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Pacific Education Institute

Annual Report 2013

A Message from our Board **President: Bill Taylor**

2013 marked a pivotal year in the history of Pacific Education Institute. With a solid decade of academic Field STEM research and program delivery behind us PEI, embarked on a year of internal growth. This was the year we prioritized capacity building, strategic planning and core value alignment. With our diverse board of education, natural resource and agriculture leaders, we joined together with staff in July at our strategic planning retreat to focus our mission and identity.

With every teacher workshop we delivered, both formal and informal, we came out from behind the nonprofit shadows and emerged as a leader and key expert in education excellence and rigorous outside STEM* learning. More people are now asking, "Who is PEI?" and we are eager to answer!



Deborah Parker, Tulalip Tribe Vice-Chair and Margaret Tudor, PEI Executive Director, 2013 Fundraising Breakfast

* Science Technology Engineering and Math



PEI Mission: Using the environment as a context, the Pacific Education Institute provides schools and teachers with tools and support to help students become socially and scientifically literate citizens, adept at critical thinking and engaged in a lifetime of discovery.

We spent this year building our donor base for sustainability and I was proud to see a packed room of supporters at our Inaugural Annual Fundraising Breakfast event that was held Thursday, June 6, 2013. Tulalip Tribe Vice-Chair Deborah Parker shared the story of her own real-world education journey in a powerful keynote address. Everyone was moved to hear students from Waskowitz Outdoor School tell their stories of what 'Real Life, Real Knowledge' means to them.

Our year ended with a robust 83 (28% total) school districts of Washington State reached statewide that are now engaged in implementing our programs. That's 762 teachers engaging 19,050 students. When I hear questions about ocean acidification and how to solve these types of problems, I'm reassured that PEI is making a difference by improving academic success and ensuring our future leaders have the critical thinking skills they need to address natural resource issues. We couldn't have finished our year this strong without our school district, community and business partners. Thank you for your continued support and keep asking - Who is PEI?!



Pacific Education Institute Real Life. Real Knowledge

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PEI leads Field STEM and Civics

Focusing on the one, three and five year organizational and program goals set out by our Board of Directors through a 2013 strategic planning process, the Pacific Education institute took action in 2013 to fulfill its mission.

Stewarding of natural and human resources—PEI's real world education programs are based on stewardship of land, water, air, wildlife, and promote a healthy environment that sustains the economy and provides access to jobs.

Promoting civic involvement—PEI partners with organizations to provide opportunities for all students to become active at the local, state, national and international levels.

Preparing teaching and learning for Next Generation Science Standards & Common Core Standards—PEI's programs integrate next generation science standards and common core standards with STEM and career and technical education opportunities.

Creating teacher leaders in environment, natural resource and agriculture education—PEI equips teachers to become field science and civics leaders in their schools and districts.

Building diverse partnerships—PEI's strength lies in our network of businesses, government and nonprofit organizations.

Organizational Goals: Why PEI?

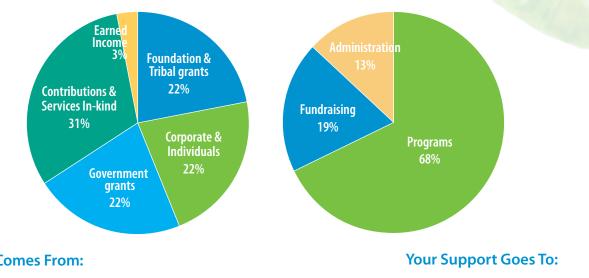
1. Leadership: *PEI is a catalyst for real-world learning,* bringing focus, reputation and expertise in key natural resource, agriculture and environmental areas.

PEI worked closely with two Education Service Districts in Wenatchee (North Central ESD) and Bremerton (ESD 114) to bring Field STEM to their teacher leaders at school districts they served. PEI and LASER jointly offered Invasive Species Workshops to Science Curriculum Directors and the LASER Kit Center Staff. These ongoing trainings are designed to eliminate invasive species release to Washington's environment through use of science kits by teachers. The Science Curriculum Leaders and their

Kit Center Staff developed robust methods to ensure best practices are used when teaching the study of live plants and creatures required by the kits.

2. Partnerships: PEI deepens organization and business stakeholder partnerships to provide relevant real world learning.

PEI piloted the Work SMART Collaborative in Pierce County in 2013, with eight school district administrators and staff participating: The common sense Work SMART model integrates and aligns federal and state initiatives through PEI's Field STEM program where Field Investigation and Project-Based Learning is connected to career relevant experience with community mentors.



2013 PEI Revenue and Expenses

Our Support Comes From:

Foundation and Tribal Grants 22% Government Grants 22% Corporate and Individuals 22%

Contributions and Services In-kind 31% Earned Income 3%

Programs 68% Fundraising 19% Administration 13% 3. Sound Business Strategies: PEI builds flexible and efficient organizational capacity to deliver programs securing sustainable income to address annual and long term strategic plan priorities. The overall focus for fundraising success was building a base for sustainability with our goal funding diversity. In 2013, we are grateful to have the support of 5 new Tribal Communities, 5 new private foundations and 15 new corporate/organization donors. We also increased Individual Giving 800% by producing our Inaugural Annual FieldSTEM Fundraising Breakfast.

PEI established a faculty model of independent consultants, whose expertise includes facilitating PEI's Field STEM and Project-Based Learning in school districts statewide. In 2013, 10 PEI Faculty members provided professional development and facilitated school district Field STEM planning.

Program Goals: How we will achieve our program goals.

- 1. Professional Development: Goal: Provide high *quality research-based professional development to the* K-12 education sector (administrators, college professors, teachers, informal educators).
 - Cumulative Total: Over the past 11 years PEI has provided extensive professional learning Field STEM opportunities to 8,292 teachers, who involved at least 207,300 students in Field STEM Investigations and Projects per year
 - 2013 Total: 83 school districts (28% WA school districts), 762 teachers engaging 19,050 students
 - Puget Sound: 43 school districts (48% Puget Sound School Districts), 665 teachers, 16,625 students
 - Coast: 15 school districts, 40 teachers, 1,000 students
 - Eastern WA: 25 school districts, 57 teachers, 1,425 students
 - Pre-service Teachers: 10 college professors
 - Informal Educators: 129 organizations
- 2. School District Models: Goal: Develop school district model options that integrate environment and *sustainability education.*

Since 2004, PEI has steadily increased school district Field STEM engagement statewide, shown in the chart at right.

3. Research and Development: Goal: Conduct and publish education research and develop innovative tools.

PEI completed the following tools to support Field STEM programs, available to teachers and educators at no cost through professional development:

PEI Guides: All Educators

- Technology for Field Investigations websites, apps and GIS technology that environment based scientists and engineers use in the field
- High Quality Field Experiences transforming field trips into deep learning opportunities for students

PEI Webinars: Science Teachers

- Field Investigation
- Technology for Field Investigations

PEI Performance Tasks: Language Arts Teachers

- Ocean Acidification
- Stormwater Engineering

School Year	PEI School Districts (Cumulative Total)
2004 – 2005	4
2005 - 2006	б
2006-2007	11
2007-2008	15
2008-2009	23
2009-2010	30
2010-2011	43
2011-2012	68
2012-2013	83

PEI Field STEM Growth: School District teacher teams receiving Pacific Education Institute professional development and coaching from 2004 through 2013.