

The Foundation

A publication of the Harrisonville Public School Foundation

New program provides students a chance to pay-it-forward

Harrisonville High School graduates had the opportunity to “pay it forward” through a new program created by the Harrisonville Public School Foundation.

In 2020, the Foundation added the Bill Mills Leaving A Legacy Grant to its Excellence in Academics program, which honors students who complete the year in the top 15% of their class. Seniors who earn Excellence in Academics recognition all four years receive a \$500 scholarship from the Foundation. Beginning this year, each four-year Excellence in Academics recipient also had the opportunity to choose a school-sponsored program, department or extracurricular activity to receive a \$250 mini grant from the Foundation. Mini grants disbursed during this first year totaled \$6,000.

The Foundation presented mini grants to district teachers during back-to-school activities. The programs receiving a grant and the graduate selecting the program are as follows: Wrestling, Austen Cesonis; Music Makers, Mackina Chamberlain; Girls’ Tennis, Caitlyn Costner; Football, Carson Crowley; Jazz Band, Michael Dahn; DECA, Ethan Danner; Student Council, Kathrine Dooley; Boys’ Soccer, Evan Filer; FFA, Emma Fischer; Boys’ Basketball, Landon George; Track and Field, Kaylee Harp; Engineering program, Aliyah Hasam; Key Club, Madison Hoffman; Engineering, Ethan Inman; Royal Regiment, Tatum Kelley; Girls’ Soccer, Maria Messer; Key Club, Jayden Osborn; Science department, Karley Reynolds; National Honor Society, Presley Reynolds; FFA, Keigan Rowe; Vocal Music, Michael Schuhler; Project Lead the Way, Seth Steinbrook; Engineering, Maria Styron; and National Honor Society, Amy Tracy.

Leaving a Legacy aligns with the Foundation’s goal to enhance, supplement, support and expand student- and school-based learning activities and initiatives. The Foundation created the Leaving a Legacy award initiative to honor Mr. Mills, who has championed investments in Harrisonville Schools programs and activities that benefit students throughout the district, and thank him for his long tenure of service to the Foundation.

Mr. Mills served on the Foundation board for more than 25 years and retired from the board in June 2019. He is a Foundation past president and a Founding Donor at the platinum level. He graduated from Harrisonville High School in 1972, and he is a 2014 inductee into the Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame. He is pictured below with Foundation trustees and his family during the Bill Mills Leaving A Legacy Grant announcement in January (*pre-COVID photo).



Foundation to host annual golf tournament Sept. 18

Golfers may now register for the Harrisonville Public School Foundation's Annual Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament scheduled for Friday, Sept. 18, 2020. The tournament will take place at Hoots Hollow at Country Creek Golf Course beginning at 8 a.m.

Registration is available online at this link - [click here](#), or you can pick up forms at the district's administrative offices, 503 S. Lexington. Registration is \$80 per golfer or \$320 per team, and it includes green fees, a cart and lunch following the tournament.

The tournament will be played as a four-person scramble with two flights. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams in each flight as well as for closest to the pin and longest drive.

Golf tournament sponsorship opportunities are also available. Sponsors may choose from one of three levels: True Wildcat (\$1,000), Royal Blue (\$500) and White (\$100). True Wildcat and Royal Blue sponsors receive one complimentary team registration for the golf tournament, and all sponsors receive publicity on all tournament materials and signs at the tournament. The Foundation is also looking for goodie bag prizes (80). To be a tournament sponsor, complete the form at this link - [click here](#).

Monies raised through this event will fund Foundation programming including teacher grants for innovative classroom programs that enhance the curriculum, the Excellence in Academics program that honors and fosters academic excellence at HHS, scholarships that provide opportunities for teachers to enhance their learning and district grants that address emerging district needs.

For more information on the Foundation's golf tournament, please contact Jill Filer at 380-2727, ext.

Catch the Spirit 5K canceled

Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, the Foundation has decided to cancel this year's 5K color walk/run.

Foundation purchases van for student, staff use

During fall 2019, Harrisonville Schools Activities Director Brent Maxwell submitted a grant request to the Foundation for a 10-passenger van that district staff and students could use for event and activity trips.



The Foundation approved the request, which totaled \$34,000. The van was purchased and wrapped; an anonymous donor provided funding for the wrap. The Board of Education recognized the van donation during its February 2020 meeting.

The van was immediately used for the state wrestling tournament in February. It will be used this fall by the golf and tennis teams.

Foundation purchases lanyards for back-to-school students

The Foundation provided \$1,500 in funding for the district to purchase mask lanyards for its elementary students this fall. To keep students safe, the school district implemented several policies as students head back to school. All students and staff are required to wear masks when 6' of social distancing is not possible. The lanyards enable students to take off their masks and not lose them during lunch, recess and other times when wearing masks isn't required. All district staff also received lanyards.



Reece inducted into Wall of Fame

The Harrisonville Public School Foundation, in partnership with the Harrisonville School District, inducted Harrisonville High School alumnus Stuart Reece into the Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame on Feb. 14. Reece graduated from HHS in 1990 and was honored for teaching service and character in the classroom and beyond. He was inducted between the JV and varsity basketball games as part of the HHS Courtwarming festivities and honored during a pre-game reception open to the public. To read his full bio, go to <http://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/Page/69>.

Wall of Fame Nominations sought

The Harrisonville High School Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame Selection Committee invites you to nominate candidates for the Harrisonville High School Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame. This award

honors and recognizes alumni who exemplify the values, tradition and successes of HHS. Their accomplishments will inspire and encourage HHS students to do the same.

The 2021 inductees to the Harrisonville High School Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame will be recognized during an event TBD.

The eligibility requirements are as follows:

The nominee must be a graduate of Harrisonville High School.

- A period of 10 years must have elapsed between graduation and nomination for induction.
- Posthumous nominees will be accepted.
- The nominee has displayed exemplary achievement in the nominee's area of specialization; received recognition, honors and awards on the local, regional, national or international level; or has demonstrated service in the community in which he/she lives.
- A personal statement of 250 words or less by the nominator should illuminate the nominee's impact and contribution that warrant the nominee's selection to the Wall of Fame.
- Any supporting materials such as newspaper articles, stories and letters of recommendation should be submitted with the nomination form. The selection committee will review only the information provided and will not do further research.

The committee will score the nominee's main area of nomination (i.e., exemplary achievement, honors & awards, service to the community). Nominees will earn bonus points for work in areas beyond the primary nomination area.

Anyone may nominate a graduate for consideration. The nomination form is online at www.harrisonvilleschools.org/foundation. The nomination deadline is Oct. 31.

Kelly named Educator of the Year

Cass Career Center criminal justice/CSI instructor Chandra Kelly was named the Educator of the Year for 2019/2020. She was surprised during a drive-thru parade in early May at the CCC. Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/1MrbkZiNPcc>.



Kelly has taught at CCC for four years. Prior to teaching, she worked for the Olathe and Overland Park police departments. She volunteers as the leader of the Police Explorers program with the Harrisonville Police Department and coaches softball and girls' wrestling at HHS. She is also a Harrisonville High School alumna.

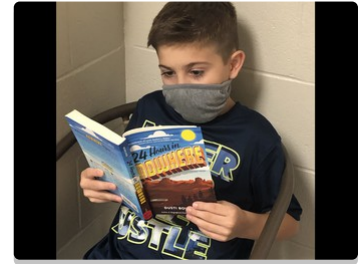
Kelly was selected for the honor by a panel of judges from outside the community who interviewed five finalists. A selection committee composed of Harrisonville Public School Foundation and district administration representatives chose the finalists from nominations received from parents, students and Harrisonville Schools' staff members.

Nominations for Kelly said, "Officer Kelly is an exceptional teacher, she is very passionate about what she teaches. She goes above and beyond to help her students when they are in need, either inside of the classroom or outside of the classroom. She teaches her students how to value others as equals and she conducts her class with a professionalism that helps the students flourish. She is also her students' No. 1 supporter when it comes to anything and everything."

The Harrisonville Public School Foundation presented Kelly with a \$500 grant. She requested that the grant be divided among the 2020 Educator of the Year finalists, who were Kyle Crutchfield, Virginia DeVenney, Amy Kump and Emily Terwilliger — all HHS teachers.

Foundation presents \$3,500 in grants

Although the surprise squad looked a bit different this spring, the Foundation continued its teacher grant program by presenting more than \$3,500 in grants from the Harrisonville Public School Foundation. Executive Director Jill Filer visited staff Zoom meetings this spring to announce the recipients.



Teacher grants were awarded to the following:

- Missy Eddleman, McEowen Elementary School for a classroom Mark Twain Library. Mrs. Eddleman teaches reading, and this grant will pay for a classroom set of the Mark Twain award nominee books, so more students have the opportunity to access these books.
- David May, Cass Career Center EMT for AED trainers that will continue to train students in Basic Life Support in accordance with the standards set forth by the American Heart Association. The new AEDs will improve the classroom experience by allowing more students to practice the hands-on application of AED use during CPR.
- Audra Osborn, Harrisonville Elementary School Title I Math for a variety of educational materials focused on mathematical problem solving and critical-thinking skills. All teachers at the school can use the materials. The end goal is for each student at HES to be strong in number sense and fluent with basic addition, subtraction and multiplication facts.
- Emily Schaeffer, Harrisonville Middle School band for band stands. These music stands will replace old, malfunctioning stands in the middle school band room.
- Amanda Teeter, district dyslexia coordinator for visual cards for multisensory reading. These cards provide visual representation for reading concepts by seeing the correct placement of the tongue, teeth and lips when producing consonant and vowel sounds. Providing this multisensory approach will help all students to make reading connections.
- Allison Willson, Harrisonville High School math for hands-on geometry. Students in geometry classes will use compass and straight-edge constructions and patty paper folding to illustrate the vocabulary terms that are fundamental to the course. In addition to construction tools, the grant will fund new manipulatives called Exploragons. These pieces look like flat Legos. Using Exploragons, students will be able to "pop" together different shapes to understand properties of geometry.

Throughout the 18 years of the teacher grant program, nearly \$105,000 has been presented to teachers. The grants intend to enhance the education of Harrisonville students by encouraging and recognizing new educational approaches and concepts that are not currently funded by the district.

Seniors earn \$43,000+ in Foundation scholarships

Another event that took on a different look this spring was the Senior Excellence in Academics Ceremony. The event was held on May 7 as a video premiere on Facebook and YouTube.

The Foundation presented more than \$31,000 in named scholarships. Recipients were as follows:

The Bob Hodge Achievement Award - Maria Styron
The Stephen & Virginia Childress Athletic Award - Carson Crowley
The Scott T. Morse Memorial Scholarship - Ethan Danner
The William G. and Nettie Z. Deacon Scholarships - Caitlyn Costner, Bradley Cox, MaKayla Knight, Karley Reynolds and Amy Tracy
The John & Wanda Foster Construction Trades Scholarship - Ethan Inman
The John & Wanda Foster Ag Scholarship - Meadow Vassar
The Samuel A Sloan, Evelyn Sloan, and Beulah Sloan McCoy Scholarship - Keigan Rowe and Hannah Dinges
The Donna Pfausch HATS Scholarship - Maria Styron
The Rotary Scholarships - Evan Filer, Karley Reynolds, Maria Styron and Ethan Danner
The Katie Rios Memorial Scholarship - Jayden Osborn
The Cara Roberts Memorial Scholarship - Michael Dahn
The Allison W. Smith Memorial Scholarship - Arden Middaugh

Read about these scholarships and recipients at <https://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/Page/65>.

Additionally, the Foundation presented Excellence in Academics awards to 33 seniors during the video event. The Foundation's Excellence in Academics program honors students who complete the year in the top 15% of their class. Seniors honored as first-year Excellence in Academics recipients were Hannah Dinges, Jacob Poisal and Harley Sipple. Second-year recipients were Ryan Anderson, Bryce Jenkins, Thi Nguyen and Emma Wernex. Those earning the honor for the third year were Jessi Buerge and Bradley Cox.

The four-year recipients received a \$500 scholarship from the Foundation. They were Austen Cesonis, Mackina Chamberlain, Caitlyn Costner, Carson Crowley, Michael Dahn, Ethan Danner, Kathrine Dooley, Evan Filer, Emma Fischer, Landon George, Kaylee Harp, Aliyah Hasam, Madison Hoffman, Ethan Inman, Tatum Kelly, Maria Messer, Jayden Osborn, Karley Reynolds, Presley Reynolds, Keigan Rowe, Michael Schuhler, Seth Steinbrook, Maria Styron and Amy Tracy.

You can watch the full Senior Excellence in Academics Ceremony at <https://youtu.be/PgSwTbDF0KI>.

The four-year recipients also selected their most influential teacher for recognition, and both the teacher and the student received a framed memento of the honor. To read more, go to <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BDZLWSDY2EkU3L-Tf2uuBORHCRixYh9m/view?usp=sharing>.



Supporting new teachers

The Foundation presented \$100 Amazon gift cards to the district's four first-year teachers/counselors to help set up their classrooms and offices for the year. Pictured are Ashlee Baldwin, [Harrisonville Elementary Wildcats](#); Pam Ackermann, [McEwen Elementary Wildcats](#); Amy Wilson, [Harrisonville High School](#); and Samantha Kates, [Harrisonville High School](#) & [Harrisonville Middle School](#).

Major Saver Sales

The Foundation received its check for the 2020 [Major Saver](#) sales campaign and presented the participating schools' checks to principals in early March.

Students sold the restaurant and entertainment discount cards, and the proceeds from the sales were split equally between the Foundation and the participating schools.

The overall proceeds totaled \$16,500. [Harrisonville Early Childhood Center Wildcats](#) earned \$1,053.75; [Harrisonville Elementary Wildcats](#) received \$4,657.50; and [McEwen Elementary Wildcats](#) earned \$2,516.25.

This year's participating businesses were [Paradise Park](#), Price Chopper, Dick's Sporting Goods, [Kurzweil's Country Meats](#), Casey's, Apple Barrel (in Sapp Brothers), [Mazzio's Pizza Harrisonville Mo](#), [The Garage Burgers and Brew](#), Brewbakers, Houlihan's, Dunkin' Donuts (in Sapp Brothers), [Sonic Drive-In](#), Captain D's, Dairy Queen, [Forged by Fire Kitchen & Tap House](#) and [Aaron's Family Fun Center](#).

The Foundation will use its portion to fund its programming, which includes the Excellence in Academics program, teacher grants and Advanced Degree Teacher Initiative.

****NOTE:** Photo below was taken prior to COVID.



Wildcat spirit signs available to purchase

Show your Wildcat spirit by purchasing a Yard Sign sporting your favorite activity. Maybe it's soccer, baseball, choir, tennis ... whatever! Or, maybe you'd like it to say alumni, [#WildcatFamily](#), your last name or Class of 19?? (up to 15 characters).

The yard signs (sign/stake/hardware) are \$55 each, and each individual personalized plaque is \$10.

Orders will be placed on the 15th of each month. Payment is required before we will finalize your order. Buyers will be notified via email that their sign and/or plaque is ready to pick up at the district administrative office, 503 S. Lexington.

Place an order here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdEjlu1dTZ-a118KJVe6YoB56oJDes6mmWd61F-G81GU0pWCQ/viewform>.

You can pay online; there's a small transaction fee:

[vents/7753-show-your-wildcat-spirit](https://www.harrisonvilleschools.org/7753-show-your-wildcat-spirit)

If you would rather not pay the small transaction fee, then you may mail or drop off your check made payable to the Harrisonville Public School Foundation to:

Harrisonville Public School Foundation
503 S. Lexington
Harrisonville, MO 64701

All proceeds benefit the Foundation's programming including teacher grants, district grants and student scholarships.



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