



Epworth 
United Methodist Church

4855 West Central Avenue, Toledo OH, 43615-2237

Epworth-Hawkins STEMM Academy Partnership



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

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Mike Riethmiller, lower grade reading and upper grade math tutor, Epworth church



Kay Bennett, Epworth Partnership team, chair of Book Initiative, Corpus Christi University Parish



John Juvinall, STEMM Idol, upper grade tutor, Epworth church

Our Mission

The mission of the Epworth-Hawkins STEMM Academy Partnership is, in collaboration with other community STEMM partners, to promote the success of students through educational services and other activities that build relationships with Hawkins students, staff, and families.

Who We Serve

In the 2021-22 school year Hawkins STEMM Academy had a total enrollment of 379 students. The boundaries of the Hawkins district are: North: Elmer (Botanical Garden), South: Dorr Street, East: western boundary of Ottawa Hills, West: I-475. The demographic make-up of the student population was approximately: White - 47%, Black - 42%, other and Multiracial - 11%

History of Our Partnership

During the winter of 2015, the Community Outreach committee and the Administrative Council of Epworth United Methodist Church approved the formation of a partnership between the church and Hawkins Elementary School, a TPS school located on West Bancroft Street. A team under the leadership of Pat Holmberg was recruited and a formal contract was signed with the Toledo Board of Education. By September 2016, the leadership team decided the primary volunteer service would comprise enhancing reading skills with a focus on kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Over the next five years, services added included providing volunteers for the school library (which would not have remained open without our support), Book Initiatives, assistance with special events at the school, and joining a partnership with Toledo GROWs, OSU Lucas County Extension Office, and the Toledo Public Schools Natural Science Technology Center to support a Garden Club. The Epworth-Hawkins partnership has provided volunteers and financial support for an emergency clothing closet operated by the school nurse, and the school supply pantry hosted by Grace Church that now serves teachers at four elementary schools and Rogers High School. In addition, we produce an E-Newsletter that is distributed to our volunteers.

From 2016 through the 2018-19 school year, the partnership supported 5th and 6th grade girls and boys basketball teams with equipment and volunteer coaches funded by the Toledo Community Foundation. We also secured a grant from the Toledo Downtown Rotary Foundation to purchase a new electronic basketball scoreboard.

Each year additional services have been included, with a volunteer force numbering from 40 to 50.

In fall 2019, Hawkins Elementary became Hawkins STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine) Academy, which will lead to many partnerships in the area of career development. Our involvement grew to include monthly staff recognition and support of Parent Power Hours (parent engagement activities). The Epworth-Hawkins Partnership is a founding member of the Community STEMM Connection, organized in November 2020. Members of this collaboration represent Metroparks Toledo, Hawkins STEMM Academy, Epworth, Aerospace and

Natural Science Academy of Toledo, and Reynolds Corners Rotary Club. The Community STEMM Connection is a collaborative effort to foster learning that will promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and inquiry-based learning for the students of Hawkins STEMM Academy.

Epworth-Hawkins Partnership Activities, 2021-22 School Year

In the 2021-22 school year, students returned to in-person classes. The Epworth-Hawkins Partnership was able to resume our in-school programs, allowing our volunteers to support and assist Hawkins students, staff, and families in a number of ways.

- **Tutoring** –Epworth tutors worked with students in grades K-8 weekly, in response to teacher requests, with a focus on grades K – 3.
- **Book Initiatives:** These programs have the goal of putting books in the hands and homes of Hawkins students with a focus on grades K-5. At Kindergarten Family Night, kindergarten families are invited to a family dinner and learn from kindergarten teachers about the importance of reading with your child. Epworth gives each family an age-appropriate book. 3rd and 4th grade Book Clubs were held for 6 weeks in the spring. Reader Bags, in which 1st and 2nd grade students can borrow a bag with 2 age-appropriate books every week, resumed in March. Kindergarten Book Day took place in May: Epworth gave each kindergarten student a new hardcover copy of *Go Away Big Green Monster*, and a story teller from the Reynolds Corners branch library read to each kindergarten class.
- **Library** –Epworth volunteers assisted in staffing of the library two days a week, every other week, assisting the librarian who is at Hawkins one day every other week.
- **Garden Club** – The Garden Club is supported by a partnership among Toledo GROWs, OSU Lucas County Extension Office, the Toledo Public Schools Natural Science Technology Center, Metroparks Toledo and Epworth. Epworth volunteers and Hawkins staff met with students monthly throughout the school year, and helped maintain the garden during the summer.
- **Staff Recognition** - The goal of staff recognition is to make all the staff feel appreciated and loved and put a smile on their faces. Once a month, we deliver purchased, individually wrapped snacks and notes of appreciation to the Hawkins office.
- **School Supply Pantry** – Epworth has contributed \$1,200 annually to the school supply pantry located at Grace Church that serves teachers from Hawkins, four other elementary schools, and Rogers High School. Epworth volunteers helped staff the pantry one day a month from September through May.
- **STEMM Collaboration** – The Epworth-Hawkins Partnership is an active participant in the Community STEMM Connection, a collaboration among Metroparks Toledo, Hawkins STEMM Academy, Epworth, Aerospace and Natural Science Academy of Toledo, Reynolds Corners Rotary Club, SSOE, and YMCA Walk to School to foster learning that will promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and inquiry-based learning for the students of Hawkins STEMM Academy. Additional participants are a Hawkins parent, and a Master Gardener from the Hawkins Garden Club.
- **8th Grade Recognition** - Our volunteers assisted Hawkins STEMM Academy staff at the 8th Grade Recognition, by passing out programs and serving cake at a reception following the ceremony.
- **Kindergarten Open House** - Epworth volunteers assisted with Kindergarten Open House activities in late April.

2021-22 School Year Overview (July 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022)

Tutoring

52 students and 16 teachers served (both unduplicated), 20 volunteers, 357.5 hours

Library

200 students and 10 teachers served (both unduplicated), 4 volunteers, 129.75 hours

Book Initiatives

- Kindergarten Family Night: 3 teachers, 9 volunteers, 12.75 hours
- Kindergarten Book Day: 42 students and 2 teachers served, 2 volunteers, 4 hours
- Book Clubs: 20 students served weekly, for 6 weeks, 3 volunteers, 13.5 hours
- Reader Bags: 58 students and 4 teachers served weekly, March - May, 5 volunteers, 54.25 hours

Garden Club

22 students (unduplicated) served, 3 volunteers, 83 hours.

Staff Recognition (monthly)

Delivered treats for 60 staff members, 1 volunteer, 25 hours.

Grace School Supply Pantry

20 teachers served each month, 10 volunteers, 38 hours.

8th Grade Recognition

45 students, 5 teachers, 2 administrators, and 200 family members participated; 5 volunteers, 8.75 hours.

Kindergarten Open House

10 students, 5 teachers, 2 administrators and 12 family members served, 4 volunteers, 6.75 hours.

Total Volunteers (unduplicated)	34
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Total Volunteer Hours	718.5
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Leadership Team

5 volunteers

Administrative and program hours **638.35**

TOTAL PARTNERSHIP VOLUNTEER HOURS	1,356.85
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Teams, Church and Community Partners

Hawkins STEMM Academy Staff: (Total staff: 47)

Hawkins students and their families benefit from the efforts of a staff that provides a wide range of expertise:

- Administrative: Principal, Assistant Principal, School Counselor (part-time)
- Special Services: Occupational Therapist (Part Time), Speech & Language Pathologist
- Instructional staff: 8 Intervention Specialists, ESL Teacher (Part-time), 18 Regular Education Teachers, 3 Specialists (PE, Music, Art), 7 Paraprofessionals, Educational Technology Instructor, Instructional Coach
- Support services: 2 TACKLE Case Managers, School Nurse, Administrative Assistant, part-time secretary, Site Coordinator/Building Operator, Evening Custodian, 3 Cafeteria Workers

Epworth-Hawkins Partnership Volunteers 2021-22

The Epworth-Hawkins Partnership could not function without the help of our many dedicated volunteers. Some have been with us for six years, and some just joined this year.

Luann Alleman
Sally Atkinson
Jamie Aubry
Lynn Bachelor
Karen Baker-Zepf
Kay Bennett
Madora Bennett
Cindi Bishop
Joyce Blanton
Ellen Bradley
Lindsey Burmeister
Joanne Champion
Jan Devany
Sue DiSalle
Jack Gibbs
Kay Heinrichs
Pat Holmberg
Paul Jednak

John Juvinall
Carolyn Kaminski
Susan Kanwal
June Latshaw
Nancy Lincoln
Barb Machin
Kristine Martin
Sandra O'Phelan
Marsha Palmer
Linda Pokrajac
Polly Richardson
Carol Riethmiller
Michael Riethmiller
Cathy Schuster
Elaine Sheehan
Pat Sheehan

Celebrating former leadership team members

Luann Alleman
Laura Bensman
Sherry Clark
Becky Fike
Kyle Grefe

Carol Haddix
Marsha Palmer
Polly Richardson
Cathy Schuster

Leadership Team 2021-22

Pat Holmberg, Team Leader

Lynn Bachelor, Communications/Data
Management

Kay Bennett, Book Initiatives

Cindi Bishop, Staff and Volunteer
Recognition/Recruitment

Barb Machin, Tutor Assignments

Our Partners in the Church and Community

- **Community STEMM Connection partners:** in addition to Epworth and Hawkins, the following organizations participate in this collaboration: Metroparks Toledo, Aerospace and Natural Science Academy of Toledo, SSOE, YMCA Walk to School, and Reynolds Corners Rotary Club. Additional participants are a Hawkins parent, and a Master Gardener from the Hawkins Garden Club.
- **Epworth Missions/Community Outreach Action Team:** provided financial support, coordinated collection of school supplies from congregation, collection of hats and mittens from congregation during Advent as well as gift cards to reward students for improvement in reading skills.
- **Individual members of Epworth congregation:** monetary donations to Hawkins Partnership, contribution of school supplies, and small toys to Hawkins Hut
- **Epworth Education department:** donations of hats and mittens from children's classes; collection of K-3 reading books for Book Initiative.
- **Epworth Friends in Faith book club:** donated funds to purchase books for school library
- **Epworth Communications director:** continued assistance with logo and other designs
- **Epworth Church:** provided a Community Outreach office and staff accounting management
- **Grace Church:** teacher school supply pantry serving Rogers High School, Hawkins and four other elementary schools.
- **Garden Club partners:** The Garden Club is supported by a partnership among Toledo GROWs, OSU Lucas County Extension Office, the Toledo Public Schools Natural Science Technology Center, Metroparks Toledo and Epworth.
- **Vito's Pizza:** supports special events at Hawkins.

More information: For more information, please visit the Epworth-Hawkins Partnership website:
<https://www.epworth.com/serve/in-our-community/pages/hawkins-stemm-academy-partnership>.