

PROVIDENT
CHARTER SCHOOLS
positivity. possibility. provident.

2025 – 2026

Impact Report

Provident Charter Schools





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GOVERNANCE

Board Members & Leadership Team







CURRENT PCS SCHOOL BOARD

Curtis Kossman — President
Dr. B. Jean Ferketich — Vice President
Daniel Sponseller — Secretary
David Baker — Board Member
Sallie Richards — Board Member
Daniel Lynch — Board Member
Dr. Sheila Conway — Board Member
Julie Shepard — Board Member
Terry Smith — Board Member



PCS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Maria Paluselli — Chief Executive Officer

Shannon Iachini — Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Rachel Owens — Director of Communications, Operations & Stakeholder Engagement

Justin Matschener — Director of Technology

Elizabeth Swartz — Director of Human Resources

Brittany Hebert — Director of Pupil Services

Julie Ewing — Director of Enrollment

Kala Williamson — Director of Food Services

BUILDING LEVEL LEADERSHIP

Kristy Yonushonis — Principal, PCS Central
Matthew Tumulty — Principal, PCS West
Jennifer Karpa — Vice Principal, PCS Central
Robert Casey — Vice Principal, PCS Central

WHO WE ARE

Mission & Fundamental Beliefs

Provident Charter School is designed for children with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences to access their potential through a high-quality, well-rounded education delivered with multisensory instructional methods and individual learning plans.

Our students move into high school prepared to succeed and confident in their own abilities.







WE BELIEVE CHILDREN WITH DYSLEXIA FLOURISH IN A COMMUNITY WHERE:

- the child's success is the driver of every decision
- the challenges and gifts of dyslexia are deeply understood
- academic, personal, and social development share equal priority
- the uniqueness of each child is honored — strengths are built upon, weaknesses are strengthened, and potential is unleashed
- the partnership among teachers, parents, and administration is a daily commitment

IN THEIR WORDS

Parent Testimonials

Families tell us the same thing in a hundred different ways: their child changed here.

"At the beginning of the year our son could barely read. He is now reading fluently on his own."

"Our daughter has made more progress in one year than she did in four years at her previous elementary school."

"Provident has transformed our child's life. She used to come home every day and ask 'why am I not smart and why can't I read.' She loves school now and realizes that she is smart!"

"Our child went from not engaging in reading and being behind grade level, to meeting — and then exceeding — grade level by the end of the year."

"The evaluation helped identify learning struggles and deficits, and provided our child with a needed IEP that our local school district was denying."

"Every staff member we've interacted with makes us feel welcome and as though we belong here. Our family couldn't be more pleased or grateful."



VOICE OF FAMILIES

Parent & Family Satisfaction

92.1%
OF CENTRAL FAMILIES ARE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH THEIR CHILD'S YEAR

100%
OF WEST FAMILIES ARE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED — EVERY YEAR SINCE OPENING

97%+
OF FAMILIES AT BOTH CAMPUSES AGREE THE SCHOOL'S FOCUS IS IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING

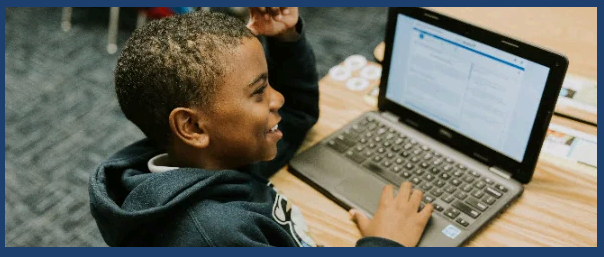
GROWTH & REACH

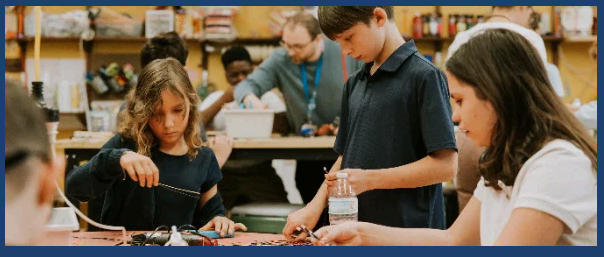
- West's survey participation has grown every year since opening, reaching 34% this year.
- Central's satisfaction rose this year, 91.3% → 92.1%
- Enrollment at PCS West grew to over 100 students, bringing our total school enrollment, across both campuses, to more than 400 students this year!

WHAT'S WORKING

- 96% of PCS families would recommend Provident to another family navigating dyslexia
- 94–97% agree teachers, staff, and administrators show they care about all students
- 96% Families reported feeling welcome and safe visiting our schools.







A FIRST FOR PCS

London

Provident's first international trip — six days in England with EF Tours.



STONEHENGE







Trip highlights included Stonehenge, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge and Windsor Palace, the London Eye and *Wicked* in the West End. For many it was their first time out of the country and for two students, it was their very first time flying!

20 / 8
STUDENTS / ADULTS

$35K
RAISED FOR THE TRIP

PROJECT LEAD: MEGHAN BRYTE · THANK YOU TO THE DAVID & GWEN CAMPBELL FAMILY, WHO GAVE $20,000 TO LAUNCH THIS TRIP · UP NEXT: BOSTON 2027

A FIRST AT PCS WEST

Summer Camp

Provident's first-ever summer camp, designed by art teacher Mr. Austin Almendarez.

5
WEEKS OF CAMP

49
STUDENTS ATTENDED

20
AVERAGE STUDENTS PER WEEK









WEEKLY THEMES

Week 1 Around the World · Week 2 Let the Games Begin · Week 3 Sci-Fi & Fantasy · Week 4 Wet & Wild · Week 5 Color Wars — each week paired with crafts, cooking and STEM activities.

WHAT FAMILIES SAID

"A wonderfully organized, fun camp!"

"My kids had such a wonderful time. Everything seemed to be well organized."

"The weekly themes were great!"

CELEBRATING STRENGTHS

Gifts of Dyslexia

PCS offers a variety of ways for students to show their strengths.

DESIGN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

D2MD is a Maker-Ed outreach program that helps schools build their programs with equipment and professional development, centered on making products that help people.



Home on the Roam — Elementary

A collapsable bed & tent, hot/cold pouches, a first aid kit, a pillow, a mattress & toiletries. Built in collaboration with 412 Youth Project.

GOLD IN IMPACT · SILVER IN INGENUITY · BRONZE IN TEAMWORK



The Fire Extinguisher Bomb

Trenton Stephens & Liam Vanyo built an extinguisher that bursts on impact, plus an electromagnetic ceiling release to clear an escape path.

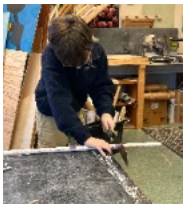
SILVER AWARD IN IMPACT



Forget Me Not — Middle School

An interactive board that gamifies the daily routine for someone living with dementia.

GOLD IN TEAMWORK · SILVER IN INGENUITY · GOLD FOR BEST OVERALL PROJECT



The Braille-a-Gator

Rebel Young & Paige Rozzo's Braille tiles imprint letters into paper through a stamp shaped like an alligator's mouth.

SILVER IN GRIT · GOLD IN TEAMWORK

PERFORMING ARTS

PCS Central Musical

This year's annual performance was *James & the Giant Peach Jr.*

PCS West Holiday Play

A full-school theatre experience — students wrote and developed the original play *Holidays Gone Wrong*.

Bulldog Bucket Band

A high-energy marching ensemble teaching rhythm, teamwork and performance at events all year.







BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Afterschool Activities

Students build teamwork and confidence in Provident's growing lineup of programs.



PCS CENTRAL FUTSAL



PCS CENTRAL PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE



PCS WEST FLOORBALL



PCS WEST TEAM STORM



PCS WEST TKD DEMONSTATION TEAM



PCS WEST FLOORBALL

Extracurricular programming grew across our campuses this year! PCS Central hosted Futsal and the PCS Percussion Ensemble, while PCS West established a dynamic Floorball program and continued to develop the Taekwondo Demonstration Team. Together, these programs gave students valuable opportunities to connect with peers, build confidence, and shine.

A DECADE STRONG · TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

A Decade of Impact

Celebrating 10 years — from our founding milestones to the educators who built them.



PCS STAFF, 10 YEAR CELEBRATION



SCOTT & KENLY ALEXANDER, 10 YEAR CELEBRATION


10 YEAR EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

CELEBRATION HONOREES

PIONEER AWARD
Dr. Rita Bean, Dr. Paula A. Calabrese

FOUNDERS AWARD
Curtis Kossman, Dr. B. Jean Ferketich, Daniel Sponseller

ALUMNI SPEAKER
Gianna Mosca

PARENT SPEAKER
Scott Alexander

EMCEE
Maria Paluselli

GUEST HOST
Jared A. Blank

10 YEAR CELEBRATION AT THE NATIONAL AVIARY OF PITTSBURGH





EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT

10 Year Milestone Employees

Lisa Auther · Devon DeJesus · Julie Ewing · Shannon Iachini · Connie Joseph · Mike Korinek · Dr. Heather Labuda · Russ Loyd · Dr. Rachel Owens · Maria Paluselli · Betta Risa · Joan Rossi · Elizabeth Swartz · Gavin Walker · Kristan Weiss · Kristy Yonushonis · Grand Master Robert Zang

What's the most rewarding part of working with our students?

"The most rewarding part of working with our students is seeing them evolve — it means we achieved the PCS mission, to access their potential and succeed with confidence."

"Although I don't work directly with students, I have the privilege of working with their families. The most rewarding part is the transformation in a conversation — when parents go from holding their breath to exhaling with tears of relief."

ACADEMICS & SPECIAL EDUCATION

Individual Support & Programming

327
IEP MEETINGS HELD

133
EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED

190+
WEEKLY TIER II & TIER III GROUPS

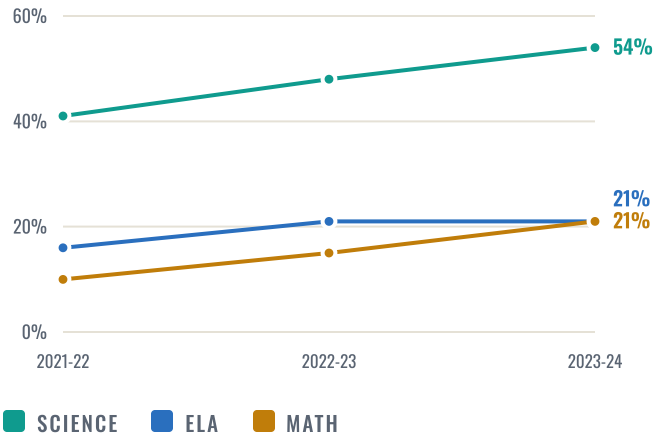
70%+
OF STUDENTS RECEIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Our educational team delivers deeply individualized instruction. Classroom teachers and support staff work alongside 17 interventionists and 8 Orton-Gillingham practitioners. PCS has nearly 50 certified dyslexia practitioners across the Central and West campuses, so every child gets the tailored support they need to thrive.



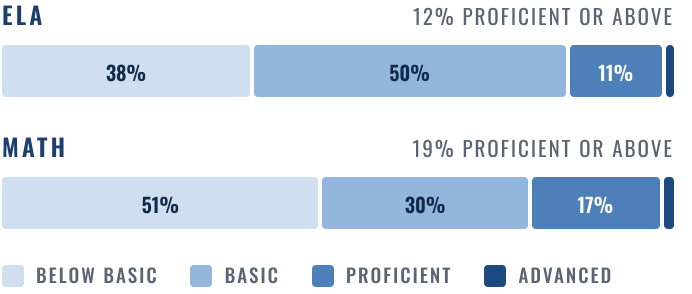
PSSA PROFICIENT + ADVANCED, POST COVID TRENDS

Network-wide, all grades, 2021–22 through 2023–24.



2025–26 PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Preliminary PSSA results, both campuses, grades 3–8 (346 scored tests).



Provident enrolls students who arrive well behind grade level. The PSSA measures grade-level proficiency, not the growth a child makes in a year and we are proud to share math proficiency has **doubled**, from 10% to 21%, since 2021–22.



SOURCE: PDE ANNUAL LONGITUDINAL PSSA ACHIEVEMENT REPORT (2018–19 TO 2023–24) AND 2025–26 PRELIMINARY PSSA FILE

INVESTING IN STUDENTS

Provident Education Foundation

Over the last two years the Foundation has awarded $15,000 in alumni scholarships and grants.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Metta Loyd

Duquesne University — funded by Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick & Gefsky



SCAN HERE TO:

SUPPORT OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2025 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Bryce Potter — University of Pittsburgh

Aliya Cottrill — University of Pittsburgh

Gianna Mosca — Duquesne University

Cincere Davis — Point Park University

2025 BUSINESS PLANNING GRANT

Phoebe Charlson

Dyslexia Is a Superpower podcast

FOUNDATION FUNDS

EITC	$87,500
Eden Hall Grant	$125,000
Foundation Initiatives Tutoring, Summer Camp, Wilson Training	$24,000
Donations	$26,000

This year Foundation funds hosted our 10 Year Celebration, funded scholarships and a business planning grant for alumni, supported curriculum writing, and provided start-up support for our virtual tutoring program and summer camp. EITC funds refinished PCS Central's gymnasium floor and purchased new bleachers, air-conditioned the Annex large group meeting space, bought musical instruments and maker-space supplies, and furnished the middle school Science and Social Studies classrooms.

STEWARDSHIP & TRANSPARENCY

High-Level Budget Information

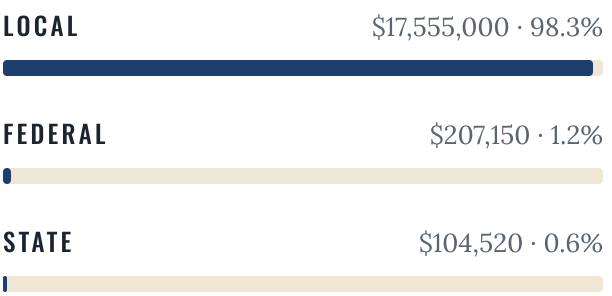
Proposed 2026–27 budget, PCS Central and PCS West combined.

$17.87M
TOTAL PROJECTED REVENUE

$15.88M
TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

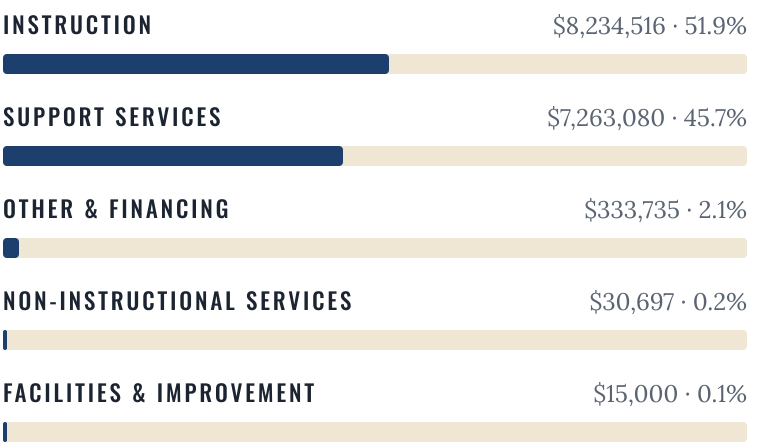
$1.99M
CAPITAL & RESERVES ALLOCATION

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



Nearly all revenue is local — per-pupil payments from the school districts our students come from.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES



CAMPUS	TOTAL REVENUE	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	SALARIES FOR DIRECT INSTRUCTION STAFF
PCS Central	$12,076,650	$11,511,665	$6,919,216
PCS West	$5,790,020	$4,365,363	$2,399,859
Combined	**$17,866,670**	**$15,877,028**	**$9,319,075**

SOURCE: PCS CENTRAL AND PCS WEST 2026–27 BUDGET ANALYSIS WORKSHEETS, 3.5% ASSUMPTION

WITH GRATITUDE

Our Donors

FOUNDATIONS, FIRMS & ORGANIZATIONS

Ampco-Pittsburgh Charitible Foundation · CF Advisors · Conway Woman's Civic Club · David & Gwen Campbell Family Foundation Inc. · Desmone Architects · First Commonwealth Bank · Human Capital Advisors, LLC · Liberty Insurance Agency · NexTier Bank · Sisterson & Co., LLP · Snyder Brothers · Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick & Gefsky · Tellken Partners

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248 INDIVIDUAL DONORS & 9 ORGANIZATIONS · THANK YOU — EVERY GIFT MOVED A CHILD FORWARD



Thank you for being part of our story.

PCS CENTRAL · PCS WEST

PROVIDENT EDUCATION FOUNDATION