



MAASAI EDUCATION FOUNDATION

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

MEF #GivingTuesday Fund Drive – Tuesday, December 3, 2019 – Details on Following Page



Phase I classroom building. Financed by TX Foundation of Taiwan.

Background

- In May 2017 construction began on the EEMPS. Phase I consisted of a single building with two classrooms, three offices (where teachers lived), restrooms and a temporary kitchen/dining shed made from corrugated metal. Phase I was largely funded by a generous grant from the TX Foundation of Taiwan.
- EEMPS accepted its first class of students in February 2018. The class consisted of 48 pre-school students (25 girls and 23 boys). Some students had a little school, most had none. They were from Engaruka and rural areas of the Monduli District of the Arusha, Tanzania. The girls were boarding students and lived in one of the classrooms. Due to lack of space, boys were day students and lived with relatives or other families near the school.
- MEF received \$108,900 in donations in 2019 and had total expenditures of \$107,550 with 99.4% going to scholarships, school construction, volunteer travel to the school and a visit by Martha Olemisiko (EEMPS school manager) to the US in August.
- In 2018, MEF provided:
 - \$44,000 and \$36,000 to start construction of the dining hall and Phase II Classroom building, respectively.
 - \$1,150 to start construction of a guesthouse.
 - \$14,970 in 2018 scholarships for EEMPS students.
 - \$2,540 scholarship for Maria Paapa Kingi to attend Arusha Meru International School.
 - \$4,700 travel grant for 8 Virginia Tech Service without Borders (SWB) volunteers to work at EEMPS in May.
- At the end of 2018, EEMPS pre-school students were tested and 25 students graduated to 2nd grade, 16 graduated to 1st grade, and 6 needed to repeat pre-school. The girls, who were boarding students, did much better academically.

2019 Progress and Activities

- The 2019 school year began January 7 with 73 students - 32 pre-schoolers, 16 1st graders and 25 2nd graders. As in 2018, the girls were boarding students and boys were day students.
- On January 22, 2019, construction started on the 508m² (5470ft²) Phase II five classroom, library and restroom buildings. In August the 1st and 2nd grade classes were moved to the nearly finished Phase II classroom building.



Dining Hall and trees planted last year. August 1, 2019.

- On August 1, 2019, the Phase II buildings were formally dedicated and named the Crane Classroom and Library Building and Crane Restroom Building in appreciation of a \$20,000 donation from the Crane Family of Columbus, Ohio.
- So far in 2019, MEF has provided:
 - \$46,900 for continued construction of the dining hall and Crane Classroom and Library and Crane Restroom Buildings
 - \$30,000 for 2019 student scholarships
 - \$4,500 for Virginia Tech SWB student volunteers at EEMPS
 - \$900 for a dairy cow for the school
- In June, two MEF board members (Karen Scalf-Benham and Theo Dillaha) led a visit to the school by 6 supporters of the school so they could learn more about the school and its operation.
- In August, a Virginia Tech SWB team visited the school and constructed a playground with two swing sets, seesaws, monkey bars, climbing tower, a soccer field with goals, and a netball court.
- Powerhouse - During SWB's visit, a \$7,500 1.8 Kw photovoltaic system for the school that SWB had previously donated was connected and now the school has electricity 24/7. The system has 10 solar panels and a battery bank and is now connected to all EEMPS buildings.
- MEF-Canada is in the process of becoming a registered Canadian charity so that Canadian citizens can make tax deductible donations. MEF and MEF-Canada will work together to support the EEMPS.



Operational powerhouse August 3, 2019.





MEF #GIVINGTUESDAY (Dec 3, 2019) FUND DRIVE

MEF holds its major fundraising activity on Giving Tuesday each year. Last year, we raised \$32,700 on Giving Tuesday and later received matching funds of \$7,650 from the Facebook Network for Good as a result. This year our #GIVINGTUESDAY goal is \$36,390, which will be used for the following:

- **Completion and Furnishing of the Crane Classroom and Restroom Buildings.** \$74,400 has been spent on construction and approximately, \$13,831 is needed to complete construction. An additional \$12,917 is needed to furnish the Crane Building with desks and chairs and to purchase bunk beds so several of the classrooms can be used as dormitories until a real dormitory is constructed.
- **Completion of Dining Hall/Kitchen/Laundry.** The 7,000 ft² (650 m²) dining hall cost \$62,152 including furnishings. MEF has provided \$52,500 for its construction. An additional \$9,642 is needed to complete the dining hall. These additional funds will be used for ceilings, electrical and plumbing systems, and kitchen and laundry furnishings.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE ON #GIVINGTUESDAY

BY CHECK: Send checks payable to the Maasai Education Foundation to 345 Woods Lane, Newport, VA 24128 USA.

BY CREDIT CARD: Facebook's match for #GivingTuesday 2019 begins at 8:00 AM EST (5:00 AM PST) on Tuesday, December 3. Last year the match was exhausted in 8 seconds, so it is critical to make your donation at 8:00 EST if you want to try for the match. The best way to do this is to make a small donation prior to 8AM so your credit card info is entered and saved and then open the donate window again before 8AM, enter your donation amount and wait until a moment after 8AM EST to hit the green donate button. Then click the blue Donate button at:

<https://www.facebook.com/MaasaiEducationFoundation>

Last year, a maximum of \$2500 could be donated but you could make multiple donations. If you do not like to donate via Facebook, you can also donate via the PayPal Giving Fund at:

<https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2457198>



Crane Classroom and Library Building construction. August 1, 2019.



Crane Restroom Building. August 1, 2019



2nd grade classroom in Crane Building, August 9, 2019.



Students and staff in almost completed dining hall.



EEMPS Students, August 9, 2019.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

<https://maasaieducationfoundation.org> or
<https://www.facebook.com/MaasaiEducationFoundation/>
or Email: maasaieducationfoundation@gmail.com

TO DONATE TO MEF, PLEASE VISIT:

<https://maasaieducationfoundation.org/home/how-to-give/>