

From: Streby, Monica [mailto:StrebyM@hudson.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:22 AM
To: Slagle, Elizabeth <ESlagle@hudson.oh.us>
Subject: HMS Student Council

Mrs. Slagle and Hudson City Council,

HMS Student Council, would like to ask Hudson City Council to partner with us in an exciting opportunity to help others. In the past, our Student Council's world focus has been to support The Ubumi Orphanage in Uganda. The City of Hudson also supported the orphanage through Buck for Ubumi Week. Last summer, the orphanage closed and our Student Council began looking for a new world focus. At the same time, Beth Killeen, a teacher at Hudson Middle School, met Dr. Ken Cushner. Dr. Cushner had just retired from Kent State University as an International Educator and just completed a trip with his grandsons (students at HMS) to Tanzania. The trip included time at the The Orkeeswa School. Dr. Cushner and Mrs. Killeen began communicating about how they could create a global connection between HMS and Orkeeswa. The students in 6 Integrity (one of our sixth grade teams) and students at Orkeeswa wrote partner stories. Students were taught the fundamentals of story writing. Our students began the stories and their students completed them. Dr. Cushner went back and forth taking the stories with him. They traveled over 40,000 miles in their journey to completion.

The mission of Orkeeswa School is to provide high-quality, holistic secondary education in a traditional Maasai setting for girls and boys. Typically, formal education would stop after fifth grade and only those with the financial means would be able to continue education beyond grade five. The school's mission, a presentation to Student Council by Dr. Cushner, and the academic connection established by Beth Killeen, all lead us to the conclusion that we wanted to do our part in supporting education for students Orkeeswa. So last year, Student Council's goal was to raise enough money to sponsor one young lady, Witness Julius. A full scholarship is \$2400 and provides two meals, education, supports and more. We surpassed our goal at HMS and raised over \$3100!

This year we would like to expand our efforts district-wide and also city-wide, in place of the Buck for Ubumi. We would love the opportunity to support Witness again next year as well as additional students. We have already initiated contact with Mr. Herman regarding expanding our efforts through each school in the district as we had for The Ubumi Orphanage. We would like to ask the city to partner with us by supporting Orkeeswa School as they had The Ubumi Orphanage.

Last year our fundraising efforts were the week prior to Spring Break and that is the plan again this year, the week of March 20th. We would love to see a Buck for Orkeeswa Week where all children in Hudson are encouraged to donate \$1 of their own money to support Orkeeswa School. Below are some links to give you additional information about the school and its mission.

We truly appreciate your time and consideration,
HMS Student Council Co-Advisors, Monica Streby and Cathy Kantin

Attached please find the school's annual report and information about Witness Julius, the student we supported this year.

Link to The Indigenous Education Foundation of Tanzania, the organization that operates the school. <http://ieftz.org/our-school/>

YouTube Link to Bertha's Story - the story of one student who is benefiting from The Orkeeswa School. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k70Kv6u1QBY>

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