



# GLCS FOUNDATION

2019 / 2020  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY  
**The future begins here.**

GLCS Foundation is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit school foundation established solely for the benefit of Gull Lake Community Schools.

## GLCS FOUNDATION CHAIR: KELLY RENWICK



Dear Community Member,

What a year! On behalf of the trustees and committee members of the GLCS Foundation, I am proud to share with you some highlights of our annual achievements and district-wide impact, **all thanks to donors like YOU.**

**YOUR generous support** helped us make a difference with our Grants, Scholarships, Distinguished Academic Scholars, and Spark Series—which rolled out an exciting total wellness initiative this year—#GLWELL.

**YOU** helped us impact students, teachers, and staff in **every** building, including Gateway Academy and the Gull Lake Virtual Partnership.

**Because of the unusual circumstances we find ourselves in this year, YOUR gift is extremely important to Gull Lake students.**

In this time of uncertainty and unprecedented need, with **YOUR** help, the GLCS Foundation is ready to meet our mission of expanding and enhancing education—regardless of the circumstances, no matter the situation—for all Gull Lake students.

We are determined to continue to support our most impactful and successful programs, such as Leader In Me, Read and Ride, and Twisted Devils Robotics. **And, we are poised to seize new opportunities.**

**YOUR** support allows us to do the important work of funding excellence in education. Thank you for your generosity!

*The future begins here.*

Please support the Foundation that supports your Gull Lake schools.  
Go to [glcsf.org](https://glcsf.org) to donate and learn more.

Follow us on:



**OUR MISSION** Expand and enhance every student's education through a partnership with Gull Lake Community Schools to provide enrichment opportunities for students, educators, and staff.

**OUR VISION** We envision a school district where all students achieve their full potential.

**OUR VALUES**

- Education
- Innovation
- Partnering with the school district, teachers, students, and the community
- Good and thoughtful stewardship of financial resources
- Diversity
- Integrity

## MEET THE GLCS FOUNDATION BOARD

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## BY THE NUMBERS 2019-2020

### GRANTS

**37** AWARDED\*

Benefitted students, teachers, and staff in every building, including Gateway Academy and Gull Lake Virtual Partnership.

TOTALING  
**\$84,340**

### SCHOLARSHIPS

**50** AWARDED

TOTALING  
**\$106,800**

### DAS SCHOLARS

**40** STUDENTS

Earned a **3.9 GPA** or higher during their High School Career

### SPARK SERIES: #GLWELL

**1,600** PARTICIPANTS

TOTALING  
**\$16,000**



\*Fewer grants were awarded during the 2019-2020 school year due to COVID-19.

## A WORD FROM

## GULL LAKE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

“Our GLCS Foundation changes lives with the programs and resources they provide through the generous donations raised annually from our caring community. There has never been a better time to contribute and know that your donations will have a maximum positive impact for our kids and families!”

- Superintendent Raphael Rittenhouse

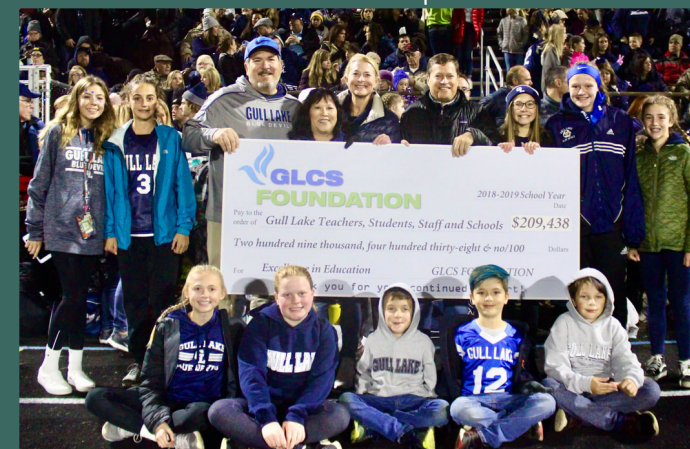


“The students and staff of Gull Lake Community Schools have continued to reach their fullest potential with the strong support of the Gull Lake Community Schools Foundation.

GLCS Foundation allows our school community to dream BIG with innovative ideas, programming, and materials that take learning above and beyond the classroom. They truly inspire excellence in education!”

- Director of Curriculum and Instructional Technology Drew Bordner

GLCS Foundation donations work hard to improve education at GL Schools.



Annual presentation of 'Big Check' totaling \$209,438 at GL Football Homecoming 2019.

# ROBOTICS GRANT

GLCS Foundation's support of Gull Lake Twisted Devils Robotics Teams is eight years strong, totaling over \$44,000. The program started small in 2012 with two teams (one HS and one MS) made up of 15 students. Twisted Devil Robotics now boasts 21 teams and includes Young-5's through 12th grade. Nearly 375 students and coaches have participated since 2012, earning 33 awards, including State and World tournament Championships. Cheryl Thornton, one of GL Robotics original mentors says, "We've had many students say they did not know what they wanted to do after high school before they joined robotics. Robotics gave them a direction for their future. 39 members of GL Robotics teams have gone on to study a STEM-related field. Also, notably, 95 percent of students that are on a Robotics team their senior year continue on to college, trade schools, or the military."

Patrick English, 3rd-grade teacher, Robotics coach, and lead grant-writer says, "GLCS Foundation's contribution to Robotics gives Gull Lake kids an opportunity to participate in hands-on learning which focuses on teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. They also learn 'Co-opertition'—where teams compete, and at the same time, learn to help each other—a unique and beneficial skill."

FIRST Robotics is a STEM-based learning approach, which inspires young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs. Students build science, engineering, and technology skills, and well-rounded life capabilities including teamwork, self-confidence, and communication.



# CHRIS RUNDLE INNOVATION FUND FOR EDUCATORS

"The Pacing Innovation@GLMS program connects Gull Lake students to innovative best practices from global leaders and the latest development technology," said Matt Hawkins, STEAM/Project Lead the Way Teacher. "Ultimately, our students will learn to be innovative leaders who will connect with community businesses and organizations, showcasing their projects featuring empathetic designs that benefit someone other than themselves."



Pictured are Jackson Duffie & Isaiah Crookston

Collaboration is a big part of this program, and students share project updates and get feedback from fellow students. Knowledge is also gained via blogs, podcasts, TED talks, and videos from current, global innovators and from Gull Lake teachers' continuing education. This upcoming school year, this grant will provide tuition for a Gull Lake team, including Mr. Hawkins, Media Specialist Beth Keller, Middle School Principal Carmen Maring, and Director of Curriculum & Instructional Technology Drew Bordner, to attend the Learning & Leading Academy. Hosted by George Couros, AJ Juliani, and Katie Novak, the Academy is a professional leadership consortium that supports leaders in the systemic growth of innovative teaching and learning and building knowledge of innovative practices, resources, and research. Over 300 students were impacted by this grant in 2019/20. This number will increase as more staff are trained.

This program is supported by a five-year, up to \$25,000 grant from the Chris Rundle Innovation Fund for Educators, established in 2019 in honor of former Gull Lake Superintendent Chris Rundle, who valued and fostered innovation in education.

# SPARK SERIES: #GLWELL

The Spark Series #GLWELL focused on the well-being of our students, staff, and community, through two major events: the Jump with Jill Live Tour and Iraq combat veteran, author, and documentarian, Tom Voss.

The Jump with Jill Live Tour inspired over **1,400 K-5 students** and staff to get up and move and eat right using motivational songs about the importance of good nutrition and physical activity.



Jump with Jill at Ryan Intermediate 1/14/2020 Bone Building Crew!

# EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT GRANT: A day with George Couros

Over 200 Gull Lake educators kicked off the 2019-20 year with an inspiring day of professional development, featuring leading author and educator in innovative teaching, learning, and leadership, George Couros! His presentation and break-out sessions on engaging students with innovative learning techniques reinvigorated and motivated our Gull Lake staff.

**"The positive momentum created by George Couros continued throughout the year, helping our educators focus on how our district could 'Innovate Inside the Box',"**



said Drew Bordner, Director of Curriculum & Instructional Technology.

**"George not only challenged our thinking, but provided the opportunity for a district-wide book study, encouraging our staff to dig deeper into how we teach and how our students prefer to learn."**



(l-r) Juan Gonzalez (Integrated Services of Kalamazoo), Tim Hunnicutt (Zero Day), Tom Voss, and Josiah Elzy (United States Army)

Tom Voss spoke to several high school classrooms, visited veterans and staff at the VA Hospital, and addressed the community during a public event in March—meeting over **200 people** and delivering to all his message of using resilience, trust, compassion, patience, and forgiveness to recover from trauma and manage stress.

The Foundation introduced #GLWELL and drove community engagement by posting healthy lifestyle tips and contests via social media.

# GILMORE RECEPTION: A special evening



Pictured are Tom Geil and Bo Van Peenan the GLCS Foundation inspires and elevates education at Gull Lake schools. It was a special evening where members of the community came together to share stories about the creation of the Foundation in 1983 and how we continue to help Gull Lake Community Schools' students become leaders. **None of this is possible without your generosity. To learn more about how the GLCS Foundation is accomplishing its mission, go to [glcsf.org](https://glcsf.org) and watch our video.**

Many thanks to our event sponsors: Advia Credit Union, American Village Builders (AVB), Gun Lake Casino, Home Again, Miller Davis, Kingscott, GHS Strings, Kitchen House, and Great Grounds for helping make this evening possible.

# GLCS FOUNDATION DONORS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

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# RYAN FAMILY: Building a legacy of opportunity

## Stephanie Tenorio-Lares: 2020 Ryan Scholarship recipient!

Stephanie Tenorio-Lares is the 2020 recipient of the James R. Ryan Family Middle School Scholarship. She is the 19<sup>th</sup> Gull Lake Middle School student to benefit from this generous scholarship, awarded to an outstanding GL eighth-grader with a 3.5 GPA or higher and financial need in addition to other selection criteria. The scholarship provides \$10,000 annually for four years to earn an undergraduate degree.

This scholarship was initiated by Dr. James R. Ryan (1936-2006), an Orthopedic Oncology expert, who demonstrated a dedication to education throughout his entire life. His generous gift creates a legacy of assisting students in their efforts to realize their academic potential. When asked about how it feels to award the scholarship, Deb Ryan said,

**“Our Family Foundation is happy to give this scholarship to a deserving student in order to enhance their opportunity for advanced education. We award the scholarship in 8th grade so the recipient can choose classes in high school which will prepare them for college, knowing that their college education is financially secure.”**

We are proud to facilitate the application, interview and award processes for this and all GLCS Foundation scholarships. This is just one of the ways donor dollars help accomplish our vision of a school district where all students achieve their full potential.



## Courtney Mast Bradley: A success story

Courtney, 2008 Ryan Scholarship recipient, seized the opportunity for a college education and graduated from Northwood University with a dual major, and then earned her MBA from Central Michigan University in 2017. She worked as a Recruiter and Account Manager for two years before accepting a role with MANN + HUMMEL in 2019 as an HR Generalist.



**“I never thought a four-year University was a possibility for me before the Ryan Scholarship, then going on to complete my masters really launched my career in the right direction! The Ryan Scholarship played a pivotal role in my accelerated growth over the last 8 years.”** - Courtney Bradley

After marrying Gull Lake Graduate, Colton Bradley, in 2019, Courtney settled back in the Gull Lake area, fulfilling her desire to make an impact and give back to her community in appreciation for the opportunities she was afforded by the Ryan family.

## 2020 GULL LAKE SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECIPIENTS

**THANK YOU** to our generous scholarship donors who make a huge difference for so many students at Gull Lake Community Schools!

Jill Adamski Memorial Scholarship – Allison Widener  
Michael Bailey Memorial Scholarship – Carli Brooks  
Laurie Makin Cartwright Memorial Scholarship – Nicole Schmitt  
Coca-Cola Healthy Living Scholarship – Molly Harma  
Tom Collins Memorial Scholarship – Kaitlyn Lemon, Mitchell Geik  
Friends of the Gull Lake Community Schools Foundation Scholarship – Trenton Grant  
Fry Family Scholarship – Jack Lockerbie  
James W. and Thelma Garside Scholarship – Bryanna Ergang, Alexandra Moulds  
Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers-Men's Group Scholarship – Grace Foster  
Gull Lake Area Community Volunteers-Women's Group Scholarship –  
Jayne Flynn, Nicole Schmitt  
Gull Lake Area Rotary Club Scholarship – Grace Foster, Sydney Free  
Gull Lake Area Rotary Club Skilled Trades Scholarship –  
Madeline Owens, Brayden Rytlewski  
Gull Lake Education Association Pathway Scholarship – Alexandra Moulds  
Gull Lake Education Association Pekkarinen Scholarship – Dylan Stanton  
Gull Lake Education Association Scholarship – Alyssa Cornell  
Blair Holden Memorial Gateway Scholarship – Hali Newcomb  
Marv Hope Memorial-Gull Lake Area Rotary Club Scholarship – Nicholas Martens

Kellogg Elementary School Scholarship – Jayne Flynn  
Lee Kermit Scholarship – Nolan Fraaza  
Ladies of the Lake/Esther James Scholarship – Avery McQueen  
Ladies of the Lake Scholarship – Nolan Fraaza, Victoria LaBara  
Jason Morse Memorial Scholarship – Kendra Hagey  
Olin Family Scholarship – Alyssa Cornell  
Beth Palmatier Gateway Scholarship – Aaron Bohn  
Parker Hannifin Engineering Scholarship – Sydney Free  
Mathew Paulose Memorial Scholarship – Allison Widener  
Pelletier Scholarship – Nicholas Martens  
Richland/Gull Lake Area Lions Club-Kay Maxson Memorial Scholarship – Aaron Bohn  
Mitchell J. Rossen Memorial Scholarship – Grace Foster  
Darl Scott Golf Industry Scholarship – Kaitlyn Lemon  
Robert W. Smith Vocational/Trades/Engineering Scholarship – Brayden Rytlewski  
Uggen Family Scholarship – Donovan Below, Kobe Boucher, Grace Foster,  
Kendra Hagey, Nicholas Martens, Leonardo Martens,  
Connor McCormick, Avery McQueen, Grace Monroe, Dylan Stanton  
Jack Weber Memorial Scholarship – Jack Lockerbie  
James R Ryan Family Foundation Middle School Scholarship – Stephanie Tenorio-Lares