



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

2022 was a great year at Potential Development! It was a year of growth and we saw great success in several areas. Some highlights for 2022 include:

- 15% increase in enrollment
- Robokind was introduced to the preschool and elementary school
- Support services were strengthened by the hiring of a Social Worker, School Guidance Counselor and Transition Coordinator
- We experienced a record year in grant funding
- An Operating Reserve account was initiated to ensure long-term financial stability
- We were able to return to in-person special events such as Mahoning Valley Trivia with a Twist this past fall and the upcoming Mahoning Valley Pizza Cook-off
- Significant improvements were made at all locations
- We graduated our largest class in 2022

Looking forward, we would like to build off of this momentum and make 2023 an even bigger and better year.

We will continue to support our families, staff and volunteers, and we will continue to make significant investments in our programs and facilities.

Potential Development is quickly becoming the premier provider of services to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder across Northeast Ohio.

Thanks,  
Paul



POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

# PIRATES

## PD NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY 2023



*Basketball Coach Andy Chorey, Potential Development High School Program Coordinator Katie Petridis, and student Christoph Rhoads accept a check for \$4150 from Shoot for a Change coordinator, Isabella Williams.*

### Shoot For A Change Basketball Event A Great Success!

Isabella Williams, a sophomore at Hubbard HS, and cousin of our own Christoph Rhoads, organized the basketball benefit Shoot for a Change held on January 7.

Shoot for a Change featured student-athletes from Potential Development and Hubbard HS competing in a basketball game.

Isabella presented Potential Development with a contribution of over \$4100. Designed to fulfill the project requirements for her Community and Career Exploration class, the event included not only the basketball game, but performances from the Potential Development Pep Club and Hubbard HS Cheerleaders, a basket raffle, 50/50 raffle concession, and t-shirt sales.

“This event is really special to me because Potential Development does a lot for my cousin. Giving back to them is very exciting. PD encourages kids with autism to play sports, have school dances, and participate in clubs. They also work with the students to achieve their high school diplomas. It’s a wonderful school to ensure students with autism receive individual education to meet their needs and prepare them for the future,” said Williams.

Paul Garchar noted, “This charity basketball game was a great opportunity for our students to show the community how much they enjoy extracurricular activities such as athletics and pep club. It’s important for students to receive a well-rounded experience in academics, sports, music, and the arts. We thank Isabella Williams for organizing this outstanding event.”



## WE'RE A BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION™ SCHOOL!

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## MAHONING VALLEY PIZZA COOK-OFF IS BACK!

For the first time since 2019, one of our signature events, the Mahoning Valley Pizza Cook-Off is back in person! We are challenging our PD families to help us make a few baskets for the event by donating gift cards.

We are looking for the following donations:

- Gift cards from local restaurants, diners, and coffee shops to make an "Around Town Lunch/Dinner" basket
- Gift cards from local retail stores you like to visit to create a "Shopping Spree" basket

If you are able to donate a gift card, please bring it to your child's school and deliver it to Aly, Jen, or Nancy by Friday, February 10. If you have any questions, please email Jodi Harmon at [Jodi@potentialdevelopment.org](mailto:Jodi@potentialdevelopment.org).

## Thank you to our amazing MV Pizza Cook-Off PD Promise Event Partners!!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### EARLY NOTICE!

Please remember that Monday, February 20 is President's Day and Potential Development is closed that day.

Spring Break will begin on Friday, April 7. School will resume on Monday, April 17.

Future Parent Meetings will be on March 8, May 10, and June 14 at 9:00 a.m.

### All School Calendar

- Wednesday, February 8 Parent Meeting with Social Worker Tiffany Carson
- Thursday, February 9, Varsity Basketball game, 6:30 p.m. at St. Michael's, Canfield
- Monday, February 20, PD is closed for President's Day
- Friday, February 24, JV Basketball game, 6:30 p.m. at Fairhaven School, Niles

### Preschool Calendar

- Check your paper calendar for specific Valentine's Day school activities
- Classroom Valentine's Day parties, Tuesday, February 14

### Elementary/Middle School Calendar

- Check your paper calendar for specific Valentine's Day school activities

### High School Calendar

- Check your paper calendar for specific Valentine's Day school activities
- Classroom Valentine's Day parties, Tuesday, February 14