Thank You for the Grants & Donations for our Students and Classrooms!

Reading is Fun! Mrs. Sladick's 1st grade class received a $100 scholastic grant from MEEMIC Insurance Company and was able to purchase new chapter books for their classroom. Students were super excited to get the new books! Mrs. Sladick also received donations through Donor's Choose to purchase a horseshoe shaped table for small groups. She says, "It has been a game changer for small group work.

Goodies from the Garden . . .
The elementary school garden club received a grant from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to expand the school garden and to provide outdoor activities, nutritional education and environmental appreciation for our students. The garden club is preparing for spring while the gardens are hibernating! They have purchased 4 semi-dwarf apple trees to be planted and plan to create an event on planting day! They have also ordered different varieties of apple trees, along with a crab apple tree for pollination. In addition to great veggies, they will be adding strawberries, blueberries and apples to the garden this year.

Amazing Sounds . . . Thanks to a grant from the Malpass Foundation, our elementary school gymnasium has a state-of-the-art audio system that improves the audio delivery for assemblies including "Student of the Month" and "Positive Behavior." The system also is used for parent night, the delivery of the physical education curriculum, kindergarten graduation, elementary Christmas programs and band concerts, and any other type of program in the elementary gym. The High School welding class designed and manufactured the enclosure so that the system was fixed to the gym wall in a safe metal case. The system improves the quality of sound for students and parents and guests who are hearing impaired.

Making a Splash! The East Jordan Community Pool was awarded two grants through the Charlevoix County Community Foundation. The first grant was to fund the pool director position for the 2018-2019 school year and the second was for facility improvements. With the facilities improvement grant, the pool received a fresh coat of white paint throughout the pool deck area and locker rooms. Improvements were made to the air quality and dehumidifying system. The remainder of the funds will be used towards mechanical equipment to help maintain water quality in the pool. We would like to express our thanks to the Charlevoix Community Foundation for their continued support of the East Jordan Community Pool!
Students in Mrs. Crick's 6th grade class were gifted with a grant from the Charlevoix County Community Foundation to visit McLean and Eakin Booksellers in Petoskey to purchase books for the elementary school library. On January 18th, twenty-three sixth grade students were welcomed by the helpful staff at McLean and Eakin, given a short tour of the store, and then allowed to pick out three or four books for the library.

Students were enthralled with the variety of books available to choose from. Many chose realistic or science fiction, but there were others who decided on non-fiction. From biographies to graphic novels, books were being evaluated and added to our “buy” pile. In the end, over 100 books were purchased!

Mrs. Crick said, “On the bus ride home, it was silent as students began devouring the pages in their books. It was an English teacher’s euphoria!” Today, each student is reading one of their books in order to give a short book talk about it, while the remaining books have been cataloged and displayed for fellow classmates to check out in the elementary school library.

A bookstore grant will also provide books for Mrs. McPherson’s sophomore class. Students will spend the day in Petoskey to visit McLean and Eakin Booksellers and visit the campus of North Central Michigan College for lunch and a campus tour! These book purchases will be placed in the middle/high school library for all students to enjoy.

Thank you to our generous community members and the Charlevoix County Community Foundation that made all of this possible!
Mr. Hamilton’s video production class has some great equipment!

The East Jordan Lions Club has selected high school senior Haylah Buell to be a member of the 2019 Lions of Michigan All State Band. The band is composed of 45-70 high school students from around the state. The band promotes the development of social skills and interaction with band members from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

Haylah will be performing and traveling with the band this summer at the Lions Club International Convention in Milan, Italy.

She is responsible for paying her own fees. If you would like to help Haylah with her trip, checks may be sent to East Jordan Lions Club, PO Box 845, East Jordan MI 49727, Memo Line: All State Band Fund.

Mr. Hamilton received three grants for the video production class at the middle/high School.

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation provided a grant to purchase 6 computers with special software so that students could learn and have a video editing experience.

The Malpass Foundation supplied a grant so that the video class could purchase 5 new state-of-art video cameras and Mr. Hamilton was also awarded a grant through Great Lakes Energy’s Touchstone Energy Classroom grant initiative and purchased a Ronin-S handheld stabilizer unit to support the camera in different filming situations.

Thanks to all these grant programs for supporting our students!

Cheyenne Brown and AJ Bartlett are holding 2 of the 5 cameras purchased for the video production class.

Ethan Zeeryp, Caleb Ziebarth and Koryna Russell sit in front of 3 of the 6 computers that were purchased for video editing.

Bus Drivers Wanted!

East Jordan Public Schools is seeking safe, reliable and caring substitute bus drivers. The District will cover training and licensing costs for successful applicants.

For more information, contact Tim Drenth, Operations Manager at 231-536-2921

Haylah Buell goes “All State”!

The middle/high school recently held their PBIS kick off! PBIS, or "Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports", is a district wide initiative at East Jordan Public Schools.

At the middle/high school, our faculty is using the EJ Proud campaign to teach students what it means to be courteous, responsible and safe.

Students in grades 7-12 practiced these lessons in their classrooms, the library, the hall, on the bus, in the parking lot, in the cafeteria, as well as locker rooms, the gym and the bathrooms.

Students began earning reward points for exhibiting positive behavior and will be able to redeem these points at the new Dream Big reward store. We are looking forward to seeing the positive effects of integrating EJ Proud into the school climate at East Jordan Middle/High School.

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“We are Courteous, We are Responsible, We are Safe”!

Congratulations, Lillii Armstrong!

Congratulations to East Jordan high school junior Lillii Armstrong who has qualified to represent the USA at the world power lifting championships in Tokyo, Japan in May.

Lillii has been competing with the MHSPLA - Michigan High School Power Lifting Association for the past three years and is looking forward to the competition in Tokyo. Lillii says, “I just want to make myself proud and make the USA proud!”

We wish Lillii the best in the Toyko world championship and hope that she can add more medals to her collection!

Steven Streasick is shown holding the Ronin-S handheld stabilizer unit used in video production class.

Cheyenne Brown and AJ Bartlett are holding 2 of the 5 cameras purchased for the video production class.

Ethan Zeeryp, Caleb Ziebarth and Koryna Russell sit in front of 3 of the 6 computers that were purchased for video editing.

We are Courteous, We are Responsible, We are Safe”!
East Jordan Middle/High school is proud to feature Mrs. Megan Barnett as their Staff Spotlight this month. Mrs. Barnett is a middle school math/science teacher at EJMHS who is completing her 2nd year of teaching in East Jordan. She grew up in Howell, Michigan and graduated from Pinckney High School. After high school, she received a golf scholarship to attend Northwood University. While at Northwood University, she earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After working in the business field for a few years, she decided that this profession wasn't the right fit for her. She wanted to find a career where she could give back to the community in a way that her teachers had done when she was in school. Therefore, she went back to college to earn her teaching certificate from Baker College.

Mrs. Barnett has a real love for teaching. Her favorite part of teaching is "seeing student confidence grow in the classroom, and watching their work ethic form." During her first couple of years as a teacher, she has already experienced several memorable events. Her favorite memory so far was when her students made a jar with notes in it for her. These notes offered words of encouragement, thank you notes for believing in them, and funny jokes. Mrs. Barnett said that these notes made her feel like she was really making a difference and that she was on the right path with her new career choice.

Outside of school, Mrs. Barnett has many other activities she enjoys doing. These include yoga, coaching volleyball, cooking, gardening, riding horses and camping. East Jordan is very fortunate to have Mrs. Barnett as one of their teachers. She does a great job connecting with students and making math fun! Thank you Mrs. Barnett for helping to make East Jordan Middle/High school a great place to learn!

We are proud to feature Justin Roberts as our Alumni Spotlight this month. Justin graduated from East Jordan High School in 2005.

Justin attended Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Michigan where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and also a Masters of Architecture. Justin choose this profession because he was good at it and he saw that there was a need for high end home design & construction in our area. He also noticed that our area was a desired location for retirement homes or secondary vacation homes. Justin currently owns his own company located in East Jordan, "Black Birch Design + Build" which is a firm that specializes in the design and construction of high end custom homes around northern Michigan. You can learn more about "Black Birch" at www.blackbirchdesignbuild.com.

Justin says that some of his best memories of high school include, “the immeasurable education and world view gained in Science and Technology courses taken with Mrs. Moeke and Mr. Cross”. His advice to current students is, “learn to love your coursework; find parts of it that are interesting and if you can find a way to make education fun for yourself, the university system, vocational education and life in general will become a breeze!”

Justin is excited to be living in northern Michigan again because he and his wife, Josephine, “want to provide the best upbringing of our child possible, and that means living in a place with vast amounts of nature, a good culture, smaller schools, access to open bodies of water and being close to family”. Justin is married to EJ Alumni, Josephine Roberts (Cook) and they are pictured above with their son, Shepard.

Thank you, Justin for sharing your story with us. At East Jordan Public Schools, we are so proud of the accomplishments of our students!

If you would like to suggest an EJPS graduate to be featured in the Alumni Spotlight, please email Kim Brown at kbrown@ejps.org.

Congratulations to Hayley Curnow for being selected by the CTE faculty as the East Jordan middle/high school career-technical education student of the month for March. Hayley is enrolled in Automotive Technology and Welding.

Hayley loves sports, making people laugh, and being the ‘mom’ on her sports teams. Her extra-curricular activities include cross country, track and field, sideline cheer, competitive cheer, and participating in the spring play. Hayley is the daughter of Kelly Curnow and she plans to pursue a career as a welder.

If you would like to suggest an EJPS graduate to be featured in the Alumni Spotlight, please email Kim Brown at kbrown@ejps.org.