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Media Contact: Lisa Truscott
(517) 816-1616
ltruscott@setseg.org

Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools Receives \$2,500 Education Excellence Award to Grow *Title 1 Literacy Book Bags* Program

Lewiston, Mich.— Today, Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools will receive a \$2,500 grant from the SET SEG Foundation, in partnership with the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) to grow their elementary program, *Title 1 Literacy Book Bags*.

The mission of *Title 1 Literacy Book Bags* is to create a partnership with parents of kindergarten through third grade students to bridge the learning gap between school and home. The program addresses the fact that many parents don't have the necessary materials to work with their children at home. During the school year, literacy bags go home Monday through Thursday and include teacher-created activities, leveled books, information sheets to assist parents on reading strategies and a communication log sheet that enables ongoing teacher-parent communication about their child's progress.

"We are honored to have *Title 1 Literacy Book Bags* as one of our 10 Education Excellence Award recipients this year," said SET SEG Foundation Executive Director Lisa Truscott. "Our judges selected this program because it goes above and beyond to get parents involved and help their children be successful academically. This program is a true testament to the positive things happening in our public schools every day."

The Education Excellence Awards are in their 22nd year and are produced through a partnership between the SET SEG Foundation and MASB. Education Excellence Award recipients receive a \$2,500 check to grow their program, "Education Excellence Winner" road sign and trophy. This year, the SET SEG Foundation received a record-breaking number of applications from schools throughout Michigan working to have a positive impact on their students and community.

The SET SEG Foundation is a branch of SET SEG and is fueled by its mission to enable students to pursue enrichment opportunities that advance learning, leadership and civic responsibility by providing services, scholarships, grants and financial support directly to Michigan public school and Michigan public school students. For more information about the SET SEG Foundation, visit www.setseg.org/foundation.

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