



INSPIRING  
Our Students

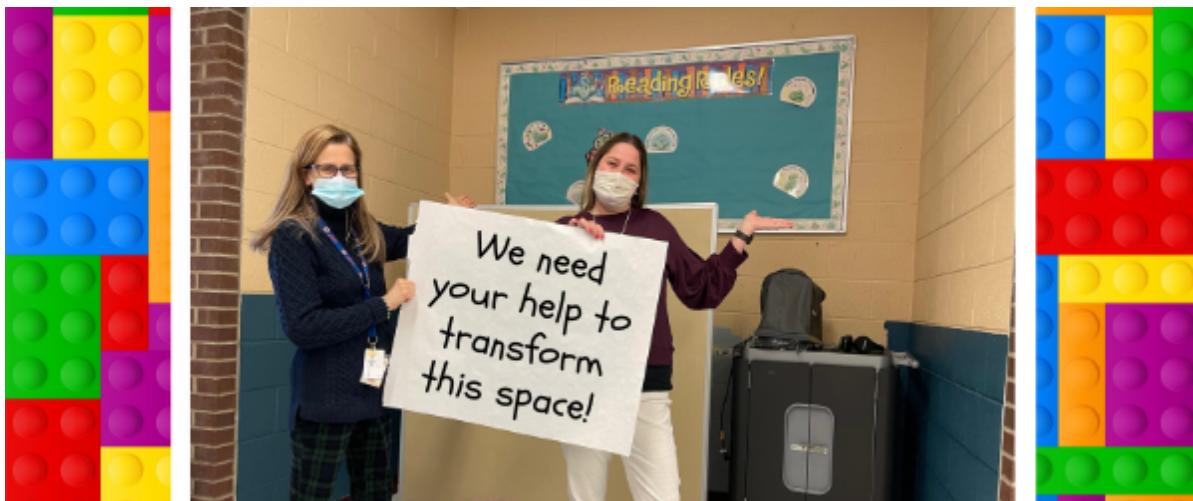
EMPOWERING  
Our Teachers

EMBRACING  
Our Community

## News from the Florham Park Education Foundation

This is the first email communication from the Florham Park Education Foundation. We look forward to providing you with updates about the Foundation, grants awarded to the schools and how we are working to raise money for the Florham Park School District.

### Reimagining the Briarwood School Library



#### Reimagining the Briarwood School Library

Florham Park's littlest learners are depending on us to reimagine the Briarwood School Library. On what is now just an empty brick wall in a corner of the library, Florham Park administrators are envisioning a new Maker Space complete with Lego brick building walls and tables as well as kid-friendly seating and shelving units. With a projected cost of \$10,000, the FPEF wants to make this a reality! *But they need our help!*

#### Learning Through Lego Brick Play

The proposed Maker Space at Briarwood Library will provide a platform for students to learn through Lego brick play. This type of hands-on play allows young children to develop important skills for future success. "We are hoping to purchase Discovery Tables with Lego grids for building, MakerBase PlayUp walls for Lego bricks and new seating options designed for young learners," explains Brian Silkensen, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, "The library has traditionally served as an area where students can experiment freely. These educational

spaces, unfettered from the conventions of the traditional classroom, nurture curiosity and problem-solving skills in Florham Park's youngest students."

### **A Priority Project in the District**

Administrators in the Florham Park District have identified this project as a priority because block play has been linked to a host of positive outcomes in early childhood education. Introducing block play at an early age offers the greatest opportunity to impact the development of these skills.

The skills developed during block play are well documented and include improvement in:

- Problem-solving
- Creativity
- Self expression
- Mathematical skills
- Scientific thinking
- Understanding of continuity and permanence
- The ability to manage and overcome stress and frustration

### **How Can You Help?**

The new Maker Space can be installed as soon as funding is procured. To make a gift in support of this very special project, please visit <https://fpefnj.org/donate/>

**Thank you** for supporting the FPEF and the Makerspace Initiative. We look forward to your ongoing contributions as the FPEF works to bring meaningful and impactful programs to the students, teachers and staff of the Florham Park School District.

[Donate Now](#)

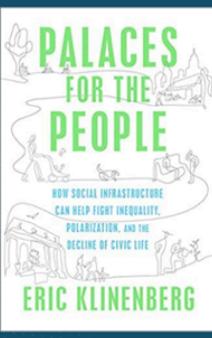
## **Upcoming Events**

Annual Workshop  
2/15-3/22

### **Community Conversations**

A moderated discussion on questions like:

- What is civic infrastructure?
- What does it mean to be a "community of volunteers?"
- How can I participate more fully in my community?

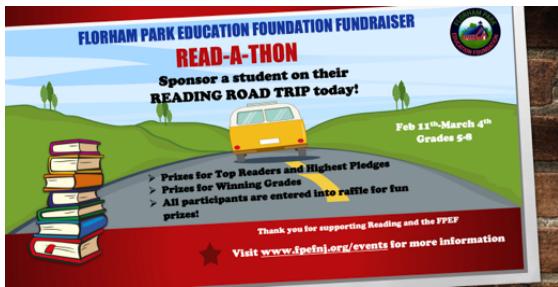


Presented in partnership with the Florham Park Education Foundation

### **Community Conversations**

All are welcome to a moderated discussion on what it means to be a "community of volunteers." We will use Eric Klinenberg's book, *Palaces for the People*, as a guide. Takes place over 5 weeks. Please register at [florhamparklib.org](http://florhamparklib.org).

### **Read-a-thon**



A school fundraiser for kids in grades 5-8. Reading is going on now! Awesome prizes and awards are available!

## Volunteers Needed

**JOIN OUR TEAM!**

**Open Volunteer Positions:**

- ✓ Financial Planning and Controls**
  - Work with Treasurer on budgets
  - Recommend financial processes and procedures
  - Research and propose investment opportunities
  - Assist in conducting annual audits
  
- ✓ Public Relations Chairperson**
  - Lead the Committee as Chairperson
  - Work with Marketing, Communications & Community Fund Development teams
  - Facilitate press relations and event promos

Email Us If Interested:  
**[inquiries@fpefnj.org](mailto:inquiries@fpefnj.org)**  
 More Information:  
**<https://fpefnj.org>**

### Financial Planning and Controls & Public Relations Chairperson

The Florham Park Education Foundation is in need of volunteers with experience in Financial Planning and Controls, and Public Relations. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved in your local community and have a direct impact on the education of students in the Florham Park School District. Please visit [fpefnj.org](http://fpefnj.org) to learn more.

## CONTACT

Alexis Seubert, FPEF President

646-425-5030

[inquiries@fpefnj.org](mailto:inquiries@fpefnj.org)



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You are receiving this email because you indicated an interest in Florham Park Education Foundation.

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**Ana Martinez** <[acemacu@gmail.com](mailto:acemacu@gmail.com)>  
To: [inquiries@fpefnj.org](mailto:inquiries@fpefnj.org)

Wed, Mar 16, 2022 at 5:38 PM

Hello,

We would like to help fund this project.  
What's the best way to know how much it is missing to fully fund the project?

Ana Martinez

[Quoted text hidden]

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- Ana C. Martinez

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- Ana C. Martinez

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**Alexis Seubert** <[alexis@zenweb.com](mailto:alexis@zenweb.com)>  
To: Ana Martinez <[acemacu@gmail.com](mailto:acemacu@gmail.com)>

Thu, Mar 24, 2022 at 3:08 PM

Hi Ana,

I'm so sorry for the delay in responding; the email went to my spam which is unusual! I'm grateful you reached out to the school who contacted me. We are just beginning the fundraising outreach for this portion of the project, so we have a ways to go on it (about \$8,000). Any contribution or support is appreciated. We can speak over the phone or meet for coffee if you'd like to learn more. Otherwise, I'm happy to pick up a check from you or you can donate via the [www.fpefnj.org](http://www.fpefnj.org) website.

Once again, I'm sorry for missing your inquiry and look forward to connecting with you soon. My cell phone is 646-425-5030

Warm regards,  
Alexis Seubert, FPEF President

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Ana Martinez** <[acemacu@gmail.com](mailto:acemacu@gmail.com)>  
To: Alexis Seubert <[alexis@zenweb.com](mailto:alexis@zenweb.com)>

Fri, Mar 25, 2022 at 12:27 PM

Hi,

No worries at all.

What's easier for you all? A check or a donation via the site?

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Alexis Seubert** <alexis@zenweb.com>  
To: Ana Martinez <acemacu@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 25, 2022 at 12:29 PM

Hi Ana,

A check is great, thank you!!! I'm traveling, back on Monday so can meet you on Tuesday. Will that work?

Thank you!!

Alexis

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Ana Martinez** <acemacu@gmail.com>  
To: Alexis Seubert <alexis@zenweb.com>

Fri, Mar 25, 2022 at 12:37 PM

That works great! Have a good trip!

My phone is 412-996-6187

Also, is the donation tax deductible? No worries if not, just to make sure I update my records.

Ana

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Alexis Seubert** <alexis@zenweb.com>  
To: Ana Martinez <acemacu@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 25, 2022 at 12:41 PM

Yes, it is tax deductible. We will send you a letter with all of the information. Thank you again and see you next week!

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