



Congratulations to these Eagle Scouts. Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America program. The following Groves students achieved this rank - Congratulations!

Picture on the left. (L-R) Jacob Flaherty, Nick Skinner, Joshua Bashur, Andrew Flaherty, Leo Williams, John Hermann, Scott Rolf, Storm Stephenson and Noah Montgomery (Troop 1029).

Picture on the right. Peter Manion Eagle Scout (Troop 750) Baltimore MD

### **No X-Block on Thursday, January 2, 2020**

There will be no X-Block on January 2, 2020, which is the first day back from Winter Break

Winter Break began at the end of the school day on Friday, December 20, 2019. Classes resume on Thursday, January 2, 2020, at 7:30 am.

### **Kudos to the Groves Performing Arts Company (GPAC)**

Members of the Groves Performing Arts Company competed this weekend at the Michigan Thespian Festival in Detroit. Here are the results:

Michigan Thespian Scholarship recipient  
Hailey Van Wordragen

Individual Event results:

#### Superior Ratings

Maya Ousachi-Monologue

Molly Erlich/James Laport-Duet Acting

Sami Meal/Adam Rhen-Duet Acting

Mateo Davis/Josh Holmes/Nick Joseph/Noah Smalley-Group Acting

Lily Paul/Hope Tushman-Duet Musical

Annie Chernow/Hunter Stabile-Duet Musical

Becca Woodrow-Solo Musical

Hailey Van Wordragen-Solo Musical

Saraah Fattouh/Anna Forberg/Zena Kissinger/Caroline Kondak/Ainsley Nelson/Lily Reed-Nordwall/Annelise

Ross/Hope Sherwood-Group Musical Theatre

Kate Karaskiewicz-Solo Dance

Malo Rious-Short Film

Hayden Miller-Lighting Design  
Clare Birley-Costume Design  
Adam Rhen-Theatre Marketing

#### Excellent Ratings

Abby Nelson-Monologue  
AJ Camisa/Mia Frank/Taylor Hunter/Alexis Richardson-Group Acting  
Clare Birley/Jana Dinkeloo/Noel Stanley-Group Musical  
Mecca Terrell-Solo Dance  
Kate Karaskiewicz/Halle Randolph-Duet Dance  
Hayden Miller-Scenic Design  
Mecca Terrell-Costume Design Mia Frank-Makeup Design

#### **Groves Debate**

Groves' Debate Team had an exceptionally successful weekend at the State Tournament, held at Wayne State University on December 13-14, 2019. Groves took first place in the novice division (first seed after four preliminary debates), defeating Midland HH Dow on a close 2-1 decision in the final round. Representing Groves were Jonah Lipman, Ellen Laham, Allie Fundaro and Kaitlyn Williams. Jonah was 3rd and Eleen took 4th place as individual speakers.

In the varsity division, Groves reached the semifinals. Represented by Sathvil Rajagopalan, Kevin Gruich, Ben Glick and Luke Lee was 2nd seed after five preliminary rounds but lost to Midland HH Dow on a 2-1 decision in semifinals. Kevin was first and Sathvik was 2nd individual speaker.

Coaching Groves were Co-Director Ryan Nierman, Assistant Coach Shannon Nierman, Co-Director John Lawson and Groves debate alum and MSU debater Piper Meloche.

#### **Shadow Your State Senator**

Senator McMorrow is looking for high school and college students to participate in her shadow program. Senator McMorrow's video below outlines her the Program and the webpage link includes the pertinent application.

Senator McMorrow's video discussing the program:

<https://www.facebook.com/499972063684687/posts/1005290386486183/>

Senator Mallory McMorrow's Webpage which has the application: <https://senatedems.com/mcmorrow/>

Counseling, College & Career Center News

#### **Scholarships**

Visit the [Scholarship Page](#) on the College and Career Center site for updates, happening daily. *Words of Wisdom: if a "scholarship" is asking for money to apply -- it's not a scholarship!*

#### **Xello Profile**

Seniors must complete their Xello profile in order to pick up their cap & gown. For more information on how to access and complete Xello, go to the "Senior Information" page on the College and Career Center website (["Senior Information" from the College and Career Center](#)). The Xello instructions and resume tutorial are at the top of the page.

#### **Understand Student Life on College Campuses**

January 6 at 11:00 a.m. with Courtney Dolan from Boston College

January 8 at 9:30 a.m. with Megan Doll from The Ohio State University.

#### **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Completion**

Help Groves increase its FAFSA completion rate. The Michigan College Access Network and the Governor's office is challenging all High Schools in the state to get to 75% completion. We are already ahead of last year! Let's get to 75% - need help? See Mrs. Kondak.

### **Understanding your Financial Aid Package- January 21<sup>st</sup>**

On January 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have a financial aid officer available to explain information regarding financial aid awards. First, she will answer frequently asked questions, then individual questions. If you have general questions that you would like answered that evening, please submit here: [Financial Aid Night Questions](#).

### **College Fair**

Since its inception, the Second Ebenezer Historically Black College and Universities (HBCU) College Fair on February 22, 2020, has impacted thousands of students and numerous representatives from colleges throughout the country. They will have informative workshops and recruiter sessions, which include onsite admissions, onsite scholarships, and various financial aid opportunities. \*\*\*Students must bring their Transcripts to qualify. Student Registration and Group Registration: <https://secondebenezer.org/college/>.



Help BPS students

**DREAM  
BIG**



Your gift will make a lasting difference in a student's life and will deliver enrichment and innovation to BPS classrooms.

Through December 31

### **BEF Annual Fund**

<https://www.supportbef.org/donate.html>

Donations are being accepted by the BEF this season as they work to help BPS students DREAM BIG. Your gift will become an aquarium, allowing students to watch salmon grow. Or parts for a student-designed robot. It could make a school-wide celebration of Motown possible. It might become a professional musician working directly with high school students, or a character education experience at a middle school. Above all, your gift will become experiences that help students to Dream Big. Visit <https://www.supportbef.org/donate.html> to make a gift.

### **Community Events**

#### **Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service**

On Monday, January 20th, 2020, BPS students of all ages and their families will come together for our 5th annual MLK Day of Service. Our DAY ON, DAY ONE will be a celebration of all that service-learning means and is - a chance for us to spend our Day ON serving others, and a chance for it to be our DAY ONE in a yearlong goal to be of service to others.

This year our Day of Service will be even bigger than before. We have a variety of projects from which to choose. Please bring a donation for a local food pantry! We are collecting pasta, spaghetti sauce, peanut/nut butter, jelly, canned tuna or chicken, and granola bars. No glass jars, please.

Please use the link below to sign up to volunteer, thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f4cafa62da4fa7-2020>

### **Baldwin Public Library Board Seeks Student Representative**

The Board of the Baldwin Public Library invites interested high school juniors who reside in the City of Birmingham, Village of Beverly Hills, Village of Bingham Farms, or the City of Bloomfield Hills to apply for the position of Student Representative to the Baldwin Public Library Board. This is an excellent opportunity for students to develop leadership skills and instill an ethic of community service, as well as encourage citizen participation in local government. In addition, the Board benefits greatly from having a new perspective on Library planning and services.

This one-year term lasts from February 17, 2020, to February 15, 2021. Representatives are expected to attend Library Board meetings held the third Monday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Library, with Wednesday, January 20, 2021, as the only exception. Packets for each Board meeting are available on the Library's website the Friday prior to the meeting.

The commitment to this position requires that the BPL Student Representative review the monthly agenda, minutes, and reports prior to the meeting, which can be found at <http://www.baldwinlib.org/staff-board>. In addition to participating in Board meetings, the Student Representative will also be required to work with Library staff and either assist with a service project or coordinate and implement a teen program during the year.

To find application details, visit [www.baldwinlib.org/volunteer](http://www.baldwinlib.org/volunteer). The completed application, essay, and two letters of recommendation are due by January 10, 2020, to Rebekah Craft at the Baldwin Library, 300 West Merrill, Birmingham, MI 48009 or via email to [rebekah.craft@baldwinlib.org](mailto:rebekah.craft@baldwinlib.org).

### **Athletics**

*For Schedules and Sports Information visit the Groves High School Website: [www.grovesfalcons.com](http://www.grovesfalcons.com)*

### **Groves Baseball**

Groves Baseball winter workouts begin in January. Registration information is on the Groves Baseball website as well as in the office. Waivers must be completed prior to participation and can also be found on the website or in the office. The workout session is 9 weeks.

### **Groves Boys Basketball**

Tuesday, 12/16: Groves swept Seaholm - all three levels 🏀 🏀 🏀

Thursday, 12/18: Groves swept Kettering- all three levels 🏀 🏀 🏀

The Groves boys basketball program will host a tournament 12/21-12/22.

The next match is 1/7/20 at home against Farmington- come cheer on your Falcon teams!

### **Groves Basketball League (GBL)**

Groves Basketball League is back! Join us for this great club beginning in January and ending in March.

Please note: To participate in the Groves Basketball League, players cannot participate in other school-sponsored winter sport.

Games will occur on Sundays between 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. from January –March

Students must turn in a

-Signed Parent Permission Slip (may be picked up in office)

- \$20.00 fee

By December 19<sup>th</sup>

Prior to the first game, students must turn in a Blue slip from the athletic office stating that you have a valid

physical on file. Even if you played a fall sport, you must turn in a Blue slip for the winter session.

If you have any questions, please see Coach Flaherty or Mrs. Righter in the athletic office.



### **Staff Highlight**

Jeff Hatley

### **Position or Subject Taught**

Architecture, Interior Design, and Engineering

### **Education**

Western Michigan University (BS) - Eastern Michigan University (MA) - ABB Robotics (Programming)

### **Brief Bio**

Besides teaching, I am an instructor for the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program. I enjoy golf, hockey, reading historical fiction, kayaking, and hiking. Father of 3 kiddos and 1 chocolate lab we just call "Puppy."

### **Something you may not know about me**

I wrote a book on Computer-Aided Manufacturing that was published by Schroff Development Corporation.

### **Favorite Quote**

"It's time to get to gettin..."

### **Important Dates**

#### **December 21-January 1**

Winter Recess

#### **Thursday, January 2**

No X-Block

School Starts at 7:30 a.m.

#### **Friday, January 3**

Another Great Day at Groves

**Monday, January 6**

College Student Visitation-Boston College at 11:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, January 7**

X-block

**Wednesday, January 8**

College Student Visitation- The Ohio State University at 9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, January 9**

X-Block

**Friday, January 10**

Another Great Day at Groves

Photos

Groves Newspaper Journalist and Scriptor Editors, Hope Tushman and Lily Russell, along with Principal Embekka Roberson and English teacher Laura Redman, toured the WXYZ channel 7 news station on December 16 and will collaborate with their team on a story about our community, which will be aired during National Media Literacy week, beginning January 27.



Thank you,  
Dr. Embekka Roberson  
Principal  
Groves High School  
[ERoberson@birmingham.k12.mi.us](mailto:ERoberson@birmingham.k12.mi.us)  
Groves Website: <https://www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/Groves>  
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