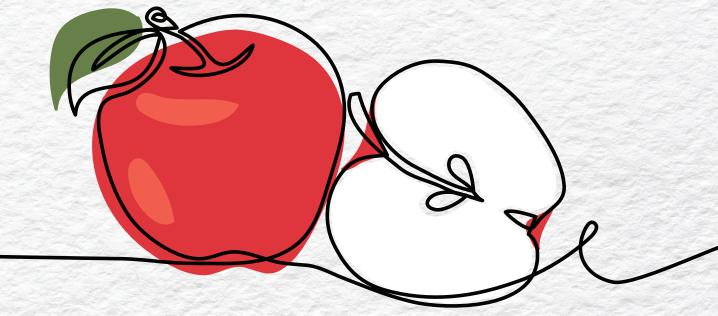


# East Brunswick Education Foundation

Dedicated to enriching and enhancing the curriculum for students in the East Brunswick Public Schools

# 2022 Partner In Excellence & Hall of Fame Award Dinner



honoring

# Dr. Trudy A. Atkins • Dr. Anna Braun Lisa Citron • David P. Lonski, Esq.

inducting

Dr. Scott Gottlieb · Sam Mattis

April 5, 2022 The Pines Manor

# WEIRE JERE Jor you

# Northfield Bank





# East Brunswick Education Foundation

# 2022 Partner in Excellence Award Dinner

Welcome	<b>Jack Levitt, President</b> East Brunswick Education Foundation
Resolution	Laurie Lachs, President East Brunswick Board of Education
Remarks	<b>Dr. Victor Valeski, Superintendent</b> East Brunswick Public Schools
Remarks	<b>Dr. Dana Zimbicki, President</b> East Brunswick Education Association
Proclamations	<b>Mayor Brad Cohen</b> East Brunswick Township
Resolutions	Senator Patrick Diegnan, Assemblyman Rob Karabinchak and Assemblyman Sherley Stanley The 18th District
Partner in Excellence Award Presentation	<b>Jack Levitt, President</b> East Brunswick Education Foundation
Acceptance of Award	Dr. Anna Braun
Remarks	<b>Chris Toto, President</b> <b>Marilyn Edge, Liaison</b> East Brunswick Education Foundation Student Association
Partner in Excellence Award Presentation	<b>Jack Levitt, President</b> East Brunswick Education Foundation
Acceptance of Award	Lisa Citron
Remarks	<b>Dr. Michael Vinella</b> East Brunswick High School
Alumni Hall of Fame Induction	<b>Jack Levitt, President</b> East Brunswick Education Foundation
Acceptance	Dr. Scott Gottlieb



# East Brunswick Education Foundation

# 2022 Partner in Excellence Award Dinner

Alumni Hall of Fame Induction

Acceptance

Partner in Excellence Award Presentation

Acceptance of Award

Partner in Excellence Award Presentation

Acceptance of Award

Music By

Jack Levitt, President East Brunswick Education Foundation

Sam Mattis

Jack Levitt, President East Brunswick Education Foundation

Dr. Trudy A. Atkins

Jack Levitt, President East Brunswick Education Foundation

David P. Lonski, Esq.

**Cocktail Hour** Members of the East Brunswick High School Honors Chamber Orchestra Conducted by Dr. Arvin Gopal

**Dinner** The East Brunswick High School Honors Chamber Orchestra Conducted by Dr. Arvin Gopal



# Dr. Trudy A. Atkins



Dr. Trudy A. Atkins spent fourteen years on the administrative team in the East Brunswick Public Schools. She began as an Assistant Principal at East Brunswick High School, went on to the post where she served the longest, from 2009 to 2018, as the K-12 Science Supervisor, then joined the Central Office Team in 2018 as the Director of Community Outreach and Academic Support. Trudy's final position was as the Director of Professional Learning, Evaluation and Assessment where she worked with Academics Tech Specialist, Ms. Jennifer Carter and her fellow Class of 2007 VPs, Dr. Joyce Boley and Mrs. Nicole Tibbetts. Just after being named a Class of 2022 Partner in Excellence Award honoree in the Spring of 2021, Trudy accepted the Superintendency in the Bordentown Regional School District in Burlington County, New Jersey. Trudy's educational career began in the East Windsor Regional School District teaching Biology, Honors Anatomy and Physiology, and Advanced Placement Biology as well as serving as the Science Department Chairperson from 2000-2007.

Trudy is a Yardville, New Jersey native, and a 1987 and 2002 West Chester University of Pennsylvania graduate with a Bachelor's in Biology Education and a Master's in Molecular Biology respectively. During her time in East Brunswick she went on to complete an Education Specialist Degree in Science Education from Rutgers University and, most recently, a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Rider University in 2020. Trudy is thankful to Dr. Victor Valeski, Dr. Louis Figueroa, Mr. Bernardo Giuliana, Mr. Paul Natalicchio, the East Brunswick Board of Education and her fellow administrators for their support as she completed her dissertation study in school emergency preparedness during the Fall of 2019.

Trudy is grateful for, and humbled by, the recognition she is receiving from the East Brunswick Education Foundation. Throughout her time in EB, Trudy took advantage of the grant opportunities offered by the EBEF to fund specialized equipment purchases for the Waksman Program at EBHS and technology to support various aspects of Science programming at both the elementary and secondary levels. She recognizes and appreciates the opportunities the EBEF made possible for her students. Trudy's most proud EBEF moment came in 2013 when she, Deb Mangino and many colleagues teamed up to "Dance with the EB Stars" to a tune from Broadway's Hairspray. Although she did not lift anyone in the air like her "Work Brother" Mike Gaskell, Trudy did get EBEF President, Jack Levitt, to appear in Drag as part of her performance!

No single person accomplishes anything without the love and support of their family. Trudy met the love of her life, Alba M. Lugo, in EB - she knew it was "Love at First Sight" - but it took seven years for Alba to leave EB so Trudy could finally tell the world. Alba and Trudy do their best at parenting two adult sons and are the proud Aunt and Titi of twin nephews. Between them they also have thousands of students of whom to be proud. Their dog, Jack Daniels, a red and white Border Collie rescue, was a product of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Finally, Trudy asks all of the educators present this evening to realize that over the last two years our nation has seen tragedy and triumph and our students witnessed history making events through their very own eyes. Further, Trudy wants to be sure that as educators, we assist students in understanding all that is going on around them as we build their agency as young people to grow towards the changemakers they are destined to become. The nation's students are our future, and educators must do everything in their power to support academic, artistic, and athletic growth and development so students can move with confidence into the next phase of their lives. Trudy is sure that the EBEF will support this mission tirelessly, and she thanks you for helping to fund this endeavor by being here this evening.



# Dr. Anna Braun



Dr. Anna Braun was an indispensable fixture in the East Brunswick musical landscape from the moment she picked up a viola at Frost Elementary School when she was ten years old. She has not put the viola down since, playing through her graduation from East Brunswick High School in 1981 and continuing to the present day. After earning her degree in Music Education from Trenton State College, and a brief interlude teaching orchestra in Trenton and Hamilton, Dr. Braun returned home in 1987 to begin teaching at Hammarskjold Middle School, coincidently in the same music room where she honed her skills as a student! During her teaching career she earned a Masters in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College and a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership from Walden University. Dr. Braun transferred to Churchill Junior High School in 2010. She reluctantly retired in June 2021 from her beloved career after a near-fatal bout of Covid-19 in January 2021.

The success of Dr. Braun's orchestra program can be attributed to her constant focus on improving the status quo. Her desire for her students to embody the district's motto of "Excellence in the Arts" meant her ensembles were sought out to perform at community events in East Brunswick, including the Mayor's Gala, the EB Public Library's 50th Anniversary Gala, the State of the District address, the dedication of New Hammarskjold, and the dedication of the Jo Ann Magistro Performing

Arts Center. Her advanced ensembles were selected to perform on multiple occasions at the annual NJ Music Educators Association Conference as well as at the National Association for Music Education Eastern Convention, where she premiered a new string orchestra edition of Holst's "Jupiter" by the acclaimed arranger Sandra Dackow.

Her tireless drive for excellence has been recognized throughout the state. In 2006 Dr. Braun received the Master Music Educator Award from the NJ Music Educators Association and the NJ Governor's Award in Arts Education. Her commitment to public school music education led her to serve on the Board of Directors of the Central Jersey Music Educators Association, as well as volunteering countless hours managing, hosting, and conducting Regional and All State orchestras. She served the EBPS community on ad hoc committees. She was instrumental in promoting the construction of the new Hammarskjold with the inclusion of an auditorium, so generations of performing arts students would have a state-of-the-art venue to showcase their talents.

Always exploring new technological and curricular developments, Dr. Braun received several EBEF Grants, one of which led to the founding of the popular annual Churchill Pops Concerts. Showcasing the musical talents, dancing skills, and best "rock-star fashion" of orchestra, chorus, and band students, pre-pandemic shows saw 350 students jamming on rock and pop music not normally associated with junior high musicians. Audiences and students enjoyed rock-concert style lighting with everything from fog geysers, strobes, digital lighting effects, even a giant disco ball! Dr. Braun further used her skills as a JMPAC lighting tech to enhance EBEF's "Celebrity Dance Off" shows.

Dr. Braun's commitment to the success of her students, along with her drive to push them to the height of their potential, are in no small part responsible for the sustained success of East Brunswick's orchestra program, one of the best in the state and a model for other districts.Dr. Braun is very proud of the hundreds of students who individually achieved excellence by successfully auditioning for Regional and All State Orchestra.

Dr. Braun's passion for music, thirst for knowledge, and boundless sense of humor have captivated students and fellow teachers for decades. Her commitment to and impact on the district's orchestra program do not stop with the students. Over the years, she has mentored countless student teachers and faculty members in East Brunswick who will carry on her legacy. [In fact, one of her former students will be taking her place as orchestra director at CJHS!]

A third generation EB resident, Anna was thrilled to watch her three children follow in her footsteps and be immersed in band, orchestra, chorus, and theater during their time in the East Brunswick Public Schools. Anna is embracing retirement by spending time with her two young grandchildren, her children, and her husband, Steven. She can't wait for her grandchildren to start kindergarten at Chittick School in a couple of years so she can watch the next generation thrive and grow in EB's outstanding education system. While we may no longer find Anna tuning hundreds of instruments at concerts, the fruits of her years of dedication to the district will continue to produce results for years to come.



# Lisa Citron



During the twenty-eight years Lisa Citron proudly worked in the East Brunswick Public School System, she wore many hats. However, no matter what position Lisa held, one constant was the respect and value for the East Brunswick Education Foundation.

Lisa's first relationship with the EBEF was as a parent while raising her children, Ryan (2004) and Samantha (2008). She was impressed by the incredibly creative ways their teachers made learning come alive; a second-grade sleepover, a school garden brought to life by young learners, a deeply moving and memorable Holocaust program, an opportunity to learn the workings of our government, and at its core, the constitution, all of which were supported by funds provided by the EBEF.

Inspired as both a parent and East Brunswick Teacher, Lisa became directly involved with the EBEF. She enthusiastically served as a member of the foundation, working alongside some of the most selfless and tireless educational

heroes focused on finding ways to raise money for educational grants. Lisa was proud to see how the EBEF raised money while bringing a community together to watch "East Brunswick Stars Dance," as well as East Brunswick School Stars modeling the latest clothes for the "EBEF Fashion Show." Whether it was the simpler methods of assigning a student as "Principal for a Day" or selling "Apples for Education," every penny creatively raised by the EBEF had one singular purpose, giving back to the children in our community. Lisa was proud to be actively involved with the EBEF when it achieved its' goal of giving away \$1,000,000 in grant money. The accomplishment of this goal directly connects with East Brunswick's goal to achieve "Excellence in the Arts, Athletics, and Academics."

The creative, educational opportunities made possible by the EBEF were out there for the taking. As an East Brunswick teacher, as an Instructional Coach, at Irwin Elementary School and Memorial Elementary School, and as a Special Education Supervisor, Lisa collaborated with many of her colleagues on numerous grants that supported and elevated classroom instruction. The EBEF awarded several grants which focused on creating environments more conducive for learning. "Keys to Success" and "Maximizing Little Hands" were grants written to support our youngest learners using technology. "Kindergarten Tabletops," "Snuggle into Learning," "All is Possible with Pockets," and "Bouncing Our Way to Success" all grants written to create comfortable, organized, and supportive classrooms. All students benefit from differentiated instruction, so "Headphone Heroes" and "A Table to Learn With" met individual student needs beautifully. One example of this was the reading and math challenges addressed through "Engage-Enjoy-Succeed with Graphic Novels," "Reading with Different Books," and "Problem Solving Skills Live." Each of these awarded EBEF Grants supported the learning of East Brunswick children, every one of these grants took an educator's vision and made it come to life.

Lisa, newly retired, looks forward with great thankfulness and excitement. She is excited to spend more time with her family, husband Barry, son Ryan, his husband Terry and their daughter Ricky Kole, daughter Samantha and new husband Joe, and her 92 years young, spunky mom, Angela. Lisa, newly retired, also reflects on a diverse career in East Brunswick she is incredibly proud of, the hard-working colleagues she met along the way, the friends who will last a lifetime, and her involvement in the East Brunswick Education Foundation, which stands for what is most important in our world, the education of our children.



# David P. Lonski, Esq.



David is a lifelong resident of the Township of East Brunswick having moved along with his family to East Brunswick in February 1962. His wife, Jeannine, daughter, mother, father, sister, two brothers-in-law, a sister-in-law, a niece and her husband, and 3 nephews (along with the spouse of one) reside in the Township.

He received a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering from Rutgers College of Engineering in 1983, graduating with Honors. He received awards for his research and presentations on Queueing theories and interned at the prestigious Mathmatica, a Princeton based think tank group. He also developed the first PC based software for medical offices to transmit claims forms electronically to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey in the mid-1980s.

David received his Juris Doctorate degree from Rutgers School of Law in Camden in 1986 where he graduated first in his class in the Tax Honors Program receiving the Prentice-Hall Award in Taxation at graduation. He continued his education obtaining an LLM in Taxation from New York University in 1989. In 1988, he joined a local law firm in New Brunswick and became a partner in 1993. He continues to practice with the firm of Shamy Shipers & Lonski, PC which is now located at 334 Milltown Road in East Brunswick. He is a member of the Bars of

the State of New Jersey State, the United States District Court of New Jersey, the United States Tax Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court.

David has served as municipal prosecutor and has defended property tax appeals on behalf of several municipalities in Central Jersey. His private practice focuses on corporate law, business start-ups and transactions, estate planning and administration, real estate, land use and civil litigation.

David is also very actively involved in the community. He has coached youth sports in boys and girls basketball, baseball and softball, and still coaches youth football. He is a past president and currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees and Treasurer for the St. Bart's Buffalos youth football organization, an organization in which he has been involved since its inception in 1970. He serves as President of the Township's Coalition of Athletic Organizations and has been serving on the Board of that organization since May 13, 2002. He also serves as the President of the East Brunswick Recreation and Parks Advisory Board and has been serving on that Board since February 11, 2004. He serves as the Presiding Justice for the East Brunswick Elks Lodge and has been a member of the Elks for the past 23 years.

He has assisted with the start-up of several youth sports groups including the Blackhawks Lacrosse program, the East Brunswick Youth Tennis program, and is currently assisting a Youth Cricket group. He was also a founding Trustee of the East Brunswick High School Athletic Booster Club.

David is the Chairman of the East Brunswick Democratic Organization and has served on the Township's Democratic Committee along with his wife, Jeannine, for the past 32 years. David and Jeannine have two wonderful children. Jonathan is a 2012 graduate of East Brunswick High School. He was the MVP of the high school baseball team and earned an academic scholarship to college. He was a National Science Foundation Fellow in graduate school. He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Industrial Engineering. Their daughter, Kathleen, is a 2015 graduate of East Brunswick High School. Kathleen is a singer-songwriter who attributes realizing her gift for song-writing to a grant from the East Brunswick Education Foundation to the music department at EBHS. Kathleen started the acapella group at EBHS known as the "acabellas" and appeared in several plays while at EBHS. While in High School, she wrote an anti-bullying song called "Don't Let Them In" which won numerous music awards and scholarships. She was also a founding member of the Rachel's Challenge group at the High School which toured the Elementary Schools to deliver a message of anti-bullying often through her song. She gave a TED Talk on the power of music at EBHS prior to her graduation.

David and Jeannine are often heard promoting the mission and accomplishments of the EBEF and the affect that it has had on the life of their daughter. They have seen the impact of the programs sponsored by the EBEF first hand, as well as that of all the hard-working teachers and administrators that write for the grants. In an effort to give back just a little to the EBEF, David danced as Elvis Presley in the 2017 EBEFCelebrity Dance-Off competition, an honor that he will always remember.



# Alumni Hall of Fame

# Dr. Scott Gottlieb



Scott Gottlieb, MD is a physician and served as the 23rd Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration from 2017 to 2019. Dr. Gottlieb's work focuses on advancing public health through developing and implementing innovative approaches to improving medical outcomes, reshaping healthcare delivery, and expanding consumer choice and safety. He is currently a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a member of the board of directors of Pfizer, Inc, Illumina Inc, and Tempus Labs. Dr. Gottlieb is a partner at the venture capital firm New Enterprise Associates where he is a member of the firm's healthcare services and biopharma investment teams. For NEA, he serves on the boards of National Resilience and Aetion.

Under his leadership, the FDA advanced new frameworks for the modern and safe and effective oversight of gene therapies, cell based regenerative medicines, targeted drugs, and digital health devices. The agency advanced new models for the regulation of artificial intelligence devices, veterinary medicines, and orphan drugs; and implemented new reforms to standardize drug reviews and make important improvements in post market data collection and the

use of real-world evidence. The agency's historic and prolific advances in new policy distinguished his tenure as the FDA's commissioner, in addition to a record-setting number of approvals of novel drugs, medical devices, and generic medicines in 2018 and again in 2019.

Dr. Gottlieb promoted policies to reduce death and disease from tobacco, improve food innovation and safety, expand the agency's oversight of areas of emerging risk such as dietary supplements and cell-based medicine, and aggressively confront addiction crises. The FDA advanced new legislative frameworks to address the opioid crisis, grow its field operations, and modernize the regulation of diagnostic tests and over-the-counter drugs, among other initiatives. Dr. Gottlieb forged collaborative relations with Congress that saw FDA increase its total budget by about \$1 billion over two years. During his tenure, he testified before Congress 20 times.

Previously, Dr. Gottlieb served as the FDA's Deputy Commissioner for Medical and Scientific Affairs and before that, as a Senior Adviser to the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, where he helped implement the Medicare drug benefit, and advance policies to improve healthcare quality and promote the effective use of new medical technologies.

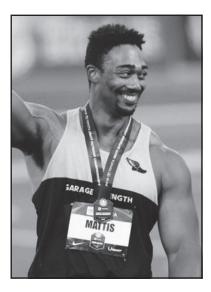
Dr. Gottlieb is author of the New York Times bestselling book "Uncontrolled Spread" and is widely published in leading medical journals and periodicals, including The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, and The Washington Post. He holds an editorial position on the Journal of the American Medical Association. Fortune Magazine recognized him as one of the "World's 50 Greatest Leaders" in 2018 and again in 2019. Modern Healthcare has named Dr. Gottlieb as one of the "Most Influential Physician Executive and Leaders" in its annual survey of 50 physician executives, and Time magazine named Dr. Gottlieb as one of its "50 People Transforming Healthcare in 2018." He is a contributor to CNBC and CBS News Face the Nation.

Dr. Gottlieb was a practicing hospitalist and a Clinical Assistant Professor at the New York University School of Medicine. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine.



# Alumni Hall of Fame

# Sam Mattis



Sam Mattis was raised in East Brunswick. He worked hard in school, played the bass and violin, and played a little bit of every sport growing up until he tripped over a hurdle in eighth grade and quickly discovered he was much better at throwing than running. A little bit after that, he found out he loved to throw the discus.

During high school, Sam broke the school record for the discus throw as a freshman, and eventually broke the New Jersey state record as a senior. He won three New Jersey Meet of Champions in the discus, two New Balance National Championships and one Penn Relays Championship in the event before graduating from East Brunswick High School and enrolling at the University of Pennsylvania.

At Penn, Sam continued to throw discus. He earned four Ivy League titles in the event, one NCAA National Championship, and the distinction of being named NCAA Scholar Athlete of the Year before graduating Cum Laude with a degree in Economics.

At the 2016 USA Track and Field Olympic Trials, Sam finished a disappointing 9th place and missed making the Olympic Team. However, he would refocus on go on to place third at the 2018 USATF National Championship, first at the 2019 USATF National Championship, fourth at the 2019 USA vs Europe Match, and 11th at the 2019 World Championships. At the 2021 Olympic Trials, Sam placed third qualified for his first Olympic Team. During the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, he was the only American to qualify for the Olympic Final and finished 8th in the World.

Sam is currently training out of Pennsylvania for the 2024 Olympics in Paris. When he retires from his athletic career, he hopes to pursue a career in sustainability, bringing renewable energy and empowerment to communities.



# In Support of Excellence

The East Brunswick Education Foundation (EBEF) is an independent, non-profit corporation created in 1993 by parents, citizens and members of the local business community to support programs designed to enhance and enrich the curriculum in the East Brunswick Public Schools.

The Foundation raises funds for grants for instructional projects designed to have a positive impact on learning. It also develops partnerships with local businesses, sponsors events for the entire community and builds links among the schools, residents, businesses, government and civic organizations.

Since its inception, the EBEF has awarded over 1,600 grants totalling over \$2.6 million to teachers throughout the district. The funds have provided a variety of projects, including guest speakers, visiting artists, programs related to history, science, mathematics and world cultures, and purchases of special supplies and materials. The projects may be geared to one or more classes, an entire school or the whole district.

For further information about the EBEF and how you can help, please visit our website: www.EBEF.org.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Ellen Shur	Immediate Past President
Jack Levitt	President
Lindsay Dobrzynski	
Annemarie Krawet	Corresponding Secretary
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Paul Schoen	
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Norma Comerford	Jane Mueller	Diana Toto
Alexia DeLuca	Lisa Noppenberger	Dr. Victor Valeski
Marilyn Edge	Nicole Paster	Joel Young
Megan Fischer	Shannon Poquette	Kristyn Wagner
Marilyn Friedes	Melissa Prisco	Monica Ye



# Student Association

In collaboration with the administration at East Brunswick High School, the EBEF launched the EBEF Student Association, to mirror the Foundation's philanthropic activities in school. The Student Association is run by a group of students who are "hired" to run the organization after a series of interviews with EBEF members and Faculty Liaisons. The organization is run by students, with the support and guidance of Liaison Marilyn Edge. Recently the EBEF Student Association has expanded to Churchill Junior High School with the support and guidance of Liaison Alexia DeLuca.

The charter of the group is similar to the EBEF - they raise money to fund grants for clubs and activities at EBHS and CJHS. When the EBEF launched the Student Association, Dr. Vinella established the policy that only student leaders of a club, not the faculty advisors, can write the grants to the Allocations Committee for approval. Since inception, the EBEF Student Association has awarded \$36,000 in grants.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

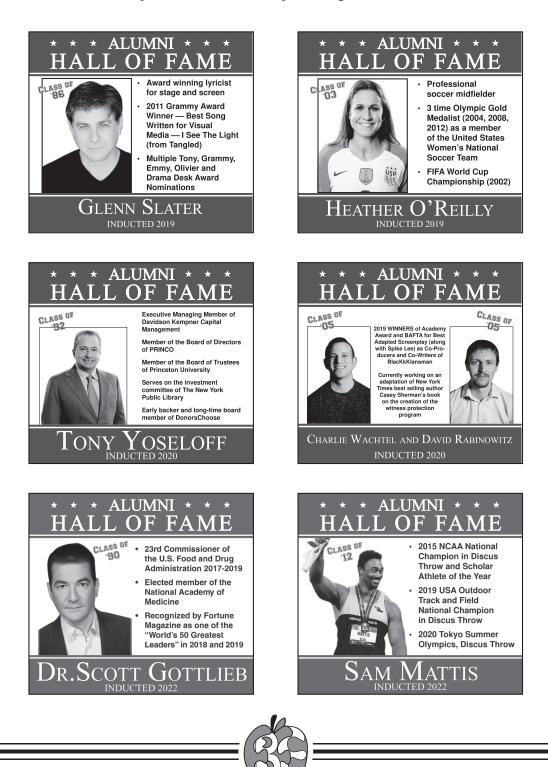
Chris Toto	President/Allocations
Shreya Bhardwaj	Vice President/Fundraising
Ashley Lachs	e

**EBHS ADVISOR:** Marilyn Edge **CJHS ADVISOR:** Alexia DeLuca



# Alumni Hall of Fame

The EBEF with support from members of the East Brunswick High School administration has created the Alumni Hall of Fame to establish a link to alumni that can have benefits for both the alumni and current students. Inductees must have had notable accomplishments since graduation in the areas of Academics, Athletics and the Arts. In addition to notable accomplishments, it is important that the alumni have a stellar reputation in their field, and represent the District in a positive light and be role models for current students.



# East Brunswick Education Foundation

# 2022 Partner in Excellence/Hall of Fame

## **Co-Chairpersons**

Joshua Becker Stephanie Braun Joann Brenner Mayor Brad Cohen Chris Connolly Michelle DaGrosa Alexia DeLuca Lindsay Dobrzynski Elizabeth Dunn Randy Gagnon Marisa Guagliardo, Northfield Bank Denise Katzen Laurie Lachs, President, Board of Education Trish LaDuca Ron Lieberman Donna Morelli Darren M. Pfeil, Esq. Paul Schoen Ellen Shur Sharon Sullivan, Council President Nicole Tibbetts Dr. Victor Valeski, Superintendent of Schools Jamie Wasserman, PTA Presidents Council Dr. Dana Zimbicki, EBEA



## Past Honorees

Dr. Jon R. Kopko -1995 Charles M. King -1996 Amy Fisher & Jules Frankel -1997 Melvin L. Benjamin & Gerald M. Ostrov -1998 Patrick Galager & Nancy Paulson -1999 Senator Jack Sinagra & John Calimano - 2000 Dr. David Seiden & PNC Bank - 2001 Mayor William P. Neary & Linda Greenfield/Greenfield Jewelers - 2002 Monté Block & Jeff Venezia/Venezia & Associates - 2003 Congressman Rush Holt & Dr. Jo Ann Magistro - 2004 Dr. Howard Sorkin & Kenneth Kohn/Gabowitz T.V. & Appliance - 2005 Paul Schoen, The Provident Bank & University Radiology Group - 2006 Chris Cimino, David Himelman, Central Jersey Oncology Center & The Hilton East Brunswick - 2007 Stephanie Margolies, Susan Pomerantz, Constantine Katsifis & Saint Peter's University Hospital - 2008 Anthony Yoseloff, Mary Ann Savino, Dan Moran & Advanced Otolaryngology Associates - 2009 Carlotta Miller, JoAnn Yonchiuk, Larry Solomon & Sherri Moskowitz/InnerWorkings - 2010 Hank Stankiewicz, Vickie Albert, Stuart Kohn/Miller's Rentals, Ellen Shur & John LaCarrubba - 2011 Patricia LaDuca, Thomas Smith, Dr. Andrew Boyarsky, Rollie Davis & Stuart Davis/Davis Realtors & Marilyn Friedes - 2012 Norma Comerford, Lois Moskowitz, Eighteen Lumber & Stephen Jones/ Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital - 2013 Debra Gulick, Marjorie LoPresti, Brenda Hagan, Northfield Bank & University Orthopaedic Associates, LLC - 2014 Frank Noppenberger, Donna Taylor, Katie Spiegler & Councilman Jim Wendell - 2015 Jeffrey Lesser, Mariann Zema, Dr. V. Raja Bandaru & Dr. Steve Susskind/Susskind Dental - 2016 Dr. Michael Vinella, Michele McCormick, Holly Howard, Lori Silver & Chris Volk/Volk Insurance - 2017 Glenn Slater, Mayor Brad J. Cohen, Dr. Dana Zimbicki & Jack Levitt - 2018 Dr. Michael Gaskell, JoAnn Peterson, Donna Morelli & Dr. Rongsun Pu - 2019 JoAnn Chmielowicz, Leslie Anderson & Jane Mueller - 2020



# Letter from the President

Dear Friends of EBEF,

I'm so excited to be able to be back together with all of you to pay tribute to some of the people who make it possible for the East Brunswick Education Foundation to accomplish its mission, to enhance and enrich the curriculum for the students in the East Brunswick Public Schools. It is the dedication and support of these impressive honorees, their predecessors, and our community that have enabled the Foundation to continue to fund the creative and inspiring grants that make the East Brunswick Schools great.

Over the last two years, the Foundation opted to put aside the majority of our fund-raising efforts due to the impacts of the COVID pandemic, but our schools were open for business and therefore, so were we. We continued to support teachers during remote learning with our limited time Distance Learning grants to help ease the transition to full online learning. Despite the challenging year of hybrid learning last year, we were happy to see that our teachers were still coming up with some exciting grant ideas. Our Board felt that there was more we could do, so we created a special 3Rs-Return, Reenergize and Refresh Grant to ease and invigorate the return to school. We also celebrated the 2021 EBHS graduates who endured two challenging school years with a flyover congratulatory greeting. I'm happy to report that this year our grant requests have returned to traditional levels. We were only able to continue to offer our support throughout these challenging times because of the unwavering support from this community.

Tonight, we are excited to honor individuals who exemplify what it means to be a Partner in Excellence with the Foundation. David Lonski, whose perennial support of the EBEF was epitomized when he was the co-champion of our 2017 EB Celebrity Dance Off. As a former EBEF Board Secretary and teacher, instructional coach, supervisor and champion of the Special Needs students in our schools, Lisa Citron earned this honor. Dr. Anna Braun, raised the bar of excellence for the district's orchestra members with her innovative grants. Dr. Trudy Atkins was a staunch supporter of EBEF in her various administrative roles in the district.

We are also inducting our latest class to the Alumni Hall of Fame. This year, we will be inducting former FDA Chair and prominent expert on the COVID pandemic, Dr. Scott Gottlieb. We will also be inducting Olympic Discus Thrower Sam Mattis.

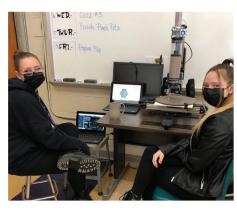
If you have the opportunity, please stop over to congratulate each of these deserving honorees and join us in thanking them for all that they do.

Thanks to each of you, once again, for all your support!

Jack Levitt President



# Grants in Action





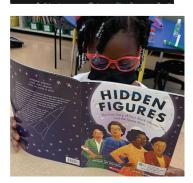






















# Grants in Action





## <u>3Rs GRANTS</u>

Return, Reenergize and Refresh: A special grant category created to celebrate the return to full-time in school instruction for all students; the EBEF awarded four 3Rs Grants totaling more than \$52,000 to kick start the 2021-2022 school year.

## Churchill Junior High School – Earth Networks Weather Station

#### Ryan Higgins, Jessica Dibenedetti

The goal of this grant is to upgrade the 20 year old weather instruments. The updated weather station with increased sensors and access to the network will provide students greater opportunities to investigate weatherbased phenomena using authentic data.

## Bowne-Munro, Central, Chittick, Frost, Irwin, Lawrence Brook, Memorial, Warnsdorfer Elementary Schools Grades 4 & 5 – Super Science Readers

## Ryan Higgins

Funds will be used to purchase resources (Scholastic's Super Science Readers) to facilitate the integration of science and literacy for all 4th and 5th graders.

## Bowne-Munro, Central, Chittick, Frost, Irwin, Lawrence Brook, Memorial, Warnsdorfer Elementary Schools, Hammarskjöld Middle School – Disc Golf

#### Erik Meyer

The goal of this grant is to provide all K-7 students with the experience of participating in Disc Golf, adding one more sport to the "sports for life" curriculum that is taught within the district's physical education program. Funding will allow for the purchase of the equipment that students will need to learn how to throw and aim a Frisbee at a target. Ultimately a mobile disc golf course will be created at each elementary school and Hammarskjöld.

#### Hammarskjöld Middle School – Cutting Edge Technology Andrew Scanlon

Funds will be used to purchase a laser cutter/engraver for use in the STEM electives and cycles at Hammarskjöld. This cutting edge technology will serve two goals: 1.) It will compliment the software that students are already using to design solutions to engineering challenges, and 2.) The learning related to construction will be enhanced as students will be able to apply problem solving and design skills to their projects. Students will be using industry-standard software and hardware to design and rapid prototype their solutions. No more using outdated time-consuming tools to prototype their solutions.



# FIRST LADY OF THE FOUNDATION GRANTS

These grants, awarded during the fall of each year for amounts that are more than a mini grant, recognize Amy Fisher, a co-founder and past honoree of the Foundation. Amy has been instrumental in the Foundation's successful growth.

## Warnsdorfer Elementary School – Music Technology with Brent Daniels

## Dr. Renee Soccodato-Dutka

Students in grades 3-5 will attend an assembly with Brent Daniels, an award-winning composer, producer, sound designer, and recording artist. They will then participate in two days of smaller hands- on workshops where they will gain an understanding of how they might produce their own music and sound using the technology already in their lives, creating music on the spot.

## Warnsdorfer Elementary School – Decodable Books for Determined Readers Rachel Solomon, Cara Chacko, Michelle Reisbord, Jamie Grant, Caroline Jordan

The acquisition of these decodable books will provide Warnsdorfer's youngest readers an essential connection between direct phonics instruction and the reading of actual books, thus making reading more accessible to those who are struggling with decoding.

## Warnsdorfer Elementary School – Chime Time

## Dr. Renee Soccodato-Dutka

Suzuki Tone Chimes will be purchased with grant funds. Instruction on how to play the chimes will be integrated into daily music classroom activities as appropriate. The teacher will also incorporate this musical instrument into her instruction during chorus practices and concerts, thus enhancing these experiences for students.

## East Brunswick High School – Enhancing Visual Arts Learning with iPads Antonia Germanos, Matthew McCarthy

Grant funds will allow for the purchase of iPad Pros and Apple TV to enhance the teachers' use of the Canvas Learning Management System, thus helping to make the implementation of instructional strategies more effective and efficient. The devices will be used in two visual arts classrooms and serve approximately 550 students per year. The programs that will be impacted include: Studio Art Wet Media, Studio Art Dry Media, Studio Art Printmaking, Studio Art II Honors, AP Art & Design, AP Art History, Jewelry Making, and National Art Honor Society Club.

## Churchill Junior High School – Printing Pottery Like the Pros *Kimberly Valdata*

This grant will provide Churchill students with an opportunity to make real-world, cross-curricular connections between the fine arts and practical arts. Students will be able to experience the design phase using CAD software, preparation phase with clay, and production phase of 3-D printing. Furthermore, students will have an opportunity to develop clay creations that can be used outside of school.



# Chittick Elmentary School – Providing Quality Decodable Book Options for Beginning and Struggling Readers *Samantha Meyer*

Decodable books will provide Chittick's Kindergarten students an essential connection between direct phonics instruction and the reading of actual books, thus making reading more accessible to those who are struggling with decoding.

# Bowne-Munro – The Making of a Makerspace *Elissa DiTomasso*

The funds for the grant will allow for the purchase of one large starter kit and 1 medium starter kit of EverBlock Systems. EverBlocks are plastic building pieces, similar to Legos, but oversized! The purchase also includes the use of a 3D Virtual Builder, where students can plan out their designs, and also build from stored projects in the design library. Students will get to see their designs come to life when their prototypes are three dimensional and life sized.

# Lawrence Brook Elementary School – Dispensing Character One Book at a Time *Aanika Boylan, Kelly McCauley*

With grant funds a book vending machine will be purchased. It will be used as an incentive within the school to build literacy skills, reward students for positive behavior, increase students' personal libraries, and promote a lifelong love of reading. The grant request includes funds for the first 100 books, with a plan to replenish the books with Scholastic points and PTA support.

# Lawrence Brook Elementary School – "Amplifying" Learning at Lawrence Brook Nicole Galgano, Elizabeth Dunn

The goal of this grant is to support instruction by providing each teacher with a Portable Rechargeable Mini Voice Amplifier with Wired Microphone to use during whole class instruction like read alouds.

## Lawrence Brook Elementary School – STRIVE for FIVE, Team Lawrence Brook: Emphasizing and Recognizing Social Emotional Excellence Among Students

#### Rachel Weitzenkorn

Funds will provide for the purchase of materials to support Lawrence Brook's school theme, "Go Team Lawrence Brook" and the five school rules that have been developed by the School Safety and Climate Team.



## FIRST LADY OF THE FOUNDATION/ NORTHFIELD BANK FOUNDATION GRANT

Funding of this grant in honor of Amy Fisher has been made possible by the generosity of the Northfield Bank Foundation.

# East Brunswick High School – "Abundance" Nonfiction Book for Environmental Science Classes *Ryan Herbert*

Funds will allow for the purchase of "Abundance: The Future is Better than You Think" by Peter H. Diamandis and Steven Kotler to be used by students in Environmental Science classes. The goal of this grant is to increase science literacy and promote an understanding that there is a future and that students and society can indeed help to ensure the future.

## DR. DAVID LLOYD KABUS FOUNDATION MEMORIAL GRANT

On an annual basis, the Kabus Foundation provides a significant donation that will be matched by the East Brunswick Education Foundation. To highlight Dr. Kabus' love of the sciences, especially in his high schoolyears, this grant is directed to the East Brunswick High School's Science Department for programs, equipment and materials that advance learning, research and progress in the sciences. Dr. David Lloyd Kabus graduated from East Brunswick High School in 1981. He was valedictorian and won the Bausch and Lomb Science Award. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Summa Cum Laude and graduated from SUNY Buffalo Medical School with honors. After his residency at NYU and fellowship at Sloan Kettering, he joined the Ridgewood Pathology Group where he became a full partner in five years.

# East Brunswick High School – Sustainable Energy in AP Environmental Science *Jessica DiBenedetti*

With growing populations and energy needs, the development of sustainable energy sources such as wind energy is central to the success of our society and species. Thus, sustainable energy is a fundamental theme in AP Environmental Science. Wind energy is one of the largest and fastest growing fields in sustainable energy technology. The wind energy experimentation kits that are being procured with grant funds will allow students to take a hands-on approach to developing a greater understanding of sustainable energy technology.



## VENU MADHAV BANDARU MEMORIAL GRANT

The family of Venu Madhav Bandaru, East Brunswick High School Class of 1989, has generously funded this grant, matched by the East Brunswick Education Foundation. This grant is directed to the Science or Math Departments at East Brunswick High, Churchill Junior High or Hammarskjold Middle Schools.

# East Brunswick High School – Hydroponics in AP Environmental Science *Francis (Rory) Murray*

Sustainable agriculture is a central theme in AP Environmental Science, and one of the fastest growing fields in agricultural technology is hydroponics. The hydroponics systems being purchased with grant funds will allow students to explore related practices and learn about the resources necessary to support this new wave of agriculture. The *Environmental Science Case Studies Collections* that are also part of the request, directly ties in with the curriculum to offer students real life application of course content. Together, these materials will further the understanding and application of core concepts in the AP Environmental Science Curriculum.

## MARIO "CHIC" DE CAROLIS MEMORIAL MUSIC GRANT

This annual grant has been funded by donations from the family and friends of Mario "Chic" DeCarolis, who devoted his life to teaching music in the East Brunswick community for over 30 years. In his memory, this grant, matched by the East Brunswick Education Foundation, will fund special events, guest musicians, and other projects that benefit East Brunswick music students.

## Hammarskjold Middle School, Churchill Junior High School, and East Brunswick High School – 13th Annual Night of Jazz Concert

#### Michelle DaGrosa

After a 2 year hiatus due to COVID, this event will be back at the Jo Ann Magistro Performing Arts Center at Hammarskjöld on March 21, 2022. Grant funds will pay for an appearance by the *One More Once Big Band*. The band will perform a 45 minute set demonstrating jazz standards. Some secondary students will be given the opportunity to improvise a blues or jazz solo with the professional group. The evening creates a "comradery" and allows for the vertical articulation among students in the secondary schools studying jazz and the techniques of jazz improvisation. All three secondary jazz groups will also perform. There is also hope that a new addition to EB's jazz ensembles, the EBHS Jazz Choir will take the stage.



## EAST BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1989 MEMORIAL GRANT

The East Brunswick High School Class of 1989 has generously funded this grant, matched by the East Brunswick Education Foundation, on the occasion of their 25 year reunion, in memory of classmates that have passed away.

# East Brunswick High School – Electronic Music Collective - By Students, For Students *Michelle DaGrosa and Zachary Gates*

The end goal of this project is for there to be an enduring electronic music making presence at EBHS, with the intent of delivering at least two annual performances attended by students, thus providing a positive and fun experience to the entire student school community. Grant funds will provide for the acquisition of the equipment necessary to achieve this goal. Both the students participating in the learning process as well as the hundreds, if not thousands, of students who attend the concerts over the course of at least a decade will benefit from this addition to the Music Department.

## **BLUE RIBBON GRANTS**

These grants are awarded annually (usually in January) for grant requests between \$2,500 and \$7,500 for special projects or events of enduring value.

## Churchill Junior High School – Clips and Captures

#### Darin Amme, Michelle DaGrosa, and Matt Hanas

Grant funds will allow for the purchase of 8 Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR) Cameras. The cameras will be used within the Drawing Exploration, Drawing and Painting, and Graphic Design courses. They will also be available for a variety of extracurricular groups such as the Yearbook and Palette Clubs.

## Churchill Junior High School – Project Ukeboxxx

## Brian Lavery

The goal of this project is to run an after-school Ukulele program at CJHS during the 2022-2023 school year. The teacher plans to target current 6th and 7th graders with at least 50 percent of students coming from the ESL population (currently in the ESL program OR having exited ESL in the past 2 years. Ukuleles will be utilized as a tool to help kids build grit and confidence, express their emotions, learn to live in the moment, and to make new friends as they transition from Hammarskjöld Middle School to Churchill Junior High School.



#### Memorial Elementary School – Taking What I Need Home

#### Rachel Thomas, Jessica Bush, Leah Clements, AnnaMarie Affinito, and Amy Bassista

WIN (What I Need) time is a period that is set aside each day during which teachers can provide remedial or enrichment instruction, based on the needs of their students. The resources requested in this grant will benefit the students during both WIN time at school, as well as at home. In addition to teachers working with students in small groups in the classroom, students can choose to borrow the materials to take home to practice with their parents and siblings.

## **EXCELLENCE GRANTS**

These grants are awarded annually (usually in January) for special projects for amounts between \$500 and \$2,500.

#### Irwin Elementary School – Bear Bins/Spots Leigh-Ann Young

The goal of this grant is to provide all students in grades PreK-5 with tangible coping strategies to use during times of potential emotional distress. "Bear Bins" and "Bears Safe Spots" will be available to students in classrooms and the office. The bins will contain items to help reduce anxiety through self-directed activities. Visuals of coping strategies will be displayed in the safe spots to be used in an inclusive way to reduce stress. Students are already familiar with the activities and strategies that will be offered as they are included in the district's health curriculum.

## **MINI-GRANTS**

Awarded monthly: At the elementary level - up to \$500 awarded for a classroom and up to \$2,100 awarded for a grade level, at the secondary level - up to \$2,500 awarded for programs that include all students in a grade level or an entire department.

#### Hammarskjöld Middle School – Brain Pop Science *Kristen Dery*

Access to BrainPOP Science will allow teachers to extend and support student learning with investigations, embedded interactive tools, and actionable diagnostics that will allow three dimensional learning, drive student mastery, and inspire the next generation of scientific thinkers. BrainPOP Science embeds formative and summative assessments designed to provide actionable diagnostics to drive instruction, assessment success, and differentiation for all learners.



# Churchill Junior High School – WeVideo: Video Editing Collaboration for the New Educational Environment *Lynne Elson*

Grant funds will allow for the purchase of a year-long subscription for *WeVideo*. WeVideo for Education makes it easy to share media with students. The teacher is able to choose if she wants the students to work individually or collaborate in groups. Students are able to create sound effects, character voices, and other audio elements to add more to their creations.

# Churchill Junior High School – Music Composition in a Transformed Educational Environment *Sarah Franchino and Mary O'Mara*

Grant funds will allow for the acquisition of a one year subscription for CJHS orchestra students and teachers to *Flat.io* music notation software. Flat.io allows students to compose for a wide range of instruments and listen to what they created instantly.

## Central Elementary School – Subscribing to Great Speech

#### Sherry Miller

Grant funds will allow for the purchase of two software programs, *Everyday Speech* and *Hearbuilder*. These two research based tools will help students practice a variety of skills in engaging ways. These subscriptions will become part of the teacher's therapy sessions with students with Autism and those with other social language goals.

## Churchill Junior High School – Reading for Cultural Understanding

## Rubiela Diaz Villamizar

Grant funds will allow for the purchase of books, written in Spanish, that tell about the legends, traditions, and celebrations that are specific to Hispanic countries. The students will read the books aloud to partners; they will get specific details related to cultural aspects and they will interpret to appreciate and compare with their own cultures or the culture of their parents. This addition to the classroom will enhance students' cultural knowledge of the language which will help them to better understand the use of language expressions and phrases within Hispanic cultures.

# Warnsdorfer Elementary School – Creating a New Classroom *Julie Brain*

Grant funds will provide for the purchase of a Tap and Play Color Changing Light Center for this new special education classroom. The light center will create a calm environment for students to decompress throughout the school day.

## Central Elementary School – Yoga for Students

## Sara Enis and Jenna Klein

Over the course of the past three years, a goal within the Central School community has been to allow students to take the lead on its mindfulness initiative, "to have every student at Central feel safe, calm, and mindful in their classrooms." The Safety Patrol has acted as a group of leaders amongst their peers while teaching mindfulness strategies and techniques to the rest of the student body. Grant funds will make it possible for a professional yoga teacher to come and teach the students during five Safety Patrol meetings. The members of Central's Safety Patrol will then turnkey what they learn to their peers in order to continue to meet the school's mindfulness initiative.



## District – 2nd Annual Outdoor Art Walk

#### Michelle DaGrosa

With funding, the Arts Department will create a presentation of visual artworks created by students at all grade levels from the district's eleven schools. As the end of the school year approaches, students' works will be printed on corrugated plastic lawn signs that will be displayed around East Brunswick's Municipal Complex for the entire community to appreciate.

## Churchill Junior High School – Wenger Flip Form Rehearsal Furniture

## Lynne Elson

This funding will allow for the purchase of an additional piece of Flip Form Rehearsal Furniture to enhance the three pieces acquired through a previous grant. Flip Forms are cleanable, they flip into whatever shape is needed, and they can be moved wherever they are needed. They can turn any space into an exciting setting in no time. In addition to using this furniture as a stage for students to practice and perform on, the teacher is able to use them as "museum art shelves" to showcase students' set design projects in her classroom.

# Lawrence Brook Elementary School – Having a Good Time with Rhyme *Christine Chinchar*

*Nursery Rhyme Flip Charts* and *Nursery Rhyme Readers* from Scholastic will be purchased with grant funds. These charts and books will help to strengthen students' one to one correspondence, rhyme recognition, and onset fluency. The materials will provide opportunities for students to recognize sight words within the readers and transfer the rhymes and songs into print on the pages.

## Warnsdorfer Elementary School – 5th Grade: Coming in Loud and Clear Kelly Stalling, JoAnn Yonchiuk, Lisa Ruggiero, and Monica Figueiredo

The goal of this grant is to empower students to use their voices. As part of the new Journalism unit that 5th grade is incorporating into the ILA curriculum, students are working to report on news in our world through multiple facets and formats: digital news, paper news, news articles, feature articles, and so much more. This grant will allow students to bring their work to life, using a microphone to report the news and celebrate their hard work.

# East Brunswick High School – Classroom Library-Free Voluntary Reading *Martha Perez*

Funds will allow for the creation of a library within the walls of a world language classroom through the purchase of books written in the targeted language. The goals of the project are to: promote literacy in the target language, provide students with meaningful exposure to authentic cultural texts, develop cultural awareness, and language accuracy.

## Hammarskjold Middle School – Free Voluntary Reading

## Jessika Bohon

Like the project described above in terms of its objectives, this grant request is for the purchase of E-lit, a digital library specifically for World Language learners. Texts will appear in students' targeted language.



#### Warnsdorfer Elementary School – Taking Turns Together Julie Brain and Michelle Grant

This grant will provide opportunities for students to participate in meaningful play and socialization during indoor recess. Requests include games and toys that will allow students to practice communication skills, sharing, waiting, and taking turns with one another.

#### Lawrence Brook Elementary School – Autism Awareness Read Aloud Marisa Greco

This program will support one of several activities planned by Lawrence Brook's Autism Awareness Subcommittee for Autism Awareness Week. Thirty copies of <u>Just Ask</u> by Sonia Sotomayor will be purchased, one for each classroom to use as a read aloud. This book will deliver a message of unity, empathy, and respect to the Lawrence Brook community.

#### Irwin Elementary School – I Survived...series Donna Swift

The media specialist currently has to hold a lottery for the long waiting list of students that want to read these books. With the funds being provided, two complete sets of this very popular series will be purchased and placed in the media center, thus giving students in grades 3-5 increased access to the information related to the historical heroes and events that are described within the various texts.

#### Warnsdorfer Elementary School – SEL-ebrate with Kindergarten Play *Cara Chacko*

Social Emotional Learning is a district focus and a Professional Development Plan choice for the current school year. The items being requested will provide tangible materials to support this focus. The teacher plans to use the materials throughout the school day: during center time, morning meetings, as well as through social emotional learning, health, and social studies lessons.

# Hammarskjöld Middle School – Super Duper Publications Therapy Material *Michelle Cieslak*

Funding will provide for the purchase of a variety of resources that will augment the speech and language therapy services offered to students, both within pull-out and push-in models. Areas of focus include: reading comprehension, articulation skills, oral motor sequencing, and sensory input. Many of the games will target multiple goals that are addressed in therapy and outlined in students' Individualized Education Programs.

# East Brunswick High School – Using Diverse Texts to Enhance the Curriculum Through Engagement and Student-Led Collaboration

#### Katherine Skidmore

Nearly 1,300 students, per year, will benefit from the funds provided through this grant. Multiple copies of five diverse fiction and non-fiction texts will be purchased to enhance the 10th and 11th grade English curriculum. The goals are: 1.) that these texts will generate valuable discussions that will widen students' worldviews and allow them to see themselves in the content they are learning, and 2.) to facilitate project-based learning that will encourage increased student/teacher and peer-based rapport, as well as collaboration on various digital and paper-based projects (both short-term and long-term).



## Warnsdorfer Elementary School – A Voice for the Teacher

Julie Brain

An augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device is a tablet or laptop that helps someone with a speech or language impairment to communicate. The Proloquo2Go App is an easy to use communication app for those who cannot speak or need help being understood. The majority of students in this special education classroom have this app on their iPads and they use it to make sure their voices are heard. Grant funds will enhance the teacher's ability to model for and communicate with her students using the same language that they are using.

## Lawrence Brook Elementary School – Autism Awareness Month

## Daishanae Kemp-Jackson

Funds will allow for the purchase of 30 copies, one for each homeroom, of the book I can Achieve Anything by Monique Waters. It is an empowering and interactive book that will remind students of just how special they are. It is full of positive affirmations and colorful illustrations that will lift the mood and bring happiness to anyone that has the opportunity to read it. While the book will be introduced during Autism Awareness Month (April), it is a book that can be referred to all year long. This book not only touches on diversity - it strongly supports the social and emotional lessons that are being emphasized as this year's school/district goal.

## Irwin Elementary School – Books for Preschool Language and Literacy

#### Alexa Sherman

The goal of this grant is to develop and acquire the materials that are needed for preschoolers with limited language to functionally communicate with their teachers, families, and peers. Funds will allow for the purchase of the items necessary to create individualized communication books for preschoolers who are non-verbal or have very limited language skills. Board books to build pre-literacy skills and further improve vocabulary and expression will also be purchased. These books will be used in conjunction with the communication books.

#### Churchill Junior High School – Dodge Poet Visit *Celine Clark*

The Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Program offers opportunities for Dodge Poets to visit classrooms where they will read and lead discussions around poetry. Grant funds will provide for an Honorarium that will make it possible for CJHS English students to collaborate with an author, write poetry, receive feedback from the author, and provide a positive outlet for their feelings through literary expression.

## Churchill Junior High School and East Brunswick High School – Integrating the Arts &Technology: Google Creative Director Alexander Chen

## Mary O'Mara and Sarah Franchino

At Google, Director Chen has helped lead projects like the Les Paul doodle (an interactive instrument on Google's homepage which generated 5.1 years worth of shared music). Funding will allow for CJHS Honors Orchestra and EBHS Chamber Orchestra students to meet with Mr. Chen for a 60 minute Zoom meeting. Students will prepare questions for Mr. Chen ahead of his talk.



#### Churchill Junior High School – Project Get Moving Greg Rutz

Project Get Moving focuses on the development of motor skills for students in Churchill's adaptive physical education program. It is a multi-week exercise program that is designed specifically for each student based on his/ her individual needs.

**Project Get Moving (1)** – Grant funds will be used to purchase a recumbent-style exercise bike that will allow students of any size or ability to develop motor skills and cardiovascular endurance. Many of the students in the adaptive physical education class are physically limited. A recumbent bike provides for more comfort when the student is using the equipment.

**Project Get Moving (2)** - This grant will provide a treadmill that will allow for students of any size or ability to develop motor skills, muscle coordination, and cardiovascular fitness. The treadmill will enable students to remain active no matter the weather outside or their physical ability. Some adaptive physical education students struggle to walk long distances. A treadmill allows the teacher to monitor their walking in a controlled environment.



# **Business** Partners

The East Brunswick Education Foundation expresses sincere appreciation to the following businesses and organizations for their continuing support and assistance:

## **BARNES & NOBLE**

For hosting and organizing our annual Book Fair and donating a portion of sales made during the event.

## NORTHFIELD BANK

For annual grants and consistent support of major EBEF events including sponsorship of the East Brunswick Celebrity Dance Off and the Harlem Wizards event.

## **PNC BANK**

For annual grants and for consistent financial support of the Partner in Excellence Dinner.

## JANE MUELLER OF REMAX FIRST REALTY

For a generous donation and participating in major EBEF events.

The EBEF urges all area businesses to participate in the work of the Foundation by joining us at our meetings and/or by making donations of funds or services to help us achieve our goals.



# East Brunswick Education Foundation

# Major Contributors

The East Brunswick Education Foundation expresses sincere appreciation to the following supporters for their major donations:

## PNC FOUNDATION

PNC and the PNC Foundation have long histories of strengthening and enriching the lives of neighbors in communities PNC serves. For decades, they have provided resources to seed ideas, foster development initiatives and encourage leadership in nonprofit organizations where imagination and determination are at work enhancing people's lives everyday. The Foundation's grants to the EBEF reflect its priority to form partnerships with community-based nonprofit organizations within markets PNC serves in order to enhance the educational opportunities for children.

## NORTHFIELD BANK FOUNDATION

The Northfield Bank Foundation was founded in 2007. The role of the Foundation is to support not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools or other organizations operating in the communities in which Northfield Bank does business. The Foundation focuses its efforts on projects to support education, health and human services, youth programs, and other types of community organizations or civic-minded projects that improve the quality of life around us.

## ANTHONY YOSELOFF

Anthony is a graduate of East Brunswick High School, Class of 1992, and has set an example for all alumni by generously supporting the EBEF for the past eighteen years. Last year Tony made a significant additional donation on the occasion of Warnsdorfer Elementary School's fiftieth anniversary.

## DR. DAVID LLOYD KABUS FOUNDATION

On an annual basis, the Kabus Foundation provides a significant donation matched by the East Brunswick Education Foundation. To highlight Dr. Kabus' love of the sciences, especially in his high school years, this donation is directed to the East Brunswick High School's Science Department for programs, equipment and materials that advance learning, research and progress in the sciences. Dr. David Lloyd Kabus graduated from East Brunswick High School in 1981. He was valedictorian and won the Bausch and Lomb Science Award.



# Major Contributors

## CHURCH & DWIGHT EMPLOYEE GIVING FUND, INC.

In 2005, the Church & Dwight Co., Inc. Employee Giving Fund ("EGF") was established to meet the desires of Church & Dwight Co., Inc. ("C&D") employees to financially assist those who are less fortunate and to actively support and participate in the good works of non-profit organizations dedicated to that end. Contributions from the Fund are made directly to qualified organizations in those communities where C&D employees live and work, primarily in New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania.

## **DI HU**

A generous donation has been made to be used for a classroom at Irwin Elementary School.

## **INVESTORS FOUNDATION**

Established in 2005, the Investors Foundation enriches the lives of New Jersey and New York citizens by supporting initiatives in the arts, education, youth development, affordable housing, and health and human services in the communities the bank serves.

## PENG HE

A generous donation has been made to enrich and enhance the curriculum.

## DR. JINPIN YING, CYBERMED HEALTH INC.

A generous donation has been made in honor of Liwu Hong.



# About the East Brunswick Education Foundation

## **EBEF GRANTS**

The Foundation awards grants at seven levels:

Mini Grants; ongoing and awarded monthly.

Elementary; up to \$500 awarded for a classroom.

Elementary; up to \$2,100 awarded for a grade level at an elementary school.

Secondary; up to \$2,500 awarded for programs that include all students in a grade level or that for an entire department.

**Partnership Grants**; ongoing, awarded monthly, must have at least one additional funding source to partner with to cover at least <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of the total amount being requested.

First Lady of the Foundation Grants; for amounts that are more than a mini grant, granted during the fall of the year.

**Excellence Grants**; \$500 to \$2,500 awarded annually for special projects.

**Blue Ribbon Grants**; \$2,500 to \$7,500 are awarded annually for special projects or events of enduring value.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT EBEF

The Foundation offers several opportunities for giving, for businesses and individuals. With low overhead costs, EBEF is able to devote most of its income toward fulfilling its mission to enhance and enrich the public school curriculum. No matter how you choose to support EBEF, your gift will make a difference. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

**General Donation**: Donations may be made throughout the year. All contributions of \$500 or more will be acknowledged in Foundation publications. Employer matching donations are encouraged. Donations can also be made using Zelle (ebef@ebef.org) or Venmo (EBEF-01)

**United Way:** Donations through employer sponsored campaigns in the tri-state area may be directed to EBEF by designating on the pledge card. The EBEF's 501(c)3 status and address (760 Route 18, East Brunswick, NJ 08816) should be noted.

## EBEF EVENTS

**Partner in Excellence Dinner:** The Foundation's major fundraiser, this annual spring event honors school, business and community leaders who make significant contributions to the Foundation's goal of supporting excellence in the East Brunswick Public Schools.

**Book Fair**: This annual event at Barnes and Noble promotes reading.

**Cultural Events:** Throughout the year, EBEF sponsors a variety of programs that are appropriate for all ages.

**Network for Good:** Donations can be made to the EBEF by typing "East Brunswick Education Foundation" in the Charity Name box, pressing "search" and following the prompts. You can donate in any amount of \$10 or more, specify how you want your donation applied and send acknowledgement cards.

**Amazon.com:** Amazon customers can log on at Smile. Amazon.com and a portion of their purchase will be donated to the EBEF at no cost to the buyer.

**Give a Present With a Future:** Honor a teacher, graduate, family member or friend or give a memorial gift with a minimum \$10 donation to EBEF. A card will be sent to the person you designate and you will receive an acknowledgment of your donation. This unique gift enables you to show your appreciation while supporting the work of EBEF.

**East Brunswick Celebrity Dance Off:** This event features celebrities from around East Brunswick paired with dance professionals. An elite panel of judges provides input, but the winner is decided by the audience...the dancer with the most votes at the end of the event is our winner!

**Casino Night:** This first time event is planned to include various table games and prizes.

Harlem Wizards: This event features the Harlem Wizards basketball team with their imaginative tricks and humorous interactive games, playing against favorite East Brunswick staff members, and is a fun afternoon for the entire family.

## MEMBERS WANTED

All residents and business people in East Brunswick are encouraged to apply for membership on the Foundation's Board of Trustees. The Board meets monthly at 7:30 p.m. in the school district's Administration Building, 760 Route 18. Members are also expected to serve on one or more committees, which include Fundraising, Grants, Finance, Communications, Partner in Excellence Dinner, and Membership. Anyone interested in becoming a member is asked to call the Foundation at 732-254-EBEF.

Visit our website ebef.org for additional information



# Donors

## The East Brunswick Education Foundation expresses sincere appreciation to the following donors for their contributions in honor of Dr. Trudy A. Atkins, Dr. Anna Braun, Lisa Citron, David P. Lonski, Esq., Dr. Scott Gottlieb and Sam Mattis.

Matthew Hanas Mr. & Mrs. Raymond E. Snook III Mr. & Mrs. J. Fallon & Family Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Blaze Jeffrey Bressler Daniel Moran Debbie LaGola Mia Rosenthal Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cerminara Mr. & Mrs. J. Doyle Thomas P. Smith Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pernice Deborah & Frank Chmiel Roy H. Tanzman Mr. & Mrs. Neil Cohen Liwu Hong Lisa Noppenberger Trish and Frank LaDuca Alain Van Loo Marc Mondry Marshall & Ellen Calman Carol Farber Inbal Arie





# Congratulations

Dr. Trudy A. Atkins Dr. Anna Braun Lisa Citron David P. Lonski, Esq.

For their excellent work and support of the EBEF and to our friend and contemporary

# Dr. Scott Gottlieb

Sam Mattis

On their induction into the Alumni Hall of Fame

Best Wishes Tony and Nanar Yoseloff "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." – Malcolm X

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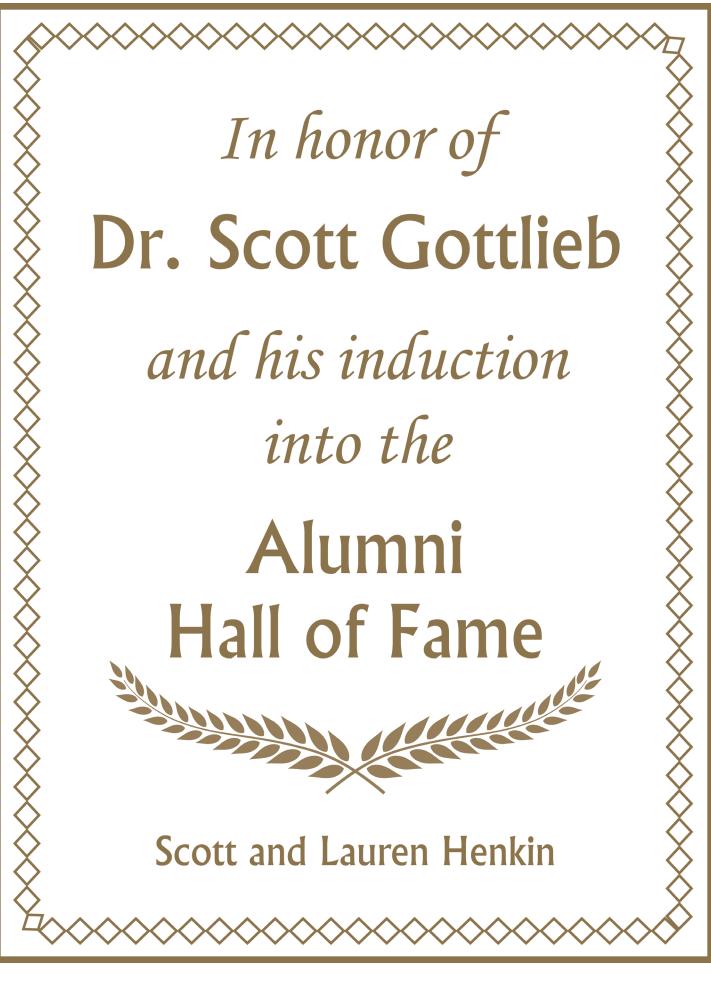
for their unselfish efforts in the pursuit of excellence in education

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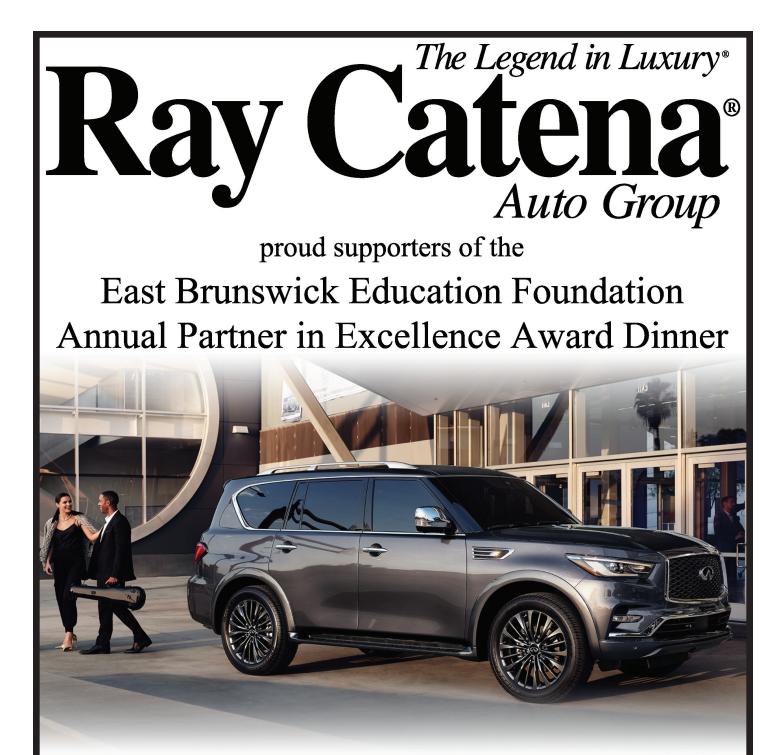




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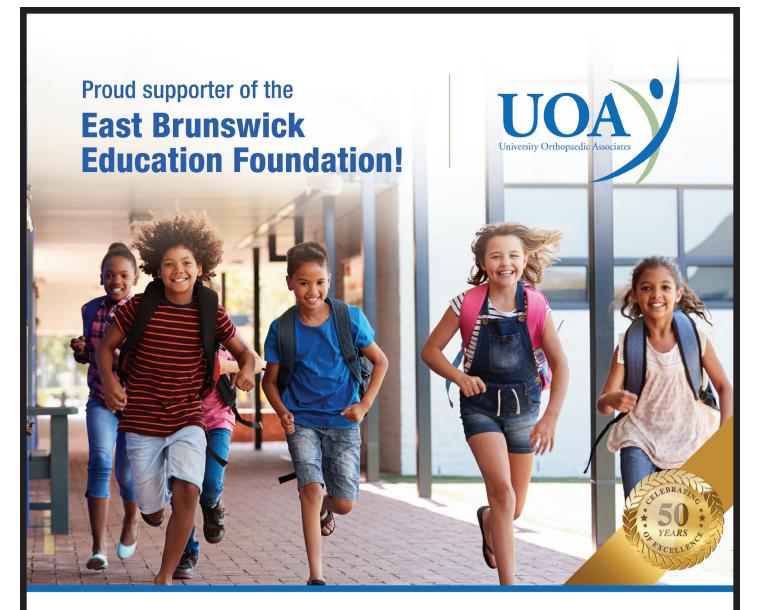
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Dr. Anna Braun

**Lisa Citron** 

David P. Lonski, Esq.

and **Dr. Scott Gottlieb** 

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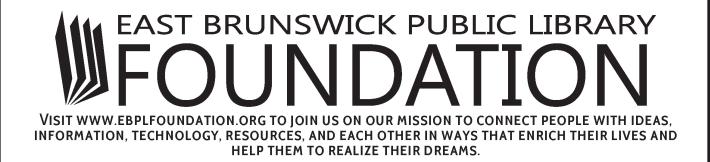
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#### Best wishes to the East Brunswick Education Foundation

#### Partner in Excellence Honorees Dr. Trudy Atkins, Dr. Anna Braun, Lisa Citron and David P. Lonski, Esq.

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#### The East Brunswick Board of Education Congratulates the 2022

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# • CONGRATULATIONS

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Sam Mattis Dr. Scott Gottlieb

#### Special thanks to

the members of the EBEF for everything you do, and have done, for our District.

#### The Howard Family

Holly, Bill, Jennifer, Shawn, Joshua, Katie, Zachary & Aidan

# CONGRATULATIONS DAVID

# A wonderful son, brother and uncle.

#### Love,

Mom and Dad, Nancy and Dave, Dan and Lillie, Doug and Alexis, Darren and Kate, Nicole and Eric, Jamie and AJ

## CONGRATULATIONS CHAIRMAN DAVID P. LONSKI, ESQ.

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# **CONGRATULATIONS** to all the honorees and our chairman, **DAVID P. LONSKI, ESQ.** A true partner to all in the EB community.

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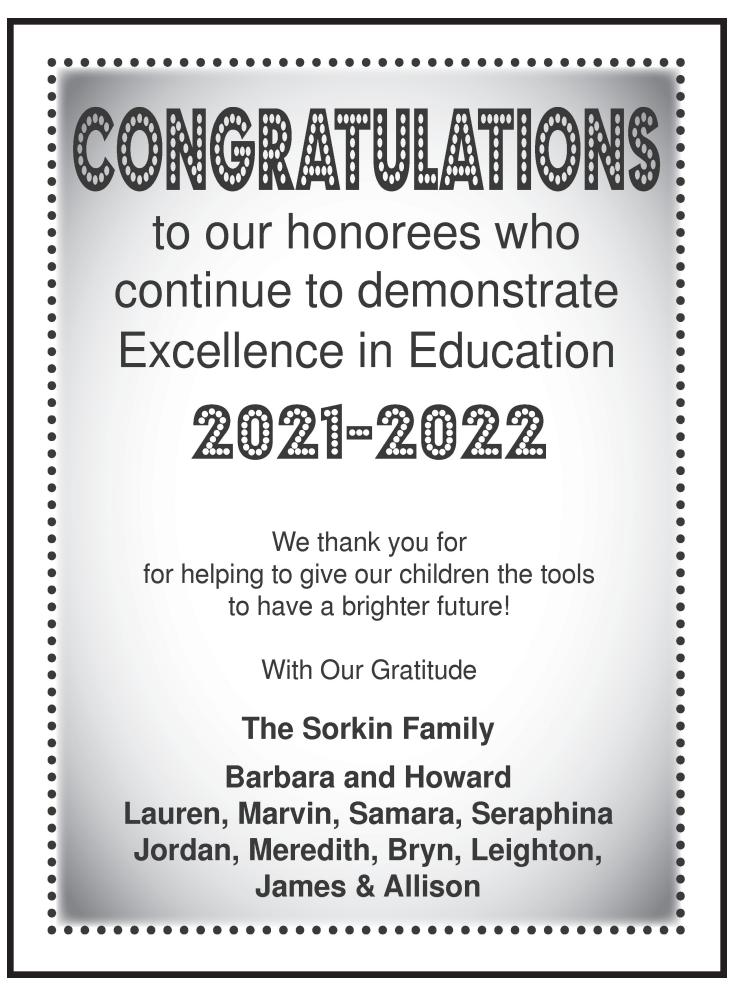
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gratulatic Dr. Trudy Atkins, Dr. Anna Braun and Lisa Citror for their unselfish efforts in the pursuit of Excellence in Education and to Dr. Scott Gottlieb and Sam Mattis for their induction into the Alumni Hall of Fame. It is an honor and a privilege to share this evening with you. David P. Lonski, Esq.





# CONGRATULATES

ALL OF THE HONOREES AND ESPECIALLY

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And, as always, thank you to the EBEF Board for another amazing year!

**Jack Levitt** 



## Congratulations

David P. Lonski, Esq.

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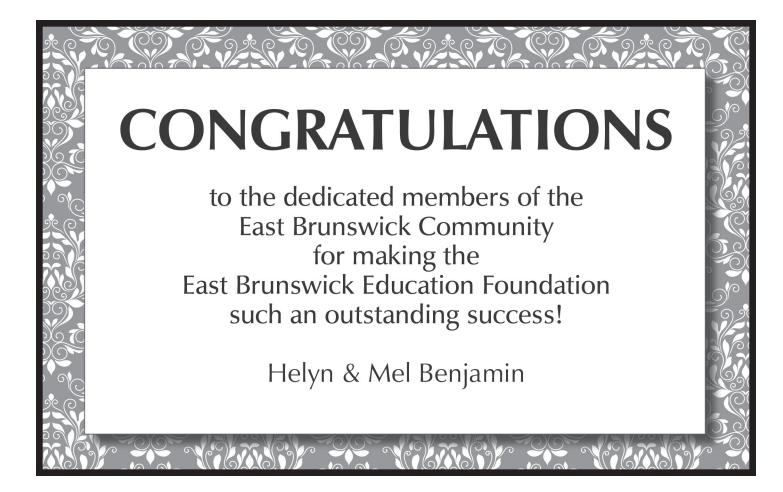
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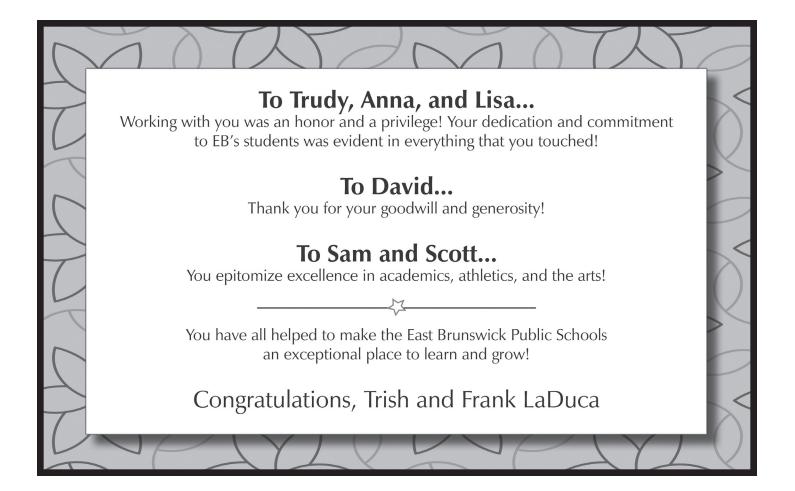
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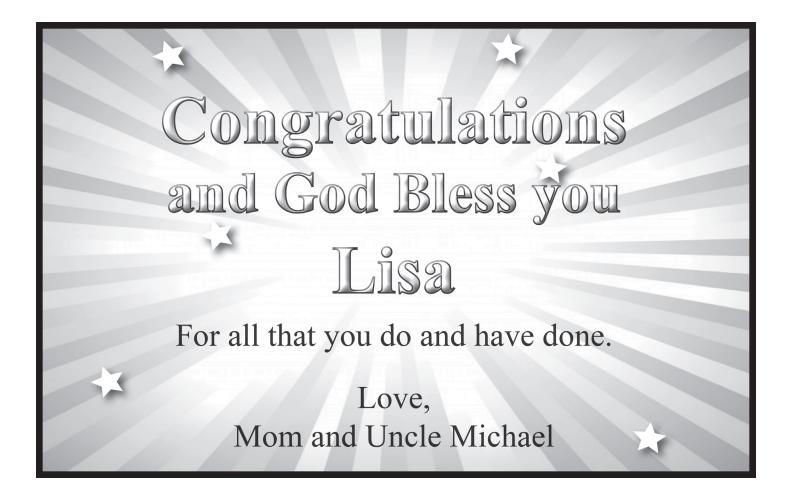
~ Rita Pierson

Congratulations to our Partner in Excellence Honorees:

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All are true champions of the students, teachers, and colleagues they have influenced throughout their careers.

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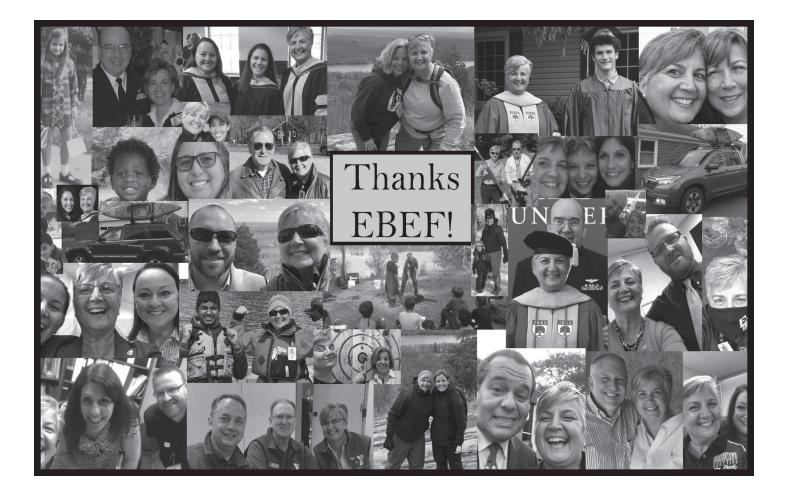


# Lisa Citron

Your dedication to the children you taught and the colleagues you worked with is celebrated.



We celebrate your love and dedication to our family. We love you!! Ryan, Terry, Ricky, Samantha, Joe and Barry



#### **CONGRATULATIONS, DR. TRUDY!!!**

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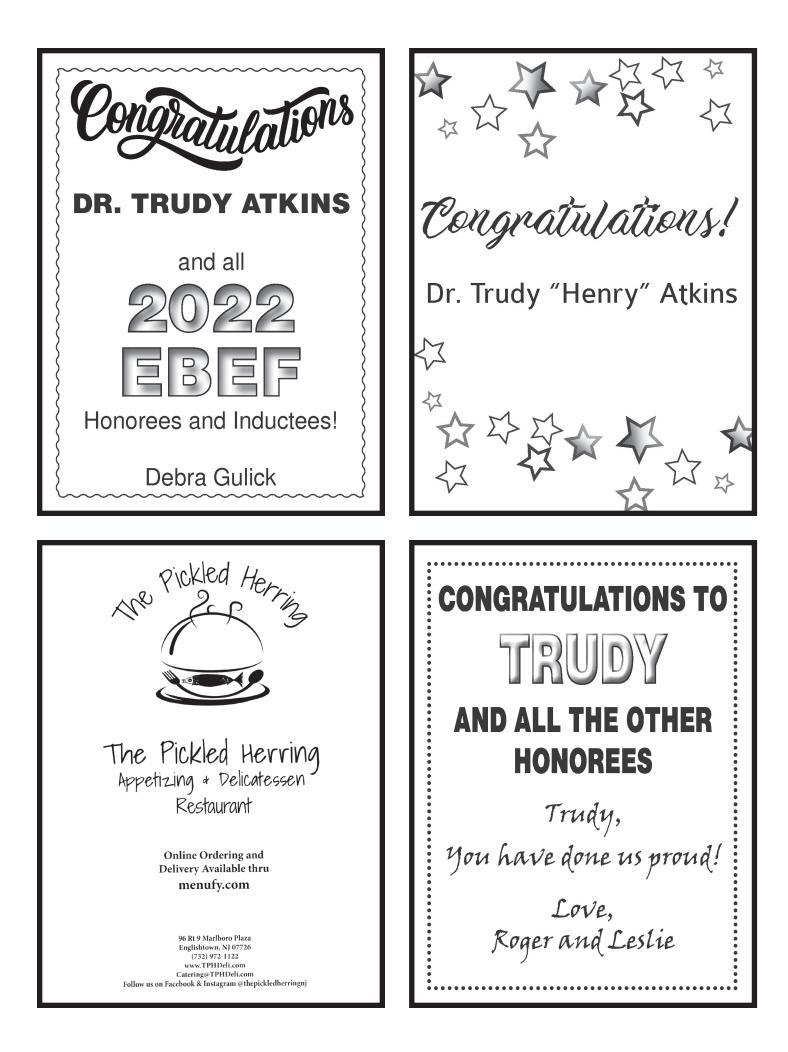


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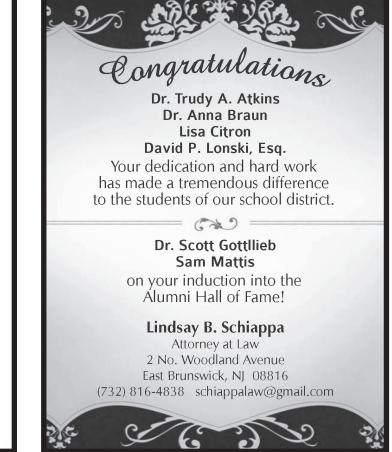
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to our cousin and Partner in Excellence,

#### Dr Trudy A. Atkins

She has always excelled in her education career, from teaching (like her mom), to research and administrative duties. She always gave her utmost effort to bring out the best in others as she strived to help her school district and her community.

> Way to go, Trudy! Love Bey & Dale

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the East Brunswick Education Foundation Honorees

> Dr. Trudy Atkins, Dr. Anna Braun, Lisa Citron, David P. Lonski, Esq.

Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees EBHS graduates former FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb Olympian Sam Mattis



Middlesex County Clerk, Former Asw Nancy J. Pinkin & Dr. James Salwitz

Congratulations to ALL the 2022 EBEF Partner in Excellence Award Honorees & Inductees

Dr. Trudy Atkins, Dr. Anna Braun, Lisa Citron, Dr. Scott Gottlieb, Sam Mattis

&

Recreation and Parks Advisory Board

President

David P. Lonski, Esq.

Thank you for all you do for our community! Recreation and Parks Advisory Board

Find out more about Recreation & Parks activities and events in East Brunswick!





Congratulations



# Honorees & Inductees

The Lachs Family

*"A good teacher is like a candle — it consumes itself to light the way for others."* 

— Mustafa Kemal Ataturk

You are a beam of light that has guided so many.

Congratulations on being honored this evening.

Sheri and Evan Akelson Denise and Richard Katzen — PROUD — SUPPORTERS

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE EAST BRUNSWICK EDUCATION FOUNDATION





Joe & Georgie

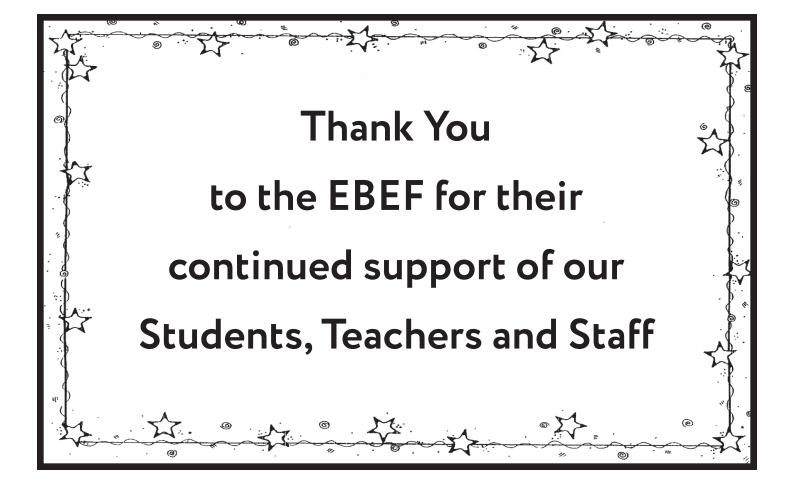


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Congratulations to the 2022 Partner in Excellence Honorees Dr. Trudy A. Atkins Dr. Anna Braun **Lisa Citron** David P. Lonski, Esq. and **Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees** Dr. Scott Gottlieb Sam Mattis



#### WE PROUDLY SUPPORT THE EAST BRUNSWICK EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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Here's to making every day in East Brunswick the best it can be.

Every day, in countless ways, the people of East Brunswick are making this a great place to live, work and play. That is why PNC Bank is proud to support the East Brunswick Education Foundation.

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