

April/May  
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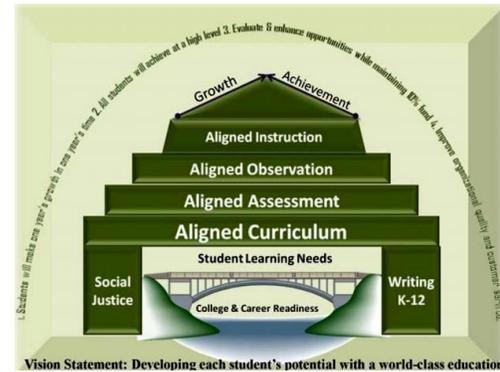
Mark Your  
Calendar!

August 18 – Golf  
Outing at  
Tanglewood Golf  
Course

September 8 –  
Welcome Back to  
School Pancake  
Breakfast



# Novi Educational Foundation



*“One of the reasons that we are able to be successful is because we have tremendous community support.” ~ Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews*

## i9 Sports

i9 Sports is an inclusive youth sports organization for soccer, t-ball, flag football, and basketball that is focused on providing fun, age-appropriate instruction for children, while also remaining convenient for parents and children with busy schedules. With new programs at Novi Woods for spring and summer seasons, i9 Sports has begun its assistance to the Novi Community School District this year, and has also helped

financially support students through the NEF. As part of their commitment to empowering students, they made a financial donation of \$1000 along with 3 free program seasons worth \$125 each to our Green Gala. i9 Sports' mission of helping children succeed in life through sports has connected it to the NEF in enriching the lives of students. i9 Sports is dedicated to teaching students the value



of sportsmanship, including the importance of respect, courage, and determination in weekly lessons and competitions, which is aligned with the NEF's support for team-building programs. I9 Sports's financial contributions will go towards student scholarships, teacher grants, and other ongoing programs. Additionally, Program director and co-owner, Joe Russo, says that "knowing that their donation goes towards helping the students is really the best part."

## *Superintendent Sub Day*

Every month the NEF holds a drawing for one lucky staff member to get a half-day off, and either our Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent will act as their substitute for the afternoon. Our March winner was Lisa Erickson at Meadows. Dr. Matthews came in to discuss year round schools pros/cons while Mrs. Erickson got an early start on her spring break with a well deserved trip to the nail salon. Our April winner was Rachelle Shafer, our secretary at Orchard Hills. Dr.



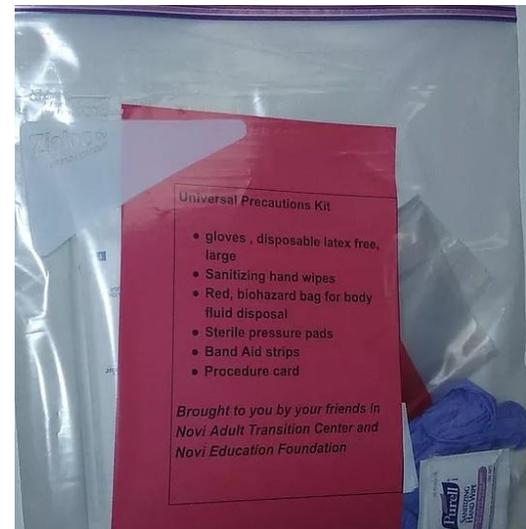
Matthews helped out at her office as he took care of about 20 kindergarten students who had all gotten "hurt" at recess. While Dr. Matthews was handing out ice bags, checking for lice, and tying shoes, Mrs. Shafer got to enjoy the sunshine, walking her dogs at Maybury State Park. Lastly, congratulations to our May winner Nancy Bain, from Novi Woods.



## *Innovative Teacher Grants*

The NEF supports innovative grants that promote new perspectives, creative thinking, and leadership within our students. In a learning community such as Novi, music instruction has a profound impact in the education of a child, in addition to breaking down cultural barriers and improving academic success. Ukuleles in the classroom, a grant applied for by Mr. Ownby, the music teacher at Parkview, have enhanced the basic music theory skills and literacy in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. As music is shown to improve literacy, verbal memory, visual spatial processing, and mathematics, these ukuleles have helped Parkview students celebrate their diversity, connect to their core curriculum, and remain at the forefront of Elementary Music Education. Another grant that has greatly benefitted our students is Keeping Us Safe: One Class at a Time. All classrooms in the district have a

Kit available. In combining personal protection and immediate clean-up items to aid in the disposal of bacteria or spills, this grant has put an emphasis on safety within our community by guaranteeing necessary access to tools during an emergency situation. This NEF grant was awarded to Lori Burkhardt, a POST Secondary educator, to use as a learning project for her students. As our POST Secondary students enter the community and learn how to participate as citizens, they are able to give back to our district community by assembling these necessary safety kits for our students.



Novi Educational  
Foundation  
25345 Taft Rd  
Novi, MI 48374

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

<https://www.novieducationalfoundation.org>

## Get Involved

You can help the NEF support these supplemental opportunities for our students through financial donations or even just by creating connections. Our website has a link to donate; all proceeds go towards creating a more opportunistic and excellent district. Support for programs and participating in special events such as Superintendent Day is

incredibly helpful in furthering our mission. Joining our Alumni Association also creates a more connected and harmonious community; sign up on our website and get updates on all community news and future reunions!

*Published by Jessica Wu -  
NEF Student Trustee  
NHS Class of 2019*

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