



While the 2021 - '22 academic year mightily tested everyone involved in education, our team at Pathways High (PH) is uplifted by all the **shining moments** we've experienced. We hope that sharing our collective accomplishments will provide inspiration and encouragement to others. PH's mission to unleash all learners' potential now is a worthwhile and purposeful challenge that brings great rewards. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to PH's generous supporters. Evidence abounds that your time, talents, and treasure are making a positive impact on the PH community!

## 2022 BY THE NUMBERS

- 140 Students, Grades 9 - 13
- 26 Seniors
- 14 IMPACT Year Students
  - 1 Business Started
- 12 Graduates Pursuing Postsecondary Credentials
  - UW-Milwaukee
  - Construction Apprenticeship
  - Beloit College
  - UW-Oshkosh
  - Alverno College

## SHINING MOMENTS

- 1 2022 Graduates
- 2 Making Our Presence Known
- 3 5-Year Charter Contract Renewal
- 4 Literacy Program with Marquette University
- 5 Junior Defense
- 6 Pathways to Tech Careers
- 7 Expansion Grant Award
- 8 Pathways to Construction Careers

### 1 SHINING MOMENT: 2022 GRADUATES

The students tell Pathways High's story best. The following are a few excerpts from students' 2022 graduation speeches.

"The ability to acknowledge that each and every individual has their own lived experience is a vital skill. **Our diverse school community mirrors the real world**, and having these capabilities at this point in our lives sets us up for success outside of high school." –Avery S.

"Now, I've said this a million times in the past, but it's true – choosing to go to Pathways was one of the best decisions I've made." –Tori L.

"As a small school, we have had a lot of opportunities to step up into leadership. Pathways is unique in how student-led we are." –Casper V.

"Another thing Pathways is really big on is building connections ... remember when Mr. Meyer said **'It's not just WHAT you know, but also WHO you know.'**" –Aaliya H.



### 2 SHINING MOMENT: MAKING OUR PRESENCE KNOWN



After focusing last year on interior renovations to satisfy code requirements for occupancy as a public school, this year we made investments on the exterior, including:

- A large Pathways High logo sign on the Wisconsin Avenue facade
- A **new digital monument sign** to promote enrollment and school activities

### 3 SHINING MOMENT: 5-YEAR CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL

This year, our 5th year of operations, we were required to complete a rigorous charter renewal application process with our authorizer, UW-Milwaukee, which included:

- 30 page application documenting PH's academic, organizational, and financial operations
- Review committee interviews with the board, leadership team, students, parents, & staff
- A school site visit by members of the review committee

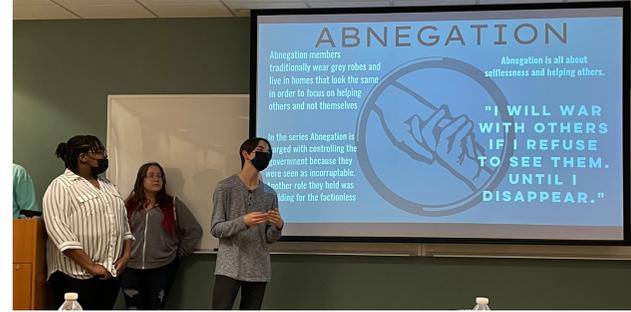
**Pathways High received approval for the maximum contract renewal term, five years, a testament to our team's high quality work!**



## SHINING MOMENT: THE INTRODUCTION OF PH & MU LITERACY PROGRAM

PH piloted the first series of university-partnered book studies with the dual purpose of promoting:

- literacy development in PH students; and
- literacy instructional growth in Marquette University (MU) pre-service teachers, building a teacher pipeline for Milwaukee-area schools with literacy teaching skills in all academic subjects.



PH students participated in book studies that support their growth in text analysis, communication, and discussion skills, as well as future readiness skills like perseverance and self-direction. Twelve pre-service teachers built mentor relationships with PH students that have refined their skills in reading instruction, questioning to support critical thinking, and management of small-group book discussions. Because seeing oneself as a reader is critical for developing strong literacy skills, the following table highlights the strong gains in students' mindsets regarding reading and participating in book discussions. As further evidence of strong engagement, several initially reluctant readers stepped forward to run their own book clubs.

Survey Prompt	Reading a book is something I like to do.	I tell my friends about good books I read	When I'm in a group talking about what we're reading, I talk about my ideas	Knowing how to read well is important to me...
Data for 30 Book Club respondents who completed pre & post surveys	+27%	+34%	+30%	+20%



## SHINING MOMENT: JUNIOR DEFENSE OF ADVANCED MASTERY STANDARDS

After seeing high levels of student engagement and learning at PH exhibitions, veteran teachers Jamie Ohland and Chris Kjaer believed students would elevate their learning even further if given the opportunity to publicly defend their work in order to earn advanced mastery credit. So in summer 2021, the pair collaborated on the development of a Junior Defense process, akin to a masters thesis defense, that culminates in a presentation to a student audience and evaluation panel consisting of:

- Two PH students
- A PH teacher, certified in the content area of the standard, and
- One or two community members

Jamie and Chris developed the rigorous rubric that is used by the evaluation panel to determine the awarding of advanced mastery credit. Having community members participate on the evaluation panel raised the stakes for both the students and PH, but also raised the rewards in the form of external validation.

Junior Defense guest evaluators are network connections that can open doors to limitless opportunities for our students as they pursue new projects, internships/apprenticeships, and the optional IMPACT/5th year at Pathways High.

**In 2021 - '22, 88% of juniors attempted the defense of an advanced mastery credit and 68% were successful.**



### Expanding Students' Networks

Junior Defense guest evaluators represented the following organizations:

- Association of Equipment Manufacturers
- Marquette University Law School
- Reinhart Boerner Van Duren
- The Urban League of Milwaukee
- Neighborhood House
- The Brand Lab
- Fund Development Corporation
- City On A Hill



## SHINING MOMENT: PATHWAYS TO TECHNOLOGY CAREERS

Over 3 years, PH has developed a comprehensive technology curriculum consisting of:

- A technology seminar arc including: Programming; Robotics; Drones/Data Analytics
- Opportunities to participate in the SeaPerch underwater robotics competition
- Preparation for technical and industry certifications and internships

In April 2022, five PH student teams participated in the SeaPerch competition and two PH teams won awards! The diverse technology skills students are developing set them up for **success in advanced manufacturing and technology career pathways**.



## SHINING MOMENT: CHARTER SCHOOL EXPANSION GRANT AWARD

In June 2022, PH was awarded a \$750,625 U.S. Dept. of Education charter school expansion grant to be claimed over the next four years! The first year ('22-'23) award is a planning grant in the amount of \$150K. This funding enabled us to hire a Community Engagement Coordinator who will support marketing/recruitment and enrollment. The largest portion of the grant will be funded during the expansion year ('23-'24) when we add 30 students. The funding will be used to purchase industrial automation equipment to support technology careers pathways; two vans to drive students to industry IMPACT experiences and dual enrollment classes; staff professional development; furniture; and laptops.

The grant evaluators gave **PH's grant application a score of 47 out of 50 total points** – a 'strong' rating, the highest category. We're very proud that Pathways High earned such high marks through the work of our small, but mighty team.



## SHINING MOMENT: PATHWAYS TO CONSTRUCTION CAREERS



Paving pathways to construction careers began with the following:

- Boat-building seminar in collaboration with All Hands Boatworks
- Construction Explorers programming led by 2020 PH graduate and near peer mentor
- Design Challenge seminar focused on the central question, **"How do we use space to create community?"**
- IMPACT experiences at the Children's Hospital Boldt construction site and Bucks Deer District thanks to a partnership with Boldt and the Wisconsin Academy for Global Education & Training (WAGET)



## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

As a regional public charter school, PH is intentionally bringing together people from wide-ranging communities, providing the diversity of thought necessary to tackle the complex challenges facing us today and in the future.

### RACE

- AFRICAN AMERICAN, 50%
- CAUCASIAN, 30%
- HISPANIC, 7%
- NATIVE AMERICAN, 5%
- BI-RACIAL, 8%



### GENDER

- FEMALE, 52%
- MALE, 48%



### SOCIOECONOMICS

- NON FREE & REDUCED, 40%
- FREE & REDUCED, 60%



BASED ON 140 STUDENTS FOR 2021-2022