



HANCOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION, INC.

501 Campus Drive, Hancock, MI 49930

**September 2022**

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### **2021-2022 Funding Highlights**

During the 2021-2022 academic year, the Hancock Public Schools Foundation approved more than \$130,000 in grants benefitting Barkell Elementary School, Hancock Middle School, and Hancock Central High School. Additionally, the Foundation awarded \$40,000 in scholarships for post-high school studies.

The HPS Foundation is funded by gifts from alumni, parents, and friends of the school district. During 2021-2022, the Foundation received more than 150 contributions, adding substantially to its carefully managed funds. Many thanks to all those alumni and community members who support the work of the Hancock Public Schools Foundation.

If you would like to be part of this good cause, consider a donation to the Foundation so that it can continue to support and enhance Hancock Public Schools' students and teachers.

Mail: Checks payable to Hancock Public Schools Foundation, 501 Campus Drive, Hancock, Michigan 49930.

Online: <https://hancockpublicschools.org/school-foundation.php> or download a donation form to mail.

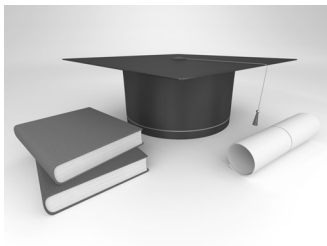
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### **Scholarships 2022**

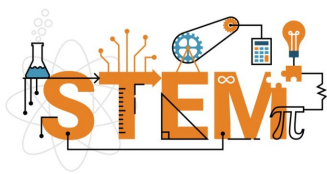
May is always an exciting month for those of us at the HPS Foundation. We are privileged to be a part of the committee that reviews scholarship applications. It is so rewarding to support students as they pursue their educational goals and dreams. In 2022, the Foundation awarded a total of \$40,000 in scholarships to fourteen graduating seniors.

In addition to traditional scholarships for students attending a college or university, the Michael Monberg Memorial Scholarship awarded its inaugural scholarships for technical/vocational careers. Established in 2021 by Eric Monberg, this fund honors the memory of his brother, Mike, who passed away in 2019.

The HPS Foundation awarded scholarships to the following students. We wish them well in their future endeavors!



Todd Anderson  
Alexis Babcock  
Kalli Chynoweth  
Sloane Driscoll  
Austin Jordan  
Adia Keranen  
Kaydence Kilpela  
Kami Klein  
Lexi Koskela  
Lance Meyette  
Chad Nordstrom  
Isaak Pietila  
Emilie Scholie  
Eleanor Tchida



## Hancock Continues STEM Emphasis

The Hancock Public Schools' STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program starts in early elementary classrooms with age-appropriate robot-building and programming, supported in part by the HPS Foundation.

This year, the Foundation awarded a grant supporting the addition of a CAD/CAM Lab (Computer-Aided Design/Computer-Aided Manufacturing) to the facility and curriculum. With computers and programming relevant to virtually all post-secondary education, the lab promises to benefit both students who go on to college and those who choose to study a trade or go into manufacturing.

Students can also earn certificates through the SME PRIME (Partnership Response in Manufacturing Education) network. SME is a nonprofit association of professionals, educators, and students committed to promoting and supporting the manufacturing industry. Hancock is one of only two schools in the U.P. in the SME PRIME network.

Students in this program receive hands-on training on modern equipment, and learn technology and processes through tailored curriculum that is informed by local manufacturing companies in their communities.

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### Contributions from November 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022

#### Unrestricted Contributions

Karen Hubbard  
Vera Gerhardt  
Jim & Anne Lisa Kalen  
Sara L. Niemeyer  
James O'Donnell  
Blair & Robin Orr  
Penegor Family  
Dennis & Emily Walikainen  
Dean & Janice Woodbeck

#### Scholarships

Eric Monberg '67

#### *In Honor of*

##### HCH Athletic Hall of Fame

John Killmar

#### *In Memory of*

##### Paul Alexander '81

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Walter Anderson

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Fran Beiring '68

Carol & Don Carli

##### Paul Coppo '56

Bob & Mary Hauswirth  
Rudak Family

##### Pat Campioni '61

Jan Campioni

##### Julie Dennis '27

Ken Seaton

##### James Federighe '58

Paul Feira

##### Louis Fredianelli '58

HCH Alumni Association

##### Eric Fredrickson '89

Jon Lindrus

##### Linda Givens

Ruth Jean Barkell  
Sara L. Niemeyer

##### John Hanke '50

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Jim Healy '77

Jim & Julie Fenton  
Vicky Usitalo

##### Arthur Michael Hill

Karen & Roger Reynolds

##### Glen Johnson '78

Judith Albee  
Jeanne Eilola  
Ann & Harold Evensen

##### Cathy Miron Kraatz '75

Carol & Don Carli

##### Patricia Cassidy Lindberg '51

Jeanne Eilola

##### Bob "Moose" Mantta '80

Tyler Kearly

##### Catherine "Tinka" Niemi '50

Corky Plassa

##### Ray Kriege

Bill & Terry Kriege  
Juliann & Patrick Heller

##### Paul Masini '64

George & Suzanne Houle

##### David Masters '75

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Robert Nominelli '49

Jim & Julie Fenton

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Jim & Mary Drew

##### Jim O'Brien '51

Mary & Ed Armstrong  
Jan Campioni  
Maxine Coon  
Jeanne O'Brien Eilola  
Sue Eilola  
Kathleen Hookana  
Mary Lepisto  
Ann Lockwood  
Sara L. Niemeyer  
Paula & Bob Nutini  
Corky Plassa  
Yvonne Veaser  
Mary Waarala & Betty Ballew

##### John "Topper" Ricci '55

Jeanne Eilola  
Corky Plassa

##### Ray Ricci '84

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Rob Roy '51

Robbyn & Gerry Lucier

##### Sharon Torgeson

Anonymous  
Eleanor Alexander  
Gretchen Cipriano  
Jim & Julie Fenton  
Shelby & Doug Hamar  
Donna Niss  
Eileen & Wayne Stordahl

##### Eric Vial '72

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Trish Watwood

Karen Hubbard

##### Charlotte Uren West '45

Corky Plaasa

##### Mike Wilmers '67

Gerry & Robbyn Lucier

##### Dave Wiitanen '52

Dave & Nancie Hermanson  
Ron & Mary Mikkola  
Sara L. Niemeyer

## Ice Dawgs, Wellness Enhancements, and Facility Upgrades

When you live in an area where snow can cover the ground half the year, you need to find ways to enjoy the outdoors even in the cold. Enter the new Hancock Public Schools NiceRink, a custom-made portable outdoor ice rink that is folded and stored during the seasons of slow sledding. The Foundation purchased the rink, which was placed on the on the high school/middle school grounds. Students helped with installation of the lining and boards, flooding the rink, and maintaining the ice. The rink was then used for Physical Education classes and after-school activities.

The HPS Foundation also supported indoor wellness development by funding a grant to replace aging strength training equipment used in physical education classes and by athletic teams.

First-year physical education teacher, Stacy Bussiere, a certified personal trainer, uses the equipment for classes and teaches the fundamentals of technique, safety, and exercise physiology.



In related grants, the Foundation also supported improvements for the High School gym, which is used for athletic events, school assemblies, commencement, and other large gatherings. The grant included replacing aging audio equipment with a completely new system, new scoreboards, and a video board.

Finally, the Foundation funded a request to support new playground equipment at Barkell Elementary School. The Barkell PTO is working with Principal Dan Vaara to completely revamp the playground and its equipment.

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## Foundation Supports Library and Elementary School Readers

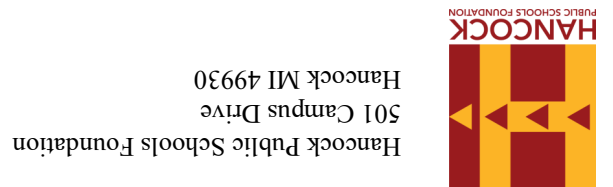
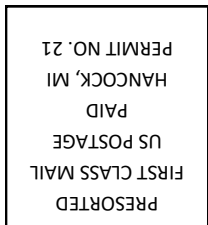
Reading was a key focus for 2021-2022.

The Hancock School Public Library augmented its collection of books for young readers with a continuing subscription to the Junior Library Guild, a collection development service that provides high-quality, award-winning books. According to library staff, “having the best new titles available for students gets them excited about reading, provides improved literacy and expanded vocabulary, and promotes stronger analytical thinking.”

Barkell Elementary acquired assistive technology for students with reading disabilities. Scanning pens are pocket-sized devices that read text aloud into earbuds with a human-sounding voice. They provide support for those who need to have almost all of their tests, classwork, and written instructions, read aloud.

The Foundation also supported a subscription to Read Naturally Live, a research-based tool for improving reading fluency and comprehension, and provided a grant to a new third-grade teacher to upgrade the reading materials in her classroom.





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