

News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

WE
HAVE THE
BEST
PRINCIPALS
ON THE
PLANET.

THAT'S
A FACT,
JACK!

What's In
This Issue?

**SUPERINTENDENT
APPRECIATION DAY
CELEBRATIONS**

ANDERSON
BELLS
BENTON
HAWKINS
HOLLOW ROCK/BRUCETON
JOHNSON
SUMNER
TROUSDALE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY

Principals will be Happy Happy Happy about their special day using the Duck Dynasty theme in February. It will be exciting to see how many acts of kindnesses will be done to honor principals on their special day.

In the next issue, we will share how schools transported their food service workers to a galaxy of thanks not too far away

using the Star Wars Theme. Stay tuned!

COMING UP

Principal Appreciation Day
Duck Dynasty Theme
February 5, 2015

Special Teacher & Services Staff
Appreciation Day
Avengers Theme
March 5

Support Staff Appreciation Day
Once Upon a Time Theme
April 9

TRUSTEE
SPOTLIGHT:
ROGER
GREENE



PRINCIPAL
APPRECIATION
DAY: DUCK
DYNASTY THEME



LUCKY STAR



AWESOME
NOTES OF
APPRECIATION

News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

ROGER GREENE: BUILDING UTRUST FOR 24 YEARS



Roger Greene has served as a member the Utrust Board of Trustees for the past 24 years. Not only has he served on the Board of Trustees since 1991, he has served on his local Board of Education in Hamblen County for the past 30 years. During his service, Utrust has saved school boards millions of dollars that would have been spent on unemployment costs but instead, could be used for educational purposes. The board of trustees has implemented an employee appreciation program that has made schools a better place to work and has taught students to recognize and express appreciation to school employees who do things for them each day. It has also implemented a program that has provided more than \$1 million to fund small projects that make a big difference in schools.

"I have known Roger for several years and have a lot of respect for him," says Don Weathers, vice-chairman of the Utrust board. "He has given a great many years of service to the Utrust membership that has saved them a lot of money. He has great values and is a critical thinker." Weathers added, "In my mind, Roger has a servant's heart for our members and expects nothing in return. I feel it an honor to serve with him on the Utrust board."

"There is no way to measure the impact that Roger Greene has had on Utrust,

but it is enormous," Dr. Dan Tollett, Utrust Administrator said. "He asks good questions; he makes proposals for improvement; he has good judgment; he builds the team; and he offers encouragement and support for the organization, the staff and his fellow trustees. He has had a major impact in making Utrust a strong and effective organization."

Dr. Dale Lynch, superintendent of Hamblen County Schools spoke highly of Greene as well. Lynch says, "Mr. Greene is one of Tennessee's longest serving school board members. His leadership on our board and throughout our community is unparalleled among his peers." Lynch continued, "His knowledge of school operations and school system finance is vital to the success of our school system. Roger is a school board member who makes all of those around him better. I greatly appreciate him and value his service on the board."

David Jones, Chairman of Utrust's seven member Board of Trustees, said, "Roger Greene has been a strong anchor for Utrust for nearly a quarter of a century. He never misses a meeting and he never fails to come to our meetings prepared for whatever issues we are dealing with. He has been a positive influence on every one of the trustees and has helped to lead us in making some hard

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON
BELLS
BENTON
HAWKINS
HOLLOW ROCK
BRUCETON
JOHNSON
SUMNER
TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY: DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF APPRECIATION

decisions that has resulted in making Utrust so highly successful."

Greene feels honored to have had the opportunity to serve so long on the Board of Trustees, but he gives much credit for achievements to the staff of Utrust. Greene says, "I never dreamed an organization could be as financially successful as Utrust has become. Utrust's commitment to its members goes above and beyond any other organization I've been a part of. I thank our staff for doing a tremendous job. It's been a pleasure to serve. I'm truly grateful and proud to be a part of this incredible organization."

News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Day Celebrations

This year the charity drives in honor of the superintendents were a great success. To participate in the hat, scarf and glove drive at Church Hill Middle School in Hawkins County, one teacher taught her students to knit so they could contribute handmade scarves for families in their community. That is just one example of the amazing out-pouring of love during these drives. We know you will enjoy reading the comments of the coordinators of these outstanding schools. Take time to click on the links to see the photos, too.

Anderson County.

Anderson County High School - We celebrated our Superintendent Appreciation Day yesterday. The A-Team's favorite part of the celebration was getting the other students in the school involved by having them sign a

banner we had made for Mr. Foster. In addition to the banner, we gave him a Maverick shirt & toboggan and some candy. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Andersonville Elementary -

Andersonville Elementary had a wonderful time celebrating our Director of Schools, Mr. Larry Foster! Since he was so popular we celebrated with him the first week in December. At a special assembly our future leaders (our Kindergarten students) presented him with an adorable tree of leaders, a book for his personal library, and 25 sets of gloves, hats, and mittens to be donated in his name. They also made a very cute video about their thoughts on what a leader means. One of our fifth grade students Lilly Vandegriff made a wonderful MC. It was a special time for all. Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

[ANDERSON](#)

[BELLS](#)

[BENTON](#)

[HAWKINS](#)

[HOLLOW ROCK/](#)

[BRUCETON](#)

[JOHNSON](#)

[SUMNER](#)

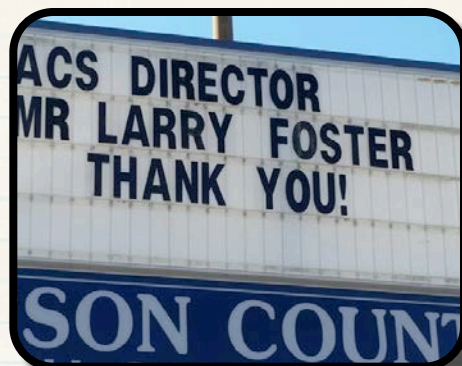
[TROUSDALE](#)

.....
[TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:](#)
[ROGER GREENE](#)

.....
[PRINCIPAL](#)
[APPRECIATION DAY:](#)
[DUCK DYNASTY THEME](#)

.....
[LUCKY STAR](#)

.....
[AWESOME NOTES OF](#)
[APPRECIATION](#)



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Showing Appreciation to the Superintendent

Career & Technical Center -

The CTE staff had a PLC yesterday, we had a dessert celebration to honor Dr. Parrott, our CTE Director. The A-Team made him a poster and a card. They also gave him a coffee cup full of mints. Dr. Parrott was so surprised and pleased with what the A-Team put together for him. The A-Team also made Mr. Foster a card and a poster and gave him a coffee cup full of mints. He was unable to come to our school so we delivered his things to him. He seemed very pleased with the A-Teams efforts. They worked very hard to pull all of this off. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Claxton Elementary - Our A-Team had so much fun running our winter charity drive in honor of Mr. Foster, our superintendent. We used a bulletin board in the foyer of the school to keep track of how many items each class collected. We ended up collecting over 400 items that will be given back to

kids in our community! Our A-Team kids were proud of their accomplishment, and they loved using the intercom to get the students in the school involved and excited about the charity drive. We also put a little "thank you basket" together for Mr. Foster that included candy, chocolates, gift cards and a book that was written by our 1st - 5th grade students. The book included pages of writing samples; we asked our students to put in words what it meant to be a leader... some of their answers were adorable! Click [here](#) for the photos.

Clinton High School - For our superintendent appreciation activity, we decided to do a food drive in Mr. Foster's honor for Second Harvest Food Bank's Food for Kids program. Students brought in a total of 544 individual items, with the winning class bringing in 212. Overall, I would say it was a success! Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON
BELLS
BENTON
HAWKINS
HOLLOW ROCK/
BRUCETON
JOHNSON
SUMNER
TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY: DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Appreciation Day Celebrations

Fairview Elementary - We participated in a charity drive for our superintendent. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Lake City Elementary - This year, we included all of our Central Office Staff in our celebration for our superintendent. Our principal delivered lunch invitations to Mr. Foster and all the directors of central office. On Superintendent Day, we served a catered lunch to them on our Alaskan Cruise Ship. Click [here](#) to read the additional summary and view the photos and video.

Lake City Middle School - Our Director of Schools was presented with a gift basket filled with homemade *Corn in a Jar* gifts from Rocky Top, TN. The corn was grown and ground by the students of Lake City Middle School. The gift basket included homemade corn muffin mix and white cheddar

chowder soup mix to make a meal of it. Homemade corn cob jelly, fresh ground grits and polenta, candy corn, and a jar of corn seeds for the Foster's home garden. All of the corn items were made from the corn from the LCMS garden (candy corn excluded, of course) and recipe cards were included as needed. The basket was decorated with candy corn lights as well as an array of Indian corn added to the bow. More importantly the students created a signed poster proclaiming attributes of Mr. Foster. Click [here](#) for the photo.

Norwood Middle - Norwood Middle School celebrated Superintendent day by collecting hats, gloves, and scarves in honor of Mr. Foster. Our A-Team made announcements and the student body decorated snowflakes to add to the Alaskan decor! Click [here](#) for the photos. [here](#) for the photos and video.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

[ANDERSON](#)

[BELLS](#)

[BENTON](#)

[HAWKINS](#)

[HOLLOW ROCK/](#)

[BRUCETON](#)

[JOHNSON](#)

[SUMNER](#)

[TROUSDALE](#)

[TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:](#)
[ROGER GREENE](#)

[PRINCIPAL](#)
[APPRECIATION DAY:](#)
[DUCK DYNASTY THEME](#)

[LUCKY STAR](#)

[AWESOME NOTES OF](#)
[APPRECIATION](#)



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Day was a Huge Success in Benton County

Benton County.

Big Sandy School - Our A-Team helped host a Cookies and Milk with Santa event for the elementary students at Big Sandy School. The A-Team and others helped bring in books to give away in honor of Mr. Mark Florence. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Briarwood School - We worked hard to make Mr. Mark Florence truly feel honored. Posters, cans, signs, and PA announcements through the whole month of November. Briarwood School sings to Mr. Mark Florence. Click [here](#) for the photos and videos.

Camden Elementary School - Our school really "Shared the Warmth" with our Superintendent Appreciation Day! Members of the A-Team made daily announcements about our Alaskan theme, announcements were put up on the school bulletin board and marquee, and classes wrote letters of appreciation. Our computer teacher even had a lesson where the students

created letters written on the computer. We partnered with a local church for a community clothing drive. We held a contest between each grade to see which could bring in the most gloves, hats, or socks. Our PTO created a gigantic display that featured three Iditarod sleds racing against each other on a track. At the end of the drive, our Pre-K/K/Kindergarten classes were the winners! In all, we collected over 300 items! All the things were packed onto a sled placed on our stage surrounded by posters in the lunchroom so the children could watch it grow into a mountains of clothes each day. Our Superintendent, Mr. Mark Florence, was invited to the school so the children could present him with awesome letters of appreciation and a sled full of warmth given in his honor. Mr. Florence thanked everyone for all their hard work. Our school board continued to "Share the Warmth" by treating Mr. Florence and his family to a hot meal in one of our local restaurant. Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON
BELLS
BENTON
HAWKINS
HOLLOW ROCK
BRUCETON
JOHNSON
SUMNER
TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:
ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL
APPRECIATION DAY:
DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF
APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Appreciation Day Celebrations

Camden Junior High School -

We had a great time honoring our superintendent. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Holladay School - Students at Holladay School collected pull-tabs for Ronald McDonald House in Nashville and canned goods for the local food pantry during Director of Schools Appreciation. The students also made a card for the Director of Schools. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Bells City School.

Our superintendent is 'snow' cool! Bells City School observed Superintendent Appreciation Days as part of the Utrust Appreciation Program. The students and staff showed their appreciation for our cool superintendent by giving him snow and ice themed treats and making signs displayed throughout the school declaring their appreciation for all that he does to take care of us and our school. Mr. Richard Davy started his special day

with a super cool appreciation message over the intercom along with the surprise announcement of our secret glove, hat and scarf drive for charity to be donated in his honor to the charity of his choice. We are so lucky that even though it's cold outside Mr. Davy's heart is warm! Click [here](#) for the photos.

Hollow Rock-Bruceton.

It's SNOW joke that our Superintendent is the BEST! Our FCCLA class prepared a SUPER lunch for our SUPERintendent. Posters are hung by the Superintendent's Office. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Johnson County.

Johnson County High School

- The students gave our director, Dr. Mischelle Simcox, a banner, framed certificate, and a basket full of her favorite goodies. Click [here](#) for the photo.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON

BELLS

BENTON

HAWKINS

HOLLOW ROCK/

BRUCETON

JOHNSON

SUMNER

TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:

ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL

APPRECIATION DAY:

DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF

APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Hawkins County Celebrates Superintendent Day

Hawkins County.

Bulls Gap Elementary - For the past few years, we have donated books to our school library in honor of our superintendent. These are books that are new releases and very popular with our students. We would like to thank Mr. Steve Starnes for all that he does for Hawkins County and Bulls Gap School. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Cherokee High School - A member of the A-Team (who is also on the newspaper staff) wrote the following article for our school paper: "Thursday, November 20, was superintendent appreciation day. Steve Starnes does much for us daily and we are so grateful! The school systems would not function without him doing what he does for us, so a whole day was dedicated to his diligent work." Mr. Starnes was gracious enough to take time out of his day on

Thursday to come visit us. While he was at school, we presented him with a few gifts. His daughter, Kassie, helped us decide what treats to give him. He received a basket full of his favorite goodies. All The teachers teamed up and got him a picture frame with a picture of the A-Team holding signs saying "thank you" surrounded by a mat that was signed by all the teachers. We greatly appreciate you, Mr. Starnes! Click [here](#) for the photos.

Church Hill Elementary - Superintendent Appreciation day was a special day of giving back for Church Hill Elementary School. Our school collected gloves, scarves, and hats for needy children this winter in honor of Superintendent Steve Starnes. We want to show how much we greatly appreciate him and everything he does for our schools and all the hard work he does. Thank you! Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON
BELLS
BENTON
HAWKINS
HOLLOW ROCK/
BRUCETON
JOHNSON
SUMNER
TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY: DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Donated to the BGS Library
in honor of
Mr. Steve Starnes

Superintendent Appreciation Day
2014-2015



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Appreciation Day Celebrations

Church Hill Intermediate School

- For Superintendent Appreciation Day our students wrote "Thank You" notes to our superintendent, Mr. Starnes. Students participated in a school wide video that was sent to him, as well as doing a canned food drive in Mr. Starnes' honor. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Church Hill Middle - In honor of our Director of Schools, Steve Starnes, we collected donations of hats, gloves, and scarves from our faculty and students to be given to those in need. We also posted information on our school website for parents and our community to participate as well. Ms. Spencer taught her STEM class how to knit scarves, so they had handmade scarves to contribute. Many boxes were collected. Our Art department makes signs and banners to decorate our halls.

When Mr. Starnes came by our school on Friday morning, we presented him with a box of appreciation letters and cards from our students and staff. Click [here](#) for photos.

Clinch School - In honor of our Director of Schools, Steve Starnes, faculty and staff at Clinch School brought in items for the cold weather. Our community has a lot of need, so the items collected were given to the children of our school. Each child was very appreciative to receive the coats, gloves, hats and scarves. Our climate is several degrees colder than just across the mountain, where the rest of Hawkins county is located. Our children need all the warmth they can get! Also, in honor of Mr. Starnes our school board member, Ms. Debbie Sheddan donated \$50.00 to our library for books. Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON

BELLS

BENTON

HAWKINS

HOLLOW ROCK/

BRUCETON

JOHNSON

SUMNER

TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:

ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL

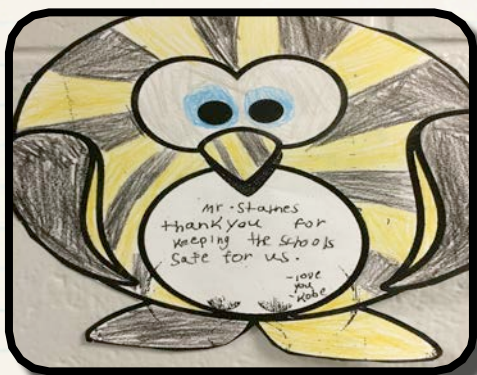
APPRECIATION DAY:

DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF

APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Appreciation Celebrations

Hawkins Elementary - For our Superintendent's Appreciation Day our A-Team did a hat, glove, and scarf drive for our family resource center. They encouraged the students in their classroom to bring items in for students in our county that are in need. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Joseph Rogers Primary School - Our school did a food drive for Superintendent Day. We created a display of collected food items and donated them to the Family Resource Center of Hawkins County. We also had every classroom create a card for Mr. Starnes to say thanks for all that he does for us. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Keplar Elementary - We gave Mr. Starnes chocolate and collected pet supplies for the Hawkins County Humane Society in his honor. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Mooreburg Elementary - We conducted a hat, scarf and glove drive in honor of our Superintendent. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Mt. Carmel Elementary - MCES was honored to have Mr. Starnes join us as we celebrated Superintendent Appreciation. Our school collected 300+ items for our Family Resource center to keep kids in Hawkins County warm this winter. Students brought in gloves, scarves, hats and socks in Honor of Mr. Starnes. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Pathways Alternative School - We invited Steve, Nedra and Beth over for a covered dish lunch. We served Turkey, Ham, mashed potatoes, Corn, Baked Beans, Roll, Pumpkin Pie, Pecan Pie, Chess Bars, Sweet Potato Pie, Sweet Tea, Coke, and diet. We are Thankful for the Director and Co-Directors for our school system. Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

[ANDERSON](#)
[BELLS](#)
[BENTON](#)
[HAWKINS](#)
[HOLLOW ROCK/](#)
[BRUCETON](#)
[JOHNSON](#)
[SUMNER](#)
[TROUSDALE](#)

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY: DUCK DYNASTY THEME

[LUCKY STAR](#)

[AWESOME NOTES OF APPRECIATION](#)



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Appreciation Day Celebrations

Rogersville Middle School - To honor our awesome Superintendent, Steve Starnes, we took up item donations for the Hawkins County Humane Society. Click [here](#) for the photos.

St. Clair Elementary - For Superintendent Appreciation Day we honored Mr. Starnes by collecting hats, scarves, and gloves. These items will be donated to local children to help keep everyone warm this winter. St. Clair appreciates all that Mr. Starnes does for our school system! Click [here](#) for the photos.

Surgoinsville Elementary - We held our second annual Turkey Teacher contest for our Director of School's Appreciation Day. Students brought in spare change to "vote" for their favorite teacher. The teacher with the most money earned the title of Turkey Teacher-complete with a class trophy and a turkey hat! Mrs. Jennifer Cassell, second grade

teacher, won this year with close to \$50 brought in by her students! The money raised went to purchase food gift cards for our students and their families for Thanksgiving and Christmas. A grand total of \$340 was raised! Letters went home with the gift cards honoring Steve Starnes, our Director, for his selfless ways! Gobble, Gobble! Click [here](#) for the photos.

Surgoinsville Middle - Superintendent Appreciation Day was a wonderful experience. Students and teachers showed their appreciation by making posters to hang around the school. The Appreciation Team is also making a donation of \$100 to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Mr. Steve Starnes' honor. We hope he knows how much we appreciate him and that we are proud to have him as our superintendent. Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON

BELLS

BENTON

HAWKINS

HOLLOW ROCK/

BRUCETON

JOHNSON

SUMNER

TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT:
ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL
APPRECIATION DAY:
DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF
APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Sumner County Honors Dr. Del Phillips

Volunteer High School - In honor of Director Steve Starnes we held a school-wide food drive. We collected more than 2000 cans and non perishables for the Family Resource Center. The center serves Hawkins County School students and their families. We created some photos of what we think Mr. Starnes would look like on an Alaskan Adventure. We appreciate all his hard work and dedication. Click [here](#) for the photos and video.

Sumner County.

Howard Elementary - Howard Elementary began its month-long appreciation of Dr. Del Phillips, Director of Sumner County Schools. Howard sponsors Socks of Love, a service project our School Nurse Richelle Taylor coordinates each year. To pay our appreciation forward, our A-Team is asking students and teachers to bring

unused socks and small toiletry items to be distributed at Gallatin CARES on Christmas Day. The students wrote a letter to send home, made announcements, and created a special bulletin board. All items are due December 19, and the students will take pictures of everything submitted and announce the class that helped the most. We will also send pictures of our activities to Dr. Phillips. Click [here](#) for the photos.

North Sumner Elementary -

We honored Dr. Phillips with a bulletin board displaying classroom thank you cards and an Alaskan themed picture created by our art teacher, Joe Saunders. We participated in a food drive and collected over 1,000 items. We also had a chef provide an Alaskan themed meal featuring salmon and crab. This meal was delivered to our director of school's office. Click [here](#) for the photo.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON

BELLS

BENTON

HAWKINS

HOLLOW ROCK/

BRUCETON

JOHNSON

SUMNER

TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY: DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF

Superintendent Appreciation Day Celebrations

Station Camp Elementary -

For our Director of Schools appreciation day, our students conducted a food drive with Second Harvest to donate to families in our community. This is the second year we have done this food drive. We enjoy making this particular donation in our Director of School's honor because our school helped to create this particular food donation for community last year. We also had students help to create a winter themed basket that we sent to our Director on appreciation day. We sent marshmallows, hot chocolate, and other winter themed items to show our appreciation for his daily hard work to support our schools. Click [here](#) for the photo.

Beech Elementary- Students at Beech Elementary honored Dr. Del Phillips with a Hat, Scarf and Glove Drive. A-Team members wrote notes of appreciation to him for all he does on their behalf. They

presented the notes of appreciation and the results of the drive in his honor on November 22.

Trousdale County.

Trousdale County

Elementary - To celebrate our Superintendent Mr. Satterfield we held a hat, scarf and glove drive. We decorated a box for each grade level to use as a collection box. We collected a total of 365 items that will be donated to our local Christmas for Kids charity. Click [here](#) for the photos.

Trousdale Co High School - To honor our Director of Schools Clint Satterfield, our A-Team made cards, posters, and a gift bag. We also had a fundraiser earlier this year and we were able to make a donation to the "Christmas for Kids" this year in his honor. I think he was pleasantly surprised! Click [here](#) for the photos.

SUPERINTENDENT DAY CELEBRATIONS

ANDERSON

BELLS

BENTON

HAWKINS

HOLLOW ROCK/

BRUCETON

JOHNSON

SUMNER

TROUSDALE

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: ROGER GREENE

PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY: DUCK DYNASTY THEME

LUCKY STAR

AWESOME NOTES OF APPRECIATION



News U Trust

APPRECIATING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING SCHOOL STAFF



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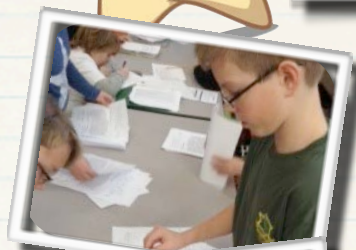
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Superintendent Appreciation Day LUCKY STAR WINNERS



Congratulations to 3 schools who entered at least 5 photos and a brief, detailed summary of their Superintendent Appreciation Day in the Lucky Star Random Drawing and won! **Howard Elementary** in Sumner County, **Church Hill Intermediate** in Hawkins County and **Hollow-Rock/Bruceton** each received a check for \$100 to be used by their A-Team for future appreciation days.



We are happy to announce 3 winners of the Awesome Notes of Appreciation Random Drawing.

Church Hill Intermediate note written by 6th grade student Kobe Brummitt about his superintendent Steve Starnes in Hawkins County; **Anderson County Career & Tech** written by Jazmine Hawkins about her superintendent Larry Foster in Anderson County; and **Claxton Elementary** written by Beighlee Watt also to Larry Foster. In the note, Beighlee says "A good leader is someone who is a good role model and is also someone who listens to people. A good leader is someone who helps people do stuff." What a great way to express appreciation to the superintendents for everything they do for their students.