



## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Ingham ISD Installs Final Piece of Hearts of Fun Playground Project**

Ingham Intermediate School District (Ingham ISD) has installed the final piece of equipment and poured rubber landing as part of the Hearts of Fun Playground project at Heartwood School in Mason. The playground has been completed over several years as fundraising efforts took place along with generous sponsorships and donations from Dean Transportation, the Community Foundation as well as individual donors and families.

The Hearts of Fun Playground Project raised close to \$100,000 to fund a fully accessible playground for students who have physical and cognitive challenges and others with disabilities. The playground will be available for community use after school hours sometime in the near future. The Hearts of Fun Playground will allow students with disabilities the opportunity to enjoy something all children should have the chance to do – play outside on a playground.

“All of us at Ingham ISD are thrilled to see this project come to fruition,” notes Jason Mellema, Superintendent at Ingham ISD. “Every child, regardless of their physical or cognitive abilities, deserves the chance to play outside on equipment that provides a safe and fun experience,” Mellema also noted.

Many fundraising efforts took place over the last couple of years to allow this project to be completed including two 5K Walk/Run/Roll events, two golf outings, the selling of bricks to outline the playground area as well as generous donations from organizations and individuals.

“To see the smiles on the faces of our students when they get to use this playground equipment makes all the fundraising efforts worth it,” states Alexis Adams, principal at Heartwood School. “We want to thank all of our Heartwood families as well as all of the donors that supported this project in a variety of ways,” Adams also notes.

Ingham Intermediate School District offers programs and services to staff and students in the districts of Dansville, East Lansing, Haslett, Holt, Lansing, Leslie, Mason, Okemos, Stockbridge, Waverly, Webberville and Williamston. For more information, visit our website Ingham ISD ([www.inghamisd.org](http://www.inghamisd.org)).

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