

Hampshire County Board of Education

**SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS**
Jeffrey Pancione



BOARD OF EDUCATION
Jean Shoemaker, President
Bernard Hott, Vice President
Gerald Mathias, Member
John Ward, Jr., Member
Bonita Wilcox, Member

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Denise R. Hott, Treasurer
Hampshire County Board of Education
304-822-3528 x133

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RECEIVES A \$25,000 GRANT FROM THE BASEBALL TOMORROW FUND

GRANT FUNDS AWARDED FOR AN INDOOR PRACTICE FACILITY AT HAMPSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL

Romney, WV – May, 2018 – The Hampshire County Board of Education announced today that it was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF), the grant program supported by Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association designed to promote youth baseball and softball participation. The grant will provide funding for the construction of an indoor practice facility on the Hampshire High School campus.

The Hampshire County Board of Education is a public school system providing pre-K through 12th grades. Hampshire High School is home to all levels of youth baseball and softball. The school partners with the Trojan Athletic Association, the Hampshire County Little League Organization, the American Legion and travel teams to provide facilities and programs, serving a total of 336 players. The new indoor facility will be heated for year-round use and will accommodate up to four batting tunnels. The BTF grant will provide funding for the exterior, pole building. Construction will begin in June 2018 and is scheduled to be completed by September 2018.

“We are very excited about this opportunity for our students in Hampshire County and appreciate all of the support from our community” said Jeffrey Pancione, Superintendent of Hampshire County Schools.

“The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is pleased to support the efforts of the Hampshire County Board of Education and its partners to enhance its baseball and softball programs and facilities,” said Cathy Bradley, Executive Director of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund. “We believe that young players enjoy the game more when given the opportunity to learn and practice consistently, and indoor facilities can be a key component. On behalf of Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association, we thank the Hampshire County community for its support of the game.”

“We are beyond excited for the possibilities this facility will bring to our school and community,” said Trey Stewart, Athletic Director at Hampshire High School. “This is an avenue for Hampshire County to be a leader of student-athlete opportunities, which is what we are constantly striving for. Hampshire High School would like to thank all of the generous donations for this project from the Trojan Athletic Association, FNB Bank, and our student-athlete parents. We are blessed to have such a strong support system in our county.”

“This building has been a goal since I became the head coach at HHS. In order to produce top-notch athletes, we need sufficient facilities. This building will provide opportunities to the current and future athletes of Hampshire County. I am so grateful for the continued support from our community. Being not just a coach but also a parent of 3 future Trojans, I am proud of those who have spent countless hours to secure opportunities for our students to excel” said Chad VanMeter, Head Baseball Coach.

Eric Hott, Assistant Baseball Coach said, “We are very grateful to Major League Baseball and MLB Players Association for their support of our indoor facility project. We would also like to express thanks to HHS Athletics, Trojan Athletic Association, FNB Bank, and numerous other individuals who have donated matching funds for this project. This is an awesome opportunity for all current and future baseball and softball student athletes in Hampshire County.”

The Hampshire County Board of Education is accepting in-kind and monetary contributions for its programs and facilities. Those interested in donating to the project may contact Trey Stewart at 304-822-5016.

About The Hampshire County Board of Education

The Hampshire County Board of Education is a public school system serving PreK through 12th grades throughout Hampshire County, WV since 1891.

About the Baseball Tomorrow Fund

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF) is a joint initiative between the Major League Baseball Players Association and Major League Baseball designed to promote the growth of youth baseball and softball throughout the world by awarding grants to support field renovation and construction projects, equipment and uniform purchases, coaches training material and other selected program expenses. Since its formation by the MLBPA and MLB in 1999, BTF has awarded more than 1,000 grants totaling over \$34 million to non-profit and tax-exempt organizations in the U.S., Canada, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and Asia. BTF also facilitates league-wide initiatives including the collection and distribution of new and gently used equipment to organizations in need as well as field maintenance education clinics. For more information, visit baseballtomorrowfund.com and follow BTF on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).