School Resource Academy

School Resource Academy, led by the Office of Grant Development, builds capacity for fund development in selected schools as a part of an effort to create greater equity in fundraising across the district. We aspire to create a fundraising environment that empowers school leadership and communities to prioritize specific classroom needs that will help to foster equitable learning spaces for all students, especially students of color and English language learners (ELL). School Resource Academy will align closely with the School District of Philadelphia's Goals and Guardrails visions, (1) Welcoming and Supportive Schools (2) Enriching and Well-rounded school communities (3) Partnering with parents/family members (4) Addressing racist practices. We believe that every student should be given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential; this means providing equitable resources, including but not limited to school community fund development training.

For our second year, we will assist 10 schools in raising $10,000 each, for a total of $100,000, but more importantly, we seek to build the long-term capacity at the selected schools to continue resource development in future years. The principal of each school will be provided with an individual session to choose priorities and strategies, aligned with goals and guardrails, to direct their school team in raising funds. Principals will be asked to identify teams for their school, consisting of perhaps two school-based staff and two parents or community members who will commit to attend twice monthly after-school sessions to learn and utilize fund development skills (specifically grant writing, fundraising, pitch process, crowdfunding, social media and communications). Participants will have the opportunity to choose speaker topics to discuss issues affecting their school communities -- i.e. environmental justice, food access, redlining, etc. The interest form opens in August. Workshops for school teams will begin in October 2022.