



3275 Lincoln Avenue  
Saint Joseph, MI 49085  
T (269) 926-3252  
F (269) 926-3503  
sjpsfoundation@sjschools.org

***Enriching the Education of Students***

ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**FOUNDATION**

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November 20, 2018

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Dear Friends of St. Joseph Public Schools,

The economic impact of a strong public school district on its community cannot be underestimated. St. Joseph is recognized as a great place to live, in part because of the A+ rating received by its public schools. Yet overall, Michigan schools rank only 21st in the country in funding. A recent study determined that the amount necessary to educate the average child to proficiency was \$2,000 higher than what the state of Michigan currently provides.

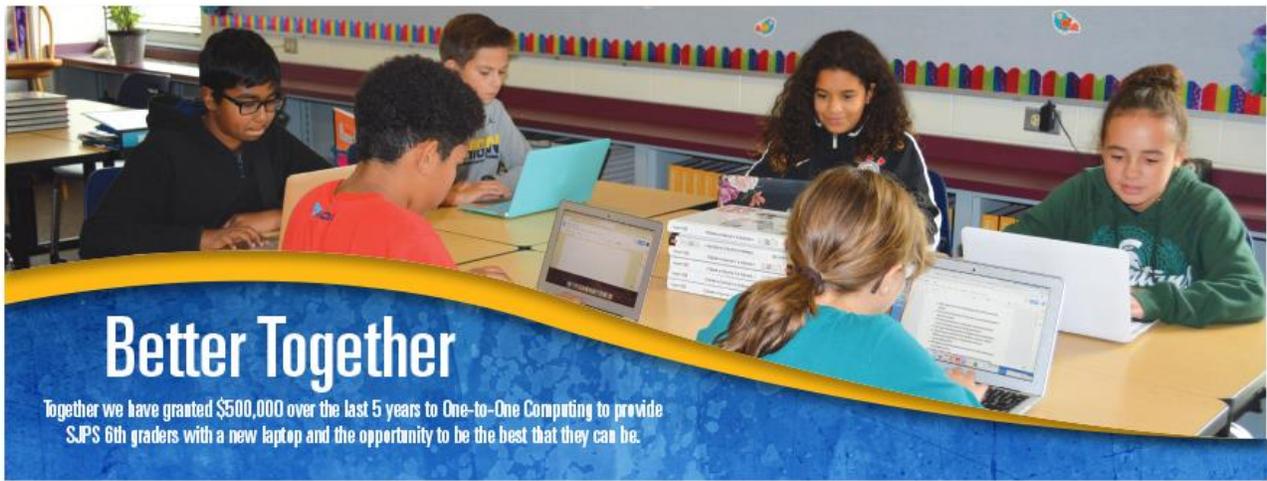
Donations to the St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation enable us to supplement the funding that the state provides to the district. The Foundation is on track to fund nearly \$400,000 in projects in 2018 to benefit the academic performance of our students. The Foundation also raised an additional \$1.3 million dollars to fund the Edward J. Todd Innovation Center at St. Joseph High School which will house the district wide Robotics program.

Can I count on your support to join our team in enriching the education of our children? Please give in the most meaningful way you can. If every community member participates at some level, we will be able to preserve current programs and provide our teachers with tools and strategies to assist every student in reaching their fullest potential. The quality of our schools directly impacts our community, our property values, and most importantly, the future of our children. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Marohn  
President

Enclosure



# Better Together

Together we have granted \$500,000 over the last 5 years to One-to-One Computing to provide SJPS 6th graders with a new laptop and the opportunity to be the best that they can be.

## Together, it's FULL AHEAD!

The SJPS Foundation is committed to helping the SJPS District reach its goals. Our focus over the next 5 years is on early literacy and strengthening STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math).

We realize that at year-end you receive many requests for donations, but rest assured that your SJPS Foundation donation dollars are invested wisely. Each grant is carefully reviewed by our Project Committee. The Project Committee

then recommends the grants to the Board for approval. No project is funded without the endorsement of school staff and Administration.

*"The quality of our schools directly impacts our community, our property values and most importantly, the future of our children."*

- Bill Marohn  
SJPS Foundation Board President



### ROBOTICS GRANT

"We're proud members of Team 3620: The Average Joes, and can't wait to put our engineering skills to the test during the competition season."

- Abby, Grade 12  
Zoe, Grade 11



### WELLNESS ENRICHMENT Community Service Grant

"This was a great way to spend the afternoon following PSAT testing. It was cool to know the "Good Vibes Only" quilt would be given to a senior citizen and bring a smile to their face."

- Ayden, Grade 11



### LITERACY CAMP

"We met author Dav Pilkey at Nerd Camp. He could draw Dog Man in 20 seconds because he's an illustrator too."

That was cool!  
- Matthew, Grade 4



### LEARNING LASTS Summer Experience Grant

"This grant made such a big difference for our students! They were all smiles as they experienced new things and learned together all summer long!"

- Mrs. Allen  
Principal, E.P. Clarke Elementary

*"We recently received the results from the MSTEP assessment we administered last spring, and we couldn't be more proud. In a nutshell, of the 18 different tests that make up MSTEP, SJPS scored number one or two in the county in 17 of them! It is because of your donations that we can provide teachers and students with additional opportunities that result in these phenomenal achievement results."*

- Ann Cardon  
SJPS Superintendent

#### MSTEP18 Total ELA Proficiency (Grades 3-8)

St. Joseph	71.5%
Bridgman	62.1%
Lakeshore	59.7%
New Buffalo	59.0%
Buchanan	47.3%
Berrien Springs	47.2%
River Valley	44.7%
Niles	43.2%
Brandywine	31.6%
Watervliet	31.5%
Coloma	31.3%
Countryside Academy	24.1%
Eau Claire	19.8%
Benton Harbor	3.6%

#### MSTEP18 Total Math Proficiency (Grades 3-8)

St. Joseph	65.6%
Lakeshore	63.2%
New Buffalo	53.7%
Bridgman	53.6%
Niles	41.9%
River Valley	39.3%
Watervliet	38.4%
Buchanan	38.1%
Berrien Springs	31.6%
Brandywine	31.0%
Coloma	25.4%
Eau Claire	17.2%
Countryside Academy	13.2%
Benton Harbor	1.1%

Thank you  
for enriching the  
education of the  
SJPS students!

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[www.sjpsfoundation.org](http://www.sjpsfoundation.org)