

Best Partnership Applications

A blueprint for success



Securing the Future, Together



Pennsbury School District
PENNSBURY PARTNERS PROGRAM
School Business Partnerships

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CURRICULUM PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Pennsbury Partners Program continues to grow and prosper. In our continuing effort to provide recognition, support and encouragement for both the businesses and the schools involved in these programs, we present this first edition of [Best Partnership Applications](#).

To be involved in a successful Partnership Program takes time, effort, commitment, caring, organization, relationship-building, understanding, and planning. The schools and businesses represented in this publication truly represent all of these characteristics, plus they have stretched themselves by getting out of their normal role and walking a different path finding ways to positively build their Partnership.

Contact your school PPP Action Team for more information and assistance to establish a partnership for your class(es).

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BEST PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Arts

- Mini-grants are offered to all Pennsbury teachers through the **Pennsbury Arts Foundation** for a number of arts-related programs. An example of one program funded to an elementary school teacher is a visit from the **current Chief and Clan Mother of the Lenape Indians** in relationship to the study of Lenni-Lenape Indians.
- Mini-grants are offered to all Pennsbury teachers through the **Bucks County Performing Arts Center** to enhance their arts/dance curriculums. An example of one program funded to a middle school social studies teacher is a visit from **Wendy Ewald** to study “*Literacy through Photography.*” Students were challenged to capture on film their written words based on Martin Luther King’s “*I Have a Dream*” speech.
- In celebration of American Education Week, the Associate Curator of **James A. Michener Museum** job-shadows a high school art teacher under the “*Workplace in Support of Education*” (WISE) Program.
- “*Art on the Move*” is a cooperative educational program offered through the **Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22** and the **James A. Michener Art Museum**. This program brings original works of art to schools for approximately 6-8 weeks. Exhibitions are accompanied by interdisciplinary curriculum material.

Business

- Bank personnel assist students with the concepts of banking and how to manage personal finances. Additionally, high school students visit **Commerce Bank University** to learn more about the training employees go through.
- Technical Education – Computer Science classes attend a “*Technology Day*” at **ICT Group** to learn about the company and participate in real problem-solving situations under ICT’s supervision.
- **Various business representatives** visit business classes and perform mock interviews, work on Resume skills, and complete job applications (i.e., staffing agency, Giant, Sesame Place, etc.).

Career

- Invite **SCORE** members from the **Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce** to talk about starting own business/careers, etc.
- Pennsbury’s School-to-Career Office organizes a Career Fair that invites a **wide number of businesses representing various careers** to become exhibitors to the students of the district. The Career Fair offers students the opportunity to learn about many careers as they prepare for the world of work upon graduating high school. Additionally, many schools hold “*Career Days*” at their buildings to offer students additional opportunities to learn more about various careers.

Cooperative Business Education Program

- An on-the-job training experience integrated with the vocational business program for junior and senior students. This is an opportunity for students to apply classroom learning in an actual office setting. **Many local businesses** host Co-Op students in their place of business.

“Elementary Students Go To Work”

- Four elementary schools participate in a one-day experience “working” in a **number of local businesses** to gain a better understanding of what the world of work is all about.

Family & Consumer Sciences

- **Commerce Bank** donates start-up funds for students to create a “Catering Club” where students learn about career opportunities in catering, and how to run a business. **Metz & Associates** also has the Club work at various functions.
- PHS Catering Club can contact a **catering facility** (i.e., Trease Catering) to work on menu and catering planning, as well as discussing financial planning.
- Invitations to **area furniture stores** and/or **designers** to make classroom presentations on how to furnish “mock” apartments are encouraged.
- Establish relationship with **Babies ‘R Us** to help students financially plan the costs of having a baby/family.

Foreign Language

- Establish a database of **speakers of various foreign languages** in varieties of careers (i.e., District Justice Mike Burns can arrange for a translator; hospital workers; Dept. of Motor Vehicles, etc.).
- PHS students in AP Spanish class work with the **Free Library of New Hope and Solebury** in creating signs, pamphlets, posters & packets advising English & Spanish patrons of available resources in the library.
- German students visit **King Ludwig’s Restaurant** and order meals and communicate with staff in German, and learn the history of King Ludwig.

Graphic Arts

- Students seek out **area businesses** to propose a new logo, business card and letterhead for a company. They meet with prospective companies; make proposals; and then do the final products and present it to the executives of the company.
- **Keystone Opportunity Industrial Zone (KOIZ)** accepts student proposals for a billboard to the entrance of their site. Scholarships are awarded and a donation is made to the department. As a follow-up, student winners are asked to create a new company logo, letterhead and business cards.
- **Graphic Arts students** visit **Bucks County Courier Times’** new technology/facility to work first hand with layout artists.

“Groundhog Job Shadow Day”

- Pennsbury High School students are offered the opportunity to job shadow a **business person** (in their area of interest) for a day to learn more about certain jobs and careers, which will enable them to make more informed career choices.

Investment Management

- **Merrill Lynch Financial Advisors** visit Investment Management class to discuss financial investment opportunities in the classroom. To follow-up, students visit Merrill Lynch facility to learn more about financial career opportunities.

Language Arts

- **Barnes & Noble** hosts Young Author’s Night for students to read their original written work.
- **Guest Authors/Illustrators** visit schools to discuss how to write a book.
- **Guest newspaper writers** visit schools to discuss journalism.
- **Levittown Library** sends the Children’s Librarian to visit elementary schools to read stories and share public library information.
- **Various business partners** are invited into elementary classrooms during American Education Week as **“Morning Meeting”** visitors. Responsive Classroom’s philosophy emphasizes oral communication skills, effective listening and basic speaking skills.
- “Speech/Rhetoric and Writing Skills” classes invite **lawyers** to work with students on the three components of communication - - writer, message and audience.
- “Theatre/Acting & Oral Interpretation” classes invite actors from **Bucks County Playhouse and/or Bristol Riverside Theatre, etc.** to work with students.
- “Creative Writing/Acting & Oral Interpretation” classes invite poets/playwriters from **Bucks County Playhouse, Bristol Riverside Theatre, etc.** to work with students.
- “Introduction to Journalism” classes invite newspaper journalists to work with students (i.e., **Bucks County Courier Times, Yardley News, Philadelphia Inquirer, etc.**).
- “Video Production” classes discuss with **BCIU and/or Comcast Cablevision** the use of their video production facility services to allow Pennsbury students on-site visits, presentations, and/or hands-on activities.
- To enhance reading skills, invite **Bucks County judges** who interpret legal documents to assist with analyzing, interpreting, and drawing conclusions.

Math

- **Ameriprise Financial Advisors** and **Phila. District Office of US Securities & Exchange Commission** work with fifth graders to learn about the stock market.
- Elementary students visit **Red Lobster** to apply learned math skills with hands-on activities.
- **Commerce Bank Wow! Zone** (and other financial institutions) present various math lessons by grade level.

- An engineer at **Six Flags Theme Parks** works with second graders on geometry & measurement lessons. He uses drawings and designs of different amusement rides for students to identify lines of symmetry, congruent shapes & triangle measurements.

Music

- Workshops and/or clinics are provided for high school students with renowned jazz trumpeter, **Terrell Stafford**.
- “*Music Mentors*” – Elementary and high school students work together.
- High school students visit area “music” businesses to learn about careers related to music.
- Students participate in the **Welch Music Festival**.

Physical Education/Health Education

- **Frankford/Lower Bucks/St. Mary’s Hospitals** – host student “interns;” and participate with school “Health Fairs.”
- **Dr. Gina Genin, Chiropractor**, presents various programs on overall good health, bones and the skeletal system. Additionally, Dr. Genin holds a “Pilates” presentation for PHS female students.
- Reach out to **Princeton University Physical Education Department** to work with physical education staff.

Physical Education/Music Classes

Bucks County Performing Arts Center works to integrate dance into the physical education curriculum. A Residency with the **Vanaver Dance Caravan** takes place at the high school level, incorporating middle school students as well. Additionally, members of the Vanaver Caravan teach dances to elementary students during their music class. Finally, Vanaver members instruct district physical education staff on many new dances, so that they can integrate these lessons into their classes.

Science

- **Air Products** performs liquid nitrogen demonstrations to chemistry students.
- Dr. David Cragin , of **Merck & Company** speaks about toxicology and health risks to third graders as part of the chemical testing unit.
- **Lower Bucks County Rock & Mineral Club** and **Chemical & Petroleum Engineering** make presentations on rocks and minerals to elementary students.
- A number of elementary schools host Science Fairs, in which **parent/scientists** offer demonstrations and/or presentations.
- **Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems “Young Women in Engineering” Program** is offered to fifty eighth-grade girls to visit and work with women engineers on two occasions.
- **Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems** (and/or **Dominion Fairless Energy** or **Wheelabrator Falls**) host Pennsbury teachers during company training sessions to learn cutting-edge technology/knowledge.
- Middle school sixth grade students perform water quality tests and participate in an invasive plant study on the Delaware Canal. **Environmental Youth Services**

works with students as they clean up six miles of the canal path along the way, and as students performed the tests while riding in canoes. The **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources** (DCNR) assists with expenses for the canoes, and the **Pennsylvania American Water Company** (PAWC) and *School Works!* sponsor this ecological sojourn activity.

- **Waste Management** offers grants to many schools to assist with environmental projects which tie into the curriculum.
- **Yardley Flower Company** makes floral presentations to third grade classes in connection with the plant unit they study.
- **Science Partners for Pennsbury** – a group of scientists (previously trained in the elementary science curriculum) are available to work with elementary students on science opportunities.
- **Janssen Pharmaceutica** presents an “Art of Science Day” in which hands-on experiments, writing ads for the company, and learning about science careers are offered at this day-long school event.
- Science related presentations are made to interested students during lunch in the “*Take a Break with Science*” opportunity. **Local businesses** are invited to make presentations.
- PHS Greenhouse Class invites **groundskeepers and/or landscapers** to discuss maintenance and tours of **local greenhouses**.
- **WAMPOLE Laboratories** recruits biology students to assist in research project testing for Lyme Disease.
- **Hahnemann Hospital (arranged through Falls Township)** – MedEvac helicopter visits schools to show how the crew uses biology and how science relates to their jobs (i.e., how Physics relates to flying a helicopter; how blood products are used by nurses).
- **Waste Management, Bucks County Audubon Society and Land-Tech Enterprises** work together promoting environmental awareness and reviving the ecology of an area for students and the community to enjoy. The “*It Takes a Village to Grow a Park*” is at Village Park Elementary School. Follow-up includes environmental science lessons to third graders and assistance with garden maintenance by **Land-Tech Enterprises**. Kindergarten and first grade students work with **Honey Hollow Environmental Center**, exploring the environment right outside their classrooms.

Social Studies

- **A parent** makes a presentation on Japanese culture and performs origami demonstrations to fourth graders. A visit to **A-1 Japanese Steakhouse** is enjoyed by students afterwards to gain first-hand knowledge of Japanese food and culture.
- A China cultural demonstration is presented by a parent to second grade students.
- **Susan Sacks, Musician**, delivers a presentation on Western Civilization to third grade students.
- **Grandmother Two Bear** delivers a **Native American Indian culture** presentation to elementary students.
- **Holocaust** and **World War II Veteran** speakers are invited to discuss their personal experiences with students.

- **Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick** and **Senator Joe Conti** visit fourth graders to discuss State and Federal Government policies. Students visit Harrisburg to see the State Capitol and meet representatives.
- **Scott Fegley, Esquire** hosts a mock trial as a hands-on experience for elementary students studying the American colonies.
- **Holy Family University** hosts an “Annual Model Congress” with area school districts. Students learn about the democratic & legislative processes. (Congressman Jim Greenwood & his aides supervised event).
- **Chief of Staff for President Jimmy Carter** visits high school students as they study Modern US & World History.
- In celebration of Black History Month, Tracey Harris of **State Farm Insurance Co.**, makes a presentation to elementary students.
- **Patrick Falci, a Civil War Re-Enactor** and performing historian is a guest speaker to eighth graders. He appears in full uniform and shares authentic Civil War items.
- **Bucks County Deputy Sheriff Tom French** works with sixth graders in their study of *ancient Egypt*. He shares stories about the ancient people’s way of life and enjoys spending time with the students who are dressed in Egyptian clothing, playing Egyptian games, and learning to write their names in hieroglyphics.
- A **Cold Stone Creamery franchise owner** speaks to an American Political & Economics Systems class about our economic system (labor, capital & entrepreneurship). She conducts mock interviews; and discusses what it’s like to be a franchise owner. She shares ice cream samples for the students to enjoy.

Sports & Entertainment Marketing

- High school students visit **Sovereign Bank Arena** to see the work that’s involved in making this arena the success that it is. Students rotate in seminars: goals/expectations; how to book/market events; how to operate Arena; and learn about Trenton Titans (minor-league hockey team). Back at school, these students learn how to promote a school event with the knowledge learned at the Arena. Select students have an opportunity to present their promotion plans to Todd Buch, owner of **McCafferty Ford**. Mr. Buch critiques each plan and gives the students the benefit of his many years of experience in sponsoring such events.
- **Janssen Pharmaceuticals** hosts a “*Sales & Marketing Leadership Program*” for high school students interested in visiting the facility and attending presentations from Product Marketing Directors, Medical Service Reps., and Sales Operations Personnel.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

- **Thousands of dollars in cash donations is raised each year by all of the schools to support local charities**, including: tsunami and flood disaster relief, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, Alex’s Lemonade Stand, Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Newborns in Need, etc.

- **Thousands of pounds of food collections by all schools go to a number of organizations**, including United Way's Operating Helping Hand, Mary's Cupboard of Levittown, St. Vincent's Orphanage, Volunteers for Homeless, Women's Shelter, and area food banks.
- **Additional fundraising causes for clothing, books, toys, gifts, etc. are also donated to a number of organizations**, including Bucks County Department of Children & Youth, American Red Cross Homeless Shelter, YMCA, The Women's Place, inner-city schools, and many others.
- **American Red Cross** holds blood drives at Pennsbury schools.
- Pennsbury High School hosts a **"Senior Citizen Holiday Dinner"** each year for over 200 senior citizens from Grundy Garden, Galilee Village, and the Falls and Lower Makefield Township Senior Centers.
- **Mill Run Assisted Living** residents are treated to visits with sixth graders on several occasions. The residents and students play games together; and students assist with cleaning the grounds.
- **Arden Courts:** Middle school students hold a "Spring Fling" for the residents. They play games together and dance with the residents.
- **Beelong Adult Day Services:** Elementary students visit residents during the holidays and sing songs with them. PHS Service Learning students also work with the residents.
- Elementary students perform a school play to **Chandler Hall** residents in celebration of Black History Month.
- Elementary students perform holiday songs to staff at **St. Mary Medical Center** to spread holiday cheer.
- Co-Op students "adopt" **a family** over the holidays, and purchase every gift on each family member's "wish list" with their own money earned through their work experiences.
- In collaboration with **Bucks County Courier Times, Waste Management, Wheelabrator Falls, Silver Lake Nature Center, and School Works!**, high school students participate in Earth Week activities. Additionally, all other schools participate in clean-up activities at many local parks.