow Oaks Elementary School, 620 Willow Road, Menlo Park.

## Teachers Thank Donors

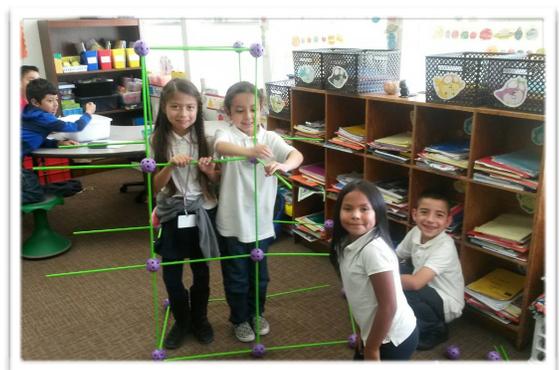
Teachers share their gratitude to donors through a recent EPAK social media campaign.

*Costano third grade teacher Hailey Amato is "thankful for EPAK for providing resources for fun, hands-on opportunities for [her] students to engineer and be creative!"*

*Belle Haven Reading Recovery Teachers Judy Wagner Klupar and Tracy Canlas say, "We are thankful for EPAK because they allow us to purchase materials for our students, which we otherwise wouldn't be able to purchase."*



Lee Dineen  
EPAK Board President



# Students in Jeopardy - Shut Out of Local Economy

A nation-wide focus has been in full swing to prepare students for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related jobs.

For the students of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park, STEM resources are well below the level of nearby wealthier school districts.

“Our students are in the heart of Silicon Valley, yet they have traditionally been shut out of the local economy, because they don’t have the skill set to match the careers that are available around us,” said Robert Pronovost, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Ravenswood City School District. “By putting STEM learning back into the classroom, students can begin to share their unique perspective and ingenuity with the world around them.”

To help address this issue, RCSD has implemented new efforts including a Makerspace initiative. According to Pronovost, Makerspace will provide a learning space for every school that students and teachers can use to learn to code, build with their hands, and print 3D objects.

What STEM-related materials teachers need:

- High quality STEM-related reading material
- iPads & Chromebooks
- Math manipulatives for tactile exploration

Please make your tax-deductible donation today to help students in RCSD. Donate online at [www.epak.org](http://www.epak.org).



www.epak.org info@epak.org  
PO Box 50542 Palo Alto, CA 94303  
East Palo Alto Kids Foundation

**GRANTING OPPORTUNITY IN EVERY CLASSROOM**

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