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## PRESS RELEASE

To celebrate the end of another successful school year, the Oxford Educational Foundation (OEF) partnered with the Oxford Area Education Association to host a breakfast for the professional staff, aides, and volunteers. At the event, Mrs. Ali Verbanas was given the Randy Sebastian Volunteer Person of the Year Award for her work with students in Elk Ridge School as a classroom aide and coordinator of events. In addition, the John C. Pittenger Award was announced with a \$10,000 grant awarded to Oxford Area High School towards the purchase of an auditorium quality projector for the James S. Herr Auditorium in the high school. This projector will benefit both the school and the community with its use as it upgrades the ability of groups to use the auditorium for educational and entertainment purposes. Randy Sebastian and John Pittenger were both founding member of the OEF and instrumental in its set-up and continued success.

In addition, the OEF recently announced the awarding of the last set of professional grants for the 2015-2016 school year. The OEF offers professionals in the school district four opportunities throughout the year to apply for grants to fund materials and activities not currently in the school budget. This past May, two grants were awarded for the Nottingham School building. Gwen Fancy received monies to purchase award winning chapter books for the school library and Anna Krueger was awarded a grant for the purchase of three iPads to improve math and vocabulary skills in addition to enabling students to listen to leveled readers. Three grants were awarded to OAHS. Bill Kromer will purchase a professional grade router table to move the wood technology program in a STEM direction. Tish Foster's grant is for the purchase of glasses for computer reading that will reduce the eye-strain for students suffering from concussions and migraines. The monies toward certification of CPR and First Aid courses are provided by a grant awarded to Karly Herb.

This fourth set of grants above totaled \$3,817.62 bringing the total for the 2015-2016 school year to \$16,385.49. Adding that figure to the Pittenger grant brings the yearly total to \$26,385.49 from OEF grants to the Oxford schools. The support of the local community provides the success of the OEF which is already looking forward to and planning for the next school year. Contributions are always welcome and the OEF invites the community to offer its support with donations that can be mailed to the OEF at P.O. Box 142, Oxford, PA 19363. Anyone who would like to be a volunteer is encouraged to contact our Executive Director, Dr. Raymond A. Fischer, at 610.932.7200. More information can be found at [www.oxfordeducationalfoundation.org](http://www.oxfordeducationalfoundation.org)