



BERMUDA EDUCATION
NETWORK



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN EDUCATION

BEN believes in a school system that pays attention to the physical and emotional as well as the intellectual needs of kids, building networks, expanding horizons and drawing parents close.

What sets our program apart is its holistic approach to education. Through hands-on exploration and immersive experiences, we're not merely imparting knowledge; we're igniting a lifelong love for learning. Research underscores the pivotal role of background knowledge and mastery of the alphabetic code in reading proficiency. The Horizons program augments this foundation by enriching children's "bank" of usable vocabulary through exposure to a diverse array of experiences.

Life in a school is made up of a developmental triangle:

- *The core instructional program*
- *The academic social, cultural and recreational offerings which are designed to expand student's opportunities for learning; and*
- *The support services, which can remove barriers to learning.*

Theory of Change

1. BEN believes that the best way to transform our school system is to support public school teachers
2. If we provide support at the classroom and individual child level in the areas of language, literacy and numeracy as well as social emotional learning, and if we partner with parents, teachers and community members, we can increase the likelihood of positive life outcomes for at risk children.



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MISSION

“To build a professional learning community that increases the opportunities and services available to public school students and teachers.”





COMMUNITY NEED

BEN exists to address educational gaps which have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. The need for summer remediation is highlighted by the willingness of twenty five teachers to give their time during July for BEN's reading program. There is also a recognition that in order to prevent young learners from developing reading challenges, we need to enhance professional development opportunities for those responsible for teaching reading and disseminate insights on the Science of Reading.

BRIEF HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION

Since 2010 Bermuda Education Network has provided opportunities for students and teachers in all of the schools in the public school system. Our first program, the Math Springboard program, provided adolescents with a combination of math coaching and work-shadow experience at international businesses. Many of the students who we introduced to insurance and reinsurance are underwriters, actuaries and brokers in Bermuda today. In 2016, in response to the need for earlier educational intervention and increased support for teachers, we suspended our Springboard program to focus exclusively on gaps in the primary school curriculum and creating a network of teachers to help us.

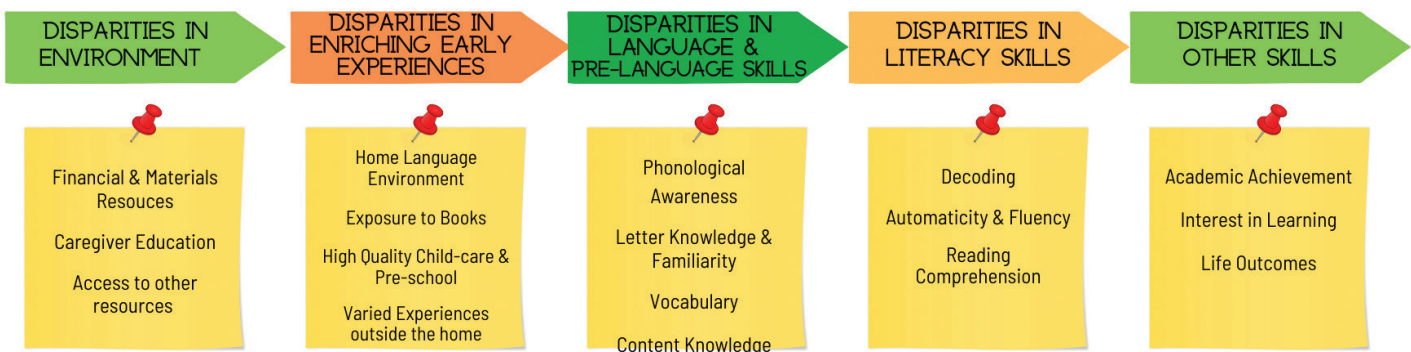
Over the past ten years we have developed a large network of hundreds of teachers as well as business supporters and community groups and we have created opportunities that public school educators can apply for directly. We are a trusted alternative for school improvement.

In 2017, BEN launched an annual Outstanding Teacher Award which invites Bermuda public school teachers to nominate their fellow educators and culminates in an award ceremony which in 2022 took place at Government House and was hosted by Her Excellency, the Governor.

The winners and finalists of BEN's awards are invited to contribute via our Awards Committee, through "passion projects" and as tutors for our Summer Program.

Opportunity gaps in early experiences

THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT,
EARLY LITERACY, AND SES
DR. RACHEL ROMEO, CCC-SLP



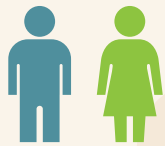


I thoroughly enjoyed my experience with the BEN Summer program 2023. It was well organized, and I appreciated the alignment with Bermuda Public School System curriculum standards. I was able to supplement the lessons with my own understandings to expand knowledge for the students. Each day provided many opportunities to engage with the students, in both whole group, small group and individually. The reading books selected were rich in content and vocabulary. I think I may have enjoyed them more than the students.

Helen Paynter

Outstanding Teacher Awards Finalist 2020 and 2022

2023 AT A GLANCE



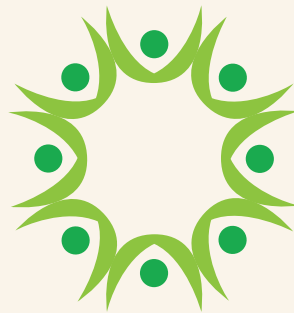
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STUDENTS RECEIVED SERVICES



\$434,500

RAISED



BERMUDA EDUCATION NETWORK



114

TEACHERS SUPPORTED



4

PROGRAMS CONDUCTED



IN REVIEW



HORIZONS

All BPS teachers from P2-P5 can sign up for free experiential learning expeditions with tie-in professional development workshops, and cross-curricular lesson plan support. We collaborate with Bermuda Sloop Foundation, Kaleidoscope Arts Foundation, BUEI, BZS, The AgraLiving Institute, the St. Georges Historical Society and the St. David's Historical Society.

NEW this year! P2 and P3 themed units with KAF, BZS and BUEI and a Discovery Day offered to Purvis Primary in collaboration with Agra Living and Masterworks Museum.

The number of expeditions completed was 173.



BEN BOOK CLUB

Creates an opportunity for children to develop language skills at the pre-reading stage, such as phonemic awareness, rhyme and repetition.

NEW! Music, movement, and craft activities added to the monthly story time events

46 families received free activities and books worth \$150+



SUMMER LEARNING

Intensive three week summer reading intervention provided by specialist teachers and tutors with enrichment from Kaleidoscope Arts Foundation.

44 students completed the program.



OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS

BEN's annual Outstanding Teacher Awards recognizes the accomplishments of exceptional teachers in public schools and provides grants and support for teacher leadership opportunities. The 2023 winner was Hewitt Taylor, Mathematics teacher at The Berkeley Institute.

10 local teachers received \$1000 and attended a ceremony hosted at HSBC.



YOUNG CODERS & ENGINEERS CLUB

Outstanding Teacher of the Year 2021 Finalist, Mr. Troy King continued to lead the Young Coders and Engineers Club. S1 & S2 students attended weekly robotics and coding lessons with our partner, Connectech.

14 Senior School students received weekly STEM lessons throughout 2023.

THE NETWORK

In 2023 BEN welcomed Fiona Murdoch as Program Director and Robyn Hooper who joined our team of Network teachers who have full time jobs as teachers and serve as “ambassadors” for BEN’s programs. This includes helping to design lesson plans and field trips and leading workshops.

REACH

Approximately 25% of the public primary school teachers have participated in BEN workshops.

Board of Directors 2023

Becky Ausenda
Colm Singleton
Cora Lee Starzomski
Lorene Philips
Edmeiko Butterfield
Gloria Dill
Sonia Raynor
Michael Toyer
Amanda Stewart

BEN Team and Network Teachers

Latoya Pearman
Stephanie Hollis-Bloom
Fiona Murdoch
Kelly Rodday
Tiffany Bean
Florence Brown
J’ree Burgess
Robyn Hooper
Troy King

Interns

Morgan Kempe
Allie Calauro
Charlotte Neal
Harlee Purvey
Angela Basden

Awards Committee and Summer Program Team

Angela Tota-Francis	Susan Masters	Shelley Daniels
Ashley Phipps	Corrina Rego	Stacey Kyme
Cheryl Symons	Danielle Tannock	Suzette Cheeseman
Makeese Gilbert	Yakeisha Weir	Taylor Saraiva
Necheeka Trott	Donika York	Talitha Davis
Jennifer Lang	Dr. Judith Bartley	
Jeanna Mae Furbert	Helen Paynter	
Natalie Roberts	Nataki Smith	

Horizons Partners

Agra Living Institute
Kaleidoscope Arts Foundation
Bermuda Zoological Society / BAMZ
Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute
St. George’s Historical Society (Mitchell House)
St. David’s Historical Society (Carter House)



OUR DONORS

GENERAL OPERATING

\$100,000+

Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropy

READING PROGRAM DONOR

\$100,000

FortitudeRe

SUMMER LEARNING DONOR

\$40,000

Centennial Bermuda Foundation

AUDITORS

\$16,000

Deloitte Audit services

HORIZONS DONORS

\$5,000 - \$20,000

Kattegat Limited

The Peter Cundill Foundation

Ascot Group

SOMPO

Validus

Aspen Bermuda Limited

Hannover Re (Bermuda) Ltd.

Fidelity International

Edmund Gibbons Ltd

Wilton Reinsurance Bermuda
Limited



CODING CLUB DONOR

\$15,000

Ark Underwriting

TEACHER AWARDS TITLE SPONSOR

\$15,000

Allied World Assurance

SCHOOL DONATIONS

\$2,500 - \$5,000

Scott and Saskia Pearman

Conyers

ASL Holdings

Everen Group

Lockton Companies International
(Bermuda) Limited.

International General Insurance

Liberty Mutual

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

\$1,000

Andrew and Jessica Laing

Chantal Cardinez

Tom and Heather Conyers

BERMUDA EDUCATION NETWORK FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

January - December 2023

	Jan-Dec 2023	Jan-Dec 2022
Donations	BD\$434,500	BD\$356,307
Program Expenses		
Total Experiential learning programmes	BD\$ 162,833	BD\$ 150,531
Reading Programmes	BD\$ 111,657	BD\$ 117,585
Teacher Development	BD\$ 29,566	BD\$ 23,672
Total Program Expenses	BD\$ 304,056	BD\$ 291,788
Payroll Expenses	BD\$ 118,516	BD\$ 124,979
Operating Expenses	BD\$ 17,742	BD\$ 11,700
Marketing Expenses	BD\$ 5,047	BD\$ 18,747
Audit Fees	BD\$ 21,210	BD\$ 21,210
Total Expenses	BD \$ 466,571	BD\$ 468,425
Deficit	-BD\$ 32,071	BD\$ 112,118





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