



# Foundations

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE EGR SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

VOL. XXXVI FEBRUARY 2017

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## Message from the President

THANK YOU! On behalf of our community, our administrators, our teachers, and especially our students, thank you for all the support you have given over the last year that has helped to continue our tradition of excellence. This edition of the newsletter contains the names of our most recent donors but we stand today on the shoulders of all who have contributed over the last 33 years. Today's contributions, along with all the donations of the past, help our community to ensure that both now and for years to come our children receive the same level of EGR education that has been acclaimed across the country throughout the years.

Michael Reid, President

## L. Neesley Legacy Society



Louise Hitt Neesley

Whenever someone donates to the Foundation, it's a wonderful thing. Once in a while we become aware of a donor who has made a significant commitment to the Foundation; a commitment that impacts all students in East Grand Rapids.

Parents and community members in East Grand Rapids take great pride in our schools. For the most part, they love our schools for what they offer to their children: outstanding academics, athletics and the arts. If they don't have children in the district, maybe they once did or maybe they will someday.

Louise Hitt Neesley didn't have any children. She and her husband, Nate, were longtime residents of East Grand Rapids. She was on the boards of several local organizations. She loved to work in her garden. Louise loved to walk from her house up to Gaslight Village and over to the public library, a path that would have taken her right past East Grand Rapids High School.

Something she saw or heard or experienced on those walks past the high school must have made quite an impression on Louise. When she passed away in 2006, at age 91, Louise donated a portion of her estate to the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation.

Imagine that. With no children who attended our schools, Louise still understood how important an outstanding school system is to a community. She knew that so well, in fact, that she decided to make a donation that would have a lasting, positive effect on our schools and our town.

In recognition of Louise Neesley's selfless donation, the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation is renaming our Legacy Society the L. Neesley Legacy Society.

"A planned gift to the Foundation shows unconditional support for our schools and our

community. We live in a community that is built around our schools and educational excellence. Louise recognized this as an EGR resident and understood the value of the schools and the impact the Foundation can have on our public schools," says Amy Stuursma, Executive Director.

When individuals name the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation in their estate plans, they become part of the L. Neesley Legacy Society and continue to provide benefit to East Grand Rapids Public Schools even after their lifetime.

If you have any questions about the L. Neesley Legacy Society, or any aspect of planned giving, please contact the Foundation office.

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

**March 1, 2017** –  
Spring grant deadline

**April 22, 2017** –  
The *Last HURRAH!* –  
Gaslight Village parking  
ramp, upper deck

**May 1, 2017** –  
Nominations due for  
teacher awards and  
student scholarships

**May 25, 2017** –  
Graduation

**May 31, 2017  
(Wednesday)** –  
Gerken Open - Thousand  
Oaks Golf Club

**June 16, 2017** –  
Last day of school for  
students

## Thank you to our current legacy society members:

Linda Kehm  
Louise Hitt Neesley  
Peter & Joan Secchia



## 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, 2016 through December 31, 2016**. 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!, golf outings or the Community Service and Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner.

## EGRNOW! – PROGRAM/PROJECT SUPPORT

### **\$10,000 or more**

David '89 & Amy Engbers  
Hank & Liesel Meijer  
Mill Steel Company

### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Anonymous  
John M. Frey, '58 – in honor  
of the class of 1958

### **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Tony & Gwen Barnes, '87  
David '60 & Sibley '62 Barrett  
Scott & Natalie Bernecker, '89  
Brett & Kim Bolt  
Scott & Emily Brew  
Brett Brinker & Heather Slay,  
'89  
Mike '89 & Lisa Byam  
Jeff & Katie '97 Flermoen  
Dirk Hoffius, '61  
John & Gail Nowak  
Bill & Nancy Swaney  
Charley '87 & Janine  
Thompson

### **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Anonymous  
Ray '71 & Kristin Abraham  
Nick & Shellie Adamy  
The Alguire Family  
Marty & Sue '56 Allen  
William Alt, '70  
Mark & Kate Austin  
Chris & Emily Backus  
Dave & Katie Baker  
Stephen Baker & Lucinda  
Shair  
Max '90 & Becky Barnes  
Blake '93 & Taylor Beusse  
Christopher & Analisa Blakley  
Todd & Bonnie Brandstadt  
Luke & Ellen Cherveney  
Dave '57 & Nancy Cook  
Craig & Mary Helen Crooks –  
in honor of Jaden & Mason  
Day  
Don & Johanna Crossley  
John & Mary Dersch  
Jason & Stephanie Doublestein  
Nadav & Karen Dujovny  
Rob & Sarah Dwartz  
Andre & Kristen Gauri  
The Goodrich Family

Ryan & Hope Goossens  
Bob & Diane Hall  
Gerry & Nancy Hickey  
Michael Hughes  
Mark & Lauren Jacoby  
Dave & Jill Kantor  
Mike & Sue Keil  
The Knuble Family  
Tammy Kreuzer  
Nicholas & Layla Kuhl, '00  
Lucas & Joni Leete  
Randy '88 & Lisa Lovell  
Jurgen & Becky Luders  
Doug & Stacey Maas  
Bill & Amy Mackay  
Leena Mammen – in honor  
of Lynda Rupke & Peter  
Stuursma  
Bill & Melissa Marsh  
Michael & Carole McDonald  
Rich & Jennifer Meyer  
Bob & Beth Milanowski  
Matthew '86 & Jill Miller  
The Millman Family  
Joel & Melissa Mitchell  
Marc & Charlene Montpetit  
Donovan & Jenny Moo  
John & Ann Mooney  
Tim & Denise Myers  
John Preston & Melissa  
VanderZyden  
Chris & Michelle Rabideau  
Mark & Lisa '93 Rapoport  
Terence & Tina Reuben  
Karl & Stacy Roberts  
Nancy H. Rose  
Joe & Marie Rossi  
Joel & Julie Schultze  
David Smith '63 & Peggy  
Child '64  
Michael & Deecy Smith  
Rich & Abby Sorota  
Pam Stanley & Kelly Eldred  
The Thong Family  
The Timek Family  
Dominador & Alma Uy  
Chris & Sarah VanDeven  
David '67 & Beverly Verdier  
Robert & Barbara Vis  
Eric Walchak, DO  
Brian & Kris '82 Ward  
Mark & Wendy Wassink

Elizabeth Welch, '88  
Mark & Allison '89 White  
Kyle Williams & Vanessa  
Bradley  
Andy & Erin Winkel  
Eric & Kathy Wynsma  
Brad & Fleur Zylstra

### **\$500 - \$999**

Brian '97 & Sarah Adloff  
Matt & Alyssa Albers  
Chad & Beth Balon  
Mark & Laura Banbury  
The Barrett Family  
Wil Baumruk  
Jerry & Ann Beene  
The Behler Family  
Dale '56 & Sue Ellen Berger  
Bill '90 & Jenny '91  
Bergstrom  
Rob Berner & Family  
Matt & Erin '91 Bertke  
Mike & Amy Bishop  
Steve & Betsy Bloom  
Lindy Bolling  
Tim & Kathy Born  
Jack & Judy Bowen  
The Boyle Family  
Caroline Breault-Cannon  
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Eric & Amber Brooks  
Dan & Lynne Brown  
Patrik & Lena Brundin  
Frederick & Kathleen  
Burkhart  
Kevin & Julie Burns  
Rick '85 & Angie '82 Busch  
Dirk '63 & Lisa '76 Buth  
The Butler Family  
Karl Butterer & Delanie Pope  
Brian & Sarah Calnan  
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Lance '57 & Sue '59 Caston  
Chris & Rona Caswell  
Matt & Sarah Cavanaugh  
Jeff & Tamara Christians  
Stew & Emilie Collins  
Jason & Jody '90 Conant  
Dan '58 & Linda Conway  
Jeff & Sarah Conway, '94

Andrew & Rachael Cooley  
Derek & Amanda Coppess  
Brad '93 & Amy Darooge  
Joe & Angie Day  
David & Michele de Velder  
Jeff & Jill Dean  
David & Faye Decker  
Jim & Stephene Diepstra  
David & Carol Distel  
The Dockery Family  
Chad & Sara Dupin  
Terry Byam Egan  
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Ngozi Okoli  
Brian '78 & JoAnn Ellis  
T.C. & Colin Eugster  
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The Fox Family  
Tom '46 & Mickie Fox  
Todd & Erin Fredrickson  
Sasko & Danche Gjorgijevski  
Bruce & Lori Goins  
Kevin & Tracey Gort  
Chad '84 & Jennifer Gould  
John & Deanna Green  
Thomas & Carrie Greenway  
The Griensman Family  
Robert & Marie Griffin  
Brian & Karey Hamrick  
The Hannah Family  
Geoff & Julie '74 Haworth  
Andy & Peggy Head  
Glenn Hefner & Silvia  
Garbagni  
Mark '94 & Beth '92 Hoekstra  
David & Susan Hojnacki  
David & Melinda Hollis  
Robyn Hubbard  
Amorak Huey & Ellen  
Schendel  
John & Janyce Huff  
Chip & Terry Hurlburt  
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Graham '94 & Sara Irwin  
Jon Jacobs & Kimberly Crinin  
Nick & Erin Jacques  
Tom James & Mary  
Sidell James '61  
Jersey Mike's Subs  
Chris & Rhonda Johnson  
Gil & Tinker Judson  
Mary Kaneti

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Brad & Michelle Kirk  
Allison Koetsier  
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Jeffrey Kunitzer  
Tom & Sally '85 Kyros  
Robert & Lucy Lafleur  
Chun Lam & Mingling  
Chen  
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Steve & Jenny McMahon  
Jeff & Allison '88  
Montague  
Jason Moore, '90  
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David & Sara Mulder  
Todd & Kelli Mulderink  
Kevin '88 & Sarah '90  
Mulvihill  
The Murua Family  
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The Renker Family



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Peter & Giselle Sholler  
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Greg & Sara Shubel  
Aaron '93 & Jill Smith  
Jason & Zara Smith  
Bryan & Diana Snoeyer  
Paul & Jackie '82 Solberg  
Michael & Patricia Spiegel  
John & Katie '98 Stein  
Brian '96 & Amy Steketee  
Brian Sterling & Carla Boyd  
Mike & Cathy Stevens  
Greg & Elizabeth Stolle  
Peter & Amy Stuursma, '89  
Tom & Bonnie Sullivan  
Andy & Amy '92 Sweet  
Michael & Elizabeth TerHorst  
The TeWinkle Family  
Nick & Amy Thole  
Sue Tobias  
Michael Tomich & Jeanne Glowicki  
Brett & Julie Turner  
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The VanHoose Family  
Wayne & Angela Visbeen  
Russ & Chris Visner  
Matt & Allison '96 Vriesenga  
Stephen & Jane Wert, '87  
Mary Whiting  
Matt & Erica Wikander  
Mark & Amy Williamson  
Kevin & Betsy Wilson  
Alex & Julie '96 Wiseman  
Doug & Tamara Wurl  
Michael & Kathy Zago  
Ben '94 & Meg Zerfas  
The Zimdar Family

## **\$250 - \$499**

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David Adams & Gina Kuyers  
Shannon & Erica Armstrong  
Jason & Tamara '94 Ashley-Oswalt  
Todd & Jodi '92 Astrauskas  
Greg & Tammy Babinski  
Jon & Lisa Baermann  
Wade Bagnall & Elizabeth Fausone  
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Mark '87 & Shelly Bernecker  
Kurt & Michele Bishop  
Eric & Melissa Bomberly  
Hank & Suzy Bonna  
Brian Bosley & Hillary Kooy  
Brian '93 & Jillane Bosscher  
Michael & Margaret Bosscher  
Ben & Adrienne Braun  
Steve & Winnie Brinks  
Dennis & Jennifer Bruce  
Jim & Kathleen Bruinsma  
The Buck Family  
Mickie & Natalie Bullock  
Brian & Ann Callahan  
Richard & Amy Callahan  
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Laura Caprara, '85  
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Chris & Ann Chambers  
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Jim & Harriet Engbers  
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Joe & Sarah '99 Gass  
Brendan & Laurel Gibbons  
Parin & Liz Gohel  
Scott & Mary Gorsline  
Glen Groenveld & JJ Ekkens  
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Boyd & Jane Henderson  
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The Hingson Family  
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Dan & Tia '92 Hooper  
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Stuart & Shannon Hunt  
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Fil & Elizabeth Iorio  
Jason & Katie '96 Israels  
J. Paul & Melissa '84 Janes

Kurt & Lynn Jekkals  
Michael & Cara Jones  
Jim & Amy '81 Keane  
Scott Keil  
The Kettler Family  
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Michel Lanne & Kerri Orders  
The Larsen Family  
Tony & Heather Lawrence  
Bob '73 & Susan Levine  
Dave & Stacey Levitt  
Greg & Tracey Lewis  
Aracelis Lopez  
Dan Lorenz & Aletta VanderPlaats  
Jason '98 & Jennifer Madden  
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Donald Malcolm & Jean Magolan  
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Dick & Noel McGarrity  
Paul & Dee McGraw  
Matt & Katie '93 McIntosh  
Andy & Mandy McIntyre  
Sean '87 & Theresa McLaughlin  
Peter & Michelle McSorley  
Chris & Michele Meader  
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The Meeker Family  
Randy & Hillary Meulenberg  
Drew '89 & Allison Miller  
Brian, Megan, Anabel & Olivia Miller  
Andrew & Elaine '87 Milnes  
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Andrew & Logan Schmidt  
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Clay '89 & Kris Stiffler  
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Jeff & Sue Swain, '76  
Martha Teichner, '65  
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Andy & Kate Thomas  
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The VerWys Family  
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Waxology  
Mary K. Weadock  
Craig & Carmen Weigel  
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The Westgate Family  
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Suzanne Wickman, '81  
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Dean '80 & Nell Witting  
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The Woudstra Family  
Chris & Janice Yates  
Laura Young, '78

## **\$100 - \$249**

Anonymous  
Stephanie Aardema  
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Gerard Adams & Amy Sherman  
Darrell & Jeanna Allen  
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Theodor Asgerisson & Geirlaug Magnusdottir  
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Lee & Karen Begrow  
Bill & Amber Behrendt  
John & Katie '87 Belanger  
Roger & Cindy Bera  
Jeffrey Bergers, '73  
John & Pat Bergstrom  
Bob & Val Bernecker  
Paul '95 & Amy Bianchi  
Seth Bidwell, '43  
Ben Blake  
Maggie Blake, '96  
Chuck & Pat Bloom  
Matthew & Jennifer Borgula  
Bill & Allison Braden  
Jim & Alessia Bradford  
Ren '55 & Cj Brander  
Fred & Deb Braseth - in honor of Braseth grandchildren  
Scott Broersma & Amy Jonker  
Aaron & Melanie Brossiet  
Carl & Betsy Brown  
Scott R. Brundage  
Chuck & Lucy Caldwell  
Chris & Lisa Camfferman  
David '86 & Britt Campbell





# Foundations

February 2017  
Volume XXXVI

Greer Candler  
David & Jodi Cary  
Chad & Cherrah Casserly  
Dan & Michelle Cavera  
Charlene M. Chadbourne '61  
Mark '75 & Eileen  
Chamberlin  
David & Angela Chandler  
Grant '85 & Josie Cheney  
Yijia & Amanda Chu  
Kestutis & Ingrid Civinskas  
Mike & Jodi Clay  
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Doris Cole, '55  
Carolyn Connors  
John Constantelos & Polly  
Diven  
The Costa Family  
The Counts Family  
Jay & Kathy Cragwall  
Mike & Mary Ann Crete  
Pablo Cristaldo & Dara  
Orellana  
Erik Daly '00 & Jessica  
Bloom  
The Dawes Family  
Devin & Michelle '97 Day  
Jim '91 & Kari DeBoer  
Gaylen & Diane Demarest  
Jennifer DePree  
Nathan & Brooke Detgen  
Mark & Lisa DeVries  
Jamie & Robin Dill  
Jim Doan & Sarah  
Armbruster  
Alice Dodgson, '55 – in  
honor of Sam & Lauren  
Dodgson  
Sarah Dodgson  
Dennis & Amy Donohue  
Rick & Traci '88 Douglas  
Tom & Melissa Duimstra  
Eric & Lindsay Dumais  
Ted & Claudine Duncan  
Gary & Suzanne Eberle  
Chris & Linda Edgar  
John & Punky Edison, '69  
Steve & Lisa Eldersveld  
Jane Eldred  
Sue Spicer Elliott, '65  
Constance S. Ellis  
Laura Ellis, '76  
Tom & Martha Farrington  
Tom & Kathryn Faturos  
Dan Fechtner & Mei Mah  
Kai & Nicole Filbrandt  
Don & Carol Firlik  
Jarett & Jessica Fitnich  
Harvey Fixler, '62  
Omar & Elizabeth Flores  
The Ford Family  
Alex & Sara Forist  
Jay & Julie Forstner  
Matt & Jill Fouch  
Sarah, Ron, Ashley, Adam &  
Molly Francis

Nate & Joyce French  
William French '86 &  
Jennifer Dawson  
Alan & Megan Freudigmann  
Gretchen Galbraith  
The Gamaggio Family  
Ted & Mary Louise Gedra  
Pakky & Lauren Gerkin  
Nicole Gessner & Kids  
Thomas A. Getz  
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Robert Goodrich, '58  
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Scott Grant, '85  
Ralph Greene, '57  
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Martin & Erin Grin, '90  
Ian & Anne Grobel  
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Dale & Linda Grogan  
Christopher Gutek  
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Tom '82 & Carole '84  
Hammerslag  
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Jack & Lisa Healey  
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Steve & Nancy Hoffman  
Gary & Cindy Humphries  
Bruce & Amanda '99  
Hungerford  
Brad & Karen Hunter  
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Win '65 & Kyle '70 Irwin  
Mike '54 & Roberta Jacobson  
Glenn & Lynnae Jarrell  
Doug & Dawn Jenkins  
Gerri Johnson  
Tim & Lori '79 Johnston  
Tom & Margy Jones  
Jose Babushka's  
Stephen & Joe Kam  
Nick & Colleen Kanaan  
Josh & Lia Kaufman  
Dennis Kellermeier &  
Barbara Jourdan  
Rick & Laura Key  
David & Jennifer Khorey  
Jim '79 & Beth Kincaid  
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Derrick & Karen Kooistra  
Kelli Kopen  
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Krajewski  
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Chuck & Jan Lippert  
Jim '55 & Barb Logie – in  
honor of John Logie, '57  
Casey '03 & Jami Longo  
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Camel & Linda Najar  
Mary Noffke  
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Assy & Liat Okanin  
Jack & Margie Oosting, '56  
John & Jill Osbourne  
Don & Melissa Padgett  
Brian & Pam Page  
Adam '98 & Chrissy Panter  
Aaron & Bess Paskvan  
Linda B. Patterson  
Brian & Amy Peceny  
Jude '02 & Carrie Pereira  
Molly Peskin  
Alice Phillips  
Jeffrey Potteiger & Ellen  
Adams  
Henry & Nicole Prins  
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Cheryl Radecki  
Tom & Hollie Rademacher  
David & Shannon Rapp

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## EGRFOREVER! Enhancement Grants Provided by EGRSF – Fall 2016

Grant	Requestor/School	Amount
<b>InThinking.net Access</b> Website subscription to support the IB curriculum	Jenny Fee, Heather McKinney-Rewa/ High School	\$2,880
<b>Best Friend Fiction Collection</b> Book packs for writing units of study and visit from author Lester Laminack. Supports all classrooms K-5.	W. Moore, M. Sayre, J. Siegel, T. Wolford, C. Cannon/Breton, Lakeside, Wealthy	\$9,781
<b>7th Grade Geography Virtual Reality</b> 32 View Master virtual reality viewers and 32 iPods	Jill Smith, Sarah Youngs/Middle School	\$9,666
<b>Reading Units of Study</b> Tradebook packs for readers' workshop. Supports all classrooms K-5.	A. Tyrer, M. Day, M. Kirk, C. Cannon/ Breton, Lakeside, Wealthy	\$6,004
<b>Classroom Libraries</b> A variety of genres and reading levels for all classrooms K-5	Craig Weigel/Lakeside	\$10,245
<b>Marching Band Uniforms</b> 40 additional uniforms	Bill Bier/High School	\$15,322
<b>EGR Robotics</b> Continued support of the robotics club start-up and initiative	Elizabeth Neubig/High School	\$5,000
<b>Honey Bee Observation Hives</b> 3 observation bee hives for honey bee science and ecology	Becky Martin, Lindsey Lantz, John Burke/Middle School	\$6,112
<b>Outdoor Classroom Materials for 5th Grade</b> Allows students to explore, observe and bring learning outside	Megan Miller, Kaelyn Benham, Bridget Rieth/Wealthy, Lakeside, Breton	\$1,053
<b>Ozobots: Using Coding Across the Curriculum</b> Simple robots for early learning of programming and coding	Betsy Anderson/Wealthy	\$1,100
<b>Seeing is Believing – Google Cardboard 3D Glasses</b> Virtual reality viewers	Mary Billman, Matt Harold/High School	\$467
<b>Science Materials</b> Units of study organizing system	Sarah Youngs/Middle School	\$238
<b>Comfy Cozy Reading Chairs</b> Alternative seating for reading and study	Andrea Adams/Middle School	\$351
<b>EGRMS Robotics Club – Seed Money</b> Supports the robotics club start-up and initiative	Anthony Morey/Middle School	\$1,500
<b>Flashforge Creator Pro 3D Printer</b> Additional printer to support increased need and participation	Patrick Reed/High School	\$1,000
<b>Rostock Max v2 3D Printer</b> Enhancement technology for DDT classes	Anton Ludwig (student), Patrick Reed/High School	\$1,100
<b>Social Studies Trade Books</b> Supports 6th and 8th grade curriculum for read-alouds and centers	Kristine DiVita/Middle School	\$751
<b>National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference</b> Attendance at national conference in Texas	Brian VanderBee/High School	\$251
<b>Spanish Scholastic Magazines</b> Classroom subscriptions of 3 magazines written in Spanish	Steven Brinks/Middle School	\$450
<b>Ozobot (STEM)</b> Simple robots for early learning of programming and coding	Brett Scheidel/Lakeside	\$1,120
<b>Classroom Library</b> Classroom library update including a variety of genres and levels	Andrea Adams/Middle School	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL GRANTS – FALL 2016</b>		<b>\$75,391</b>





## 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 previous semester recognizing a special 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!

**Kaelynn Benham** – *Quinn Rapp*  
**Breton Downs Learning Commons Volunteers and School Staff** – *Carole McDonald*  
**Brian Clay, Kim Doeke, Matt Fouch, Lisseth Hoksbergen, Adam Horos, Lindsey Lantz** – *Charlie Connor*  
**Barbara Cone, Jane Hazle, Tommy Kawel** – *The Hurlburt Family*  
**Kris DiVita** – *Nick Collins*  
**Lakeside Learning Commons Volunteers and School Staff** – *Carole McDonald*  
**Kristen Lecours, Brett Scheidel, Kaelynn Benham** – *Sam Connor*

**Katie McIntosh** – *Davis Hutt*  
**Jennifer McMahon** – *Natalie Hutt*  
**Megan Miller** – *The Hunter Family*  
**Katie Millman, Hannah Tobin** – *Graham Calnan*  
**Mark Pullen** – *Nolan Williamson*  
**Erin Stirdiyant** – *Brady Calnan*  
**Dale Streeter** – *Rachel Williamson*  
**Karen Sullivan** – *Shelley Phillips Yates*  
**Winona Tinholt** – *The Schmidt Family*  
**Wealthy Learning Commons Volunteers and School Staff** – *Carole McDonald*



### *Jimmy Gerken Award of Appreciation and Thanks – Fall 2016*

*To recognize a coach who has made an impact*

**John Burke**  
*2016 Girls Varsity Golf Team*  
**Dave Mehney, Matt Fouch, Jerry Fouch**  
*2016 Freshman Football Team*

the educational resources utilized within the course, as well as the 2014 bond dollars. Formerly, this class met in a storage room that was renovated last summer to create a teaching space dedicated to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts.

Through Foundation support, resources such as LittleBits, Makey-Makey, Arduinos, Ozobots, 3-D Printers, Raspberry PI's, and multiple coding platforms are being used by students to design, build, test, and refine hands-on projects. Students work together in teams to learn how the technologies work in isolation before transitioning to a more extensive design-build phase in which they integrate each technology to solve a specific task of a larger creation. To put the capabilities of these technologies into perspective, in one or two class periods students can develop a paper airplane, mount a battery-powered motor and flaps control, and sync the receiver with an iPad to control a real flying device. Amazing!

While the students certainly enjoy the hands-on nature of the course, a large component of their time is dedicated to collaboration and problem solving in order to overcome obstacles in bringing their project to fruition, much like what occurs in the world of work. The popularity of the offering will lead to more sections of Innovation Lab being offered to both 7th and 8th grade students as an elective class starting in the 2017-2018 school year.

To see many examples of these technologies and student creations, please visit website our at: <http://egrmsinnovationlab.weebly.com/>

*Anthony Morey*  
*Middle School Principal*



## CLASS REUNION GIFTS

### **Class of 1956 - \$3,343**

Sue Muir Allen  
 Mary Anne Clock Bogue  
 Sally Hillstrom Chambers  
 Michael J. Fishman  
 Twink Frey – in honor of reunion organizers Sue Allen, Dale Berger & Lynn Gregory  
 Robert Gansser  
 Lynn Roh Gregory  
 John Hoult  
 Jo Ann Monger Maentz  
 Charl Oviatt  
 Cai Raber  
 Sally Todd Solmssen – in honor of reunion organizers Sue Allen, Dale Berger & Lynn Gregory  
 J. Rock Tonkel  
 James Vogt  
 Class of '56 gift

### **Class of 1966 - \$2,045**

Alan Abraham  
 Sidney Johnson Beckwith  
 Susanne Smith Elrod  
 Marilyn Green  
 Louise Erber Hoekstra  
 Barbara Spielberg Keltner  
 Pamela Swartz McCollum  
 Gary McNerney  
 Bobbie Cool Miller  
 Christina Norton Norris  
 Margo Lacey Sirrine  
 George Whinery  
 Class of '66 gift

### **Class of 1976 - \$370**

Phillip Armstrong  
 Maria Battaglia  
 Betsy Bacon Grodhaus  
 Terrence McCarthy  
 Craig Van Orden

### **Class of 1981 - \$456**

Helen Fairbanks  
 Graham

Class of '81 gift - in memory of their departed classmates

### **Class of 1986 - \$834**

Steve Allen  
 Merrick Hatcher  
 David Howitt  
 Bob Maloof  
 Matt Miller  
 Julie Feighner Osbourne  
 Wendy Watson  
 Class of '86 gift

### **Class of 1996 - \$280**

Mike Edison  
 Kristin Flink Kranias  
 Halley Westdale Lydecker  
 Victoria VanMeter  
 McConnell  
 Brian Steketee

### **Class of 2006 - \$73**

Luke Fischer  
 Sarah Goebel Stillo  
 Class of '06 gift

## Middle School Innovation Lab

East Grand Rapids Middle School teacher, Mr. Kevin Vance, is thrilled about what his students have accomplished during their first semester in the new EGRMS Innovation Lab. This new 8th grade elective was made possible through a substantial East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation grant to fund



## ALUMNI NEWS

### REUNION RECAP

#### *Class of 1956 Celebrates 60 Years*



Alumni from '56 began the weekend celebration with a gathering at Derby Station in Gaslight Village Friday, September 30th. Dale and Sue Berger hosted the Saturday evening reunion at their home in Grand Rapids. The reunion activities were attended by over forty alumni and their guests. Special thanks to Sue (Muir) Allen and Dale Berger for their extraordinary efforts and support of the reunion events. Contact Dale Berger at [dberger898@aol.com](mailto:dberger898@aol.com) for information. Please be sure to share any changes to your contact information with Dale Berger, Sue Allen, or the East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation.

#### *Class of 1966 Celebrates 50 Years*



Nearly one hundred classmates and their guests celebrated a memorable 50th reunion weekend September 9-10, 2016. Reunion festivities began Friday evening with a casual welcome back gathering at The Intermission Restaurant and Bar at VanAndel Arena in downtown Grand Rapids. Several alumni attended a tour of the high school Saturday afternoon. A beautiful fall evening provided a perfect setting for the outdoor reunion party at Mangiamo restaurant Saturday evening. Many of the '67 alumni are looking forward to their next reunion gathering and would like to thank the reunion planning committee members, Cindy Burch, Harold Courtright, Louise (Erber) Hoekstra, George Whinery, Gary McInerney, and Marietta (Oreste) Bigelow, for arranging a very special 50th reunion. Contact Gary McInerney at [gary@mcinerney-associates.com](mailto:gary@mcinerney-associates.com) for more information.

#### *Class of 1971 Celebrates 45 Years*

The Class of 1971 celebrated their 45th reunion July 7-8, 2016. The reunion included an array of events that began Thursday evening. Approximately 20 classmates gathered at a fabulous Fifth Third Park skybox to renew acquaintances and cheer on the Whitecaps baseball team. About 30 alumni reminisced, over a long lunch at Rose's on Reed's Lake, about ice skating or swimming at the old Rose's. Over 80 classmates and spouses enjoyed a beautiful evening of fun, friendship, and fine food Friday night at Kent Country Club. It was a fabulous evening! Saturday morning, July 9, provided more fun as several

groups of classmates and spouses ran, walked, or biked around Reed's Lake, ending at the EGR Community Center/Wege Plaza for a light breakfast. The 45th reunion weekend ended with a catered dinner at the home of Diane Flaherty Cisler Saturday night with another great turnout of roughly 60 classmates and spouses. Class of '71 friends came from Alaska, California, Colorado, Virginia, Florida, Ohio, Indiana, New Mexico and more. Special thanks to Ray and Kristin Abraham, Peggy Cowan, Ellen Chamberlain, Dave and Cara Cassard, Deb (Rice) & Mark Crane, Lloyd Guyot, Diane Flaherty Cisler, Mary Litscher Molhoek, Susan Massingham Camp, Mitch Kahn, Burt Bach, Amy Miller, Gay Dinan Lyonaire, Susan Tarbell VanderMolen, Alice Corl Stirdivant, Lloyd Guyot, Ron Hainer, and Steve Spicer. Here is to the next reunion!

#### *Class of 1976 Celebrates 40 Years*



Over 75 alumni and their guests celebrated 40 years by participating in one or more of the reunion activities over the weekend, which included a home football game, a welcome back party at Mangiamo, golf, a tour of the high school, and a reunion party at Bridgewater Place in downtown Grand Rapids. Special thanks to the reunion planning committee Steve and Kate (Warn) Bratschie, Steve Edison, Lisa (Gork) Elble, Martha MacKay, and Jon Stoppels. Contact Steve Edison at [stephenedison@gmail.com](mailto:stephenedison@gmail.com) for more information.

#### *Class of 1981 Celebrates 35 Years*



The Class of 1981 celebrated 35 years on October 21-22. The group enjoyed a beautiful fall Friday evening at the home of Jamie and Linda Goebel, followed by a tour of the high school Saturday morning. The reunion dinner was held at the Grand Rapids Yacht Club Saturday and was a huge success with lots of laughs and memories. Find the EGR Class of 1981 Facebook page to stay informed for our 40th! Contact Suzanne Wickman at [suzannewickman@gmail.com](mailto:suzannewickman@gmail.com) for more information.





### *Class of 1986 Celebrates 30 years*

Sixty 1986 alumni and their guests gathered in early October, Homecoming Weekend, for their 30th reunion. Classmates enjoyed the traditional Homecoming activities including the parade and a winning football game against Wayland-Union High School. Classmates toured the high school Saturday afternoon and had a memorable reunion celebration Saturday evening at the Grand Rapids Yacht Club. Special thanks to Matt and Jill Miller, Meredith (Ryan) Bennett, Tory (Stuart) Duca, Diane Gibbs, Kim (Heiny) Smith, Beth (Corey) Dantuma, Sarah (Andrews) Elder, Lisa (Turrentine) Spooner, Ben Braun, David Howitt, and David Wiener for helping make the reunion a great success. Contact Tory Duca at [toryduca@gmail.com](mailto:toryduca@gmail.com) for more information.

### *Class of 1996 Celebrates 20 years*

The Class of 1996 held their 20th Reunion in August 2016. A Friday night welcome back gathering at Nyal Deems' home began the reunion celebration. Over eighty '96 alumni and their guests also attended the Saturday reunion event held at the JW Marriott. Special thanks to Nyal Deems for hosting the Friday event and to the reunion committee members Meghan Howard, Conor Dugan, Katie Israels, Brooke Deems, and Greg Williamson for planning a great reunion. Contact Conor Dugan at [conordugan@gmail.com](mailto:conordugan@gmail.com) for more information.

### *Class of 2006 Celebrates 10 years*



The 2006 alumni gathered Thanksgiving weekend for their 10th reunion at the Waldron Public House in downtown Grand Rapids. Nearly seventy-five alumni and their guests, from distant locations like California and Washington and those living closer in Michigan and Illinois, returned to renew friendships, reminisce and celebrate. Special thanks to Sarah (Goebel) Stillo for planning a memorable reunion evening. Go to [egrsf.org/2006-reunion](http://egrsf.org/2006-reunion) for more information or contact Sarah (Goebel) Stillo at [sarah.goebel@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.goebel@gmail.com).

### **Hockey Alumni Return to the Ice**

The East Grand Rapids hockey alumni faced off against the Forest Hills Central alumni once again over the 2016 Thanksgiving weekend at Patterson Ice Arena. Over twenty-five alumni returned to the ice to wear the Pioneer jerseys and defeat their Ranger opponents. If you would like to be a part of the 2017 alumni hockey game, please contact Maria Allen, Alumni Relations Coordinator, at [mallen@egrsf.org](mailto:mallen@egrsf.org).



### **UPCOMING REUNIONS**

Mark your calendars for these upcoming 2017 reunions! Be sure to go to [www.egrsf.org/alumni](http://www.egrsf.org/alumni) for additional reunion information.

#### ***Class of 1952 – 65th Reunion – Fall 2017***

Contact Betty Jo (Muir) Crosby at [bjcroz@comcast.net](mailto:bjcroz@comcast.net).

#### ***Class of 1957 – 60th Reunion – October 13-14, 2017***

Contact Bev (Ralston) Watrous at [bevwatrous@gmail.com](mailto:bevwatrous@gmail.com).

#### ***Class of 1967 – 50th Reunion – September 29-30, 2017***

Contact Margaret Idema at [marg609@gmail.com](mailto:marg609@gmail.com). Go to [egrsf.org/1967-reunion](http://egrsf.org/1967-reunion) for reunion information.

#### ***Class of 1977 – 40th Reunion – July 7-8, 2017***

Contact Lynne (Boyles) Marino at [lynne\\_marino@ml.com](mailto:lynne_marino@ml.com) Go to [egrsf.org/1977-reunion](http://egrsf.org/1977-reunion) for reunion information.

#### ***Class of 1987 – 30th Reunion – October 14, 2017***

Contact Jenny (Spindle) Fee at [jfee@egrsf.org](mailto:jfee@egrsf.org). Go to [egrsf.org/1987-reunion](http://egrsf.org/1987-reunion) for reunion information.

#### ***Class of 1997 – 20th Reunion – August 5, 2017***

Contact Sarah (Marshall) Straveler at [sarahstraveler@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahstraveler@hotmail.com). Go to [egrsf.org/1997-reunion](http://egrsf.org/1997-reunion) for reunion information.

**Reunion information or a planning committee is needed for the following class years: '62, '72, '82, '92, '02, '07, '12.**

**Consider a class gift to our endowment, EGRFOREVER!, in your reunion planning. Make a lasting impact on generations of EGR students to come. "We are EGR!"**

### **Reunion Planning Support**

If 2017 or 2018 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@egrsf.org](mailto:mallen@egrsf.org) or (616) 235-3535 for reunion planning support.





# Foundations

*East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation*

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616-235-3535

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# Foundations

February 2017

Volume XXXVI

## Thank you for supporting East Grand Rapids Schools Foundation.

Please include this form with your donation. You will receive a letter of receipt for your tax-deductible gift. If you would like to make your donation online please visit our website: [www.egrsf.org](http://www.egrsf.org).

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☐ Young Alumni (graduated in last 10 years) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**Donations may be sent to:** 2915 Hall St. SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506 or donate online at: [www.egrsf.org](http://www.egrsf.org)