



Foundations

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EGR SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

VOL. XXXIV FEBRUARY 2016

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Message from the President

We are proud of our students and teachers at East Grand Rapids Public Schools, and happy to enrich the educational experience by funding excellence in teaching and learning that requires financial support beyond the district. The Foundation was established in 1983 and has proven to be critical to providing enhancements and supporting programs that are vital to our children's education.

Over \$2.6 million in grants and program support have been awarded since inception. This past November we funded nearly \$30,000 in new grants ranging from a Veteran's Day speaker, to a King Tut Exhibit visit, to the high school Robotic Competition team, to ukuleles for 5th graders. We look forward to funding an additional \$87,000 in enhancement grants this spring.

In addition to enhancement grants, we are preparing for the fourth year of EGRNOW! to support immediate program needs. We recognize that this fundraising effort is essential to maintaining the critical programs that are no longer guaranteed through state funding. In the weeks ahead, you'll hear more about this outreach to support the 2016-17 school year. Our ask is for the entire community to participate and to stay informed.

We are incredibly fortunate to have the East Grand Rapids Public Schools at the center of our community. We invite you to engage with the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation and participate in any way you can.

Mary Reagan Shapton

Middle School Student Shares his Excitement over New Technology

The sixth graders got to experience 3D printing as a launch to a Makers Club and Innovation Lab for the whole school. Patrick Periard, EGR Class of 2021, shares his experience:

"Because of your generosity, we have a tiny piece of the future sitting in room 203 of EGR Middle School. We want you to know that we love the idea of 3D printers in classrooms. When I was little, I always thought that being able to create things right before your eyes was magical. Now we have that opportunity in my own sixth grade homeroom, not a lot of people get to say that, exactly 28 in fact. This resource, this tool, affects our class like you wouldn't believe. Now instead of looking at drawn heart diagrams we can hold a model in our hands still warm straight off the printer. Not only that, but we have discovered different ways they are used in the world today whether it's building a colossal Jaguar for the front of a personal cruise ship, replacing infected parts of the skull after brain surgery, or even making a 3D-printed functional car.

I would personally like to say that having this 3D printer has made the year such a fun and amazing experience and our class would like to thank you." *Continued on page 7 for teacher's perspective.*

DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 1, 2016 –
Spring grant deadline

March 12, 2016 –
HURRAH! - The Harris
Building – downtown
Grand Rapids

May 1, 2016 –
Nominations due for
teacher awards and
student scholarships

June 15, 2016
(Wednesday) –
Gerken Open - Thousand
Oaks Golf Club

*A special thank you to
Bethany Bregenzer,
Brenda Cronin, Megan
Knuble, Mari Persons
and Amy Rockwell for
their volunteer hours in the
Foundation office.*





Foundations

February 2016
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THE DONOR ROLL CALL

The East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation's Donor Roll Call recognizes those individuals, businesses and organizations that have supported the Foundation from **January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015**. The Foundation's Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges all who have generously supported our mission through their gifts. We also thank individuals who have secured matching gifts from their employers, as well as the employers who have supported their employees' generosity through matching gifts.

This list reflects all outright gifts and does not include participants in Foundation-sponsored events such as HURRAH! or golf outings.

EGRNOW!

Pillar: \$2,500/year or more

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Marty & Sue '56 Allen
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Brett & Kim Bolt
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Brett Brinker & Heather Slay, '89
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Marjorie Neubig – in honor of
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& Ellery Spagnuolo
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Mary Kaneti
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Allison Koetsier
Rob '84 & Julie Kowalewski
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Jim & Mary Krzeminski
Brad & Susan Laffrey
Russ & Jill Lampen
Lucas & Joni Leete
Richard & Heather '92 Lewis
Mary Loupee
Matt & Kathy MacGregor
Jeff '91 & Shannon
MacKeigan
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Magolan
Matt & Amy Marlow
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Hezi & Ilanit Marx
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Peter & Michelle McSorley
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Rose Dobrez
Dennis & Amy Donohue
Jason & Stephanie Doublestein
Rick & Traci '88 Douglas
Owen & Audrey Dow
Jim & Kelly Doyle
Bob & Linda '65 Dudley
Ulrich Duffner & Debra
Williams
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 in honor of Mr. Bert
 Froylsland, English teacher

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 Mark Schwartz & Catherine
 Kaneti
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 honor of Miss Lois
 Waterman, high school
 teacher
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 in honor of Gary & Mary
 Sue Barnes
 Peri denDulk

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 John & Punky Edison, '69
 Roberta Ellis, '64
 Kirk '85 & Kirsten
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 honor of Lt. Frederick H.
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 Mike '48 & Astrid Griffin
 Lloyd Guyot, '71
 Craig & Kristine Hanson
 Bradley & Andrea Hecksel
 Alex Henning
 Josephus & Julia Herring
 Stephanie Hoekstra
 D. Mark '81 & Lisa Hoffman
 Tom '69 & Janis
 Hollingsworth
 Chip & Terry Hurlburt
 Doug & Lori Johnson
 Julian & Judith Joseph
 Sarah Porter Jury, '69
 Dave '64 & Bev Kagan
 Teagan & McKenna Kettler
 Justin Klynmsa, '93
 Ronald Kragt & Alix Kayayan
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 Nancy J. Massingham
 Gary '66 & Linda McInerney
 Kevin & Nancy McIntyre
 Paul & Laura McMahan
 Katie Mitchell, '91
 Carly Miller
 Andrew & Elaine '87 Milnes
 Claire Lerchen Minneman,
 '02
 Paul Murphy & Leigh Eicke
 Steve '96 & Nardos Osterhart
 Sheila Pantlind
 Brian & Amy Peceny
 Lance Penny '78 & Marie
 Maher Penny
 The Hon. Steven Pestka, '70
 Mark & Rebekah Pullen
 David & Shannon Rapp
 Doug & Donnamarie
 Rockwell
 Robert & Cassandra Rood
 Jerry & Debbie Roper
 Jim '66 & Sheryl Siegel
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 Lawrence & Barbara Socie
 Brian & Rebecca Staggs
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*Love truth but
pardon error.*

Voltaire

*We strive to be accurate
and comprehensive, but in
a listing of this length errors
may occur. We appreciate
readers' assistance in
bringing any inaccuracies
to our attention.*

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February 2016
Volume XXXIV

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Middle School Teacher Shares his Excitement over New Technology

Kevin Vance, Middle School science teacher, shares his experience on the launch of the Makers Club: "The EGR Middle School Makers Club has met several times this year and has been busy learning about new technologies such as 3D printing, robotics, circuitry, and coding. Many students have learned how to use technology programs such as Tinkercad and Thingiverse to create models that can be printed on one of the Middle School's two Makerbot 3D printers. Students have created items ranging from a 3D representation of a building to a dinosaur model that was given to a sibling as a birthday present.

Students have also been able to explore circuitry through the use of littleBits modules. These are magnetic components that combine together to form circuits using music, lights, motors, gears, and sensors. The East Grand Rapids Kent District Library has also joined us and shared their collection of littleBits. Students combined their littleBits components with Legos to create cars and robots that could perform various tasks.

Our most recent project involved building two robots named Sparki and used Arduino coding to teach them how to operate various functions. Using a remote control, the students were able to control the robots and teach them how to perform new tasks. We are looking forward to learning more about future makers topics such as Raspberry Pi and Arduino coding. The EGRMS Makers Club would like to thank the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation and all who support it for its generous funding of the many tools we have used to explore the Makers Movement."



EXCELLENCE

Remembering the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation in your estate plan will improve the quality of education in East Grand Rapids forever.

Learn more about your planned giving options by contacting Executive Director, Amy Stuursma, at 616-235-3535 or astuursm@egrps.org.



Grants Awarded – Fall 2015

Grants	Requestor/School	Amount
Innovation Lab – Phase I Launching pad for new elective opportunity in the middle school	Peter Stuursma, Kevin Vance, Holly Lampen/Middle School	\$2,819
Ricky Ian Gordon Presentation Expert on the compositional process of writing opera and turning it into a musical masterpiece	Rebecca Knack, Jane Hazle, Pam Steers/High School	\$2,500
Training – Integrating Social Thinking Strategies Training for all school social workers	Chris Kenward, Steve Seth, Melissa VanderZyden, Stephene Diepstra/all buildings	\$5,188
Visiting Poet Laura Purdie Salas Author in residence experience on writing for K-5 students	Stacey Goodman, Kim Doele/Wealthy	\$3,169
Stand-Biased Desks Alternative seating option for students	Cassandra Rood/Middle School	\$1,336
FIRST Robotic Competition Team Start-up funds for Robotics Team	Elizabeth Neubig/High School	\$4,000
Training - Social Thinking Training for occupational and speech therapists	Hannah Wolcott, Nicole Smith, Amanda Werner/all buildings	\$1,808
5th Grade Ukuleles Full set for classroom of 30	Michael Woodward/Breton, Wealthy	\$1,495
FlashForge 3D Printer Creator Pro High resolution and quality 3D printer	Patrick Reed/High School	\$1,200
Table Dividers for Assessments For High School math department	Peter Faber, Erik Lundeen, Brian VanderBee, Maggie Edison/High School	\$1,264
Veterans Day Speaker Visit and presentation from alumnus Andrew Graham, '93	Katie McIntosh/Middle School, Breton, Lakeside, Wealthy	\$800
Subscription to ALEKS Online adaptive math enhancement	Brian Clay, Casey Longo/Middle School	\$980
iPad Mini 4 to support Plickers	Mary Elderkin/High School	\$423
Game Makers Studio Professional Software	Patrick Reed, Philip Picard/High School	\$1,500
King Tut Exhibit Grand Rapids Public Museum visit for 6th graders	Kris DiVita, Jill Smith/Middle School	\$1,500
TOTAL GRANTS – FALL 2015		\$29,982



Sixth graders enjoy viewing the King Tut exhibit at the Grand Rapids Public Museum



East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation

“STARS”

Gifts to the Foundation were made to honor stars in our school community. Below is the list of gifts made during the Fall of 2015 recognizing a favorite teacher, staff member or school employee. Thank you to the many contributors and to the many outstanding staff members who make East Grand Rapids Public Schools a great place to learn!

Joanne Anderson

*Achilles, Ruth, Olivia,
Claire & Ellery Spagnuolo*

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5th grade class

Scott Mitton

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Bridget Rieth

*Achilles, Ruth, Olivia,
Claire & Ellery Spagnuolo*

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Ben Collins

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Recognize a Star in Your Child's Life

Recognize a star in your child's life by making a tax-deductible donation of \$20 or more to the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation in honor of a special person. We will acknowledge your "star" in a special section of the next *Foundations* newsletter. In addition, we will provide you with a certificate to present to your honoree. What a wonderful way to thank those special stars in our lives!

STAR AWARDS

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

- \$20+ STAR Award *Staff, *Teacher *Appreciation & Recognition-
Recognize a favorite teacher, staff member or school employee
- \$20+ Jimmy Gerken Award of Appreciation and Thanks-
Recognize a coach who has made an impact in your child's life

Please print the name of the individual to be acknowledged as you wish it to appear.

Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear.

Amount enclosed _____

I would like the certificate sent:

- to me so that I may present it personally.
- directly to the recipient.

Please mail to: East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation
2915 Hall Street SE
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

*We want to thank all EGR staff
for providing an exceptional educational experience for
our students and making a difference in their lives.*



Jimmy Gerken Award of Appreciation and Thanks – Fall 2015

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Nathan Milanowski

Jamie Billo

Nick Milanowski

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Jeff Hoppman, Mark

White, David Wiener

8th Grade Football Team



ALUMNI NEWS

REUNION RECAP

Class of 1955 – 60th Reunion

On September 17-18, 2015, the **Class of 1955** celebrated 60 years since graduating from East Grand Rapids High School. The reunion began on a beautiful Thursday evening with a dinner at the Grand Rapids Yacht Club. It was a wonderful setting for their 60th reunion group photo. On Friday they met at the home of Ren and Cj Brander for an evening of continued reminiscing. Sixty classmates and guests returned home for this special reunion. Dave Berles, Nancy Hamilton, Jim Logie and Ren Brander worked on planning this event. For more information contact Ren Brander at reynoldsbrander@msn.com.



Class of 1965 – 50th Reunion

The **Class of 1965** celebrated their 50th reunion September 18-19, 2015. Nearly eighty classmates and their guests, from across the country, attended the reunion events that included a casual gathering Friday night at the Browne Center at Aquinas College, a tour of the high school Saturday morning, and the reunion at Cascade Country Club Saturday evening. Great memories of their times together in the '60s were shared by all. Those who attended would like to have another reunion in five years. For more information you may go to the class page at <http://pioneers65.com/> or contact Rick and Sue Steketee at rsteketee@comcast.net.



Class of 2005 – 10th Reunion

The ten-year reunion of the **Class of 2005** was a huge success! Over 125 class members and significant others came to reminisce and catch up at Elk Brewing on Wealthy Street. They enjoyed sharing memories of East football games, spirit weeks, Jimmy Gerken, theater performances, state championships, and their times hanging out near the Senior Bench – memories which fostered a feeling of togetherness and community for all. Classmates who are no longer with us were remembered. "Hellos" are sent to those who were unable to attend and many thanks given to everyone who helped make this reunion so special. For more information you may go to the contact page at egrclassof2005.weebly.com or email Andrea Segovia at egrclassof2005@gmail.com.

Reunion Planning Support

If 2016 is a reunion year for your class, then it is time to begin the planning process for your class reunion. Contact Maria Allen, Alumni Relations Coordinator, at mallen@egrps.org or (616) 235-3535 for reunion planning support.

UPCOMING REUNIONS

SAVE the DATE! Mark your calendars for these upcoming reunions! Be sure to go to www.egrfsf.org/alumni/upcoming-events for additional reunion information.

Class of 1956 – 60th Reunion on September 30 – October 1, 2016. Reunion contact Dale Berger at dberger898@aol.com.

Class of 1966 – 50th Reunion on September 10, 2016. Reunion contact Gary McNerney at gary@mcinerney-associates.com.

Class of 1971 – 45th Reunion on July 8-9, 2016. Reunion contact Sue Camp at smcamp2948@gmail.com.

Class of 1981 – 35th Reunion date TBD. Reunion contact Suzanne Wickman at suzannewickman@gmail.com.

Class of 1986 – 30th Reunion on October 8, 2016. Reunion contact Tory (Stuart) Duca at toryduca@gmail.com.

Class of 1991 – 25th Reunion on July 9, 2016. Reunion contact Robin Aronson at robin.carr@usm.edu.

Class of 1996 – 20th Reunion on August 5 -7, 2016. Reunion contact Conor Dugan at conordugan@gmail.com.

We are in need of reunion information for the following classes:

Class of 1946 Class of 1961 Class of 2001 Class of 2011
Class of 1951 Class of 1976 Class of 2006

CLASS REUNION GIFTS

Class of 1955 - \$1,800

Class of 1955
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Tom Ghysels
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Marion Taggart Silliman
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Glen Young

Class of 1964 - \$508

Class of 1964 – in
memory of their
departed classmates

Class of 1965 - \$2,620

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Class of 1985 - \$512



Alumni Hockey Game



Nearly thirty alumni returned to the ice to represent EGR once again for an alumni hockey game vs. Forest Hills Central alumni. The event was held at Patterson Ice Arena on December 26, 2015. The “Over 40” team lost a close, yet high scoring (10-12) game. Members of this year’s Over 40 team included J. Coretti ('84), J. Coretti ('87), J. Zinser ('77), D. Clahassey ('79), B. Muir ('87), S. Smiddy ('04), M. Day ('05), H. Walker ('90), M. Furlan ('83), B. McDermott ('83), B. Milanowski, B. Swartz ('84), and Coach Terry McIlhargey ('56).



The “Under 40” alumni team was successful in scoring a few more goals than FHC (9-4) in their match-up. Pictured in the Under 40 team photo are S. Longfellow ('14), C. Turner ('12), J. Stecco ('15), T. Baranoski ('13), T. Educato ('12), G. Dowling ('13), D. Chappell ('11), S. Smiddy ('04), T. Casey ('15), M. Day ('05), M. Madden ('13), W. Boeschstein ('15), B. Stewart ('11), C. Dickow ('13), S. Forstner ('14), and C. Tyson ('11). Missing from the photo is M. Smiddy ('10).

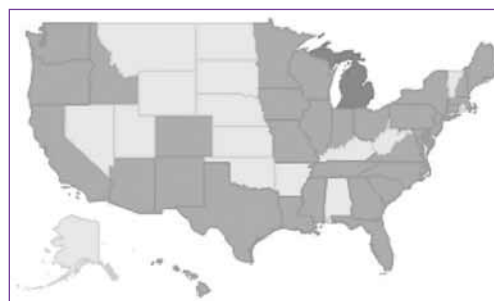
Reid VanGelderren Memorial and Scholarship Fund – 2016 Golf Outing

The 8th annual Reid VanGelderren Memorial Golf outing will take place July 9, 2016 at Quail Ridge Golf Club - an event that was created to remember Reid and in support of the Reid VanGelderren Memorial and Scholarship Fund. Reid, a 2004 graduate of East Grand Rapids, was an exceptional friend, teammate, brother and son. The memorial and scholarship fund was started, in conjunction with the EGRSF, by a group of Reid's friends with the goal to perpetuate Reid's character, courage, and perseverance through donations to the DeVos Children's Hospital's Pediatric Oncology Resource Team (P.O.R.T.), and an annual academic scholarship for an East Grand Rapids High School student.

The VanGelderren scholarship is given to continue helping others and to remember Reid's fearless message: Never give up. The 18-hole golf event at Quail Ridge Golf Club, provides “a nice opportunity for everyone to get together and reconnect. It's a fun course, great setting and people can enjoy themselves” according to Andrew Martin, '04, Reid's friend and one of the event coordinators.

For additional information on the Reid VanGelderren Scholarship please go to egrsf.org/awards/student-awards/. Additional information about the golf outing may be found on Facebook at The Reid VanGelderren Memorial & Scholarship Fund page or by contacting Andrew Martin at amartin.68@gmail.com.

Giving By State



2015 donations to the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation came from thirty-six states. Receiving donations from all fifty states in 2016 would be remarkable! Can we count on you?

IN REMEMBRANCE

We extend our deepest condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni who died since our last publication. They will be missed.

1942 Thomas A. Rose	1949 Carolyn Brown Singer	1955 James H. Bersie	1965 Andrea Anderson Deane	1972 Denise Mulvihill Verdon
1943 Barbara Wilcox Amberg	1950 Jim Vahey	1957 Armin R. Gallandt	1966 Monica C. Wolters Cooke	1985 Brocke Emerick
1945 Marilyn Cook Harris	1951 Robert (Bob) H. Mayer	1959 Dan A. Fox, MD	1967 Steve Mackay	Former EGRPS Staff Marcia Bouma
1946 Polly Ann Page Atkinson	1952 Jacqueline Renhult	1960 Eric A. Rasmussen, MD	1970 Barbara Cutler	Elizabeth “Betty” Collins
1948 Roger Warnshuis	1952 Boughner			Linda Kehm Rich
				Carl Nestor

We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please help us stay informed by contacting us at (616) 235-3535 or egrsf@egrps.org.



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East graduate(s) Class year(s) _____

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Please make checks payable to: East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation.

Donations may be sent to: 2915 Hall St. SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506 or donate online at: www.egrsf.org