

peoria public schools *foundation*

IMPACT Newsletter

September 2019

President's Message

I am so proud of the work and continued growth of the PPS Foundation these last few years. Our team strives everyday to do all we can for the students and staff in Peoria Public Schools, but we would not be able to do what we do without **YOU**, our amazing supporter. Check out the video below to find out a little more about what the PPS Foundation is all about.



Thank You for a Successful Uniform Fundraiser!



Thank you so very much to all who attended this year's Brats & Brew event and helped kick start our uniform fundraising effort for this school year. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to provide new uniforms and essential clothing items to PPS students in need. To date we have raised over \$6,000! Still want to donate to help us reach our goal? [Click here](#) to make a donation today!



Congratulations Alexa Grant from Sterling Middle School!

Alexa was recently awarded the PPS Foundation's "Rookie Teacher" award at our Back to School: Brats & Brew. Alexa is a second year teacher at Sterling Middle School where she teaches 7th grade social studies and ELA. Her principal, Lynn Lane, describes Alexa as "constantly giving back and going above and beyond for her students. She goes on home visits to make a personal connection and frequently sends e-mails and makes phone calls to praise students for positive behavior". Congrats, Alexa! We are so glad you are a part of the amazing teaching staff at Peoria Public Schools!



Meet our Foundation Board Member, Daniel Musisi!



The PPS Foundation is excited to introduce Daniel Musisi, one of our newest members of our Board of Directors.

Daniel is an on-air host and operations lead for WCBU, Peoria Public Radio. He joined WCBU with eight years of experience in public radio, primarily in operations and engineering. Daniel holds a bachelor's degree in audio production from American University in Washington, DC. Daniel is also an accomplished DJ, with over 20 years of experience DJing night clubs and special events including the world-renowned John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the U.S. State Department, the White House, and the 2013 Commander in Chief Inaugural Ball.

Daniel and his wife Katie recently moved their family from Chicago to Peoria. They have a 2 year old daughter named Olive, and a new baby named Desmond.

Along with Daniel, the PPS Foundation Board also recently voted in two other new board members, Solivian Dismuke and Josh Newell. Look for more information on Solivian and Josh in newsletters to come. Welcome to the PPS Foundation Board of Directors to all our new board members!

Congrats to Lillian Bishop - A PPS Foundation Shero!

Our September PPS Foundation Shero of the Month award goes to Lillian Bishop of the Peoria Public Schools Transportation Department. Lillian goes above and beyond in coordinating all of our Horizons field trips throughout the school year. We appreciate her so much! Congrats, Lillian!

This award will be given once a month to an unsung hero or shero in our schools. All heroes and sheroes will be recognized at our Appreciation Reception that will be held on May 14, 2020.



Teachers and staff, do you have an idea

for the classroom that needs funding?



To apply for any of the grants in our program, click the links below:

[Classroom Grant Application for 2019-2020](#)

[Field Experience Grant Application for 2019-2020](#)

[**New this Year!** STEM Grant Application](#)

[**New this Year!** Classroom Innovation Grant Application](#)

PPS Foundation's Board of Directors: **Andre Allen, Ruth Bittner, Solivian Dismuke, Maarten de Haas, Scott McCord, Daniel Musisi, Josh Newell, Cheryl Sanfilip, and Cathy Wiggers**

PPS Foundation's Staff: **Cindy Morris** (President), **Jen Adler** (Administrative Director), **Sarah Oakford** (Adopt-A-School Coordinator), **Trish O'Shaughnessy** (Director, Community Engagement & Horizons Program), **Anne Kennedy** (See it. Be it. Coordinator), **Allison Coulter** (Horizons), **Ella Dancey** (Horizons), and **Jen Maushard** (Horizons)

