

# SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATIONS



SUBMITTED BY STONE HOUSE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

*Stone House Investment Management Partners, from left to right: Raymond "Scott" Stone, Robert Brown, CFP®, CEPA®, Kirk Lunger, John Burke.*

## *Tiger Fund Takes A Giant Leap*

Bob Brown, a Certified Financial Planner and Community Foundation Director is taking the Tunkhannock Area School District (TASD) Tiger Fund for Excellence to a new heights. Bob and his partners in business at Stone House Investment Management are creating a new \$50,000 Tiger Endowment Fund to complement what exists. It will generate annual grants of about \$2,500 to flow directly to the existing Tiger Fund for Excellence. But this new endowment's principal will be preserved, invested to grow by compounding over the years. That creates stability while offering a new conduit for TASD donors to support their schools.

The TASD Tiger Fund for Excellence was founded in 2017. Its purpose is to identify and privately fund worthwhile extracurricular, co-curricular and STEM related projects which are not funded through the district's operating budget. Since its founding, the Tiger Fund Advisory Council led by Dr. Bill Prebola has been a driving force to overcome obstacles to investing in and improving their local schools. They have organized a Board of local business owners and professionals, mostly TASD alumni or families with children in the district, who have done wonders contributing capital and enlisting other willing donors.



Over the past seven years they have been successful in raising \$75,000 to \$100,000 every two or three years at mid-winter dinners, featuring music and an exciting live auction held at Stone Hedge Golf Course. Auction items, donated by local businesses and individuals, have included spectacular prizes such as a two-week stay at a Hawaiian guest house, a beautiful canoe, and furniture and artwork both created by the students of Tunkhannock. The proceeds have spawned impressive improvements at the schools. They have purchased drone cameras, helped equip the Robotics Club, added upgraded light and sound equipment for the Drama Club, bought sports equipment, funded a Trout in the Classroom program, built an Aquaponic Greenhouse, and worked with an anonymous donor to provide specialized exercise equipment in the stadium weightroom.

Unlike scholarships which benefit a single outstanding student, Tiger Fund investments enrich 20 to 50 students a year over multiple years.

Bob and his partners at Stone House are hoping the new endowment fund will encourage others to add to it, enabling it to provide a permanent and steady stream of funding for these amazing students. Learn more at [facebook.com/TASDFoundation](https://facebook.com/TASDFoundation).