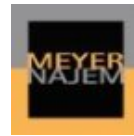


# Brownsburg Education Foundation Newsletter

June 2026

*Enhancing Education Together*

## 2026 Visionary Partners and Newsletter Sponsors



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## Thank you to our June Partners of the Month



West Hospital

# Congratulations!

## Harris Academy Scholarship Recipients



Congratulations to Alicia Gonzalez who received a scholarship sponsored in part by the BCSC Staff and Dara Ademuyiwa who received the [Ron Volpatti Memorial Scholarship](#). We wish Alicia and Dara best wishes on their continued educational journeys.

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# Congratulations!

## BCSC Teacher of the Year and Staff Member of the Year



*Olivia Orlando pictured with Dr. Kat Jessup, Superintendent of the Brownsburg Community Schools and Nate Rhoades of Meyer Najem Construction.*

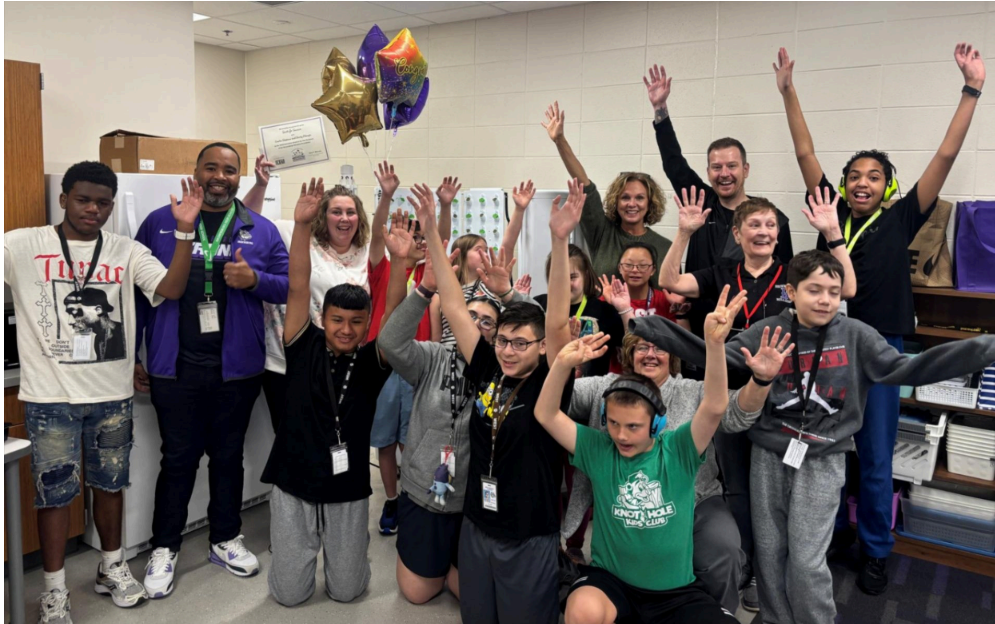
*Mikal Bekit pictured with Dr. Kat Jessup.*

Both of these award recipients received a monetary stipend in honor of their achievements, thanks to BEF Community Partners **Meyer Najem Construction** and **CSO Architects**.

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*Congratulations!*

**BEF Innovative Grant of the  
Year**



Each year the BEF Grant Committee chooses a grant that was executed in the current school year as the Innovative Grant of the Year. These grants are INNOVATIVE in their implementation in the classroom, using unique and original methods to reach the students.

This year's chosen grant, [Seeds for Success](#), was implemented by middle school applied skills teacher, **Courtni Stephens**, and applied for by assistant director of special education, **Shelly Waugh**. Through this grant, students strengthened skills of responsibility and workplace readiness. This grant was sponsored in part by **LeBlanc Nettles Law**.

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# YOUR DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

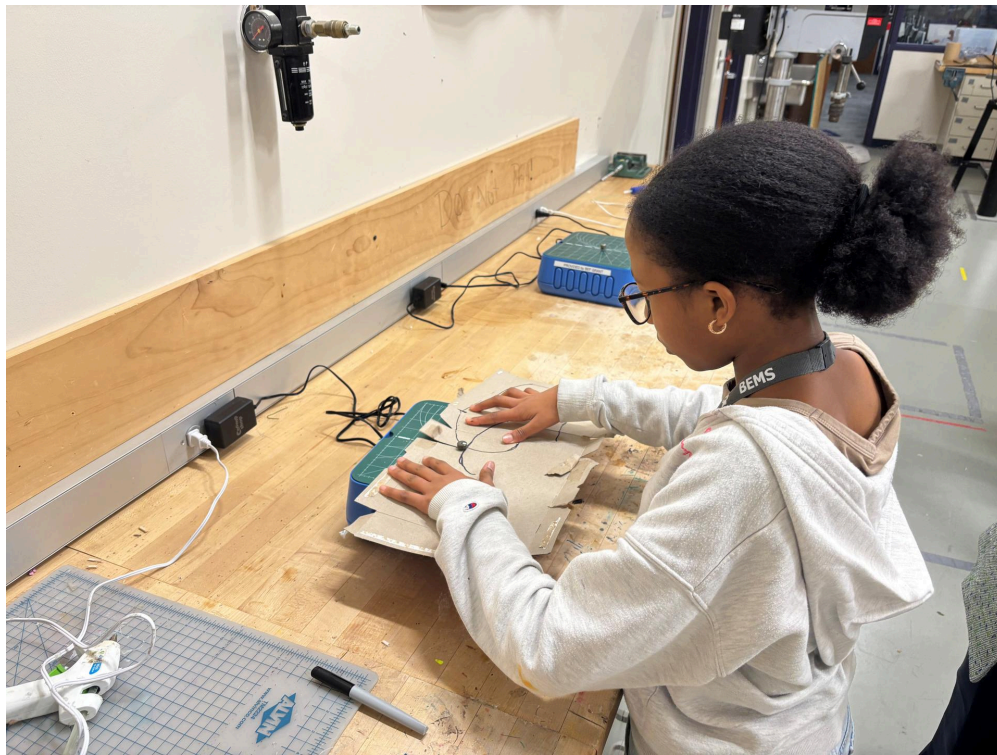
## Tools for STEM Prototypes

*at the Brownsburg East and  
West Middle Schools*

sponsored in part by



Thanks to a BEF InCredible Award Grant funded with your gifts, middle school Gateway to Technology (GTT) students now have access to professional-grade tools to bring their designs to life. The grant equipped the GTT classroom with chop saws and electric foam cutters – tools that allow students to move beyond technical drawings and build quality working prototypes. In this course, students research real disabilities and disorders, then apply the engineering design process to create functional foot orthoses and adaptive toys that address genuine medical and accessibility needs.



The impact goes beyond any single project. By working with the same tools they'll encounter in STEM careers, students gain hands-on experience that bridges classroom learning and real-world practice. Teacher and grant recipient Marci Davis shared, "Because of this grant students will safely be able to explore a variety of materials to create prototypes in Gateway to Technology class. One of our curriculum projects requires students to learn about cerebral palsy and produce a foot orthosis prototype to address medical needs. The tools provided by the BEF grant will allow students to explore material engineering while designing their prototype. Thank you BEF!"



Learn more about grants awarded for this school year [HERE](#).

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A GIFT TO THE  
BROWNSBURG EDUCATION FOUNDATION TO  
SUPPORT OTHER GRANT PROJECTS LIKE THIS?**

**DONATE NOW**

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## **BHS Alumni Connection**

Join the growing Brownsburg High School alumni community in 2026! BEF is creating exciting ways for BHS graduates to reconnect and celebrate their shared legacy. Through new networking initiatives and community events, you'll have opportunities to discover what your fellow Bulldogs are up to today. Help us build a comprehensive alumni directory by [sharing your current information](#) and spreading the word to other graduates. Together, we're strengthening the bonds that make the Brownsburg community special.

**Save the Date!**

**Friday, September 25th from 5:30 – 7 pm**



*presented by*



**Watch the BEF newsletter for more details about this FUN and FREE event!**

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# THANK YOU

## 2026 CHIP IN FOR THE KIDS PARTNERS

*Presenting Partner*



*Founding Partner*



*Purple Partners*



### WHITE PARTNERS



West Hospital



**LUNCH PARTNER**



**BEVERAGE CART PARTNER**



### FOURSOME PARTNERS

- Arni's Restaurant
- BrightView Landscapes
- Busenbark, Clark & Associates
- Delta Dental of Indiana
- Dennis Dawes - Hendricks County Commissioner
- Electric Plus
- Es2 Insurance
- First Merchants Bank
- Greiner Brothers, Inc.
- Hendricks County CONNECT
- Hometown Insurance
- LeBlanc Nettles Law
- Safety Resources, Inc.

### HOLE PARTNERS

- Atlas Excavating
- Citizens Bank
- Green Street Cleaners
- Hendricks Power Cooperative
- Indiana Members Credit Union
- Team Turley - Fairway Mortgage



### THE GALLERY

- Heinekamp Financial Services
- Mowery Heating & Cooling

**Thank you, Duke Energy!**



Brownsburg students are heading to the skies — thanks to [Duke Energy](#)! Their Community Impact grant to the Brownsburg Education Foundation is funding a brand-new Project Lead the Way Aerospace Engineering class at BHS this fall. We are so grateful for this investment in the next generation of engineers, pilots, and innovators.

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## Thank you, Kona Ice of Midwest Indiana!



Jake, Amaya and their team generously treated the Central Office staff and building principals to an end-of-the-school year treat of smoothies and ices a few weeks ago!

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**20%** OF EVERY PURCHASE

**GOES TO THE BROWNSBURG EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

*The Bulldog*  
SPIRIT SHOP

TEES 🐾 HOODIES 🐾 HEADWEAR 🐾 GIFTS [WWW.THEBULLDOGSPRITSHOP.COM](http://WWW.THEBULLDOGSPRITSHOP.COM)

**THANK YOU, Bulldog Spirit Shop, for donating a portion of your proceeds to BEF YEAR-ROUND!!**  
**See all of their great items here:**  
<https://thebulldogspiritshop.com/>

**Check out the Bulldog Spirit Shop's new line of infant clothes!**

*Thanks to Carolina Rose for modeling a Bulldog onesie!*



**Thank you to these donors who have committed to recurring monthly support for BEF! Members of the 1987 Club also receive monthly updates about the impact of their gifts as well as special invitations to events.**

**1987 CLUB MEMBERS**

- Bill and Rene Behrend*
- Joel and Tara Casey*
- Jenny Davidson*
- Bob and Becky Duncan*
- Tarah Fettig*

*John Feister  
Amber Hageman  
Jamie Hall  
Brogan Hayden  
Todd and Theresa Jackson  
HaiQuynh Jamison  
Jamie Keeler  
Chad and Melissa Middleton  
Pamela Miller  
Brian and Laura Petraits  
Tim and Denise Zahrn  
Andrew and Alicia Zeller*

**Click Here to Join The 1987 Club Now!**

*Check the box next to  
"Show my support by making this a monthly donation".*



**Donate to the Essentials for Excellence Fund Here**

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## **Strategic Ways to Support Brownsburg Students**

At the Brownsburg Education Foundation, we're dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for students in our community. Your generosity makes it possible to fund classroom grants, scholarships, and innovative programs that empower students and teachers alike. While many supporters contribute through traditional donations, there are several

strategic giving options that can maximize your impact while providing potential tax advantages.

**Donate Appreciated Assets**

Contributing stocks, bonds, or other appreciated securities allows you to support Brownsburg students while potentially avoiding capital gains tax. You can also claim a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the asset, making your gift work harder for both you and our students.

**Grant from Your Donor-Advised Fund (DAF)**

If you have a donor-advised fund, recommending a grant to the Brownsburg Education Foundation is a simple and efficient way to invest in local education. You may also consider naming BEF as a beneficiary of your DAF to create lasting educational impact for generations of Brownsburg students.

**Consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**

Individuals age 70½ or older can direct up to \$108,000 annually from their IRA directly to qualified charities like the Brownsburg Education Foundation. This QCD counts toward your required minimum distribution while excluding the amount from your taxable income—a win for you and for our students.

**Leave a Legacy Through Estate Planning**

Including the Brownsburg Education Foundation in your will, trust, or estate plan creates a lasting legacy of educational excellence in our community. Your planned gift ensures that future generations of Brownsburg students will benefit from enhanced learning opportunities.

*However you choose to give—whether through an immediate donation, investment assets, or future estate plans—your support directly impacts the quality of education in Brownsburg. For more information about strategic giving options, please contact Rene Behrend at [renebehrend@brownsburg.k12.in.us](mailto:renebehrend@brownsburg.k12.in.us) or 317-852-1056.*

*Please consult your tax or financial advisor to understand how your charitable contribution may benefit you. The Brownsburg Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tax ID: 31-1228189.*

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