



Contact: Liz Hoffius
Marketing Manager
Michigan Community Credit Union
1425 Parnall Road • Jackson, MI 49201
517.990.3731 • liz@micommunitycu.com

Michigan Community Credit Union Awards Local School with Forward Thinking Grant

Jackson, MI, January 23, 2017 – Michigan Community Credit Union is pleased to announce that their quarterly Forward Thinking Grant has been awarded to the Third Grade Team at Northwest Elementary School to purchase a Google Expeditions Kit. The Forward Thinking Grant was developed to help great educational ideas and projects become reality through financial assistance. The Credit Union is happy to assist projects or ideas that are educationally related and enrich the lives of students and participants.

Northwest Elementary School received \$1,500.00 to fund a Google Expeditions Kit in order to utilize the Google Expeditions Pioneer Program. The Google Expeditions Pioneer Program will allow the students to virtually visit over 200 locations worldwide, as well as colleges, universities, and even experience a variety of careers. This kit consists of a device for the students to experience the Expeditions software simultaneously as a group. According to Paul Smith, a teacher at Northwest Elementary School, students will have opportunities to visit and explore places like The White House, The Great Wall of China, The Great Barrier Reef, Mars, and hundreds of other places. Students can also visit and learn about new careers as part of the program. They can learn what it's like to be a veterinarian, engineer, or many other careers. Smith is excited to bring this opportunity to the third grade students. "These experiences allow our students to explore places outside of the Jackson area. Many of our students have never had the opportunity to visit places outside of our town, state, or country. Imagine students being able to visit the Grand Canyon in the morning and Buckingham Palace in the afternoon," said Smith.

The school has already raised \$1,146.00 from their fundraising efforts. The teachers and students of Northwest Elementary School will continue to work hard in raising money for this program. With the help from Michigan Community Credit Union, they are closer to reaching their goal of providing immersive experiences to their students. "Being able to travel together as a classroom group to experience, discuss, and explore our curriculum would be the most beneficial to our students," said Smith.

The Forward Thinking Grant awards quarterly. The amount disbursed per request is flexible and will be dependent upon the individual request, the number of requests overall, and the funds available. More information and the application are available at Michigan Community Credit Union's website, www.micommunitycu.com.



About Michigan Community Credit Union

Michigan Community Credit Union is a full-service financial institution, serving people who live, work, worship or attend school in 16 Counties in Southern Michigan. Michigan Community Credit Union has over 16,000 members across southern Michigan with more than \$147 million in assets. The credit union continually reinvests in its membership and community with some of the area's best interest rates on loans and dividend rates on savings accounts, competitive checking accounts, low fees, scholarships and Forward Thinking Grants. To find out how you can join, call 877.894.5033, visit micommunitycu.com, [facebook.com/micommunitycu](https://www.facebook.com/micommunitycu), or stop by any branch location.



Above: Michigan Community Credit Union employee Jessica Webb (*left side of check*) presents the check for \$1,500.00 to the third grade teachers and students of Northwest Elementary School.