

Key Biscayne K-8 PTSA
Founding Edition

The Shark Impact Circle Community Investment Guide

Investing in the Future of Key Biscayne K—8



National
PTA®
everychild.onevoice.®

One Fin. One Community. Lasting Impact

Letter from the Board

As an alumna of Key Biscayne K-8, a parent, and now President of the PTSA, I have had the privilege of experiencing this school from many perspectives.

As a board we know our students, our teachers, our island, and the extraordinary community that has always believed in investing in its children.

As our community continues to evolve, our school should evolve with it. That is why we created The Shark Impact Circle, an invitation to invest in opportunities that strengthen our students, support our educators, and build a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Together, we can create opportunities that public funding alone cannot provide.

Go Sharks!

Jeanette Tomassello
President, Key Biscayne K-8 PTSA

The Gap Between What We Have and What We Need

Strong Students. Under-Resourced Classrooms.

Key Biscayne K–8 serves 750+ students today, with the capacity to serve up to 1,200 students on one campus. While public funding covers the essentials—core curriculum, basic staffing, and required resources—it does not provide for many of the programs, experiences, and enhancements that help our students thrive. Everything beyond that, from STEM labs to reading support, depends on what our community chooses to fund.

Our students already outperform Miami-Dade and the state. But strong results don't mean every classroom has what it needs.

A

FLDOE grade,
2022–2024

76% - 80%

Math Proficiency

23:1

Student-Teacher Ratio

74% - 75%

Reading Proficiency

44%

flagged Robotics / AI
as needing improvement

54%

of families want
STEM programming

40%

flagged Technology &
Computer Science

64%

of families want
Special needs support

What Stakeholders Report

We know exactly where the gaps are because we asked our own families directly. And teachers agree: 52% rank technology/resources as their #1 support need, and 65% flag reading/literacy as needing the most help next year — echoing exactly what families told us.

01

Literacy gaps

65% of teachers flag reading/literacy as the area needing the most support next year.

02

Math support needs

Teachers rank math among the top academic areas requiring additional resources.

03

Teacher strain

Open-ended responses repeatedly cite burnout and workload — teachers doing more with less.

04

Technology gaps

52% of teachers rank technology/resources as their single biggest unmet need.

What These Gaps Cost Us

When funding stops at the basics, students feel it first — a reading intervention that waits months instead of weeks, a shared robotics kit instead of one in every classroom, a teacher who sees the need but not the time to meet it. Multiply that across 750+ students, and the gap compounds every year it goes unaddressed.

Students wait longer

for help that should arrive in weeks, not months.

Priority programs stay limited

STEM, robotics, arts, athletics — reaching some classrooms instead of every classroom

The evidence lines up

65% of teachers and 44–58% of families independently point to the same gaps

Sources: FL Dept. of Education, School Grades & Schools of Excellence (2022–24); EAB Community Survey, Qs 9 & 10 (796–1,081 responses).

What We Believe, What We Do

One Island, One School, One Standard

Key Biscayne is more than a place — it is a community that believes in investing in education, supporting community, and working together to create opportunities for every child.

Highly Engaged Families

A connected school community with strong volunteer participation and year-round involvement.

Families, Businesses & Partners

Partners gain meaningful visibility while investing in the next generation.

Civic Engagement

Families, businesses, educators and community leaders working together.

What We Believe

We believe every child deserves the opportunity to learn, explore, create, and thrive.

We believe exceptional schools are built through exceptional partnerships.

We believe supporting teachers strengthens students.

We believe community investment creates opportunities that public funding alone cannot provide.

We believe strong schools build strong communities, and strong communities build strong schools.

We believe leadership is measured not only by what we accomplish today, but by what we leave behind.

THE PTSA COMPASS — WHAT GUIDES EVERY DECISION

PRESENT

We show up.

CONNECT

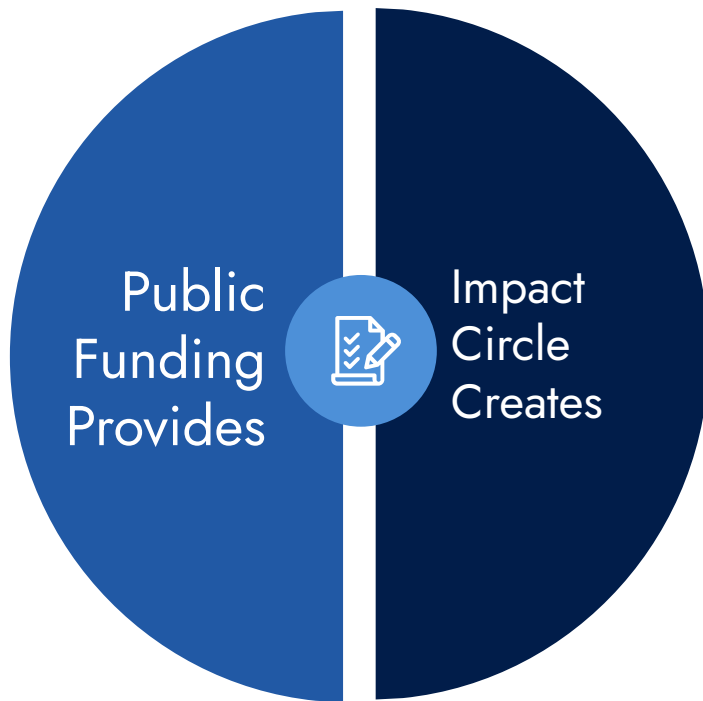
We build community.

INSPIRE

We create opportunity.

SUSTAIN

A foundation for the future.



Why Partnership Matters

Every great community is defined by what it chooses to invest in for tomorrow.

Public funding provides the foundation for our school. The Shark Impact Circle makes it extraordinary.

Through the Shark Impact Circle, local businesses, families, and community leaders come together to invest in opportunities that public funding alone cannot provide — supporting outstanding educators, expanding academic and enrichment programs, enhancing student well-being, and creating learning experiences that prepare every child for the future.

Together, we are investing in the next generation of leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers — one student, one classroom, and one opportunity at a time."

Public funding provides

- Core teachers and curriculum
- One shared classroom set
- Standard playground upkeep
- General supply budgets
- Baseline instruction

Shark impact circle creates

- Reading and math interventionists for students who need extra support
- Shade structures and upgraded outdoor learning spaces
- Funds ~\$200–250 in classroom mini-grants for each of our 40+ teachers, plus a wellness and appreciation initiative — directly addressing the burnout our own teacher survey flagged
- K–2 paraprofessionals in the grades that matter most

Our Portfolio

We invest in opportunities that public funding alone cannot provide—creating exceptional student experiences, supporting outstanding educators, strengthening our school community, building a lasting foundation for future generations.

01

Academic Excellence
& Targeted Literacy

02

Innovation, Discovery
& STEM Labs

03

Arts, Music & Athletics,
Campus Spaces, Teacher Fund

The Pillars

Every gap we've shown you falls under one of three places to invest.



Academic Excellence & Targeted Literacy

Every child deserves the opportunity to build confidence and succeed.

\$70K

Reading & Math Intervention

Funds two part-time interventionists — one reading, one math — at roughly 25 hrs/week across the school year, running small-group pull-out sessions for the students who need it most.

65% of teachers flag reading/literacy as the area needing the most support — this closes that gap directly.

\$100k

K–2 Classroom Professional Assistant

Funds one paraprofessional per grade — K, 1st, and 2nd — at ~5 hrs/day across the ~180-day school year (~\$20–22.50/hr): the same staffing model already proven in past years.

Smaller effective group sizes in the years that matter most for foundational learning.

Innovation, Discovery & STEM Labs

Preparing students for the future through exploration and hands-on learning.

\$10K

STEM Innovation / Robotics Lab

Funds roughly 10 VEX Robotics classroom kits (~\$500 each) plus a shared class set of tablets — reaching every upper-grade classroom instead of one shared kit school-wide.

*52% of teachers rank technology/resources as their #1 need;
44% of families flagged robotics/AI specifically.*

\$31K

Nature Center Outdoor Learning Partnership

Funds a full school-year partnership: monthly field sessions for every grade, marine science curriculum materials, and staff-led outdoor labs — the same model already running successfully at KBK8.

A track record of results already in motion — your investment scales what's already working.

Campus Community & Student Experience

Creating welcoming spaces and well-rounded experiences where students thrive.

\$25K

Arts, Music & Athletics

Funds classroom art supplies for every grade, a year-long visiting-artist residency, and new intramural sports equipment.

*58% of families want expanded athletics;
46% want more arts and music access.*

\$78K

Campus & Outdoor Spaces

Shade structure installation plus playground equipment and recess materials, pending final vendor quotes.

Usable outdoor space during peak sun hours, and safer active play for every recess period.

\$10K

Teacher Excellence Fund

Funds ~\$200–250 classroom mini-grants for each of our 40+ teachers, plus a wellness and appreciation initiative addressing the burnout our own survey flagged.

Directly addresses teacher-reported burnout — supporting the people closest to our kids every day.

Full Initiative Detail : \$324,000.00

Pillar	Initiative	Investment	Status
Academic Excellence	Reading & Math Intervention	\$70,000	Available
Academic Excellence	K-2 Classroom Professional Assistant	\$100,000	Available
Innovation & STEM	STEM Innovation / Robotics Lab	\$10,000	Available
Innovation & STEM	Nature Center Outdoor Learning Partnership	\$31,000	Flagship / Ongoing
Campus & Community	Arts, Music & Athletics	\$25,000	Available
Campus & Community	Campus & Outdoor Spaces	\$78,000	Available
Campus & Community	Teacher Excellence Fund	\$10,000	Available

Join the Circle

Join the Shark Impact Circle

Every partnership—whether \$500 or \$25,000+—helps create opportunities that public funding alone cannot provide

Nurse Shark

\$500—\$1.5K

Every partnership makes a difference.

Hammerhead

\$1.5K—\$2.5K

Growing opportunities for students

Bull Shark

\$2.5—\$4.9K

Investing in academic excellence

Tiger Shark

\$5K—\$9.9K

Driving innovation and discovery

Great White

\$10K—\$24K

Creating transformational impact

Whale Shark Legacy

\$25K+

Building a lasting legacy for generations

Recognition & Benefits by Level

Recognition	Nurse	Hammer	Bull	Tiger	G.White	Whale
Website Recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Media Spotlight		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Event Signage		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Campus Signage			✓	✓	✓	✓
Founders Circle			✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition Wall				✓	✓	✓
Project Naming*					✓	✓

Founders Circle

The inaugural members of The Shark Impact Circle will forever be recognized as the partners who helped establish a new tradition at Key Biscayne K-8.

Founders Circle recognition is reserved for partners who join at Bull Shark level (\$2,500+) or above by January 1, 2027 - after that, this designation closes for good.

Legacy Opportunities

Donor bricks • Recognition walls • Project plaques • Select naming opportunities where appropriate and approved

Community Recognition

Founders Wall • Annual Impact Report • PTSA Website • Signature Events • Founding Partner Plaque

How to Give

01

Choose Your Level

From Nurse Shark to Whale
Shark Legacy.

02

Choose Your Pillar

Pick the pillar that matches
your values.

03

We Follow Up

A PTSA board member confirms
details within 48 hours.

Key Biscayne K8 Center PTSA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit. EIN:23-7628479. Contributions may be tax-deductible as allowed by law.

The future of Key Biscayne is shaped by those who choose to invest in it today.

Join The Shark Impact Circle

