**PCEF Program Spotlight**

**The Best Example of Park City’s Educational Excellence: Graduating Seniors**

In a mountain town, May is the first month when hope for spring transitions into reality. May is also a perfect time to pause and recognize the transition Park City High School seniors will be making as they move their tassels from left to right and head into their next life chapters. At PCEF, we are proud witnesses of this annual and symbolic rite of passage. Seniors represent the culmination of Park City schools’ commitment to educational excellence and are the ultimate testament to Park City School District and the impact PCEF and its donors have on student success.

Rising star PCHS senior Claire Oberg is a member of the Girls in Tech club and one of the co-organizers of Park City’s first [female hack-a-thon](https://www.parkrecord.com/news/park-city-high-school-students-plan-all-female-hack-a-thon/) which took place this April. “I have always liked science and math but when I was a sophomore, I put computer programming down as an alternate elective and ended up falling in love with it,” said Claire. PCEF provided a $700 express grant to help support the hack-a-thon, which is planned to take place again next year.

Beyond Girls in Tech, Claire is active in eight clubs at the high school as well as the Nordic ski, track and cross-country teams.  **“**There are endless opportunities to pursue whatever you are interested in – academically or as an extracurricular. All of the teachers are great. They really care about teaching and student success.”

Claire heads off to Brown University next fall where she is looking forward to taking a wide variety of classes just like she did at PCHS. Her advice for current PCHS students is, “Just take whatever classes interest you. Pursue interests outside of academics. There are so many opportunities to learn and grow at PCHS.”

Kyle Sedgwick is another PCHS senior who exemplifies student excellence. A trumpet player since middle school, Kyle is part of both the concert band and varsity jazz ensemble. “Being a part of [PC Bands](https://www.pcbands.net/) has been such a great experience for me. I’ve met so many people and I really like working together toward a common goal, like putting on the annual PC Bands Sweetheart Gala which PCEF supports,” noted Kyle. Kyle will be joining the PCHS Marching Band in Normandy, France this summer to represent the USA at the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

Kyle was a member of the PC Robotics club freshman year and competes on the school’s mountain biking team. “I think it’s very important to pursue both academic and extracurricular

success. As long as you are willing to work hard, there are so many options in terms of classes, clubs and other activities through PCHS.”

Next year Kyle will be attending the University of Utah where he will pursue a degree in Computer Engineering. He will also be a member of the Ute’s marching band. Kyle’s parting wisdom for next year’s seniors: “You don’t need to have a 4.0. You should push yourself to try things that will benefit you beyond your grades. You can gain so much experience by trying different things and getting a feel for what you really enjoy. This will better prepare you for success after high school.”

Both Claire and Kyle credit PCEF for funding so many different experiences and activities in Park City schools. Claire said, “There are so many learning opportunities and programs at the high school that are free or low cost because PCEF has helped out. I know other schools don’t have access to the things we do because of PCEF.”

Congratulations Claire, Kyle and the entire graduating class of 2019. It has been a pleasure watching you grow and thrive in Park City schools and an honor to play a role in shaping your educational journey. Good luck next year!