

# good news!

from Bryant Schools

Our students and staff give us many reasons to be proud of Bryant Public Schools. To highlight honors, awards and recognitions, we share **Good News from Bryant Schools!** with you, our parents and community.

## District

The Arkansas No Kid Hungry program recognized **Gay Sellers, Food Service Manager**, and **Bryant Public Schools** as a successful sponsor organization starting Summer Meals and Breakfast in the Classroom.

**Blue Hornet Awards** were presented to staff members from each school in recognition of excellence, leadership and service. Congratulations to the following:



DISTRICT	<b>James Copeland</b> , Food Service
BHS	<b>India Childress</b> , Advertising & Design Teacher
BEMS	<b>George Lawson</b> , Duty Supervisor, ParaProfessional
BMS	<b>Deborah Catton</b> , English Teacher
BES	<b>Heather Pitman</b> , 5th Grade Teacher
CES	<b>Krista Hopkins</b> , Special Education Teacher
DES	<b>Anna Yarberry</b> , 4th Grade Teacher
HFES	<b>Becky Smith</b> , 1st Grade Teacher
HCES	<b>Tammy Hill</b> , 3rd Grade Teacher
PES	<b>Billie Sue Wright</b> , 2nd Grade Teacher
SES	<b>Lynn Dreher</b> , Nurse
SPES	<b>Kim Weaver</b> , 2nd Grade Teacher



Literacy specialists **Andress Whaley, Karen Mitcham, and Dawn Higgs** attended the NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English) Convention in Boston.

Congratulations to the following faculty members for completing their Master's degrees: **Andress Whaley**, MSE in Curriculum and Instruction with emphasis in Curriculum Director; **Melissa Landreth**,

**Ashley McKell, and Heather Gammill**, MSE in Special Education Gifted, Talented, and Creative (GTC); and **Eric Ryan**, Educational Leadership.

**Jennifer Francis** has completed her certification as a National Board Certified Teacher.

## Bryant High School

**Newspaper and yearbook staff members** won 15 individual awards at the Journalism Education Association/ National Scholastic Press Association convention. Over 2,000 students competed and over 5,400 students attended. The 2013 yearbook placed third in the nation in Best of Show. The print *Prospective* was named a Pacemaker Finalist, the first time to receive this status.

**Trevor Ezell** signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball at Southeastern Missouri State.

**BHS varsity cheerleaders** won top honors in the Spa City Classic Cheer Competition, taking first place in the 5-7A co-ed division. The team received the Dazzling Dance, Super Stunts, Creative Choreography, and overall Grand Champion Awards.

**Freshman Cheerleaders** won 1st place in the 7A junior high division at the Spa City Classic Cheer Competition. They also won the Super Stunt award and the Spirit and Sportsmanship award.

Students participating in **Arkansas Model United Nations** simulated representatives of countries throughout the world. BHS students won outstanding position paper for Iceland and had one delegate, **Jonathan Berkshire**, honored as an outstanding delegate.

The **National Honor Society** and **ROTC** collected a total of 19,872.44 ounces of food for the Thanksgiving food Drive.

**Lady Hornet and Hornet Swim Teams** competed at the UALR Sprint Meet. Results included: Lindsey Butler, 2nd place in the 50 yd Freestyle, 3rd in the 100 yd Freestyle; Ploy Freebairn, 3rd in the 50 Yd Freestyle, 4th in the 50 yd freestyle; Justin Combs, 1st in the 1 Meter diving; and, Scott Mead, 2nd in the 1 Meter diving.

Over 30 students learned about computer programming during the national **Hour of Code**.



## America's Dependable Leader

**Ethan Harris**, 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Hurricane Creek, is the youngest person ever to win the Maytag Dependable Leader Award. Ethan was chosen as one of 10 finalists from 1,000 nominations across the country. All the finalists received votes from the public, with Ethan receiving the most votes.

Ethan's award will provide a \$20,000 grant for the **Boys and Girls Club of Bryant**. He was nominated because of his work to help his Club raise \$1,000 during the "It Just Takes One" Kid's Campaign.

# good news!

from Bryant Schools

## Bethel Middle School

The **Spelling Bee** was hosted at Bethel on Nov. 12. Overall champ was Walker Bowden with Zachary Babb taking 2nd place and Caitlin Lott in 3rd place.

Bethel 8th graders earned **Patriot Pen Essay** awards from the local VFW: Kayla Ausburn, Joe Smith, and Halee Scott.

The **7th grade Cheer** team placed first in both the Spa City and Tiger Cheer competitions. **Eighth grade Cheer** took second place in each competition.

As part of the **GT community service project**, students raised \$374 to buy gifts for three Angel Tree recipients.



## Bryant Middle School

The BMS **Student Council** joined THV's Tom Brannon to the kick off Stuff the Sleigh. Students collected 125 toys to help those in foster care.



## Springhill Elementary

The Junior Auxillary of Saline County presented an **anti-bully program** to 5th grade students.

Springhill welcomed 395 guests for **Grandparent's Day**.

## Bryant Elementary

Lindsey Landers won 2nd place in her age division in the recent **Imagination Library Grinch 5K Run** at Bishop Park. Joshua Maxwell, 2nd grade, placed 2nd in his age for the 5K and also ran in the 1K. MaKayla Chandler, 5th grade, placed 3rd in her age division.

## Salem Elementary

Congratulations to **Shian Swain**, winner of the Saline County Celebration of Lights Essay Contest. Shian's prizes included turning on the Christmas lights at the Benton Christmas parade and a check for \$100. Her winning essay was one of 700 entries from 5th graders across the county. Saline County Judge Lanny Fite and Mr. JR Walters (JP for District 12)



## Collegeville Elementary

**KICKS 5** (5th grade leadership team) officers served food to the homeless at the Center of Hope Shelter in Little Rock.



**Haley Beenken**, 5th grade student, was the runner up in the Saline County Celebration of Lights Essay Competition. Saline County Judge Lanny Fite and Mr. JR Walters presented her with \$50.

## Hill Farm Elementary

Karye Brockert was awarded a \$500 **Walmart grant** to purchase electronic tablets for her classroom. The CBI classroom also received a grant from **PetCo** for a class pet and all supplies.



## Paron Elementary

Students enjoyed a Polar Express celebration for reading a total of **970 books**.

Ms. Donna Taylor's kindergarten students wrote and performed an original play, **The Three Thanksgiving Billy Goats** as part of their study of characters, setting and events in their literacy class.

## Hurricane Creek Elementary

**Daniel Akhnouk**, earned a first place finish for 3rd grade in the Benton Invitational Chess Tournament.



Hurricane Creek's float was awarded second place in the **Bryant Christmas Parade**.

## Davis Elementary

**Destiny McCumpsey**, 5th grader, was the runner up in the Saline County Celebration of Lights Essay Competition. She was awarded \$50.

As part of it's 25th anniversary celebration, Davis Elementary's **Christmas Parade float** featured students and staff from the past 25 years. Members of the Robert L. Davis family were also invited to participate.

The **Shannon Hills Fire Department** presented students with t-shirts featuring the Dolphin mascot in recognition of the school's 25th anniversary.