HEF

Foundation FOCUS

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Grant Awardees Announced, Another Round of Classroom Innovations Ahead

---

Dear Lacey Dixon,

There is an exciting energy in our schools at this time of year! The HEF recently celebrated fifteen Cycle 1 grant recipients who are dedicated to keeping that excitement growing with new ideas to stretch curriculum.

Among the awardees, you will see thoughtful, strategic approaches: Anna Childress's Project Regulate at Bauer Elementary is building sensory supports that help students feel calm and ready to learn. At the 5/6 Building at Georgetown, Chris Bowen's Igniting Earth Science is melting the mystery of the rock cycle for young scientists. Jesse VanderBand's grant is putting high-quality photography equipment in the hands of advanced art students at the high school as they build their first real portfolios. Mary Bent Buist at Forest Grove will be enhancing 3D literacy with safe maker tools. All these robust ideas and more will be deployed in our district because of donors.

Fifteen educators, fifteen ideas, all aimed at giving students across the district a richer, more memorable path to learning. We look forward to reading the impact stories of their classroom experiences and seeing the photos. Stay tuned for those on the website and social media.

I am excited to share that our second 2026 grant cycle is open until November 3. This year, a fall cycle brings something special. Thanks to a designated gift from the Class of 2026 Senior All Nighter Committee, $3,100 is available specifically to support our AP educators' work. Alongside that, $4,300 is available for Cycle 2 applications in our general pool.

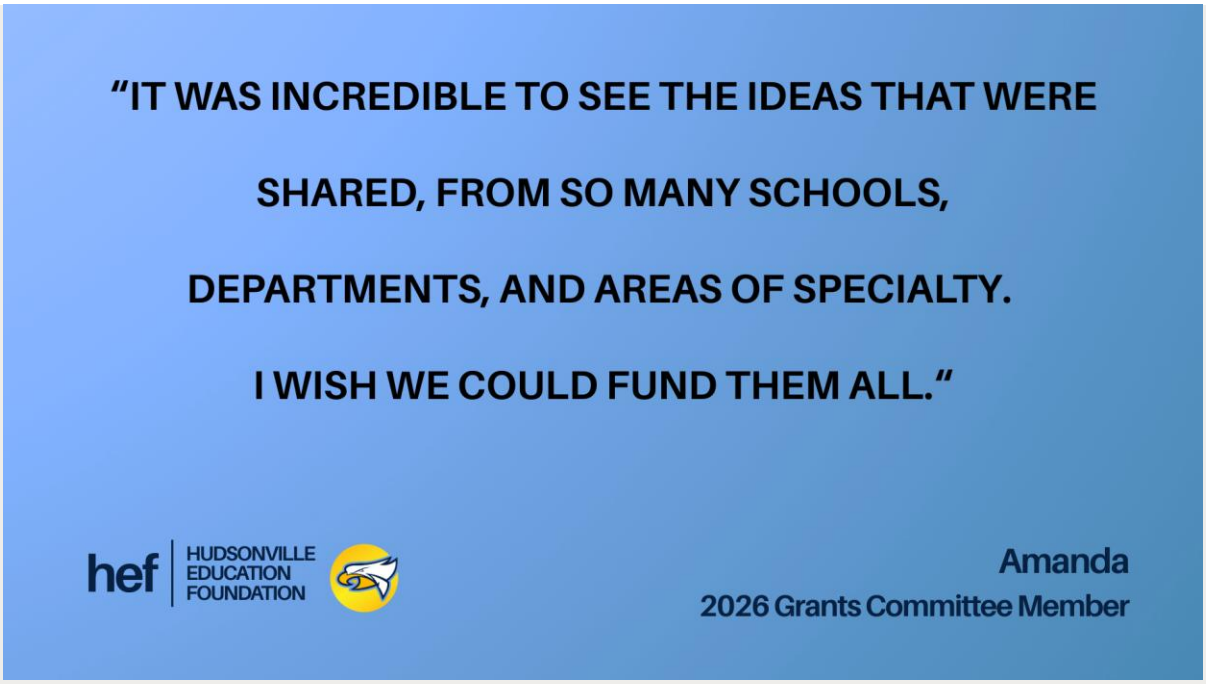
Even with this generosity, the innovative ideas for meeting classroom needs are outpacing our funding. Your gifts help us grow this pool so that more applicants can be awarded. Please consider a gift to support this work.

Thank you for helping us turn educator innovation into transformative experiences for the students of Hudsonville. Congratulations again to our grant awardees.

Sincerely,

Joy Hemmes

HEF Board Member, Hall of Fame Committee Member, Hudsonville Public Schools Board Member



MAKE MORE GRANTS POSSIBLE. CLICK HERE.

Congrats!

TO OUR CYCLE 1 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Chomp and Create: Enhancing 3D Literacy Through Safe Maker Tools
Mary Bent-Buist · Forest Grove Elementary

Chomp, Chomp, Create!
Amanda Hawks · Alward Elementary

Creating Calm, Building Confidence
Ali Brunner · Olivia Prince · Jamestown Upper Elementary

Engagement by Design
Theresa Heethuis · High School

Igniting Earth Science: Melting the Mystery of the Rock Cycle
Chris Bowen · 5/6 Building at Georgetown

Inspired to Sit, Empowered to Learn
Emily Ouzts · Brian Courville · High School

Magical Story Teller
Kimberlynn Schwenk · Delayney Overman · Bauer Elementary

Magnifying Curiosity
Sydney Crosby · Riley Street Middle School

hef | HUDSONVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Congrats!

TO OUR CYCLE 1 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Making Thinking Visible
Kelsey York · Jake Fountaine · Baldwin Street Middle School

Meeting Sensory Needs
Kailey Schrauben · Riley Street Middle School

Project Regulate: Sensory Supports at Bauer
Anna Childress · Katelyn Hallenbeck · Bauer Elementary

Quality Photography Equipment for Advanced Art Students to Build Portfolios
Jesse VanderBand · Krystal Kingsley · High School

Sensory Pathways to Success: Building Regulation, Movement, and Learning Through Therapeutic Sensory Equipment
Kim Clark · Ashton Brooks · Early Childhood Center and Park Elementary

The Amazing Generation Starts Here: Healthy Habits for a Digital Age
Taylor Lindman and Becky Dawson · 5/6 Building at Georgetown

Vertical White Boards (HHS Math)
McKenzie Cain · High School

hef | HUDSONVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

2026 Eagles Day at GVSU: Get Tickets Today!



Tickets are selling fast for this GVSU Homecoming Game, so be sure to snag yours today. We can't wait to rally at tailgating ahead of the game and make our way in to cheer as an Eagle community.

PURCHASE TICKETS HERE

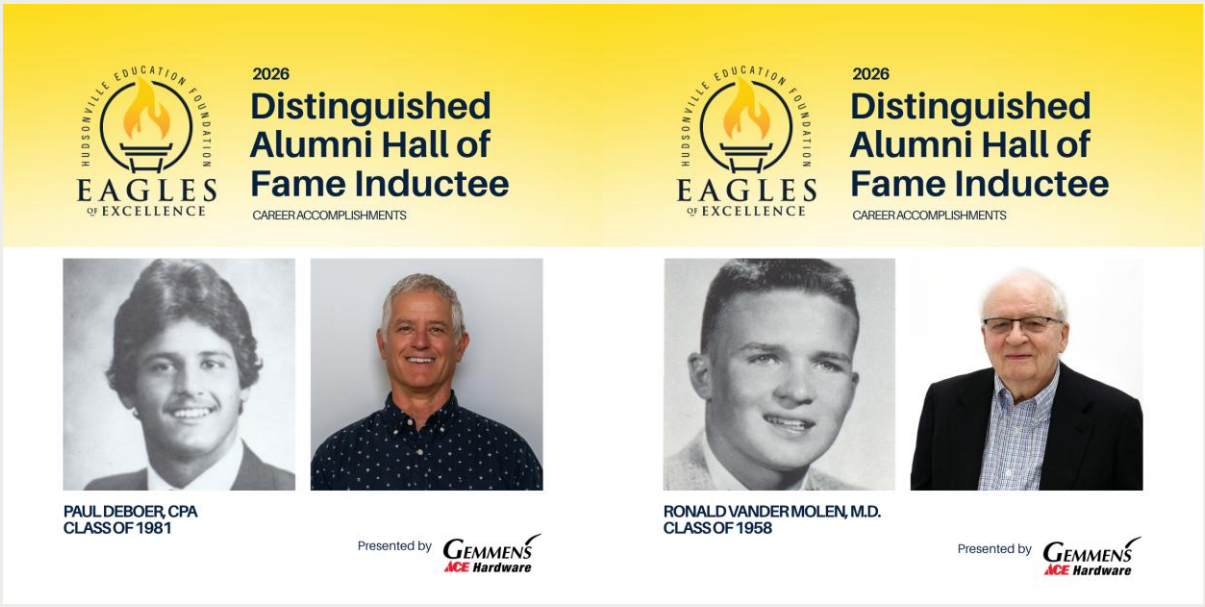
A great meal for a great cause.



A percentage of your September 29th order at DJ's Pizza will benefit the Hudsonville Education Foundation and its work to create transformational educational experiences through grants and scholarships. Plan your lunch, dinner, or BOTH for DJ's!

Honor Eagles of Then and Now at 2026 Eagles of Excellence Gala

---



Join us to celebrate the career achievements of our 2026 Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame inductees, our student Eagles of Excellence, and the community of mentors, educators, business owners, and community leaders proud to know them. Thank you to Gemmen's and all of our sponsors for making this incredible evening possible. Get your tickets today.

November 2

Pinnacle Center

5:30-7:30 p.m.

GALA TICKETS

GALA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SPONSORS

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Gemmens ACE Hardware

DIAMOND SPONSORS

Coldbrook Insurance Group LLC

Fleet Parts, Inc.

The Derby Tavern

GOLD SPONSORS

gmb

Owen Ames Kimball

Ridgeview Industries

SILVER SPONSORS

Grand River Bank
J&H Family Stores
OFA Advertising + Design
Pinnacle Center
Second Story Counseling
Stifel

BRONZE SPONSORS

Advanced Interiors
Buist Electric
Hoekstra Transportation
Hulst Jepsen Physical Therapy
Kessel and Bouwens Orthodontics
Lake Michigan Credit Union
Meijer of Hudsonville
Messenger Printing
Nicole Hansen - HN Property Group
Powell Orthodontics

PO Box 582
Hudsonville, MI 49426

hudsedfound.org

ldixon@hpseagles.net

You are being sent this email because you are a subscriber.
If you wish to update your Email Preferences or Unsubscribe, click
Unsubscribe | Manage email preferences