

McBain Rural Agricultural School Foundation (MRASF) Scholarship Donors

Daniel Bachman Scholarship

The Daniel Bachman Scholarship was initiated in 2007 and first awarded in 2008 following the retirement of Superintendent Bachman. Mr. Bachman worked in the field of education for 38 years as a teacher, principal, and superintendent in 2 districts. He served as the superintendent of McBain Public Schools from 1996 – 2007. He is a Colorado high school graduate, and post-secondary schools include Bob Jones University, Eastern Michigan University, and Western Michigan University.

The scholarship was established with a \$100,000 gift from Mr. Duane Elenbaas in recognition of the inspiration and many hours contributed from Mr. Bachman toward the legal approval of the 501(c)(3) foundation making tax-deductible donations possible. Mr. Elenbaas and Mr. Bachman were of one spirit in wishing the scholarship to be made available to a wide range of students, including those in vocational trades and those who faced life challenges as “at risk” students. The scholarship is designed for only those who have a genuine financial need. Mr. Elenbaas and Mr. Bachman agreed that recipients should be students having exemplary character qualities and moral standards. Illustrations of these qualities include honesty, integrity, good work ethic, selflessness, respect for others and a positive mental attitude. The recipients should have the reputation of academic performance at the highest possible level for their personal giftedness. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Robert M Bouwma Memorial Scholarship

The Robert M. Bouwma Memorial scholarship fund was established in 2011 by the Bouwma family to honor the memory of Robert Bouwma. Bob graduated from Hope College and began a career as an industrial engineer. He returned to college to earn a teaching certificate in 1972 and taught in the McBain Public School system for 15 years. Bob’s focus was 6th grade math as well as the school’s safety patrol program. Bob’s positive and friendly personality endeared him to students and faculty. He retired to Florida in 1987 and spent summers in the Cadillac area. It is preferred that this scholarship be awarded to students with a career goal of teaching. If no qualified applicants plan to pursue a career in this field or if the selection committee feels there is a better student match for this scholarship, then the scholarship may be awarded to a qualifying student pursuing a career in a different field. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Donald L and Edith L Darnell Family Scholarship

This fund, which was established in 2001, is one of the initial MRASF funds. Donald and Edith Darnell were both very active in the community and strong supporters of the McBain Public

School. Edith was a teacher and Donald was involved in school administration. Donald also established a successful business that expanded throughout central Michigan. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Elenbaas Scholarship

This fund, which was established in 2002, is one of the initial MRASF funds. Duane was born in Cadillac, moved to Lucas at a young age attending Lucas Elementary School through the 6th grade and then attended McBain Public School graduating in 1950. After a tour in the Navy he graduated from Ferris State College with a BS in business. Duane owned a very successful business headquartered in Grand Rapids, which he ran for many years before retiring in the Cadillac area. Duane has a strong desire to help kids and has dedicated much of his time in his retirement years finding ways to help kids. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Rich and Til Herweyer Family Agricultural Scholarship

This fund was established in 2010 in honor of the Rich & Til Herweyer family. Rich, a 1941 MHS graduate and school bus driver for 42 years and his wife, Til, were dairy farmers and strong supporters of the school. This scholarship is to be awarded to a MHS graduate who is furthering his/her education in an agriculturally related curriculum. Applicable courses of study may include but are not limited to: Dairy Science, Animal Husbandry, Crop and Soil Science, Agricultural Business Management, Agriscience, Food Science, Horticulture, Agricultural Technology, Herbicide/pesticide Technology, Forestry, Conservation, Fisheries/wildlife and Natural Resources Management, and veterinary medicine. If there are graduates applying for this scholarship who are not pursuing a bona fide "Agricultural" course of study, or none apply, the scholarship award will not be made that year. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Hoekwater Scholarship

This fund was established in 2018. Jerry Hoekwater graduated from McBain Public High School in 1965. He served in the Army, then attended Ferris State College before attending and graduating from Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. Jerry worked in the engineering and construction industry for 34 years, first designing and later managing the design and construction of various projects throughout the US as well as abroad before retiring in the Cadillac area. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Kathy McCauliff Scholarship

The Kathy McCauliff scholarship fund was established in 2019 by family and friends in honor of Kathy McCauliff. Kathy graduated from Central Michigan University with a teaching certificate in 1975 and received a Master's Degree from Clarion State University in 1982. She taught special education students in Pennsylvania for 10 years and at McBain High School for over 30 years. The preference is that this scholarship be awarded to students attending college in the field of education. If no qualified applicants plan to pursue a career in these fields or if the selection

committee feels there is a better student match for this scholarship, then the scholarship may be awarded to a qualifying student pursuing a career in a different field.

Bernard and Sandra Meyering Family Scholarship

Bernard and Sandra Meyering are life-long supporters of the McBain School System. Bernard was a student there along with their three children and several grandchildren. As proud Rambler supporters, they still attend as many sports events as possible. Bernard worked for the McBain Schools as Head of Maintenance for 43 years and Sandra was a Reading Improvement Teacher for 34 years. They truly both have a deep love for the further education of students and the time they spent working with them. A scholarship was created in 2015 that honored the professions of their children: Construction, Nursing, Administration and Education. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Donald P. Mys Scholarship

This fund was established in 2005. Donald Mys graduated from McBain High School in 1959. He had a 35 year career in education as a teacher, high school principal and district school administrator in the Dearborn school system. The preference is that this scholarship be awarded to students attending college in the field of education. If no qualified applicants plan to pursue a career in these fields or if the selection committee feels there is a better student match for this scholarship, then the scholarship may be awarded to a qualifying student pursuing a career in a different field. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Todd Seelye Scholarship

This scholarship fund was established in 2016 by Todd Seelye, owner of Forward Concrete, Inc. Mr. Seelye is a 1986 graduate of McBain Public Schools. This fund was established to further the education of a student studying in the following areas: Construction Trades, Landscape Design, Commercial Building Design, Carpentry, Metals Technology/Welding, Mechanical Engineering, Construction Engineering, Mechanical Drafting, Construction Project Management, Building Design, Construction Materials Selection/Management, Building/Construction Architecture, Surveying, or other Related Field.

Peter J VanderPol Scholarship

This scholarship fund was established in 2014 by anonymous McBain alumnus in honor of Peter J VanderPol. Mr. VanderPol was a teacher for several years and later superintendent who guided the McBain School system through consolidations for an additional 27 years into the district it is today. Mr. VanderPol retired in 1972. This scholarship is awarded to the recipient of the Peter J VanderPol Award which was established in 1976 and is the most prestigious award provided to a

graduating senior each year. This scholarship may be awarded in addition to another MRASF scholarship. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.

Westveer Memorial Scholarship

The Westveer Memorial scholarship fund was established in 2017 by Beverly Winkle and Marcia Sauntman to honor the memory of their parents, Frank and Jane Westveer and their sister Debbie Kennedy. Frank and Jane were partial owners of the local auto body shop and were life-long residents of McBain. They were both very active in the community and strong supporters of the McBain Public School. Mr. Westveer was president of the school board when he died in 1966. Debbie graduated in 1967, attended Calvin College and graduated with a BS degree in music. Debbie passed away in 2007 from ovarian cancer. It is preferred that this scholarship be awarded to students who are planning to pursue a career in music, auto body repair, or the medical field. If no qualified applicants plan to pursue a career in these fields or if the selection committee feels there is a better student match for this scholarship, then the scholarship may be awarded to a qualifying student pursuing a career in a different field.

MRASF General Fund Scholarship

The McBain Rural Agricultural School Foundation Scholarship Fund was established in 2014. This scholarship is funded by contributions made to the MRASF that are not designated for one of the other specific scholarships. The funds generated by an annual auction held each spring and generously supported by the McBain community and area merchants are also used to support this scholarship. This scholarship has been funded in perpetuity.