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## Magic of Electrons

JM students now have the opportunity to take Magic of Electrons, a new STEAM elective course. The following are excerpts from two letters written about this state-of-the-art course at JM. The first was sent by the teacher to parents of the students taking the course and the second is from one of the students to the MEF Board. We hope you enjoy seeing the impact your funding makes on every student every day.

Dear Parents,

As the semester draws to a close, I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed having your children in my Magic of Electrons course this year. The class has been phenomenal, both the students and I have learned a lot about electricity and circuits...

I wanted to send a big thank you out to those of you who donated to the Moraga Education Foundation (MEF), which made this class possible. Without your support, we would not have been able to fund the elective and all the supplies required to make the class so hands-on. Each student was able to complete a minimum of 7 projects including 2 flashlights, a decision maker, a flashing LED device, a brain game, a hex bug and a final project that ranged from a pong video game to a working radio.

I hope this course has inspired at least one student to learn more about engineering and consider it as a career path in the future...

Thank You,

Karlene Steelman

Dear MEF foundation,

Thank you so much for founding our Magic of Electrons class! It has been so much fun to make functioning radios, hex bugs, and even flashlights with your help. I've always wanted to be in an engineering class and thanks to your donations it came true. I've learned so much about engineering in this class. Such as how to use a soldering iron, how to make a parallel and series circuit, and one of the best things of all how to make a working radio. I've always been interested in science, especially physical science. And most of all I love to learn about atoms

and the different levels of electrons and what makes up atoms. When I saw this Magic of Electrons I was instantly intrigued, they described things such as, “learn more about atoms and the different levels of electrons.” I’ve been to many STEM conferences that help girls and women explore jobs in engineering and have a further understanding of what you can do in coding. I met one Pixar animator who helped create the animations for movies such as Brave, Ratatouille, and Nemo. Her descriptions of what she does in her daily life at Pixar were inspiring. She said when she was younger she joined an elective just like this Magic of Electrons class. One day I would love to be an animator at Pixar and I really thank you for providing this class, providing that one-step toward my dream.

Thank you for donating!

Brianna L.

(8<sup>th</sup> grader)