

Our Essential Commitment Fund 2021-2022

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Our Essential Commitment Fund?

The Fund is in the third year of a three-year effort to support the Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School and its mission. We hope that all parents, alumni, the Board of Trustees, and Friends of Parker participate as generously as they can. Whatever the amount of the gift, we are deeply grateful for each expression of support.

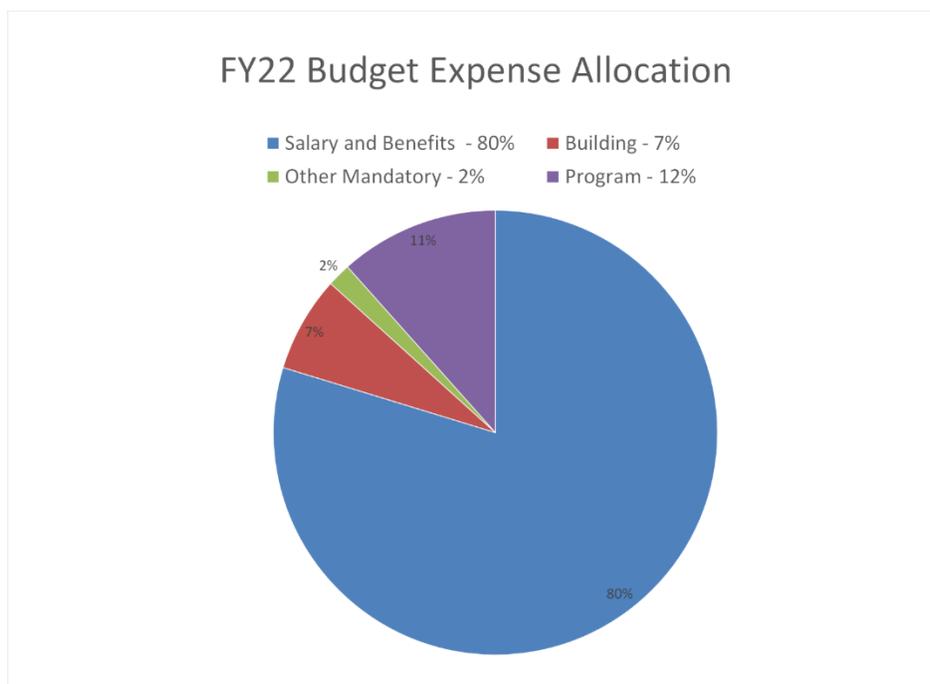
2. When does the Fund start and end?

Parker's fiscal year runs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Gifts received prior to June 30th, 2022 will count towards the 2021-2022 Fund.

3. How is the Fund spent?

Every dollar given to the Fund supports the teaching and learning that occurs at Parker this year. The Fund is included in the operating budget of the school; approximately 80% of annual expenses go toward compensation for Parker's teachers and staff. The Fund also supports Parker's Third Decade priorities which include:

- Upgrading facilities;
- Enhancing technology to support student learning;
- Promoting teacher innovation, experimentation, and discovery;
- Increasing diversity of staff and student body;
- Expanding dissemination of best practices;
- Strengthening connections to key constituencies and partners.



4. How much is the fund seeking to raise?

Parker’s 2021-2022 Fund is expected to raise \$200,000 for current use and facilities investments.

5. Do other charter public schools solicit donations?

Yes. While Parker is unique in many ways, it is not unique in its need to raise funds to support operating costs. Increased need for private fundraising is common these days in district public schools as well.



Traditional Public Schools
These public schools have access to significant subsidies for facilities and capital projects through the Massachusetts Building Authority.

Charter Public Schools
These public schools rely on fundraising in place of state subsidies for facilities.

6. What is the long-term goal of the Fund?

Our goal is to have 100% participation of our community. If you can only support one fundraising initiative at Parker, please consider Our Essential Commitment Fund. Each and every gift, regardless of its size, is a show of support for Parker.

7. To whom do I make out my check?

The check should be made out to: The Sizer Foundation, Inc. and mailed to Our Essential Commitment Fund, 49 Antietam Street, Devens, MA 01434, attn: Development Office.

8. What is the Sizer Foundation?

The Sizer Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation (501c3) whose purpose as a public charity is to support Parker and the Sizer Teachers Center. All contributions to the Fund will be used to support The Parker School.

9. Is my gift tax deductible?

Yes. The Sizer Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization which the IRS determined to be tax exempt. All contributions to the Sizer Foundation are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

10. How can I make a gift?

There are many ways to give to Parker including by cash, check, matching gift from corporations, stock transfer, and by credit card at www.parker.school/giving. Go to www.theparkerschool.org and click on the “Support Parker” link which gives information about the Fund and how to donate to it.

11. If I give a small gift, will it really matter?

Absolutely! Your gift combined with the gifts made by other parents, trustees, alumni, and community members makes a big impact on Parker. All gifts are greatly appreciated.

If you have any additional questions about Our Essential Commitment Fund, please email Katrina Tedstone, Parker's Development Director, at ktedstone@theparkerschool.org.

Thank you for your support of Parker!