

2024 SPRING EDITION

# **EHS 2024 TOP TEN STUDENTS**



Valedictorian Brenna Farmer (4.00 GPA) is the daughter of Michael and Nicole Farmer of Edwardsburg. Brenna has been part of the Equestrian team since 8th grade and has twice received

the High Point Rider Award. In 2023, she earned the Horse Sportsmanship Award at the Cass County 4H Fair. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Science Olympiad team, and has participated in Track & Field for the Eddies. Brenna is a four year recipient of the Academic Excellence Award and Scholar Athlete Award. She has earned the Outstanding Achievement Award for Spanish 1, Geometry, Biology 2, and Chemistry. Brenna's classes have included AP Biology, AP English Language and Composition, and AP Calculus. She is also dual enrolled at IUSB. Brenna has volunteered with numerous activities including VBS Church Camps and Powerlifting Competitions. She plans to attend Miami University in Ohio to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing with future goals to become a Nurse Practitioner.



Valedictorian Haley Smith (4.00 GPA) is the daughter of Glenn and Georgianna Smith of Cassopolis. Haley is a member of the Concert, Marching, Jazz, and Pep Bands. As a Section

Leader of the trombones this year, she enjoyed playing in the pit orchestra for the spring musical, *Disney's, Beauty and the Beast.* Haley has participated in the Leo's Club and ETS, as well as Track & Field where she threw a discus. She has received the Academic Excellence Award for four years. Haley has also received the Outstanding Achievement Award in English 9, Geometry, Physics 1, BTM, English 11, Chemistry 1 and Pre-calculus. Her classes also include AP English Literature and Composition. Haley plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in Aviation Studies: Flight Technology and Operations. She plans to become a Commercial Airline Pilot.



Valedictorian Leah Stern (4.00 GPA) is the daughter of Andy Stern and Sandy Krebs of Niles. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Society of High School

Scholars, SADD, Student Council, and Leo's Club. Leah has been on the Tennis team for four years and named a Captain the past two years. She has also participated in Powerlifting, Volleyball, and Golf during high school. Leah has taken AP English Language and Composition, AP Biology, Honors Pre-Calculus, and AP Calculus courses. She has received the Academic Excellence Award and Scholar Athlete Award for four years. Leah has earned the Outstanding Achievement Award in World History, German 2, Chemistry and English. Leah works part-time as the Assistant Manager for Bittersweet Pet Resorts, is a team member of LOG (Love of God) Michiana, and is an active Barrel Racer through NBHA. She has volunteered on the "Bean Team" to grow produce for the food pantry and is going on a Missionary Trip to Honduras in July. Leah plans to attend the University of Michigan to major in Biology.



Salutatorian Dane Bailey (3.985 GPA) son of Kenneth Bailey and Brooke Sherman-Bailey of Edwardsburg. He is a member of the National Honor Society and has

received the Academic Excellence Award and Scholar Athlete Award for four years. Dane has received the Outstanding Achievement Award in German 2, Advanced German, Physics 1, and Computer Science. Throughout high school, he has taken AP Calculus, AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science, AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition, AP US History, and AP Biology. Dane is a four year member of the Varsity Track & Field team and is a two year Distance Captain. He is also a member of the Coed Varsity Cross Country team and Varsity Soccer team. Dane volunteers at the Edwardsburg Sports Complex and at St. Marks Catholic Church. He plans to attend the University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science, and the Arts to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with plans to go into the medical field.



Macy Andress (3.983 GPA) is the daughter of Broc and Danielle Andress of Edwardsburg. She is the 2024 DAR Good Citizen Award recipient, a member of the National Honor Society

and Student Council. Macy has also participated in SADD and has been on the Yearbook staff. During high school, she has performed in many plays and musicals. Her credits include Into the Woods, The Wizard of Oz, Singin' in the Rain, Star Stars, Clue, Elf, and Disney's, Beauty and the Beast. Macy is a four year recipient of the Academic Excellence Award and Scholar Athlete Award. She has received the Outstanding Achievement Award for French 2, Algebra 2, Business Technology, and Pre-Calculus. She is a 22-23 perfect attendance recipient and her classes have included AP US History, AP English Literature and Composition, and AP Calculus. Macy has competed in Cross Country and Track & Field all four years. She has received 2nd Team All-Conference honors for the 300 Meter Hurdles and All-Conference Honorable Mention for numerous track events. She has also played JV Basketball, JV Golf, and Varsity Bowling for the Eddies. Macy volunteers at Granger Community Church as a singer and camera operator. After graduation, she will attend Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois. Macy plans to major in Zoology/Pre-Veterinary Medicine with minors in Chemistry and Biology. Her future goal is to become a Veterinarian.



**Dylan Leep** (3.967 GPA) is the son of Michael and Diana Leep of Niles. He is President of the National Honor Society, a member of the National Society of High School Scholars, and SADD. Dylan

made his acting debut as Lumiére in EHS' spring musical, Disney's, Beauty and the Beast. He is a four year recipient of the Academic Excellence Award and Scholar Athlete Award. Dylan has taken AP US History, AP English Language and Composition, AP Calculus, and AP Computer Science and Principles. He has received Outstanding Achievement Awards in Spanish 1, Algebra 2, and English 10 as well as the Outstanding Student in Career and Technical Education Award. During high school, Dylan has been a member of the Varsity Track & Field team, Varsity Football team, and Freshman Basketball team. In 2022, he earned 2nd Team All-Conference in Track & Field, and in 2023, he earned 1st Team All-Conference for the 4x400 Meter Relay. Dylan plans to attend the University of Florida to earn a degree in Business Management and Marketing.



**Teearah Ayodo** (3.966 GPA) is the daughter of Michelle Tidey of Edwardsburg. She is a four year member of Bella Voce and joined the Varsity Chorale her senior year. Teearah has

received the Academic Excellence Award and Scholar Athlete Award for four years. She has been a Competitive Cheerleader and Sideline Cheerleader for the Eddies throughout high school. A two year Academic All-State Award recipient, Teearah has also earned All-Conference and All-State recognition for Competitive Cheer. She has received the Outstanding Achievement Award in Algebra, Algebra 2, Chemistry, Geometry and Physics. Teearah's classes have included AP English Literature and Composition, AP English Language and Composition, as well as AP Psychology. After graduation, she plans to attend Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington, to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in EMS Paramedicine.



Drew Glaser (3.964 GPA) is the daughter of Jeff and Mary Glaser of Edwardsburg. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, and SADD. She has received the Academic Excellence

Award and Scholar Athlete Award all four years. Drew has been a member of the Varsity Volleyball team throughout high school. She has received several individual volleyball awards including Academic All State, 1st Team All State, 2nd Team All State, Player of the Year (2022 & 2023), All Region Team, and Team MVP. Nominated for Miss Volleyball 2023, Drew has had over 1,000 Kills and set a MHSAA record with 29 Kills in a single game. During her time as an Eddie Varsity Volleyball player, the team won three Conference Championships and District and Regional Championships in 2020 and 2023. Drew will attend Valparaiso University to pursue a degree in Nursing while playing Volleyball for the Beacons.



Nicholas Hoadley (3.957 GPA) is the son of Brandon and Denise Hoadley of Niles. Nicholas is a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council. He has had perfect attendance throughout

high school and is a four year Academic Excellence Award recipient. Nicholas is a volunteer and donor for the National Honor Society Blood Drives. He has also volunteered his time at the Niles Haunted House and the St. Joseph Humane Shelter. During high school, his classes have included AP Computer Science Principles, AP English Language and Composition, and AP Calculus. Nicholas has received the Outstanding Achievement Award in Algebra and Geometry. Enrolled as a 5th year Early Middle College student, he will graduate with his associate degree next spring from Southwestern Michigan College. Nicholas plans to attend Purdue University to major in Computer Information Systems, and study Pre-Law.



Andrew Backhus (3.956 GPA) is the son of Greg and Amy Backhus of Edwardsburg. He is a member of the National Honor Society. Andrew is a four year recipient of the Academic Excellence

Award and a three year recipient of the Scholar Athlete Award. Andrew is a member of the Eddies Varsity Soccer team and the Track & Field team. He has earned several sports awards which include being named a 2023 Individual Academic All-State recipient and All-Conference Honorable Mention in Track & Field. Andrew has received the Outstanding Achievement Award in Health and Algebra 2. His classes during high school have included AP US History, AP English Language and Composition, AP Calculus, and AP Psychology. This fall, Andrew will attend the University of Michigan to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR NOW OPEN!



We are delighted to announce that registration for Kindergarten for the upcoming academic year, 2024-2025, is now open! This marks an exciting milestone for families as we prepare to welcome a new generation of Eddies into our school community. Kindergarten is a foundational year for young learners, where they begin to build essential skills

and embark on their educational journey. We understand the importance of providing a nurturing and supportive environment where children can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

By enrolling your child in Kindergarten, you are giving them the opportunity to explore, discover, and grow in a safe and inclusive setting. Our dedicated team of educators is committed to fostering a love for learning while laying the groundwork for future success.

To register your child for Kindergarten, please pick up a packet at the Primary School. If you have any questions or need assistance with the registration process, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office at (269) 663-1037. We look forward to welcoming your child to our school community and partnering with you in their educational journey.

### **ELITE EDDIES AT THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**



Each month, teachers nominate two students who display the PBIS virtues of being a Safe, Respectful, and Responsible Eddie on a daily basis. In order for a student to be eligible, their attendance must be in good standing (attending 90% or more of the school days and having no tardies) with no discipline referrals for the month. This honor of high

character is acknowledged by a VIP luncheon with Principal Jordan. The luncheon includes a fast pass to the front of the lunch line, reserved seating at the VIP tables, and a Divine Dough Co. donut. In addition, students receive a certificate for a free value basket at a Culver's Restaurant. The Intermediate School staff encourages all students to strive to become Elite Eddies!

## FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S DESK

The Edwardsburg Athletic Department had an exciting winter season and takes great pride in celebrating the achievements of our student-athletes.

The Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball teams each finished 3rd in the Wolverine Conference standings. With many players returning next year, they are poised to contend for conference titles. The Eddies Varsity Boys and Girls Bowling teams finished in 6th and 4th place respectively in Conference. They will also bring back a strong group. The Competitive Cheerleading team finished 4th in the Wolverine Conference and continues to improve every year. The Varsity Wrestling team finished 8th in the Conference and will look to back at the top next year with a strong young group coming in. The season was highlighted by Caden Manfred reaching 100 wins and Keegan Parsons going to Individual State at Ford Field in Detroit.

It is awesome to see our student-athletes efforts in the classroom recognized at the state level. Wrestling, Girls Basketball, and Boys Basketball each received 2024 Team Academic All-State recognition, and the Competitive Cheer earned 2024 Team Academic All-State HM. Teams and Awards for Winter Athletes:

#### **Boys Basketball**

MVP - Brody Schimpa | MIP - Reed Rosenkranz | Captain - Will Moore All-Wolverine Conference - 1st Team: Brody Schimpa; 2nd Team: Matt Anders; HM: Will Moore

#### **Girls Basketball**

MVP – Maddie Pobuda | MIP – Mya Eberlein | Captains – Chloe Baker, Valentina Johnson All-Wolverine Conference – 1st Team: Maddie Pobuda; 2nd Team: Chloe Baker; HM: Kourtney Zarycki

#### **Bowling**

Boys: MVP - Blake Ellis | MIP - Keagan Hoven | Captains - Brayden Hardy, Blake Ellis

## SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAMS STATE BOUND



Science Olympiad is celebrating its 40th anniversary and for the 19th straight year, the Edwardsburg High School and Middle School Science Olympiad teams have secured a spot in the state tournament held at Western Michigan University!

On Saturday, May 4, 2024, our teams will compete

against the top teams in the State of Michigan. This competition consists of a series of 23 STEM events. They range from study events in specific topics, such as Anatomy and Physiology, Meteorology, and Disease Detective, to building events including Roller Coaster, Flight, and Wheeled Vehicle. Results can be viewed at <a href="https://wmich.edu/engineer/science-olympiad">https://wmich.edu/engineer/science-olympiad</a>. Good luck Eddies!!

## **KIDS HEART CHALLENGE**

Edwardsburg Public Schools is an integral partner of the American Heart Association. Physical Education teachers, Martha Cleveland and Amanda Wallick, coordinate our elementary students' annual Kids Heart Challenge. This year's fun and exciting event allowed all elementary students to participate in this challenge during school hours. Students jumped rope and learned lessons about their heart



and physical well-being while helping to support others. Eagle Lake Elementary students exceeded their highest donation on record by over \$3,400. Together, our elementary students raised a total of \$14,058.81. What an impact this spirit of giving can have on our Little Eddies as they learn the importance of giving back to our community and contributing to the lives of others.

#### FINE ARTS EXHIBITION



The High School and Middle School Art Departments hosted its first annual Spring Art Exhibition in our charming Performing Arts Center. To say it was well attended is an incredible understatement! Droves of people came to walk the gallery and observe a variety of art forms from both Middle school and High School art students. There were 1st and 2nd place

awards for students from both buildings, judged by a local artist. In addition, attendees voted on "Fan Favorite" pieces of art, which also earned prizes.

Thank you to all community members that took the time to appreciate the effort that went into the beautiful work displayed by our Eddie artists!

Girls: MVP - Nicolette Maurer | MIP - Jenna Pederson | Captain - Catarina McGuire All-Wolverine Conference: HM Boys - Brayden Hardy; HM Girls - Nicollette Maurer

#### Competitive Cheerleading

MVP - Teearah Ayodo | MIP - Myka Downing

All-Wolverine Conference – 1st Team: Teearah Ayodo, Verona Moody; 2nd Team: Megan Cook, Grace Gessinger; HM: Bree Bartek-Medlin, Liliane Sherwood

#### Wrestling

MVP - Keegan Parsons | MIP - Gabe Smith | Captains - Hudson Fields, Braden Lundgren, Caden Manfred, Keegan Parsons
All-Wolverine Conference - HM: Caden Manfred
Caden Manfred - 100 career wins

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered to work at athletic events and as always thank you to the Edwardsburg Athletic Boosters for their continued support. For updated schedules, scores and other important information check <a href="https://www.eddiesathletics.com">www.eddiesathletics.com</a>. Scores from other contests around the state can be found at <a href="https://www.mhsaa.com">www.mhsaa.com</a>.

GO EDDIES!



## **EDWARDSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS**2024 **ZERO** MILL BOND PROPOSAL

On May 7, our community will be asked to consider a bond proposal for \$24.4 million to fund facility improvements throughout the District. If approved, **NO TAX RATE INCREASE** is expected from the current debt millage rate for property owners in the EPS District.





## FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

\$24.4 million would be invested in district facilities.



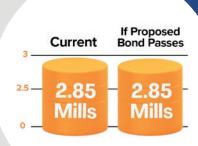
#### TAX IMPACT

The tax rate would remain at 2.85 mills.



#### ELECTION DAY IS MAY 7

Absentee voting begins by March 28, 2024.



#### PROPOSED BOND-FUNDED PROJECTS

- Primary School Improve safety and security with a secure entry vestibule, a new parent traffic pattern, and fire alarm system upgrades.
- Eagle Lake Elementary Add secure entry vestibule, replace aging classroom finishes such as flooring, update fire alarm systems, and renovate restrooms.
- Intermediate School Renovate existing entry and front office to improve safety and security, upgrade mechanical and electrical systems, including fire alarm systems, and reconfigure parent traffic pattern.
- NEW! Learning Center Renovate former church to create space for additional education needs.

- Middle School Provide secure
   vestibule with direct access to secure
   office area, remodel of existing main
   entry, replace interior doors, some roofing
   replacements, improve ventilation, and
   upgrade mechanical and electrical
   systems, including the fire alarm system.
- High School Prioritize safety
   and security with the addition of a
   secure vestibule and office area,
   remodel cafeteria, substantial roofing
   replacements, improve ventilation, and
   upgrade mechanical and electrical
   systems, including the fire alarm system.



Learn more at edwardsburgpublicschools.org/bond 2024

## **VOTE BY MAY 7, 2024**

aid for by Edwardsburg Public Schools, 69410 Section Stre

#### Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Edwardsburg Public School District Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, genetic information, or any other legally protected status in its employment decisions or the provision of services. If any person believes that the Edwardsburg Public School District or any of the district's staff has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulation of Title II, Title VI, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, The Age Act and The Americans with Disabilities Act, s/he may bring forward a complaint to Civil Rights Coordinator, Edwardsburg Public Schools, 69410 Section Street, Edwardsburg, MI 49112 (269-663-3055).







