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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

East Middle School student, Kennadee Fabin, publishes her first book at age 11

Farmington, MI – East Middle School (EMS) student Kennadee Fabin, has published her first book titled *Kind Again: How to Return to Kindness like Dolly Parton*. Kennadee, who is a Beechview Elementary School (BES) alumni, set a personal goal for herself to write and publish her first book by the age of 12, which she accomplished at the age of 11.

Kind Again: How to Return to Kindness like Dolly Parton explores many avenues including the virtues of kindness, being a good friend, and employing positivity to help create a happy life. Kennadee was inspired by Dolly Parton while writing her book. This influenced her to create her narrative based on generosity, optimism, seeking out positivity, and cherishing friendships. Kennadee shares the love of Dolly Parton with her father, James Fabin. She relates to Dolly Parton's lyrics and overall philosophy and wanted to share that with others.

Kennadee experienced some of her formative years during the pandemic, which in turn altered her life, her friends, and her world. During this time, her family dealt with the heartache of the pandemic and the need to be extra cautious due to sickness and health scares within her family. In this, she observed the world and its conflicts. During this time she would often think that if people were more like Dolly Parton, there would be considerably less conflict and a lot more happiness. This inspired her to write.

Throughout her time at Beechview Elementary School, Kennadee looked up to Principal Mrs. Shawndra Hernton, who always had a smile on her face as she walked down the hallways. Kennadee was amazed that Mrs. Hernton knew every student by name and was always cheerful. Another person at Beechview that Kennadee looked up to was Mrs. Jessie Partridge, a Media Aide in the library. Mrs. Partridge really helped grow Kennadees' love for reading. Inspired by both Mrs. Hernton and Mrs. Partridge, Kennadee decided to set her goal, work hard, and publish her book.

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Kennadee kept her book a secret from everyone except her father and her brother. She chose to keep this a secret until the book was complete and the first box of copies was delivered. She then surprised her mother, followed by her grandparents, other family and friends. However, she was most excited to share her success with Mrs. Hernton and Mrs. Partridge.

Kennadee went through the entire book writing process over several months. She started by using her life events and her interests to spark an idea. She then reached a point where she felt confident enough to start the actual writing process. She used her personal laptop and Google Docs, a skill she learned in school, to write her manuscript.

Her father, James, encouraged her to organize the process like a school assignment. From there she created a table of contents to serve as her outline. This organization worked with her various chapter ideas in which she could rearrange, add, or edit them. Her overall task was to refine her content and to have three to five sentences highlighting each chapter, which guided her to her overall book structure.

After she completed her outline, she expanded each topic into flowing, well-constructed paragraphs. After she completed each chapter, she would send it to her father, who would provide feedback. It took time and a lot of hard work, but her book began to form. By setting word number goals and transitioning to Microsoft Word for advanced grammar tools, she saw her book come to life.

"Seeing Kennadee embrace the power of the pen and use it to benefit others fills me and her mom with an indescribable sense of pride," said James Fabin. "Her achievements, remarkable for someone so young, truly highlight the vital role that our educators and the educational system play in shaping the future."

Kennadee is already working on her next project. She hopes to publish a book with her friends as this process has sparked a huge passion for reading. She enjoys reading short, heartwarming stories like those in *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. She wants her next project to be a teen version of stories, compiled into motivational stories about friendship, kindness, and have an uplifting message.



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Kennadee has big plans for her future. She has dreams of working at Dollywood because to her, it's the most incredible place, even though she has never been there. She is interested in Dollywood, not only for the obvious Dolly Parton, but for educational purposes as they provide tuition assistance. Her current plans are to attend either Eastern Michigan University or the University of Michigan. She is currently undecided on whether or not she will serve in the United States Air Force or to pursue a career as a veterinarian which combines her love of animals, and compassion and healing.

Regardless of the path Kennadee decided to take, she will be able to add published author on what will be a long list of accomplishments. Congratulations, Kennadee. Farmington Public Schools is proud to have a student like you!

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